

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 1 - 4th Quarter - Issue #3



CREATION CORNER

The Incredible Cat!

There are many wonderful and weird animals to be found in God's wonderful Creation, but one that is very common is also weird and wonderful, and that is the cat.

A.B. writes: "The first cat to walk into my life was Val, a regal, two-year-old Russian-blue stray.

"If you want to know the truth, Val actually limped into my life. He had a long-healed leg injury (no doubt from his back alley, street-fighting days) that left him with a permanent hobble. I had never lived with a cat before and, frankly, I wasn't too keen on the idea. But my husband liked them a lot, so I agreed to give it a try. Street-smart and more than a little cautious, Val was understandably as nervous as . . . well, a cat.

"He was so wary of us, and vice versa, that, for more than a week, he kept to the cellar. He even ate down there, alone, in the cold and damp.

"Slowly he grew more sociable, and little by little his preference shifted, from sleeping in his basement bedroom to the ground floor, then up to the second-floor landing and finally, incredibly, to our bed, where I heard him purr for the very first time.

"That was also the first time I discovered that

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special sense of privilege we feel when we know we've been chosen by a cat.

"At last, Val shared his grace and warmth, intelligence and wit, as well as an endless capacity for love - and ushered me into the remarkable world of felines.

"That was 14 years ago. Since then, more than a dozen furry friends have shared our lives, sometimes as many as six at a time - earning me the title, in some quarters, of "the Cat Lady". This is pretty typical, I've since learned. Know one cat, and before too long, you want to know them all."

What exactly is it that makes cats so fascinating? And how have they managed to get us to love and care for millions of them in this country alone?

It's certainly not a cultural thing. In cat-loving Japan, workaholics who don't have the time for a living, purring model go to the store and snap up an expensive fake cat named "Mew" that meows and wags its tail(!) when it hears its master's voice, and purrs when petted. Mew "drives away loneliness", claims a spokesman for the Takara Company, which also makes "Baby Mew", as well as a sleeping cat that "breathes" when you touch it.

Maybe it's the beauty and agility of cats that

amazes us. A prominent 19th-century physicist once described the cat's remarkable elasticity as "just one-tenth less than that of India rubber"!

Some say God made the cat so that we could caress the tiger. I truly believe that the cat is a special gift to man from our loving Creator. How He must have smiled as He planned the soft fur, the soothing purr and the loving, faithfulness he placed in this little friend of man.

Could it be what hooks us are those incredible eyes; able to adjust from mere slits in bright light, to luminous circles in the darkness? Finally, the mystery of the cat - revealing everything, yet nothing - constantly challenges us. Just share a room with a cat for a little while and you know that you're in the presence of something special. This 'furson' who curls up at our hearths and steals our hearts, mixes mischief and dignity, aloofness and even, somehow, a secret wisdom.

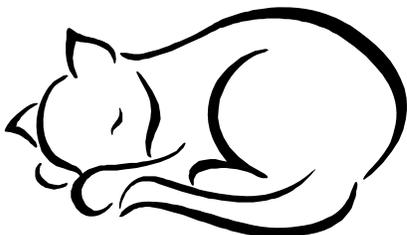
Can we ever really understand the inexplicable cat? Take a look at this story of a cat named Duke that appeared in the Kansas City Star:

At 2 a.m., Duke's frantic cries awakened nine-year-old Jessica Musgrove and her 13-year-old sister, Felicia. The girls were horrified to find their house inflames around them. Satisfied that they were awake, the puss quickly made his way to the master bedroom.

Ignoring the blaze that was quickly overtaking the house, Duke kept yowling till the entire family was safely across the street and out of danger.

After putting up with Walt Hutchings' cat Mi-Kitten's screaming for two hours straight, his annoyed neighbors went out to investigate. What they found made their blood run cold: The caterwauling cat was sitting on the chest of his unconscious master.

Hutchings later explained that he had been hit at the base of the skull on his way home earlier that evening. The sound of crunching bone is all he remembers before somehow reaching his apartment and passing out. His astonished doctor said that had it not been for Mi-Kitten, Hutchings would have died by morning. More next week. = ^ .. ^ =



HISTORY

The Protestant Reformation: 12 France: A Noble Knight

Louis de Berquin was of noble birth. A brave and noble knight, he was educated and well mannered. He earnestly followed the Roman church and hated the Lutherans. But one day, God guided him to the Bible. He was amazed to find in it, not Roman Church teachings, but what Luther was saying.

