

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 1 - 2nd Quarter - Issue #5



CREATION CORNER

SHEEP

When I was living out in the Western part of my country, Canada, I had the thrill of watching sheep-dog trials. We were able to park right near the field and had a ringside seat in our car as we watched the trained border-collie dogs take the sheep where ever the handler wanted them to be.

For each dog in the contest, three sheep would be released and the dog had to get them together and then drive them around certain posts, through certain paths and finally into a small corral where the dog's handler would close the gate and keep the sheep penned. It was timed and the dogs who did this the best and fastest were the champions.

The handler could not help the dog very much as he had to stay near the pen. He gave signals to the dog on a whistle, with his voice, or with his hands to tell the dog where to send the sheep and how fast to go. If the dog was going too fast the man would signal him to slow down or the sheep would scatter and the dog have to round them up again.

Well, that day we learned something about

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sheep that might help us know why Jesus said His people were like sheep. They are very stubborn! As soon as those sheep realized the dog wanted them to go into that pen, they were determined to go anywhere else but that pen! They weren't stupid, in fact they seemed quite smart at times, but they didn't want to do what they should do.

Is there ever a time when you know in your heart what is the right thing to do and you just won't do it? Are there ever times when Mommy or Daddy ask you to do something and even explain to you how important that it is, and yet you still won't obey? Well, that is the stubborn spirit of Satan that has been in people ever since Adam and Eve obeyed the serpent instead of God. As soon as Eve knew God forbade one tree, that was the tree she was interested in.

But when we remember that our parents love us and we love them, we will gladly obey. Just so Jesus showed His great Love by suffering and dying for us and when we remember how much He loves us, we will want to do right, just because it is right, whether we feel like it or not. = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

The Christian Church: part 8 The 'Morning Star'

Because of the terrible hatred for the Holy Scriptures that the ruling power in the Dark Ages had, they burned and destroyed any copies of them that they could find and they burned the people who loved God's Word also. As a result there were times when there were very few copies of the True Bible left; or any Bibles for that matter. But God did not allow His Word to be wiped out, as Satan wanted. He protected it and raised up people to love it and make copies of it.

It all had to be written by hand back then as printing was not yet invented and there were no lovely computers and Word Processors such as I am using to write this to you. Even the corrupt Papal Bibles would have helped dispel the terrible darkness but they were in Latin and only the learned could read that language. God wanted the people to have His Word and be able to read it in their own language.

In England was a man who dearly loved the Holy Word. His name was Wycliffe and he became known as the 'Morning Star of the Reformation'. The protest against Rome that he began in England, was never to be silenced, but would lead to the setting free from Rome of many people and nations.

He was highly educated and yet learned to love and fear God so his education was a power for right. He found the Bible in his studies and read and preached the Bible to the people. The people were so glad to have the truths of the Bible preached to them that Wycliffe's influence grew as they flocked to hear the real gospel instead of the dry old husks of the fallen church teachings.

The Papal leaders were enraged at him as the people listened to him instead of them. Jealousy filled them. He further angered them by showing that the Pope had no right to tell Kings and other nations what to do and no right to collect taxes from other countries. In this way he began the work that would end the Papal rule in Great Britain.

He also spoke and wrote against the monks and friars that roamed the country taking money from the people. The Papal authorities tried different times to harm him, but God protected him.

Then He announced that he was determined to translate the Latin Vulgate (Catholic Bible) into the English Language. (This was the only one he had available to him at that time. 1300s) About this time

he was taken ill and everyone thought he would die. The monks gathered around his bedside to hear him say he was sorry for preaching as he had. But instead he looked at them and said in the firm, strong voice, which had so often caused them to tremble, "I shall not die, but live, and declare the evil deeds of the friars." They fled the room at this.

Even though copies of his Bible had to be made by hand and were terribly costly, still it made its way into the homes of England. The Papal leaders were dismayed as they can not stand before the Word of God and even though this was still not the pure Bible, it still had power that they could not stand against!

The church leaders tried for years to get Wycliffe executed but they were not able to. At his final trial he made this statement: "With whom, think you, are you contending? With an old man on the brink of the grave? No! With truth, truth which is stronger than you, and will overcome you." So saying, he withdrew from the assembly, and not one of his adversaries attempted to prevent him.

Wycliffe died a natural death and forty years later the church leaders still raging at the Power he had set loose, dug up his bones and burned them to ashes then threw them into the river. there they, just like the TRUTH which he had unleashed, floated down the river, out to the sea and symbolically. to the whole world. = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

"NO DEVIL STRINGS" part 3 Dove of Peace and A New Teacher

In 1914 an uneasy peace settled upon the remote Solomon Islands. Headhunting and violence had almost come to an end. But government men knew that the new era of peace could not be maintained by force alone.

