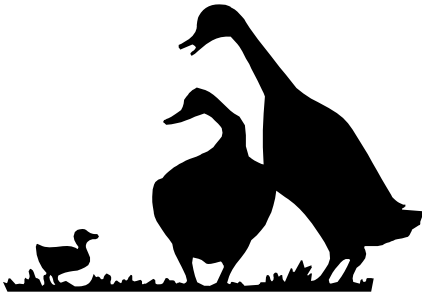


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 1st Quarter - Issue #9



CREATION CORNER

IMPRINTING

Imprinting was first named and described by the Austrian naturalist, Konrad Lorenz. Certain animals will go to the first fair-sized, moving creature they see after being born. It is usually their mother, but it could be another animal or even a human being.

Because of this trait, ducklings automatically follow their mother to the pond and swim after her. They followed the first large moving thing they saw after being hatched. Among mallard young, imprinting occurs precisely between 13 and 16 hours after coming out of their shells. People who have raised waterfowl have discovered that, if the ducklings first see their green rubber boots, they will thereafter follow those boots until they grow into adult ducks.

The imprinting cue can be a sound instead of a sight. The mother wood duck speaks to her young while they are still in their shells. Then when they hatch, she jumps out of the hollow tree, high above the ground, where the nest is located—and calls to them from the ground. In response, the tiny things jump out of the hole, fall to the ground and follow her into the pond. This is also the result of imprinting. Earlier, back in the hole, it was too dark

for them to know what she looked like, but they knew her voice.

Graylag geese, rails, coots, and domestic chickens react to visual imprinting cues.

In Africa, the female ostrich lays the eggs and the male sets on them. When they hatch, the young imprint to the father. As he travels across the fields, they all follow him. When other orphaned young see him, they hurry over and follow him also. Observers have seen male ostriches with as many as 60 young; by their age differences, they show that they are from at least 3 or 4 different broods.

Then there are baby shrews. They are born in litters of 6 or so. After imprinting to their mother, they remain close by her side. When danger threatens, she sounds an alarm and begins running. Instantly, one seizes the fur at the base of its mother's tail, gripping it firmly in its jaws. Just as quickly, another baby does the same, and within a few seconds, the wild train of shrews is running away at full speed—all connected. It looks like a furry snake gliding fast through the grass and brush. As they go, they keep in perfect step. Even if you were to pick up the mother (which you will be wise not to do without very thick gloves), the babies would continue to hang on. Arriving at a

CONTENTS:

CREATION CORNER

HISTORY

TRUE-STORY-TIME

STORY LESSON

MISSION STORY

WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON

place of safety, the mother signals again and the train uncouples and they return to foraging for food.

In South Africa's giant Kruger National Park, there is an elephant that thinks it is a buffalo. In the early 1970s five baby elephants, raised by a veterinarian, were released in the park close to a herd of buffalo.

Game rangers later reported that one of those young elephants had imprinted upon the buffalo.

It had joined the herd and was adopting buffalo habits. Traveling in a herd of 20 buffalo, the elephant has been seen drinking with them at a waterhole. A herd of elephants draws near and the elephant runs off with the buffalo. It has also been seen trumpeting and bellowing in an effort to drive lions away from a waterhole where its family of buffalo are watering.

The Bible tells us about 'imprinting'. It tells us that by beholding we become changed. (2 Corinthians 3:18) We must be careful what we look at and listen to because we will become like it. Fill your mind with the good things of Jesus' Word. 'Imprint' on Him! = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

Sermons from the Armada.

We looked at the amazing story of the Spanish Armada and how the Roman church was so sure at this time they were going to force all of Europe back into bondage to Rome—and it all blew up in their faces. Well many interesting happenings occurred at that time, which teach lessons that, sad to say, most people today don't know about. It was like God preached sermons to both Papists and Protestants.

As the ships of the ill-fated Armada were driven into the north of the British Isles by the storms that struck them with such fury, many were driven towards the rugged coasts of northwest Ireland.

