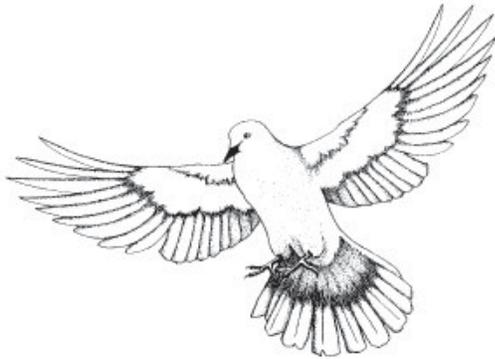


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 1st Quarter - Issue #5



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CREATION CORNER

Bird Wonders

Some birds have unique structures that enable them to perform specialized functions in nature. The woodpecker is such an example. He has special shock absorbers in his beak and skull providing protection from the severe migraine headaches that might otherwise result from his hazardous occupation.

Imagine all the poor pre-woodpeckers knocking themselves out, getting their beaks stuck in trees until this feature “evolved.” Most birds have three toes in front and one behind. The woodpecker has two in front and two behind to enable him to grasp onto the side of a tree and peck away. He also has stiff tail feathers to support him and a long sticky tongue designed for fishing the insects he feeds on out of the holes he pecks in the trees. We have to conclude, God designed him for his special occupation.

Consider the water ouzel, a bird that not only

flies in the air, but swims underwater with his wings! He also strolls on the bottom of the stream, overturning rocks with his beak and toes to feed on various water creatures. Air sacs provide buoyancy, enabling him to rise to the surface. He “blows his tanks” to submerge. Since he does not have webbed feet, he uses his wings as underwater oars.

He normally makes his nest behind a waterfall, through which he must pass to reach his front door. He makes his nest out of living moss, which is kept alive from the spray of the water-fall.

How many eons of diving school did this bird endure before he mastered the delicate balance of the air and water environments? These unique air sacs will either work, or they won't. These functions would have to be perfected before our skinny--dipping friend would ever discover the juicy morsels on the bottom of the stream. = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

St. Thomas Christians - Comeback

Last week we learned about the St. Thomas Christians in India, and how the Brahmins actually had to invent a counterfeit Christ to combat the true Christian gospel story. Their counterfeit didn't fool real Christians but it kept many heathen from the light.

The victory of the English over Spain (we'll learn about this next week) paved the way for the Jesuit defeat on the Malabar Coast. It was several years before the full meaning of the conquest over the Spanish Armada worked its way to the Orient. A ray of light was seen by the suffering St. Thomas Christians.

They groaned beneath what they called their Babylonian captivity. They loathed the worship of the images, the adoration of relics, processions, incense, confessional, and all the ceremonies their fathers knew not.

They longed for the crystal streams of the Scriptures. They yearned for the literature which the church had fostered since the days of the apostles. As they meditated on the "city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God," their spirit burned within them.

Then something happened; the defeats the Papal armies had suffered in Europe gave the Church of the East a chance to recover a little and a new leader was sent from them to the St. Thomas Christians. The Jesuits seized this godly person as soon as he arrived and burned him at the stake!

Horrified, the Christians assembled by thousands in a place called Cochin, where there was a big cross. Because all could not get close enough to touch the cross, they tied long ropes to it, and all took hold of the ropes, there they vowed to throw off the Roman practices. This was 1653. Rome saw around 400,000 people renounce their control.

The Jesuits came in busily to try and win back these people, they got about a quarter of them back and there was a split in the church. One group continued with Rome while the larger group went back to the ways of the Eastern Church. Sadly though, when you see them there today, they have lost the knowledge of the true Sabbath. More next week = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

THE BUILDER

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer contractor of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife enjoying his extended family. He would miss the pay cheques, but he needed to retire. They would get by.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked him if he would build just one more house as a personal favour. The carpenter said yes, but as things progressed it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work and that he would rather be elsewhere.

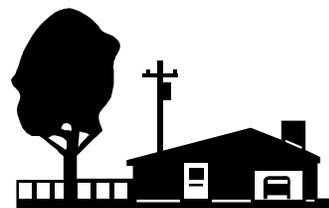
He cut corners with shoddy workmanship and used whatever materials he had available rather than waiting and ordering things that would have worked better in the end. It was an unfortunate way to end a dedicated career.

When the carpenter finished his work the employer came to inspect the house. He handed the front door key to the carpenter. 'This is your house,' he said, 'My gift to you.'