Basically, the people remained the same; haunted by superstitions and ruled by hatred and fear. Bringing civilization would not be easy.

The British government was glad for clinics and schools brought by missionaries. For more than ten years different churches tried to establish their faiths but few were successful. The chiefs would not adopt new ideas, they clung to the old customs; but as the boys no longer needed to spend their time learning to fight, they began to look for new ideas.

One day in June, 1914, when Kata Rangoso

was about twelve years old, a white boat came bringing Captain Jones, a Seventh-day Adventist missionary. The boys liked the newcomer and learned that the boat belonged to the Seventh-day Adventist mission. The government officer was on board and they wanted to talk to the chief.

The boys said he was at the gardens and offered to guide the boat to the place and went on board the 'Advent Herald'. As they sailed, the boat's crew sang some gospel songs and the boys thought it was so interesting.

Soon they reached the gardens and the Captain lost no time in stating his reason for calling.

"Chief Tatangu," he said, with the trader acting as translator, "I represent a mission that keeps the seventh day as Sabbath. We believe we can help your people. You have some influence in this district, and the government officer and the traders tell me you are a wise man. We want you to let us have a piece of land on which to build a school for your children and the children of the other villages around here."

Tatangu responded with a polite smile, but he paused before speaking and obviously felt troubled. He knew that he must not overstep the authority of other district chiefs, and perhaps in the back of his mind he thought of the tribal devil-gods, so long worshiped and so long feared. Could he take the risk of making such a big move on his own? His deep-set eyes held a haunted look as he glanced from one man to another. At last he spoke.

"Sir, today I cannot say Yes, for I have no spare ground. But if one of the other chiefs will give land, I will allow my children to attend the school. I am sorry that I cannot give land myself."

Tatangu's answer disappointed Captain Jones, and also Pana, Rangoso, and the other boys, for they knew that Tatangu had plenty of land. They watched silently as the missionary gave the chief a parting gift of a pocket watch and a length of cloth and then returned to his ship.

Sailing the length of the lagoon, Captain Jones spoke to all of the chiefs, but no one would take the first step in giving land for a mission school. The captain finally decided to return the island of New Georgia, where he had already made a friendly contact with a small village. He felt sure that by now the people would have decided on a place for a school in their area.

Meanwhile, the boys talked much of the white-painted mission ship, its lively captain, and the school that their fathers would not allow. They didn't

know what an education could do for them yet, but they thought it was something of interest.

They did know that boys who could read and write could get good jobs and they also wanted to learn to sing like the boys on the boat.

A few months later a large trading ship came and Panda, a youth of about nineteen years, said to Pana, Rangoso, and the others:

"You boys are of the brave line of Tatangu. I am not a chief, but I have inherited a piece of land, I will give this land if the missionary will build a school there. Come, let us board the ship and ask the captain to take us to talk to the missionary with the beard."

The boys, Panda and Pana, asked and the trader said he would just take the two boys, he did not want his ship overrun with boys, but as the ship was leaving, a young lad named Jugha leapt aboard and was allowed to go. He was a slave boy captured by Tatangu during a headhunting raid to sacrifice to the spirit-gods, but the chief later changed his mind and adopted Jugha into his own family.

Kata Rangoso watched unhappily, why did the older boys always have the adventure? He kicked an empty coconut shell and wandered back to the village. The ship was now out of sight, and he would have to wait several days to know the result of their trip.

Captain Jones and his wife were making a mission station on a piece of rising ground with a good view of the water. The boys found him with hammer in hand building a house. Panda, came right to the point. "Sir, we have come to ask you to start a school at Sasaghana," he said. "I have land, and I am willing to let you have it."

The missionary, who now understood a little of the language, looked quizzically at the three near-naked youths. He took some nails from his mouth and spoke to Panda.

"Are you a chief?" he asked.

"No, but it is my land, and Chief Pindala is ready to say Yes."

G. F. Jones grinned through his beard. "That is very good, but I cannot come right away. First I must finish this house. I am expecting another missionary family from Australia. When they come I can go and inspect your land."

This pleased the boys, and they stayed a few days to help the missionary with his work. Then in high spirits they set out for their home island.