Now Ireland at this time was largely a Catholic country; in fact the English were concerned that if the Armada survivors reached there, that the Irish Catholics would join them in attacking England.

But what really happened when the pitiful survivors were struggling to shore in western Ireland, from their wrecked galleons? The Catholic Irish, instead of helping their ill-fated brethren, saw the gold chains and rich cloths that some of the Spaniards wore and for the sake of stealing these riches, they murdered in cold blood many who

made it to shore.

It was calculated that in the month of September alone, 8,000 Spaniards perished between the Giants' Causeway and Blosket Sound; 1,100 were executed by the Government officers, and 3,000 were murdered by the Irish. Remember—these were their 'brethren' in faith!

Later, a ship containing a few wretched survivors managed to come into the harbour at the town of Anstruther, Scotland.

One morning in the beginning of October, 1558, so James Melvine, tells us in his autobiography, he was awakened at daybreak by an officer coming to his bedside, and saying,

"I have news to tell you, sir: there is arrived in our harbor this morning a ship full of Spaniards, but not to give mercy, but to ask it."

The minister got up and went with the officer to the town hall, where the council was about to assemble to hear the petition of the Spaniards, who meanwhile had been ordered back to their ships.

After the magistrates, burghers, and minister had talked it over, the commander of the ship was introduced, "a very reverend man, of big stature, and grave and stout countenance, gray-headed, and very humble-like, who, after many and very low courtesies, bowing down with his face near to the ground, and touching my shoe with his hand," began the story of the Armada and its mishaps.

This "very reverend man," who was now bowing before the minister of Anstruther, was the admiral of twenty galleons. He had been cast upon the "Fair Isle" between Shetland and Orkney, and after seven weeks' endurance of cold and hunger among the natives, he had managed to find a ship in which to come south, and now he was asking "relief and comfort" for himself and the captains and soldiers with him, "whose condition was for the present most pitiful and miserable:" and thereupon he again "bowed himself even to the ground." The name of the commander was Jan Gomes di Medina, the Armada's Admiral.

What now happened in this Protestant area, when these men, whom they knew were their enemies, appealed for mercy?

They were taken into the homes of the nobles and entertained as guests and the 260 "young beardless men, weak, toiled, and famished", were permitted to come ashore, and were fed by the citizens till they were well enough to be able to continue their voyage.

Please remember that we are pointing out the

effects of different religious systems—not that one nationality is ‘better’ than another. This is not so! It is Bible Truth that makes the difference!

Now tell me; which of the two groups were ‘Christian’ unto those wrecked Spaniards? Which ones did what Jesus would have done? Their Irish Catholic ‘Brethren’? Or their Protestant, Scottish ‘Enemies’?

Jesus said: “But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,” Luke 6:27. = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

The Sabbath a Shield

“His truth shall be thy shield and buckler.”

Psalm 91:4.

During the war, (WW1) and indeed for some time following it, there was much anti-foreign feeling in Egypt. In the later years Superintendent George Keough, working under our British Union Conference, was much of the time among the villages along the Nile toward upper Egypt, this side of ancient Thebes. Of experiences with the Bedouins, in which the Sabbath was evidently a shield and protection, he once told us (to quote from memory):

“In the closing days of the war, and following, the anti-foreign prejudice was very bitter. There were few Europeans in the region where I was working among Coptic believers. Most of the population was Moslem.

“I lived in the villages, eating, sleeping, and working in the village homes, teaching the gospel and helping the sick, in every way the missionary is called upon to do on the frontiers.

“When the political excitement was at its height, there was an uprising against Europeans in this region. Nine foreigners were killed, I believe, and others fled.

“All the time I kept at my work, going about the villages as usual. I was well aware at times of a strong anti-foreign hostility, but the only thing to do was to ignore it, and trust God to protect me there alone amidst the people. When the villagers saw that I was unafraid, and only wanted to go about my ministry, their hostility gave way to friendliness.