Convicted, he gave his heart to Jesus and joined the Reformation. He was so respected and had such influence that the Roman leaders dreaded him.

"He is worse than Luther," cried the papists. They put him in prison as a heretic, but he was set free by the king. For years the struggle went on, King Francis, wavering between Rome and the Reformation.

Berquin was three times imprisoned by the church authorities and set free by the King, who admired him.

He was warned of the danger for him in France. Erasmus, who though he was very smart, was cowardly, told him in a letter that he should ask the King to send him to another country as an ambassador, so he would be safe. "Were your cause better than that of Jesus Christ, they will not let you go till they have miserably destroyed you." He warned.

But Berquin just got braver as the dangers increased. The leaders called him a heretic, and he told them that was what they themselves were. He took the writings of important church leaders and showed how they were not right, according to the Bible. He asked the King to judge who was right.

The King told the Roman leaders to prove their doctrines from the Bible. Now they were in real trouble! They tried to find a way to get out of the spot they were in.

Now something happened which Satan himself planned and probably the church leaders themselves no doubt did. An idol of Mary on the corner of a main street was found damaged by vandalism. The whole city was upset and enraged and it was blamed on the Protestants.

Berquin was arrested and the King, cowardly left the city leaving the monks to do their dirty work.

The reformer was tried, and condemned to die, and in case the King should yet save him, they

executed him the same day.

At noon Berquin was taken to the place of death. A huge crowd came to watch, their faces hating and angry.

But Berquin was at peace; his thoughts were far away from the scene. He knew Jesus was with him, and he knew the promises. He had dressed in his best clothes and went with joy and triumph to testify to his faith in presence of the King of kings and the witnessing universe.

As the procession moved slowly through the crowded streets, the people were surprised at the peace, the joyous triumph, of his look and bearing. "He is," they said, "like one who sits in a temple, and meditates on holy things."

At the stake, Berquin tried to speak a few words to the people, but the monks, fearing the result, began to shout, and the soldiers to clash their arms, so he could not be heard. It was very wicked to not even allow the dying man to have his last words!

Berquin was strangled, and his body burned. His death caused sorrow to the friends of the Reformation in France. But his example was not lost. "We too are ready," said other witnesses for the truth, "to meet death cheerfully, setting our eyes on the life that is to come." . = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME



DRAGONS AND WINGED SERPENTS: 4

We read last week about THE WINGED SERPENT in South America; now lets go north:

4 THE VIKINGS 900 A.D.

**“The DRAGONS come! Flee for your lives!
The DRAGONS come from the sea!”**

From out of the fog great Dragons seem to glide towards the shore; their evil mouths open as if to

devour any victim in their path. With fierce shouts the Vikings approach land ready for destruction. They seemed to be driven with a supernatural force. . . The force of the Dragon.

It is not long before smoke rises from the village. Everyone and everything is destroyed. The spirit of the Dragon has left his mark once again.

The wrath of the Viking was terrible to see. Possessed with the spirit of the Dragon, they destroyed everything! Also call Norsemen, or the Men of the North, they came from the area of Norway.

After the raid, the Vikings left in their ships. Sword and flame left death and ruin in their wake.

The Vikings returned to a land, awful in its grandeur. A land of legends, of trolls and of strange, fierce gods.

When the Vikings completed their raids, they took off the Dragon Head on their ships, and at times replaced it with a Serpent's Head.

A beautifully designed Serpent's Head, curled as if it were ready to strike, was placed on the bow of the ship. Viking SHIPS could be identical at both ends. On the stern (back) a Serpent's Tail was formed, very much like the head on the bow (front). One of these ships can be seen in Oslo, Norway in the Oseberg Museum.

As the Serpent Ships moved on the waters, they were to appear to be alive. The bow of the ship had the head of a Serpent, the stern of the ship was the tail of a Serpent, the shields were overlapped like the scales of a Serpent, and in ancient cultures, sails were associated with wings.

Once again the question can be asked, "Why did the Vikings use a Winged Serpent and a Dragon when there is no such thing as these creatures today?"

Vikings were great travelers, and when not on raids, they went on trading expeditions. They traveled to many seaports in different parts of the world and were actually the first to reach America, landing on the coast of Newfoundland around the year 1000 AD.

As they visited the seaport cities, they heard the story of Christianity.