The carpenter was shocked! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. So it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into things. Then with a shock we realise we have to live in the house we have built. We can never go back, but think - If you could send a message to yourself a year ago what would you say?

Can you think of all the ways you could have done more with the time and relationships you had then? Are you now trying to learn as much as you can from each opportunity at school and other places? Do you use your time wisely or do you waste it in worthless games and TV watching?

You are a carpenter. Each day you hammer nails, erect walls and build windows. 'Life is a do-it-yourself project,' someone has said. Your attitudes and the choices you make today, build the 'house' you live in tomorrow. And remember to build on the true foundation, the Rock, Christ Jesus! Build wisely! it's your house! = ^ .. ^ =





STORY LESSON

My Body Temple – Why & How We Breathe

Let us perform a little experiment. We must have a small bit of candle, a fruit jar, or a bottle with a large mouth, and a lid. Notice carefully what we are about to do and what happens.

Place the candle in the bottom of the wide jar and light it. Use a long match so you don't burn yourself. When it is burning well, place the cover on the top of the jar and wait for the results. Soon the candle burns dimly, and in a little time the light goes out altogether.

Why is it that the candle will not burn when shut up in a bottle? A candle uses air when it burns. If shut up in a small, tight place, it soon uses up so much air that it can burn no longer. Try the experiment again, and when the candle begins to burn dimly, take the lid off quickly. We see that it burns bright again.

Suppose we shut off a wood stove's air control tight, what is the result? The fire will burn low, and after a time it will probably go out. Why is this? Evidently the stove needs air to make the wood or coal burn, just as the candle needs air to make it burn.

If you should shut up a mouse or any other small animal in a fruit jar, its life would go out just as the light of the candle went out. The little animal would die in a short time. Of course we would not do such a cruel thing as that!

A child shut up in a close place would die from the same cause in a very little time. In fact, many children die because they get locked in an old refrigerator or freezer, or even get a plastic bag over their heads, in which they use up all the available oxygen, causing suffocation.

The reason why animals need air, and why the fire will not burn without it, is that the air contains oxygen, and it is the oxygen in the air, which causes the wood or coal to burn and produce heat. So it is the oxygen that burns in our bodies and keeps us warm.

When wood and coal are burned, heat is produced; but some parts of the fuel are not made into heat. While the fire burns, smoke escapes through the pipe or chimney; but a part of the fuel remains in the stove in the form of ashes. Smoke and ashes are the waste parts of the fuel.

The burning which takes place in our bodies produces something similar to the smoke and ashes produced by the fire in a stove. The smoke is called carbonic acid gas [or, properly, carbon dioxide], an invisible vapor, and escapes through the lungs. The ashes are various waste and poisonous matters which are formed in all parts of the body. These waste matters are carried out of the body through the skin, the kidneys, the liver, and other organs.

We must breathe to get rid of the carbon dioxide gas, which is brought to the lungs by the blood be exchanged for oxygen. There are two reasons then, why we breathe: (a) to obtain oxy-gen; (b) to get rid of carbon dioxide.

Did you ever see a frog breathe? If not, try to find the first opportunity to do so. You will see that the frog has a very interesting way of breathing. He goes to the top of the water, puts his nose out a little, and then drinks the air. You can watch his throat and see him swallowing the air, a mouthful at a time, just as you would drink water.

If you have a chance to see a picture of the inside of a frog you would find there an odd-shaped bag. This is his air bag. This bag has a tube running to the throat. When the frog comes to the surface of the water he fills this bag with air. Then he can dive down into the mud out of sight until he has used up the supply of air. When the air has been changed to carbon dioxide gas, he must come to the surface to empty his air bag and drink it full again.

We do not drink air as the frog does, but like the frog we have an air bag in our bodies. Our air bag has to be emptied and filled so often that we cannot live underwater a long time, as a frog does. We call this bag the lungs. We have learned before that our lungs are in the chest. We need so much air and have to change the air in our lungs so often that we would not have time to swallow it like a frog does. So nature has made for us a breathing apparatus kind that works like a pair of bellows. Next we will study our breathing-bellows and learn how they do their work. = ^ .. ^ =

MISSION STORY

Angels Prepare the Way for the True Missionaries!

Here is a story from Burma. While attending a Rangoon meeting, Evangelist Chit Hla, one of our Burmese workers, told how he met a Burmese dentist, and found that truly the angels of God had gone before, preparing the way.

“As a young man the dentist had attended a Roman Catholic school. By the time he had finished the school, however, he had decided that he did not wish to be a Roman Catholic. He was searching for the truth. For years he tried Buddhism, but that did not satisfy him.