So apparent was it that I was treated in an exceptional way, that intelligence officers suspected that my immunity from attack when others were

assaulted, was due to a political sympathy with the Moslems. My Irish name gave color to the suspicion that I might be a Sinn Feiner, and that I was in Egypt to sow discontent against the government.

“My record was looked up in Cairo, and my home visited. Mrs. Keough assured the investigators that I was but a missionary preacher, a loyal subject of Britain, having nothing to do with politics.

“One day I was traveling, when down upon me swept an armed band of Bedouins, of the same class that had been killing Europeans. Their leader rode in upon me, looked closely in my face, and called out, ‘Oh, you are the Sabbath teacher;’ and away they all swept with salaams.

“Our keeping of the Sabbath, the day that Abraham and the patriarchs observed, and the day commanded in ‘The Book,’ as Moslems call the Holy Scriptures, seemed to impress the Moslem people. It was among the Copts, the descendants of the ancient Christian church of Egypt, that most of my work was done, however, while in every way seeking to witness to the Mohammedans as well.”

Again and again in our short story of mission work in Moslem lands, the Sabbath, the seal of the living God, has appeared as a shield and defense, even as suggested in the prophecy describing the rise of the Mohammedan power.

“And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.” Revelation 9:4

Once when Elder H. P. Holser was visiting Turkey, in the earlier days of our work, his party was rudely handled by the officials. Their Bibles and papers were confiscated. Then the higher officials learned that the missionaries were Sabbath keepers.

Elder Holser wrote: “The officials in charge changed at once, and were as gracious as they were harsh before; all our books and papers were returned immediately. It was the Sabbath that saved us. This is the sign by which we are known. Thus the Sabbath is the same to us now in Turkey as it was to Sabbatarians under the fifth trumpet. Revelation 9:4.”

Years later still, in the uprisings and tumults that brought Turkish vengeance upon Armenian and other Christians in the times before the Great War, our church in Constantinople passed through the storm; and again they found the Sabbath a

shield. The story, as our Armenian leader, the late Z. G. Baharian, told it, was to this effect:

“There was a terrible time in Constantinople. The Turks and Kurds had risen against the Christians, particularly the Armenians. Moslem mobs were loose in the streets, looting Christian homes and slaying.

“Our congregation of Adventists were gathered that night in their meeting place, an upper room. We were Armenians and Greeks. Outside the cry of the mobs was heard, with the cries of those who were attacked.

“In the upper room our little company of believers were praying to God. Nearer and nearer came the mob, battering at doors and dragging out the people. The little Sabbath-keeping company prayed to God for deliverance.

“The mob came to the houses on our square. They crowded about the entrance to our meeting place, and began to batter at the door. Then above the cry of the mob sounded out a shrill call: ‘These people are Sabbatas; [Sabbath keepers] let them alone! They are all right!’ And the mob swept on and left the praying company unmolested:”

Many of these believers had suffered persecution for the Sabbath at the hands of friends and former church associates. Many had suffered scoffs and scorn for the truth. They had sacrificed position for the Lord’s Sabbath. But that night they were not ashamed of the truth of God. The Sabbath of Jehovah was their shield and protection in that night of trouble.

Before us is “a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation.” In that coming time of trouble, God’s Sabbath, His seal and the sign of His power, will be the shield and defense of the children of God.

A Deliverer in the Slave Market

“I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched-out arm.” Exodus 6:6.

It is difficult, amidst the unsettled times, to get, in every case, the narrative from the lips of those who passed through experiences of God’s delivering mercies. Here is a story that must be told in the rough, as it has come through the lips of various workers hearing of the incident from out of the troubled times in Turkey.

When Christians of the Armenian race were driven from their homes in the villages, one

Seventh-day Adventist mother and daughter were among the exiles. After experiencing the hardships and perils of the journey, one day the mother said to the daughter, in effect: “It is a strange thing for a mother to do, but I believe it will be better for me to sell you as a servant to some of these Mohammedan families than for you to go along, driven by the soldiers. I notice that the younger women fare better who are working as servants.”