Some of the Vikings became converts, and returned to their homeland telling the story of the New God of the Christians. Many of the Norsemen did not reject Christ, but gave Him a place in their new way of life. But somehow I think it was not the true Jesus, meek and lowly, that most accepted, but a Papal counterfeit.

But many refused to abandon their Norse Deities in favor of Christ. Finally a decision was made. The Pagan gods need not be given up, but could be followed along with the cross of 'Jesus Christ'.

'Christianity' brought a new way of life to the Vikings. But the Dragon was still dominant even though the Norsemen claimed to be Christians. To show they were 'Christians', the Vikings made the sign of the cross and built 'Christian' churches. On the eaves they placed the Dragon. They made the shingles to appear like the scales of a Dragon.

In a short time many churches were built. But always they had their Pagan Symbols, Dragons, Serpents, and signs of the Sun god. The many layers on the churches represented the Stairway to Heaven. These churches are very similar to the Pagodas of the Orient. Most of the Dragon Churches have burned down, in that they were made of wood. However, some still remain in Scandinavia (Denmark, Norway, Sweden).

The carvings on the churches are a mass of twisting and turning patterns. If one looks closely, a Winged Serpent can be seen on the Dragon Churches. It is strange how often the Dragon and Winged Serpent are associated together.

The Dragon Ships; When the Vikings went to war, they used a Dragon Ship, the symbol of the destroyer.

The Serpent Ships; When the Vikings traveled and traded, they used a Serpent Ship. This ship had the head of a Serpent on the bow. The stern of the ship was the tail. The shields were overlapped like the scales of a Serpent, and the body of the ship represented the body of a Serpent. The sails looked like wings; a Flying Serpent!

Think about it: do you think they really knew what being a Christian meant? More next week:
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STORY LESSON

MY BODY TEMPLE: PART 2 OUTSIDE

What do we call the main part of a tree? The trunk, you say. The main part of the body is also called its trunk. There are two arms and two legs growing out of the human trunk. The branches of a tree we call limbs, and so we call the arms and legs limbs. We sometimes call the arms the upper extremities, and the legs the lower extremities. At the top of the trunk is the head.

Now let us look at these different parts. As we read the name of each part, let's touch that part which is named. We will begin with the head. The chief parts of the head are the skull and the face. The forehead, the temples, the cheeks, the eyes, the ears, the nose, the mouth, and the chin are parts of the face.

The chief parts of the trunk are the chest, the abdomen (ab' -do -men), and the backbone. The head is joined to the trunk by the neck.

Each arm has a shoulder, upper arm, fore-arm, wrist, and hand. The fingers are a part of the hand.

Each leg has a hip, thigh, lower leg, ankle, and foot. The toes are a part of the foot.

Our whole body is covered with something as soft and smooth as the finest silk. It is the skin. What is it that grows from the skin on our head? And what at the ends of our fingers and toes? We'll learn more about the skin, the hair, and the nails in another lesson.

The body has two sides, the right side and the left side, which are alike. We have two eyes, two ears, two arms, etc. We have one nose, one mouth, and one chin, but each of these or-gans has two halves, which are alike.

INSIDE

How does the inside of the body look? What is in the skull? What is in the chest? What is in the abdomen? Why do we eat and drink? Why do we become hungry and thirsty? Why do we become tired and sleepy? How do we keep warm? Why do we breathe? How do we grow? How do we move about? How do we talk, laugh, and sing? How do we see, hear, feel, taste, and smell? How do we remember, think, and reason? All these, and a great many more interesting questions, you will find answered in the following lessons.

When we study the inside of the body, we begin to understand how wonderfully we are made. We

cannot all see the inside of the body, and it is not necessary that we should do so. Many learned men have spent their whole lives in seeking to find out all about our bodies and the bodies of various animals.

If you take hold of your arm, it seems soft on the outside; and if you press upon it, you will feel something hard inside. The soft part is called flesh. The hard part is called bone.

All the bones of an animal, placed properly together, have nearly the shape of the body, and are called the skeleton (skel' -e -ton). The skeleton forms the framework of the body, just as the heavy timbers of a house form its framework. It supports all the parts.

The bony part of the head is called the skull. In the skull is a hollow place or chamber. You know that a bank often has a safe in which is kept money, important papers, and other valuable things. The chamber in the skull is the safe, of the body. It has strong, tough walls of bone, and contains the brain. The brain is the most important and also the most tender and delicate organ in the whole body. This is why it is so carefully guarded from injury.