“Then one night in a dream he saw two men coming to his house. They were wearing all white, which was rather unusual, so that he remembered it. Then it was said to him, ‘These men will tell you of the Lord of peace.’ In the dream he asked which was the true church, Catholic or Baptist. The answer was, ‘The true church will tell you about the revelation [the prophecy, as the Burmese word means]. A King is soon coming,’ he was told, ‘who will rule the whole world. These men will reveal to you about that coming King and explain to you the Revelation.’

“For two or three months the dentist thought over this strange experience. Then one day one of my helpers, Maung Potok, and I, traveling along the road canvassing, came near to the dentist’s home. We were wearing white clothing through-out. Dr. _ came along the road and saw us. Greeting him, I asked, ‘Where are you going?’

“‘I am on my business as a dentist,’ he replied, adding, ‘Who are you?’

“‘I am the new doctrine preacher,’ I replied.

“‘What is the new doctrine?’ he said.

“‘We are seventh-day keepers.’

“‘Can you tell me about the a-na-ga-de-chan [Revelation, prophecy]?’

“‘Yes,’ we said.

“At once the dentist was much interested. He wanted to meet us at our stopping place, but we had no place. We were staying at the railway station. So he told us where he lived, and we went to his house later.

“‘Now,’ he said, ‘I am waiting to hear. Can you tell me about the new world Ruler who is coming?’

“I opened to Daniel 2, and gave an explanation of that prophecy. When I finished, he said, ‘You are

the man I saw in a dream.’ Then he related to us that experience.

“He accepted the truth with joy, and has been baptized. He goes out preaching the truth to others.”

THE DIRECT CALL OF GOD IN SIBERIA

“We rejoice under the freedom that we have, and in various places success attends the work. Men turn from darkness to the light of the gospel. Our power is weak, so the Lord works wonderfully by His power. I will tell of an experience or two: “In one village several people had remarkable dreams. All alike were impressed in their dreams with the nearness of the second coming of Christ. They heard His voice. They were so startled that they began to seek God. They found our meeting place, and now there is a group of people prepared to follow the truth in that place.

“In another place the Lord Jesus appeared to a preacher in a dream, and commanded him to turn about and be converted. As the man awoke and reflected upon the vividness of the message, he wondered what the experience could mean.

Soon after-ward he came in contact with one of our brethren, and as he heard of the present truth, he understood clearly the meaning of the dream he had had. Today this former preacher is a brother in the faith.”

A FILIPINO OPPOSER TURNED

Superintendent L. V. Finster told how one opposer of the work was turned abruptly into a friendly inquirer. He wrote:

“Ever since we opened our work in the province of Bataan in central Luzon, Philippine Islands, the head of one of the churches in that district has continued a bitter opposition to our efforts. He would gather his pastors together and come to the place where we were holding meetings, and try in every way possible to discourage the people and hinder the work.

“About a month ago he had a very impressive dream. In this dream he was told that he should not oppose our work,” but should ‘investigate it.’

“True to this impression, the next day he decided to attend the meeting and investigate the truths that were taught. He became interested in the subject presented, and continued his visits to the tent the following evenings. Soon he became very much interested in the message that was being given, and asked that he might have an interview

with our pastor. After some talk, they arranged for a daily study. When he understood our real position and the truths that we preach to the people, he was glad, and was willing to follow the truths as revealed.”

“ YOU ARE THE VERY ONE”

In the Inter-American Messenger, published on the Canal Zone, Missionary E. E. Parchment, of Jamaica, tells of a lonely ride on horseback into a part of Jamaica far from the highway. As he stopped at one house, he says:

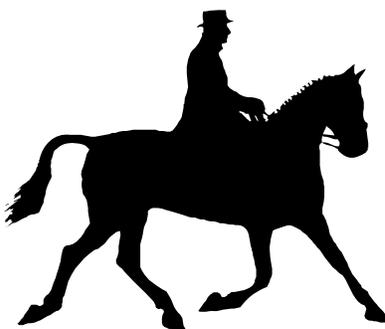
“I was greeted with a smile from one whose stooped shoulders and hoary locks told the story that many an autumn had passed over her. Having never been there before, I was surprised to hear her say, ‘ I know you, sir.’

“ I replied, ‘ You are mistaken, for I never have been this way before.’ But she insisted that she had seen me. With great interest I listened as this woman, enfeebled by age, told her experience.