Hard as it was to part, the daughter left the matter to the mother’s judgment, and so became a servant in a Mohammedan family. Thus at least she was of some value as a slave serving the family, and as a servant the young woman had comparative safety, along with the hardships of such a life.

After a time, however, she was informed one day by her master that he intended taking her into the market on the morrow to sell her as a slave. It was a message of doom to the young woman.

She had been brought up in Sabbath school and church, but it is said that she had not yet given her heart to the Lord. She had always put off the time of decision. Now in the sore need she wished that she had had a Christian experience, and that she might go to God in the hour of need. The devil tempted her to think, “But how can I turn to the Lord now? In times of prosperity I did not when I had the chance, and now in trouble how can I expect the Lord to help me?”

But that is exactly what the dear Lord longs to do for His children in the hour of need. “Call upon Me in the day of trouble,” He says, “and I will deliver thee.” It is in the time of trouble that the Saviour longs to show that all the time He has been standing near, longing to help us.

Somehow His Spirit must have spoken to the heart of the poor girl, and she found courage to go to the throne of grace. That night she prayed to God, and her cry was heard. She found a Saviour. She found comfort and the forgiveness of sin. It was a night of calling on God for help and for deliverance.

Next day there was a crowd in the market place of the village. The young girl was there. Several others, we understand, were there also, to be sold into slavery. The bidding began, and a group were bidding for our young sister. Terror filled her heart.

Just then an old Arab came in, glanced over the scene, and then drew near and looked intently at the young sister. His face appeared hard and seamed, and altogether his intent look put new terrors into the heart of our sister. She was yet

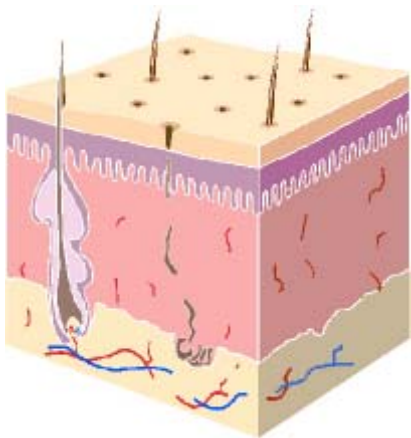
more afraid of him.

The old Arab began to bid. The other bidders became angry, scolding him, and telling him to go away, but persistently he continued, evidently determined to buy the young woman. Finally the last bid was made and the old Arab was the purchaser.

As he led the young woman away, her fear and terror must have been visible to him; for, as the story is repeated, he said to her, "Don't be afraid. You will not be hurt. My wife is here, and she will take good care of you. I did not buy you because I wanted you, or needed you; but last night I was impressed by God to come to market, that there would be a young woman here whom I should buy. I was to take good care of her, and help her to get back to her people. So I have come. Do not be afraid."

And, true to the message sent from God, they tell us, the old Arab and his wife cared for the young girl and helped her to get back to her people after the war.

This is the story that comes to us with little other detail, out of those times of stress and trial. It was in these same regions, in New Testament times, that men and women of the faith of Jesus found joy in the promise of a Saviour with them all the way, and the watch care of a living God, able to deliver. = ^ .. ^ =



STORY LESSON

YOUR AMAZING SKIN

The skin is the covering of the body. It can be stretched like rubber and it quickly snaps back as you let it go.

If you look at the bark of a tree, you see that there are really two barks, an outer bark, as thin as paper, and an inner and much thicker bark. You can peel off the thin outer bark without hurting the

tree.

Some fruit or shade trees peel off their outer bark a little at a time, and new bark grows in its place. If you tear off the inner bark, it will harm the tree and make it 'bleed' as the sap, the 'blood' of trees, will run out of the injury. The bark is the skin of the tree.

Our bodies, like trees, have two skins or really one skin with an outer and an inner layer. When a person gets a blister, the outer skin, called the epidermis, is separated from the inner by serum (water), from the blood. If you puncture the blister the water runs out. If we remove this bit of epidermis and examine it. It looks very much like the skin in the inside of an egg-shell, and it is almost as thin.

