

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 2nd Quarter - Issue #5



CREATION CORNER ORIGIN OF MATTER 2

Genesis Rocks: Fingerprints of Creation

The theory teaches that, once upon a time, hydrogen gas pushed itself together and made our world. Then it all grew hot and out of molten rocks came granite--and water.

There are many reasons why that theory is not true. One very interesting one is this: Robert Gentry, a research scientist working in a multimillion dollar laboratory, spent several years working with a radioactive gas, called polonium 218. He found that billions and billions of it once was inside granite. We know it was there, because it left radioactive circles, or halos, around each grain. The distance of the halos from the central grain shows it must have been polonium 218. But, he wondered, how could that be, since polonium 218 is gone within three minutes! All its radioactive half-lives are ended by then, and there is nothing left but the halo marks and some lead in the center.

Checking it out, he found that the granite was solid and nothing could get into it; and there was no uranium nearby to contaminate it.

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But the fabulous part is that those three-minute marks could only be made on solid rock, and the polonium had to be there when the rock was first formed, since there was no other way that it could get inside.

It is the same as if you put an Alka-Seltzer tablet in a glass of water--after a few minutes the bubbles are all gone. If you wanted to keep the bubbles in there you would have to find a way to freeze it solid before the bubbles could go away.

Therefore, the granite had to have been made solid within three minutes to start with! Checking on granite samples from all over the world, Gentry found there were billions of polonium 218 halos in granite (10,000 in just one golf ball-size piece). All the granite in the world had to have been initially made in less than three minutes time!

By the way, granite is the foundation rock underneath every continent in the world. It is as much as 20 miles thick. So the whole world must have been very quickly made.

That is what Robert Gentry discovered,—and no scientist, anywhere, has been able to show

that he is wrong. Gentry says that granite obviously cannot have come from molten lava. Instead, he says it is original rock, made at the Creation. So he calls it "Genesis rock."

Evolutionists did not like to hear that, so they said he must be wrong, and that granite did come from molten (liquid) rock, after all. So Gentry told them to make some granite out of molten rock! But, when they tried, they couldn't do it. Even melted-down granite cannot be hardened back into granite. Instead, you have rhyolite, a rock that is different and has much smaller crystals.

Gentry also asked the scientists to make a polonium 218 halo on a piece of granite. They tried to do that also, but could not do so. Long before they could make that polonium gas stay on the granite—the polonium had changed into lead.

So not even men, in million-dollar laboratories, can make original polonium 218 halos on granite. And they cannot make the granite either! When asked what the answer is, the evolutionists say it is a mystery.

Well, it is a mystery that won't go away. For it proves that the God of heaven made our world very quickly and, all at once, made all granite solid within a minute or so. = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

The History of Mohammed: 4

Mohammed often went to the Kaaba and talked to anyone who would hear him. Quraish leaders said he was crazy and offered to send him to a physician, to cure his insanity.

But when Mohammed began telling people that (with the exception of Allah) the deities in the Kaaba were only idols, Quraish leaders wanted to kill him. Such talk could hurt their temple income. If his uncle, Abu Talib, had not shielded him from their wrath, Mohammed would have been slain. Although Abu Talib did not believe Mohammed's ideas, he defended the right of a close relative to utter them.

Fearing a major blood feud if they killed him, the Quraish decided not to harm Mohammed. Instead, they tortured the slaves that believed his ideas, until they recanted. But Mohammed got a new revelation, and said it was all right

for his followers to lie and say they were not his followers, in order to save themselves from being martyred.

So many poorer converts were persecuted, that Mohammed told them to flee to Abyssinia (modern Ethiopia), where the believers in Christ would warmly receive them. Mohammed knew the Christians would not hurt his followers. The year was A.D. 615. By this time, he only had a total of fifty followers.

In 616, Mohammed gained the support of a prominent businessman of great physical strength. His support encouraged Mohammed and his followers to more boldly proclaim the new faith in the streets. But more persecution forced them into a secluded quarter of Mecca, where Abu Talib could protect them.

Eventually, they were allowed to return to their homes. In 619, two misfortunes occurred. Khadija, Mohammed's first wife and loyal supporter, as well as Abu Talib, his best protector both died. Fearful of what might happen next, in 620 Mohammed journeyed sixty miles east to the agricultural town of Taif. But not wanting to offend the rulers of Mecca, the men of Taif threw stones at Mohammed and his followers and told them to get out of town fast, or else.

Returning to Mecca, he married the widow, Sauda, and betrothed himself, aged fifty, to Aisha, the pretty, but sulky, seven-year-old daughter of Abu Bekr. She was to become his favorite wife, and he eventually had a lot of them.