Trekking through dense jungle, the three youths

crossed part of New Georgia, carefully bypassing strange villages, devil-dancing grounds, and piles of sacred spirit stones in the forest groves. They were out of their territory and among enemies. They had no desire to provoke the wrath of the people or their spirit-gods. Happily they found the coast and from a friendly old woman borrowed a canoe and paddled across to their own shores.

Back at Sasaghana, the boys watched every day for the *Advent Herald* to appear on the horizon. Never losing faith in the captain's promise, they took axes and began to clear the land. They worked hard, and soon giant trees were crashing to the ground. Others heard and came to join in clearing the underbrush and removing tree stumps. Never before had such enthusiasm gripped the young people of the island.

But Rangoso was not permitted to help, stubborn old Tatangu remained sceptical about the project. He had not been consulted in this matter, and he saw no reason why Captain Jones should deal with a bunch of village boys who had no real say in tribal affairs. So he reasoned to himself, trying to justify his original action in refusing land.

Nevertheless, Rangoso was sure the school would be built, and he secretly decided to attend it when the opening day came. His father was chief and must be obeyed, but hadn't Tatangu already promised the missionary to let his sons attend school?

A few weeks later the little white ship came again and anchored off Sasaghana Point. Dozens of excited natives greeted Pastor and Mrs. Jones when they came ashore. The captain, a man of action, told the people that he had come prepared to start building. He had brought tools and roofing iron with him on the *Advent Herald*. He immediately began to build a teacher's house, helped by the local people.

With the house well under way, the builders now began work on a thatch-roofed school building. Mrs. Jones, apparently unhampered by the long skirts of the day, explored the school site and planted a mango tree on a small hill, a tree, which stands to this day, an evergreen giant on the point.

The energetic G. F. Jones, who had spent much of his life as a sea captain, was not about to stop here. He envisioned not one or two mission stations, but a whole chain of them throughout the islands. He had already made arrangements for D. Nicholson and his wife to come from Australia to man the Sasaghana station.

Meanwhile, students began to arrive at the new school, just a handful at first, for much prejudice against the school existed among the older people. This was to be a boarding school and gardens were planted to provide food for the expected boys. Simple leaf-thatched sleeping huts were built, the Nicholsons arrived from Australia, and school was ready to open.

Many of the first students were older boys and young men. Big, husky fellows, they struggled with the alphabet and simple arithmetic like all first-graders must. It was 1915, and twenty-three students attended the first classes, many more would follow.

But Kata Rangoso was not there on the opening day. Old Tatangu still had doubts about the new school, and his word was law. In a short time, however, his sons were able to break his resistance to this new idea, and his two eldest boys, Rangoso and Peo, joyfully loaded their canoe with a supply of food from their mother's garden and paddled off to Sasaghana. There they joined Pana, Jugha, and their other friends in the great adventure of learning.

They attended morning and evening worship, sat for regular class periods, and shared the work in the school gardens. And they learned to sing in beautiful harmony, for deep within the souls of these island people was a musical talent that required little coaxing.

Thus the arrival of the little white ship became the turning point in the lives of the lagoon people. Other ships would join the mission fleet, but the *Advent Herald* became symbolic in the hearts of the islanders, the dove of peace that came into their island world to bring new understanding; the trend toward better things would never be reversed. To be continued: = ^ .. ^ =

ADVENT HISTORY

The Great Advent Movement: Part 6

The First Sabbath School Lessons

The Lord was pleased with His people who were obeying His Word about the Sabbath. Soon He sent a message to His prophet about the Sabbath. An angel talked to Mrs. White. She saw a beautiful ark in heaven. Then she saw Jesus. He opened the ark.

In the ark were two beautiful stones. On these stones the Ten Commandments were written. A beautiful light was shining on the fourth commandment. This commandment says: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

Mrs. White told the people what she had seen in heaven. She told them what the angel had said. They said: "We will always keep the Sabbath day holy."

Every Sabbath they gathered for church. Elder Bates and other ministers went from town to town. They preached to the people who gathered on the Sabbath day. Elder and Mrs. White visited these towns, too. They preached to the people.

The Seventh-day Adventist boys and girls went to the meeting with their fathers and mothers. The ministers loved the happy children. Elder White said: "These children should have a Sabbath school. They should have a paper with Sabbath school lessons."

Elder White wrote Sabbath school lessons. He spent many hours writing. Sometimes Elder White would sit by the roadside and write the lessons by putting the paper on the flat top of his hat.

He said: "I will put them in a paper for the boys and girls. This paper will be 'The Youth's Instructor.'" Sometimes while he was visiting the churches he stopped by the road to eat his lunch. When he had finished eating he wrote more Sabbath school lessons.