The framework of the back is called the backbone. This is not a single bone, but a row of bones arranged one above another. Each bone has a hole through it, about as large as one of your fingers. A large branch from the brain, called the spinal cord, runs down through the middle of the backbone, so that the separate bones look as if they were strung on the spinal cord, like beads on a string.

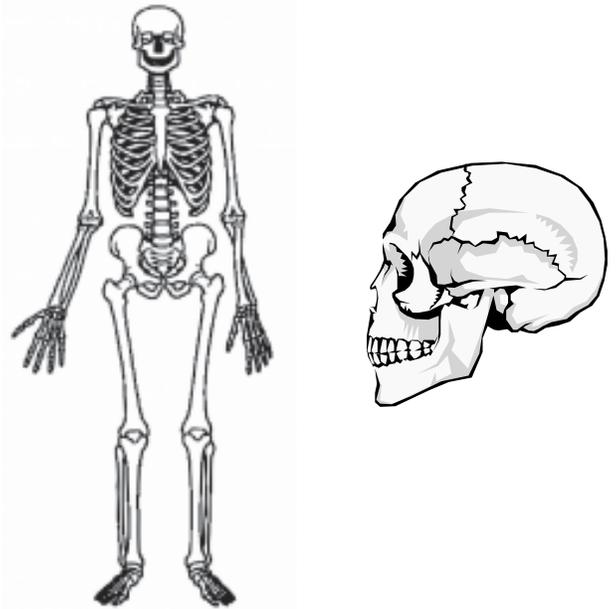
The trunk of the body, like the skull, is hollow. Its walls are formed partly by the backbone and the ribs and partly by flesh. A fleshy wall divides the hollow of the trunk into two parts, an upper chamber called the chest, and a lower called the abdomen.

The chest contains a pair of organs called the lungs, with which we breathe. It also contains something, which we can feel beating at the left side. This is the heart. The heart lies between the two lungs, and a little to the left side.

In the abdomen are some very wonderful organs that do different kinds of work for the body. Among them are the stomach, the bowels, and the liver. There are also, other organs whose names we shall learn when we come to study them.

We have only begun to study the beautiful house in which we live, and yet have we not learned enough to show us how great and wise is the Creator who made us and all the wonderful machinery within our bodies?

If someone gave you a beautiful present, would you treat it carelessly and spoil it, or would you take good care of it and keep it nice as long as possible? We should also take care of our bodies to keep them in the perfect and beautiful condition which our kind and good Creator gave them to us. More next week. = ^ .. ^ =



BUILDING FOR JESUS

ONLY ANGELS NEED APPLY: pt 5

Jesus' Work

Hebrews 8:1 "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens."

We learned that if we are to have a place in heaven, we need a heavenly character. So just how are we going to get that? Well there is only one way; the Bible tells us we can't be good by ourselves, so we need Jesus to make it possible for us, who are sinful and selfish to become unselfish and good.

Jesus lived a holy life and then He took the Death we deserved for our sins and now He offers us His perfect life. The Bible calls Jesus' perfect life a 'robe of right-doing' and Jesus offers to take away our dirty sinful lives, and give us His beautiful life to be ours.

How does this happen? Well, when come to Jesus, He begins to show us the bad things in our characters. Now when this happens we have a choice to make. The right choice is to say to Jesus, "Yes, that is a wrong thing I am doing, a sin. I am sorry, please forgive me. And please take that nasty sin away out of my heart and You live Your perfect life in me. Write Your Law in my mind and make me like You."

Jesus can and will give us power to live the pure, good life that He lived when He was on earth. But we have to choose to have it. We can't hang onto our sins and still be ready for heaven.

When Jesus shows us our sin, if we start saying, "That's not so bad. Other people do that too. I am not going to worry about such a little thing as that!" Then Jesus can't take away the sin. He won't take away our sins unless we want Him to and ask Him to. And if we don't let Him take the sin away, He can't forgive that sin either!

You see what an important work Jesus is doing for us? When we ask for forgiveness and power to overcome, He pleads His blood for us to the Heavenly Father; then the Father can say, "Yes, because of Jesus' blood, I can save this person." And we can be forgiven and changed to be made ready for heaven.

The Holy Spirit shows us things a little at a time. When we let Him take away that sin, He will show us a bit more we need to overcome. When this happens, don't be discouraged—Jesus is there ready and anxious to give you forgiveness and power for every single sin in your life!