On one occasion, during a conversation with leaders of the Quraish, Mohammed began reciting one of his sayings from Gabriel, saying that the three goddesses worshiped by the Quraish were good and their intercession would help with Allah. This made the leaders happy and they agreed to be his followers and accept Islam, on condition that their goddesses and favorite idols were to be respected.

His followers in Abyssinia heard of the conversion of the Quraish and returned to their homes in Arabia. Later the prophet changed and that verse was cancelled and another written in its place saying that the three goddesses were made up idols, and only Allah was to be worshiped. Soon the Quraish were angry with Mohammed again. = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

26 GUARDS

A missionary on furlough told this story while visiting his home church in Michigan. "While serving at a small field hospital in Africa, every two weeks I traveled by bicycle through the jungle to a nearby city for supplies.

This was a journey of two days and required camping overnight at the halfway point. On one of these journeys, I arrived in the city where I planned to collect money from a bank, purchase medicine and supplies, and then begin my two-day journey back to the field hospital.

Upon arrival in the city, I observed two men fighting, one of whom had been seriously injured. I treated him for his injuries and at the same time talked to him about the Lord.

I then traveled two days, camping overnight, and arrived home without incident. Two weeks later I repeated my journey. Upon arriving in the city, I was approached by the young man I had treated.

He told me that he had known I carried money and medicines. He said, "Some friends and I followed you into the jungle, knowing you would camp overnight. We planned to kill you and take your money and drugs. But just as we were about to move into your camp, we saw that you were surrounded by 26 armed guards.

At this, I laughed and said that I was certainly all alone in that jungle campsite. The young man pressed the point, however, and said, "No, sir, I was not the only person to see the guards. My five friends also saw them, and we all counted them. It was because of those guards that we were afraid and left you alone."

At this point in the sermon, one of the men in the congregation jumped to his feet and interrupted the missionary and asked if he could tell him the exact day this happened. The missionary told the congregation the date, and the man who interrupted told him this story:

"On the night of your incident in Africa, it was morning here and I was preparing to go play golf. I was about to putt when I felt the urge to pray for you. In fact, the urging of the Lord was so strong; I called men in this church to meet with me here in the sanctuary to pray for you. Would all of those men who met with me on that day stand up?"

The men who had met together to pray that

day stood up. The missionary wasn't concerned with who they were, he was too busy counting how many men he saw.

There were 26.

This story is a wonderful example of how the Spirit of the Lord moves in mysterious ways. If you ever feel you should pray for someone—do it! Nothing is ever hurt by prayer except the nasty plans of Satan. = ^ .. ^ =

STORY LESSON

How We Think and Feel

The part we think with is inside of the skull, safely placed in a little room at the top part of the head. It is called the brain. It is with the brain that we study and remember and reason. So the brain is one of the most important organs in our body.

You cannot see your own brain, because it is in your skull; but you can get some idea what it looks like by finding a picture of a brain.

Notice first of all that there are really two brains, a large upper brain called the cerebrum and a smaller lower brain consisting of the cerebellum, the thalamus, and the hypothalamus. The upper brain is in the top of the skull, and the lower one lies beneath the back part of the larger one. If we look again we shall see that each brain is divided in the middle into a right and a left half. Each half is, in fact, a complete brain, so that we really have two pairs of brains.

The brain is a curious organ of a grayish color outside and white inside. It is soft, almost like jelly, and this is why it is placed so carefully in our skull, which is like a strong, bony box. If we should put a little piece of the brain under a microscope, we should find that it is made up of a great number of very small objects called nerve or brain cells.

Each cell has one or more branches. Some of the branches are joined to the branches of other cells so as to unite the cells together, just as children take hold of one another's hands. Other branches are drawn out very long.

The long branches are such slender threads that a great number of them together would not be as large as a fine silk thread. A great many of these fine nerve threads are bound up in little bundles that look like white cords. These are called nerves. These nerves are like little electrical wires that run throughout the whole body.

The nerves branch out from the brain through openings in the skull, and go to every part of the body. Every little muscle fiber, the heart, the stomach, the lungs, the liver, even the bones—all have nerves coming to them from the brain.

So you see that the brain is not all locked up in the skull, because the nerves connected to it have slender branches running into all parts of the body; and thus the brain itself is really in every part of the body, though we think of it as being in the skull. This is how the brain can communicate to the rest of the body.

There are a number of small holes in the skull through which the nerves go out, but most of the nerves are bound up in one large bundle and go out an opening at the back part of the skull and run down a long canal in the backbone. This bundle of nerves is the spinal cord. The spinal cord contains cells like the brain. It is really an extension of the lower brain down through the backbone.