The boys and girls studied these lessons. The fathers and mothers studied them, too. They began to have Sabbath schools in some places. There were no kindergarten rooms. There were no junior rooms. The grandfathers and the grandmothers, the fathers and mothers, the boys and girls, all had Sabbath school in the same room.

They studied the lesson. Everyone brought a penny. All the boys and girls dropped their pennies in the basket. After many years the children had their own rooms and their own paper "Our Little Friend." = ^ .. ^ =



FIRST ISSUE OF "OUR LITTLE FRIEND"

BUILDING FOR JESUS

This is the old song about the Good Shepherd and the Lost Sheep:

There were ninety and nine that safely lay
In the shelter of the fold.
But one was out on the hills away,
Far off from the gates of gold.
Away on the mountains wild and bare.
Away from the tender Shepherd's care.
Away from the tender Shepherd's care.

"Lord, Thou hast here Thy ninety and nine;
Are they not enough for Thee?"
But the Shepherd made answer: "One of Mine
Has wandered away from Me;
And although the road be rough and steep,
I go to the desert to find My sheep,
I go to the desert to find My sheep."

But none of the ransomed ever knew
How deep were the waters crossed;
Nor how dark was the night the
Lord passed through
Ere He found His sheep that was lost.
Out in the desert He heard its cry,
Fainting and helpless and ready to die;
Fainting and helpless and ready to die.

"Lord, whence are those blood drops all the way
That mark out the mountain's track?"

"They were shed for one who had gone astray
Ere the Shepherd could bring him back."

"Lord, whence are Thy hands so rent and torn?"
"They are pierced tonight by many a thorn;
They are pierced tonight by many a thorn."

And all through the mountains, thunder riven
 And up from the rocky steep,
 There arose a glad cry to the gate of heaven,
 "Rejoice! I have found My sheep!"
 And the angels echoed around the throne,
 "Rejoice, for the Lord brings back His own!
 Rejoice, for the Lord brings back His own!"
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Year 1: 2nd Quarter:
"MESSIAH OUR PRINCE"
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 5: JESUS, OUR
SHEPHERD"

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

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

MEMORY VERSE: "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want." Psalm 23:1

We recommend that if you don't already know the 23rd Psalm by heart, that you learn it. It is full of precious promises! Remember as you read it, that it is talking about Jesus and how He cares for you.

Sunday

Text: Isaiah 40:11 "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

The idea of a shepherd and his sheep is used a lot in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. Jesus told many stories about this idea. The word



'shepherd' is found in the Bible 42 times and in the Spirit of Prophecy writings 1165 times. Find all the stories Jesus told about sheep and shepherds in the Bible and read them. You will learn many things about Jesus.

The shepherds of the Bible were different than shepherds of modern days. They lived with the sheep, carefully guarded them from all harm and tenderly cared for them. They also patiently trained them. Each sheep had a name and was taught to know its name and to come when called.

The presence of the shepherd was a great comfort to the sheep. The areas where the sheep had to go for food were rugged and many wild beasts were there that would harm the sheep. There were steep cliffs and pits where sheep could fall and get hurt.

These shepherds always led their sheep; they did not drive them or use dogs to frighten them into obeying. This is the same with Jesus; He loves us and wants us to follow Him because we love Him. He does not want us to obey only because we are afraid.

Thought - Jesus wants to care for us as a shepherd, staying with us day and night.

Monday

Text: Psalm 23:4 "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

The 'Rod' and the 'Staff' are two different tools the Shepherd uses to help His sheep. The 'Rod' means a stick used for fighting off enemies, like lions or bears that might attack the sheep. It would have a heavy iron tip on it, and when the Shepherd

would smack a wolf with it, that beast would run away.

In the Bible it represents power of God to defend His people and to punish evil. It is a comfort to God's true people to know that Right will win in the battle between Jesus and Satan.

The 'Staff' is what the Shepherd uses to guide and help the sheep. It was sometimes used to pull a sheep out of trouble as well. The Shepherd did not strike the sheep with the staff, but a naughty sheep might find his way blocked by the staff when he was straying, or the bend on the top of the Shepherd's staff used to hook his neck and pull him back from mischief or danger.

In the Bible, God's Ten Commandment Law is like a staff to guide and protect us from harm. The Staff is a comfort to the true people of God, as they know God's Laws are for their true happiness.

Thought - The more we understand God's Law, the more it will comfort us.

Tuesday

Text: John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

In Bible days when a vicious lion or bear would attack the sheep, the Shepherd fighting to protect and save them, could lose His life. When Jesus came to earth, He knew He would have to die a cruel and shameful death, to open the way to life for us.