“She said she had heard of Seventh-day Adventists and their message, and that, being perplexed over many points of their doctrine, she had asked the Lord, on bended knee, to send her some one who would teach her the hidden truths. That very night she saw in a dream a young man riding on a horse. He entered her home, and said that he had come to teach her.

“When she finished relating her dream, she threw up her hands to heaven, and thanked God that her prayer was answered. She said, ‘ You are the very one, sir, that I saw in my dream.’ “I spent three hours with her, and by the help of the Spirit of God I was able to throw light into her darkened soul. When I left she was rejoicing in her new-found faith.

“Truly, ‘God moves in a mysterious way.’”
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Year 2: 1st Quarter: “THE WONDERS OF REVELATION” WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 5: “GETTING READY”

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: “For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:” Isaiah 28:10

“The lips of children will be opened to proclaim the mysteries that have been hidden from the minds of men.” Maranatha, page 30. This quote is talking about Daniel and Revelation—like we are studying them. Children like you can learn the prophecies—Jesus will help you!

Revelation 6:15-8:5

Sunday

Text: Revelation 6:15-17 “And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”

In our last lesson we looked at what the 7 seals meant—but there is more information under the

6th seal than we looked at. This period goes from the late 1700s right to the time of the coming of Jesus, so it covers the very time we are living in today!

When you read prophecies like Daniel and Revelation, you have to remember that they do not run in a straight-line like a story, but instead they are made up of separate word-pictures, almost like pieces of a puzzle, and by studying carefully we learn how the pieces go together.

Each piece gives us more information about the big picture and each piece helps us to understand other pieces. We have to remember though, to let the Bible show us how they go together, and not guess ourselves or we can get mixed up, and we must always pray and ask Jesus for guidance.

The word-picture in these verses takes place as the people see Jesus coming in the clouds. What a sad situation! Jesus love us all so much that He came and died for us, to make a way for us to be saved. Heaven has done everything possible to help people get ready to go home with Jesus, but most people won't be ready.

Why? It's because they wanted to do their own sinful things, and refused to obey God's law. Now as they see He is really coming, and He is going to put a stop to all their cruel, selfish deeds, they want to be buried alive rather than see the face of the One who loved them so much.

Here just a short while before, these were the rulers and dictators that were getting ready to kill all of God's true people that were left. Then they were proud and boasting, making fun of those dear people who refused to disobey God, telling them how they were going to all be killed. Now these bullies are seen screaming to be buried alive—what a change!

Thought - "It will be in vain to call, Rocks and mountains on us fall; For His hand will find out all, In that day."

Monday

Text: Revelation 7:1 "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree."

Now here John see another word-picture, again this does not happen after the one we just read, but it is a separate view showing something that happens during that 6th seal time.

John sees 4 mighty angels on the four corners of the world. Now some people say, "See the Bible is not true! The earth doesn't have corners." This simply means the four directions, north, south, east, and west. We often say things like, "The people came from the four corners of the earth," and we mean from all over the earth.

Here these angels are holding the winds. Now, no human could hold 'winds', but these angels can. And what are the winds that they hold? Remember in prophecy, winds mean trouble, war, strife and destruction. God has powers working in this world to hold back the evil forces so that His people have a chance to get ready for His coming.

It says they protect the earth and the sea—this means the areas where there are lots of people (the sea); and where there are just a few people (the earth). And the 'Trees' mean governments or rulers. Remember Nebuchadnezzar's dream where a great tree was used to mean his rule in Babylon.

Thought - If these angels were not holding back the 'winds', Satan would destroy the whole earth.

Tuesday

Text: Revelation 7:2, 3 "And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."

Here comes another angel from the 'East', this means he comes from heaven with a message from God. Now we see why these angels are holding back the trouble, they are giving time for God's servants, His true people to get 'sealed'. A 'seal' is like a stamp of ownership. These people are going to have a 'seal' that shows they belong to God.

This 'seal' is in their foreheads; this means that they have chosen with their minds to believe and obey God. The forehead area of the brain is where we make our decisions.

Now this 'sealing' means making up their minds so strongly that they will never change. Each person has to study for their self, and get to know Jesus for their self and love Him with all their heart.

How do you get to love somebody? Well you have to get to know them, don't you? So it is with God, as we learn about Him from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy books, and we pray to Him

and allow His Holy Spirit to come into our lives and teach and guide us, we get to know Him and trust Him more and more.

Finally there comes a time when we are so solid in our decision to love and follow Jesus that Nothing would change our minds. Then we are sealed. This takes time, and so the angels hold the winds to give that time. God knows when His people are 'sealed' into loving and obeying Him.