But what if I make a mistake and I don't know it? Well, sins are what we do wrong when we know it is wrong. I may do something wrong for years, but I think it is right. Then one day Jesus, through the Bible or the Holy Spirit shows me it is wrong. THEN I pray and ask Jesus for forgiveness and to have that sin taken away from my life.

But once I know something is wrong, then I must ask Jesus to take it away and forgive it.

This is how Jesus leads His children, until they are made ready for that special place in heaven!

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Year 1: 4th Quarter:
"BIBLE PICTURE STORIES"
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 3:
"SHEEP AND GOATS"

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

Sunday

Text: Psalm 78:52 "But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock."

When Jesus gave us a symbol to represent His people, He did not select a powerful beast like a tiger or elephant, nor even one that is cunning and resourceful, like the fox. Of all the animals to represent His people, God chose the sheep. It is quite well known that the sheep is one of the most defenceless of all creatures. Indeed, it should long ago have been slain by its enemies. However, God gave the sheep the warmest and sturdiest of all fur—wool, and He placed it in massive amounts on the sheep. That wool is highly valued.

The Lord did this so shepherds would, from the most ancient times, care for the sheep. Without such tender care, the flock would die. The sheep senses its utter dependence on the shepherd, and meekly lets him lead it from place to place.

To make things worse, the sheep does not know

how to protect the grass it eats. Unlike other grass eaters, sheep will quickly overgraze and ruin a pasture. You cannot just put a flock in a pen near your house, as you could with other farm animals. Sheep require too much space. So the shepherd must constantly go before them, leading them to new sources of food. This means that new streams and water holes have to be found. The shepherd must spend his full time providing for all their needs.

“As the shepherd leads his flock over the rocky hills, through forest and wild ravines, to grassy nooks by the riverside; as he watches them on the mountains through the lonely night, shielding from robbers, caring tenderly for the sickly and feeble, his life comes to be one with theirs. A strong and tender attachment unites him to the objects of his care. However large the flock, the shepherd knows every sheep. Every one has its name, and responds to the name at the shepherd’s call.”—Desire of Ages, 479.

Thought - We are like sheep. We cannot make it alone. We need God’s help and care every moment of every day.

Monday

Text: Isaiah 53:6 “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”

However, sheep can be very stubborn and can stray away from the Shepherd, and there is nothing more helpless than a sheep out in the world alone.

Years ago, when a friend of mine, and his family lived in southern Illinois, they made the acquaintance of a nearby family that had sheep. We were amazed to learn that an adult sheep is so defenseless that, if a passing coyote jumps up on its side, the sheep will fall over sideways—and cannot thereafter get back on its feet! Its heavy coat of wool makes its sides so rounded, it will lay there with its feet off the ground until it dies.

As our text says, Jesus had to pay the price of all our foolishness, sinful and stubborn ways. He is our Good Shepherd and He did give His life for His sheep!

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 asks you to do something, and even explains 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.

Thought - We must all choose to ask Jesus to remove our stubborn and selfish ways, so the Good Shepherd can lead us.

Tuesday

Text: Ezekiel 34:12 “As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out My sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.”

Sheep can become lost; and, when a predator comes, they may scatter in fear. Unless they are found by the Shepherd and brought back to the safety of His care, they will perish when the predators come out at night.

There is a song that says: “My soul is lost; so lonely and so cold; just like a lamb, that has strayed from the fold; across the barren waste of sin I roam; Oh Tender Shepherd, hear my cry, and lead me home!

And He will lead us home! The Holy Spirit seeks tirelessly to guide all people to follow the Good Shepherd.

“In the parable, the shepherd goes out to search for one sheep—the very least that can be numbered. So if there had been but one lost soul, Christ would have died for that one. “Christ’s Object Lessons, 187.

Thought -There is one thing different about us than a sheep; we have free choice and that’s why there will be people lost. The Shepherd does his part, but they refuse to do theirs.

Wednesday

Text: Exodus 3:1 “Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.”

Remember the story of Moses? He was sure he knew how to deliver the Hebrews from Egypt. He had been trained as a general of armies; no doubt he knew martial arts. He went out one day and saw an Egyptian being horribly cruel to a Hebrew slave and he thought he'd better get started 'doing God's work'—so he killed the cruel man.