In this story Jesus went on to say, "But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep." John 10:12

A shepherd that was just caring for sheep for money, would not love the sheep like the Owner of the sheep would. When danger came, this paid shepherd would run away to save his own skin. The poor sheep would be left for the beasts to kill and tear.

Jesus is the Owner of the sheep. He is our Creator! We belong to Him and so we are precious to Him.

Thought - How much our dear Shepherd loves us! He gave His life for the sheep to save us from cruel Satan.

Wednesday

Text: John 10:27, 28 "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Jesus told the people and His disciples that they needed to know His voice. If they were truly His sheep they would know His voice. Why was this? Well you see; the sheep lived with the Shepherd every day. They were always near Him. They learned to obey His commands. They went to Him when they were hurt, and He cared for them. He guided them to good food and helped them to get water. And He loved them, so the sheep liked to be close to Him.

If we are truly Jesus' sheep, we will always want Him close to us. We will love to think about Him and to read His words in the Bible, (the whole Bible is really about Jesus) and to talk to Him in prayer.

We will tell Him all our troubles, and we will treasure each one of His precious promises. We will also know that His ways are where true happiness can be found. We will be happy to obey Him always, even when we don't understand why He wants us to do a certain thing, or to stay away from something that we may think is 'fun'. We will trust Him, because we will get to know that He knows best for us.

This kind of 'knowing His voice', is the same as the extra oil the wise virgins had in the last lesson. To get this we must give all our heart to Jesus, not just when we feel like it, but all the time. The Good Shepherd must live with us.

Thought - It is so important that we learn to know the voice of our Shepherd!

Thursday

Text: John 10:7 "Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep."

This was another story Jesus told about sheep. He is the 'door' for the sheep. There is only one door through which the sheep can go and find safety. That 'door' is the only way the sheep can be saved. It is the only plan of salvation for any one.

One reason that the Bible and true Christians are so hated by the wicked in this world, is because they tell the truth that there is not many ways to be saved, but only ONE WAY, and that is through Jesus. Other religions teach it doesn't matter; all ways lead to eternal life. Most say, why do you worry, you already have eternal life. This is still the old lie of Satan from Eden; "Ye shall not surely die."

Jesus makes it clear that if He did not save us, we would surely die. He also makes it clear that if we don't let Him save us, we will perish. There is

no other 'door' for us, than giving ourselves to Jesus and trusting in Him.

Jesus also told in this story about the false teachers who say there is other ways. In the story, they climb over the wall. Jesus said they are thieves and robbers. They want to kill the sheep and eat them up. True sheep, who know the voice of the Shepherd, will run away from these false teachers.

Thought - True teachers always point to Jesus as the only way.

Friday

Text: Matthew 18:12 "How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?"

The sweet story of the Shepherd going out into the wilderness to find that one Lost Sheep can make our hearts glad, when we remember that we are that one Lost Sheep. The Shepherd had all those other sheep but He could not rest until He had found the one that was lost.

Why, was that sheep worth a lot to the Shepherd? Well, not really, but He knew that if He did not find it, there was no hope for it to live out the night. The morning light would show only the scattered bones of that Lost Sheep. He knew it would be afraid and cold, and maybe even hurt and suffering. He loved His sheep and wanted them

all to be safe and happy.

See the words of the old hymn, "There were Ninety and Nine", and see what the Shepherd went through to bring home that sheep.

Now think about that sheep for a moment. He was a disobedient sheep, wasn't he? If he was listening to the Shepherd and obeying Him, he would not have got lost. He decided at some point, "I don't need anyone to look after me. I can go my own way. I know better what is good for me than the Shepherd does." And off he went to explore the wide, wide world.

At first it seemed fun, but he soon found that he was in big trouble. He took a few bad falls; his white fleecy coat was dirty and full of burrs. He got hurt and had cuts and bruises. Finally when he decided to try and get back home, he fell into a pit and was helpless to ever get out. There he lay, crying in the night.

He heard the wolves howl and the lion roar. There was no hope left in his heart. Then he heard a sound; it was the voice of his Shepherd calling his name. Through the bushes he saw a glimmer of light from a lantern.

Feebly he bleated as best he could, hoping the Shepherd could hear him. Yes, He heard, he hastened to the sheep, tenderly lifted him out of the pit, and joyfully placing him high on His shoulder, He carried the sheep joyfully home!

Thought - I want to stay always with our dear Shepherd, don't you? = ^ .. ^ =