The Epidermis is very thin in most parts of the body, but in the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet, it is quite thick. These parts are in contact with things a lot and would get hurt if not protected. The epidermis has no blood vessels and very few nerves. You can easily put a stitch in it without making it bleed or causing any pain.

The underside of the epidermis is colored by little particles of pigment, or coloring matter. It is called Melanin and how much we have of it is what makes our skin the color it is. Dark people have more and whites have little melanin, and in some persons, called albinos, there is none at all. To be continued = ^ .. ^ =

THE PRAYER OF SOLOMON

"If Thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy, because they have sinned against Thee; . . . "If they sin against Thee, (for there is no man which sinneth not,) and Thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captives unto a land far off or near;

"Yet if they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto Thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly;

"If they return to Thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray: . . . "Then hear Thou from the heavens, even from Thy dwelling-place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive Thy people which have sinned against Thee" Chronicles 6:24-39.

MISSION STORY

Under the Promise

“In My name shall they cast out devils; they shall take up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them.” Mark 16: 17, 18.

THIS remarkable story of the East Indies is told in a German book, about a Mission. Missionary Nommensen had gathered about him a small group of Christians. One evening a member of the group, Nicodemus, came to him, saying that he had heavy guilt upon his mind that would give him no rest. And what did he confess? That in modern times also there was fulfilled to Christ’s servants what He had promised to the first disciples: “If they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them.” He then related the following:

“As you came to Silindong some years ago, and many talked about you and your intentions, it came to me that you would bring misfortune to our land. I waited a long time to see if some one would not make you leave. But it seemed always that no one could bring this about.

“Thereupon I made a resolution to put an end to your life, in fact to poison you. I sought through frequent visits to the kitchen to find the way to carry out my purpose. One morning as I laid my pipe yonder I put poison in your porridge. That is my guilt, and now I beg you to forgive me, and pray to God for me, that He may cleanse away my sin in the blood of Christ.’

“Nommensen was deeply touched by this revelation of the fulfilment of the Saviour’s promise and the mighty protection of the Lord. As he expressed his thanks to God, the regretful man added: ‘Yes, in this have I myself experienced God’s protection over you. As you ate what in others would have caused death, I believed in God’s word and became a Christian.’

“The missionary, feeling how great a debt of gratitude he owed to God, went, deeply moved, into his little bedroom, and wrote in his daily record book: ‘Should the Lord once lift the veil which hides all the dangers from which He has delivered me, what would one such deliverance be?’

Truly we do not know how many times the Lord as protected us from unknown danger. = ^ .. ^ =



Year 2: 1st Quarter:

“THE WONDERS OF REVELATION”

WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 9:

“7TH TRUMPET: PURE WOMAN & THE DRAGON”

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: “And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” Revelation 12:17

Revelation 11:14-19, Revelation 12

Sunday

Text: Revelation 11:14-17 “The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly. And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.”

The Seventh Trumpet, which is the third Woe, covers a lot of ground. Many people get mixed up on it and think weird things, but if we remember it

is full of symbols and what these symbols mean in other texts, then we can see the word pictures God has put here for us.

The other Woes were about armies that attacked Papal Rome. The third Woe began in 1844, the time of the Investigative Judgment. The 'great voices' are the message of this Judgment being preached in the world. The Elders are happy that this 'Time' has finally come.

Why? Because this is when Jesus is receiving His Kingdom! In some of the parables of Jesus we see this. In one He says He goes away to receive a kingdom; (Luke 19:12) in another He goes into the Marriage; (Matthew 25:1-13) in another the King (Heavenly Father) makes a marriage for His Son; (Matthew 22:1-14) Most of Jesus' parables are also prophecies; they give us clues to understand the prophets.