The wicked end up 'sealed' too, but in a sad-bad way. They have disobeyed God for so long and rejected His love and His word until their hearts become hard and they reach a place where they would never change, not in a million years.

Thought - We know that the 7th day Sabbath is the 'seal' of God's 10 Commandment Law. It is the only place where it tells God's name, (the Lord thy God) His territory, (Heavens and Earth) and his authority (He is the Creator). The 'sealed' people of God will keep His Sabbath!

Wednesday

Text: Revelation 7:4 "And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel."

The number 144,000 has been a puzzle to many people. Some think it is a symbol, and it is true that it means something. There were 12 tribes in Israel and there were 12 Apostles. Here Twelve thousand out of each tribe, $12 \times 12 = 144,000$. It does seem here though, that it may be a real number. We do not know for sure. It represents the people of God who will be alive on the earth when Jesus returns. They will go to heaven without ever dying.

The twelve sons of Jacob, who became the heads of great families, called tribes, were Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, and Joseph. But Jacob, on his dying bed, adopted the sons of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh, to form two of the tribes of Israel. Gen. 48:5.

But here in this list we find 2 names left out. Ephraim and Dan are not on this final list. The Bible says "Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone." Hosea 4:17. The tribe of Dan was also involved in Idol worship.

Here is the list of 'tribes' as shown in these verses: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, Asher,

Manasseh, and Joseph. There are some people who have done interesting studies about the characters of these different 'tribes'; you might like to read about it sometime.

Thought - God knows who these special people will be, who will be alive when Jesus comes and go home to heaven without ever dying. Maybe some of us will be among them!

Thursday

Text: Revelation 7:9, "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands."

Some people worry when they think about the 144,000 because it doesn't seem like a very big number to be saved from the whole earth. But we never need to worry about that! There is lots of room in heaven for all, and nobody who really wants to be there and truly gives their heart to Jesus will be left out.

Just imagine this beautiful scene, all of the dear people of God from all different countries, happy in heaven and singing joyful songs to Jesus. They have palm branches in their hands, as a sign of victory over sin and Satan, and white robes, which means they all have lovely characters like Jesus.

Sometimes when you have to stand alone because all your friends want to do wrong things, remember that wonderful crowd, so many you can't even count them, that are true to Jesus, and decide that you will be there also. On this earth it sometimes seems as if everybody is going the wrong way and following Satan, but very soon, that is all going to change.

Thought - All God's children who humbly trust His promises will be safe in that day when Jesus comes to take them home.

Friday

Text: Revelation 7:13,14 "And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their

robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Now here we are talking about this special group who have been sealed in their foreheads. They are in pure, white robes—this is their perfect characters that Jesus has given them. They came out of a time when the entire wicked world united to destroy God's truth and blot it from the earth. But in the strength of their mighty Lord, they stood firm for the truth and obeyed God's Commandments.

How did they get these pure characters? It tells you how; they washed them in the blood of the Lamb. They accepted the forgiveness made possible by Jesus death and they chose to have Him live His perfect life in them. They chose to have Jesus' character instead of their own sinful ones. Day by day, hour by hour, they kept choosing His ways, in the strength He gave them and when temptation came, they refused to yield. They cried out to Jesus to take all sin and wicked selfishness out of their lives.

It took time, and as victory was gained over one sinful trait, the Holy Spirit would show them more things that had to be overcome, and they would cry again to Jesus for victory. The closer they came to Jesus, and the more they learned about His beautiful character, the more sinful they saw themselves to be and the more they cried to Jesus for Him to take away the sin from them and cover their poor selves with His robe of perfect character.

Finally, when Jesus finishes His work in the

sanctuary, their comes a time when He pronounces that all who are righteous will stay righteous, He gives them His perfect robe of character for their own and their sins are blotted from the books of heaven.

Notice verses 15-17 "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

These ones have a special experience, all who are saved in heaven will have passed through trials and been overcomers, but these final ones have seen the whole world given over to Satan. They have seen the close of probation when the Mercy of God is totally removed from the wicked and Satan has full control of them. They have seen the terrible 7 last plagues of God's anger fall on the wicked and have clung to Jesus through the time of Jacob's trouble.

The 4 angels are still holding the winds—it is time to get to know Jesus and give your whole heart to Him! There is nothing more important than that!

Thought – Revelation 7:13-17, are some of the sweetest in the whole Bible, read them often and think about what they mean. We all want to be in that group! = ^ .. ^ =