But everything backfired on him, and soon he found himself way out in the wilderness caring for a flock of sheep— of all things! God saw that Moses had a lot to learn about doing God's work, and the sheep were the ones to teach it to him. Gradually, during 40 years, his attitudes began to change.

The very helplessness and defenselessness of sheep appeal to the heart of a born shepherd. The goats; they want none of him. But the sheep repay affection. The exiled shepherd recognized humanlike traits in sheep personalities, and he found himself understanding God better.

When Moses finally was called by God to go and 'do His work'; rescue the Hebrews from Egypt; he was not at all like he was before! Now he was meek and quiet, humble and teachable. The interesting thing is now, when God was calling him, he told God he could not do the job!

This is something to remember; people who are all excited and bold, boasting their plans for 'doing God's work', cannot be used of God! You will always find God's true workers are meek and know they can do nothing themselves, so they lean on God. Then He can use them.

Thought - It is often when a person is sure that he can do nothing for God, that God begins to use them.

Thursday

Text: Matthew 25:31-33 "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels With Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all nations, and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left."

In the final judgment, Jesus, Himself—the great Master Shepherd, will separate the sheep from the goats. Why does He prefer the sheep over the goats? Surely, the goats are more capable!

Goats are the most independent of all grass eating livestock. They are so independent, that it is

hard to keep them in enclosures. While goats can take care of themselves, the sheep cannot. They look to their shepherd to care for them.

Goats go through a lifetime managing their own lives. They break out of fences, and do whatever they are inclined to do. Much of the time it seems to be the wrong thing. But the sheep, ever on the brink of disaster from predators, spend a lifetime of conscious dependence on the shepherd.

Although it can and does get lost, the sheep knows enough not to run away from the shepherd tending it (unless the arrival of the wolf suddenly frightens it).

Goats are stubborn delinquents; sheep are submissive children, ever ready to be guided by their master. Of all the animals in the world, they alone have a special child-parent relationship with the person caring for them.

Thought - Love begins with the shepherd; the sheep isn't worth loving; it only needs loving. Goats are a lot more attractive than sheep. But the sheep learn to love the shepherd, while the goats love themselves.

Friday

Text: Revelation 5: 5,6 "And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth."

Some of us may say, "Now, Here's an animal that I want to be like! A Lion! Fierce, powerful, nobody needs to take care of him!" Our Saviour is also called the Lion of Judah, but when John turned quickly to see that fierce Lion—what did he see? A Lamb! And what is more helpless than a lamb? And yet it was even worse—this Lamb was wounded and dying. Its head hung down and blood flowed from its wounds. What could a wounded lamb do to help anyone?

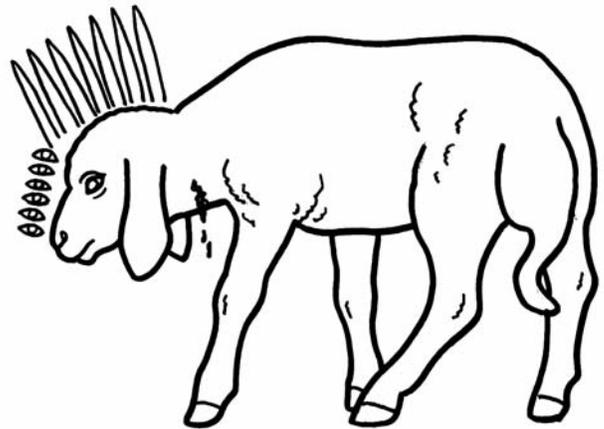
Yet it was by becoming one of us, one of His sheep—that the Shepherd paid for our salvation. It was the path to the mountain of Calvary that the Shepherd took to find that lost sheep. The Lion could only be powerful to save us, by becoming a

slain lamb.

But what a wonderful lamb this is! It has seven eyes and seven horns. This means it has all knowledge and all power. And yet it is meek and lowly, humbly obedient to God.

In this we see Jesus who was 100% God, becoming 100% man and as a man dependent upon the power of His Father, to live a sinless life. And He did it! The Lion/Lamb defeated Satan, and lived a perfect life. And the good news is— He wants you to have that life for your own.

Thought - Just tell Jesus, “Yes, I want to be your little lamb. Teach me Your ways, and write Your laws in my heart, so I can be like You. Let me always follow my Good Shepherd!” = ^..^ =



The Ninety and Nine

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: “This 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,
Sick and helpless and ready to die;
Sick 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!”