As we read this Woe, it sounds like Jesus is reigning through the whole thing, but this is a process that is happening now. The books are opened; all the people who have ever claimed to belong to God in the past are looked at. They are not there in person, but their records are all there in detail. For those who claimed belief in the Redeemer and remained faithful, Jesus represents them. Those who did not remain faithful, or who claimed to be God's while following their own ways, have no one to represent them. They are blotted out of the Book of Life.

Thought - We are living in the time of the Seventh Trumpet, when Jesus is receiving His kingdom. Soon the process will be finished and He'll come to take His people home!

Monday

Text: Revelation 11:18,19 "And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail."

So how is this a 'Woe' to 'Rome'? These verses show us; the dead are being judged, the saints and prophets are honoured by their names being kept in the Book of Life as part of Jesus' Kingdom. All

the people tortured and killed in the Dark Ages are placed on the list to receive their reward; Eternal Life with Jesus!

But what about those who killed them? What about those haughty church leaders who pretended to be God's agents? This is when the hidden things of darkness are made plain. Evil men have done many horrible deeds, and they thought because the people who knew about it were all killed, that nobody knew what they had really done. But this Woe is the time when All the records are opened on those who have pretended to be Christians and their wicked deeds are all written there.

A photo was taken of 3 skeletons that were found buried beneath the floor of a Cathedral when the authorities demolished this old Catholic church to build a nuclear power plant. It looks like it was a young boy and his parents laid out there. There were hundreds of hidden skeletons in this old church. Who were they? We don't know; but the 'Watcher and the Holy One' who wrote on Belshazzar's wall knows, and it all comes out in the Judgment.

Indeed it is a Woe on all who have done evil while professing to belong to God. Nothing is overlooked; not even a little child who loved Jesus, and was killed by wicked people is forgotten. All the true will receive reward and all the false will be blotted from the Book of Life.

'And the Temple of God was opened in Heaven' and there was seen the Ark of His Testament'. What is this? It shows that since 1844, the message about the Sanctuary and God's Law, including the Sabbath, has been being preached in the world. As the Judgment goes to the living, these things will be preached with a 'Loud Cry'. Then people will choose to either obey God and be sealed for His kingdom OR they will obey man's laws and honour Rome and get the Mark of the Roman Beast, and be blotted out of the Book of Life.

Thunderings: the loud preaching of a warning message from God. Earthquake: a great time of war and persecution just before Jesus' return. Great Hail: the final of the seven last plagues. This Woe leads to the end of the Roman power forever and the Second Coming of Jesus to gather His children home.

Thought - This is such an important time; soon the living will be judged. Let's choose to be faithful, so Jesus will be given each one of us to be in His kingdom.

Tuesday

Text: Revelation 12:1,2 “And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.”

Here we see a pure woman, which is a symbol of God’s True people, His ‘church’. She is ‘clothed with the sun’. she has on Christ’s robe of Righteousness. The moon is under her feetL she is standing on the promises of the Old Testament, which reflect the light of Jesus. On her head a crown of 12 stars: the 12 apostles of the New Testament.

She was expecting a Baby. Down through the ages the true people of God looked for the coming of Jesus and longed for this to happen. He was the Desire of Ages; the Desire of Women: Old Testament mothers longed to be the one chosen to bear Jesus.

3,4 “And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.”

This interesting symbol shows that Satan took 1/3 of the angels of heaven and cast them down with himself when he fell into sin. And it means Satan was just waiting for Jesus to come to earth so he could try and devour Him!

5 “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.”

We can be so glad that the Dragon, Satan was not able to eat up Jesus; He defeated Satan and now shares the Throne of the Universe. The Dragon also is a symbol of the power of Rome, which Satan worked through to try and kill Jesus even when He was just a baby.

Thought - This chapter goes back and forth between what the pure Woman is doing and what the cruel dragon is doing.

Wednesday

Text: Revelation 12:6 “And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.”

Again we see the 1260-year prophecy, so important for us to understand, that Jesus

repeated it in the prophecies seven different times! This is the terrible time of the Dark Ages, when Satan worked through Rome.

14-16 “And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.”

Here are more details and another 1260-year prophecies, when the True Church hid in the wilderness, while the false power ruled the world from Rome. The ‘serpent’, the wicked power, cast out water like a flood to destroy the woman. Whole armies were sent to attack the true believers in the little-known places of the world, in mountains and wilderness areas.

The ‘floods’ that came out of the serpent’s ‘mouth’ also refer to laws and decrees poured out against these true Bible believers.

The ‘earth helped’ her by swallowing up the floods of water; the wilderness allowed at least some of the true people of God to manage to survive. Also the opening up of the mostly unpopulated Americas at that time helped many persecuted people to flee away from the Roman power and practice their Bible faith.

Thought - How thrilling to see all this history written down before any of it had happened!

Thursday

Text: Revelation 12:7-9 “And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

These verses go back to the rebellion of Lucifer in heaven, how he was cast out by Michael, who we know is Jesus. It also tells what happened after Satan had done all he could to hurt and attack Jesus when He was here on earth, and actually got the wicked church leaders to use the dragon power of Rome to kill Him.

The loyal angels were amazed when they saw

the terrible cruelty of Satan to Jesus. He was proven wicked in their eyes forever! never again would any of them believe Satan's lies about God. They saw what Satan's lies were made of.

10,11 "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death."

Did you know that when anybody that claims to be a Christian, does selfish, sinful deeds, Satan accuses them to the Holy Angels and Jesus? He says things like; "See there is Johnny or Suzy and they claim to belong to You and look how they act! It didn't do You any good to die for them, they are selfish and sinful and should be destroyed!"

In Zechariah 3, we see a story of what Jesus does for His faithful people. He washes away their past sins with His blood and He gives them His own clean robe of righteousness. He tells Satan, 'I died for Suzy and Johnny, I paid with My blood for the sins they did. They are sorry for their sins and have chosen to let Me take them out of their lives and to be like Me.'

That is how the redeemed overcome Satan 'by the blood of the Lamb'. The word of their testimony means they are not ashamed to talk about what Jesus has done for them and they stand true to His word.

'They loved not their lives unto the death'. 'The Death' means a martyr's death. Although these people liked to live as much as any of us, they would not deny Jesus to save their lives. When the judges and church leaders yelled at them, 'Will you stop believing in the Bible and obey us'? They said, 'No, we will be faithful to the Bible'.

Thought - Jesus' power can overcome sin in our lives and give us courage to stand for the truth; even to 'the death'.

Friday

Text: Revelation 12:12;17 "Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of

God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

Ever since Satan failed to get Jesus to disobey God's laws, Satan has been shown to be a liar and a murderer. All heaven and the unfallen worlds are convinced that his charges against God's government are false. They are not fooled by him any more.

But the battle is still going on here, because humans are still fooled by Satan's lies, most of them want to follow him, and enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Satan has 'great wrath', he know his days are numbered, so he wants to destroy as many people as he possibly can.

Why doesn't he just quit? Well, for one thing, he can't; his own sinful, selfish heart drives him on in wickedness and cruelty. Also each soul that he can get to turn from Jesus, and end up lost, has to bear their own sins. Satan will have to bear the punishment for the sins of those who are saved that he tricked them to commit. So he has a real personal interest in getting people to be lost.

He has 'great wrath' against everybody in the world but against a certain group, he is 'wroth', super-mad! Who are they?

They are the 'remnant' of the pure woman's seed. These true and faithful ones have kept on down through the ages, clinging to precious truth from the pure Word of God. Clinging to the precious Law of God and their Saviour's promises. Led by the Holy 'Spirit of Prophecy', on and on they have come down the bloodstained path of history.

Paul describes them; Hebrews 11:37-40 "And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect."

In the last days the 'remnant', this last tattered remains of these faithful ones, will stand against the Dragon, the Beast and the False Prophet. They will be like those who went before them. They will cling to the Word of God; trust in the promises and blood of Jesus; and stand for truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth even if it costs their lives! Thought: AND they will WIN! By the Blood of the Lamb!