Nerves branch out from the spinal cord, to our arms, chest, legs, and other parts. One of the branches to the hand runs along the backside of the arm, over the elbow. If we strike the elbow against some sharp object, we can hit this nerve and the underside of our arm and little finger feel very numb and strange. We call this part of the elbow the “funny bone.” The cells of the spinal cord also send out branches to the body and to other cells in the brain.

If we cut or burn ourselves we feel pain. Why does it hurt to prick your skin with a pin, pinch, burn, or bruise it? It is because the skin contains many nerve branches from the brain. When we hurt the skin or the flesh, these nerves are injured. There are so many that we cannot put the finest needle into the flesh without hurting some of them.

It is not pleasant for us to have pain, but if we did not feel pain when we are hurt we could get our limbs burned, cut, or frozen and not know about it until too late to save them. Our wonderful Creator has built an alarm system into our body for this reason.

We have different kinds of nerves of feeling. Some feel objects. If you take a marble or a pencil in your hand, you know what it is by how it feels. This is called the sense of touch.

There are other nerves of feeling that let us hear, see, taste, and smell. We also have nerves that tell us whether things are cold or hot, heavy

or light. Nerves of feeling tell us when we are hungry, thirsty, tired, or when we need more air to breathe.

There are other nerves, that do not feel. These nerves have a different use. They come from cells in the brain that have charge of work done in the body, and they send their branches to the parts which do the work; so we call them nerves of work.

One set of cells sends nerves to the heart, to make it go fast or slow as needed. Another sends nerves to the liver, stomach, and other digestive organs, causing them to do their part in the digestion of the food. Other cells send branches to muscles and make them move when we wish them to.

So you see how useful the brain and nerves are to keep all the different parts of the body working together in harmony, just like a well-trained army. Without the brain and nerves the body would be just like an army without a commander, or a lot of work-men without a foreman. It wouldn't know what to do! = ^ .. ^ =

MISSION STORY

Fulton to Fiji

John Fulton did attend school and worked hard at gaining a fitness to work as a missionary. He married a fine young lady, Susie, who also had the intense dream to be a missionary. Soon they had two little girls.

Finally he was sent to New Zealand on his first minister assignment. On arriving there he was told bluntly, “Do you know, Mr. Fulton, we called for a preacher. But you're only a boy!”

The words cut deep into their feelings. Susie bit her lip to keep back the tears. John's face went red. Even little Jessie and baby Agnes felt the coldness of the atmosphere and clung to their mother's skirts.

It took John two or three seconds to recover, then squaring his shoulders, he said, “Brother Edward, true I'm only twenty-five years old, but in God's book I read of a lad who kept so close to God that God helped him to slay a giant. And, Brother Edward, I intend to keep so close to God that He can help me to do His work too.”

Edward Hare had not expected such a reply. So this was the young man whom Robert had recommended so highly! He might be young

but he was not weak. He was humble, but he was strong. Suddenly Edward Hare loved him, and he said, "There are plenty of giants to slay here in New Zealand, too, John. We need young people like you who keep close to God. And you can de-pend on me to help you in every way that I can."

After a year John received a letter: "Dear Elder Fulton, Elder J. M. Cole has been laboring in Fiji for about a year now. He has made a good beginning, but is not well. So we are recommending that as soon as possible you and your family go to Suva, Fiji, to help Elder Cole."

"Fiji!" gasped Susie. "Fiji! We are to work with John and Fanny Cole? Oh, John, how wonderful!" And she threw her arms around John and cried for joy.

Edward Hare was not pleased. "Fiji?" he scowled. "No! No! John, not Fiji! We need you here in New Zealand. Fiji! John, don't you know that those islands used to be called the Cannibal Islands?" and he told John about the Fiji islands.

No missionaries ever had a more degraded people to work for than the Wesleyan missionaries in 1835. The Fijians had a reckless disregard for human life. They not only killed and ate their enemies of war, they regarded mbokola [human flesh] as a delicacy. For a feast the chiefs would seize someone they didn't like, with their wives and children, cut them up, cook them in their underground hot-stone ovens and eat them. They said mbokola tasted like pork, and the human bodies being prepared for cooking were called "long pig".

It was common for old people, when they became helpless or sick, to be strangled or buried alive. When a chief was ready to launch a new war canoe, he seized twenty or thirty of his poor people, and tying their hands and legs together, used their live bodies as rollers over which the heavy war canoe was launched. If they lived through the ordeal--fine. But many of them had their lives crushed out in this way.

When a chief died, his wives, his servants, and even his mother if she was still living, were all strangled. They were laid on a layer of mats in the bottom of the grave and then the chief was laid on top of them! And the surprising thing about it is that the custom was so strong that the women and servants regarded it as an honor to be buried with the chief. When the early

mis-sionaries tried to save them the poor benighted people insisted on being strangled!

When a chief built a new house, wide postholes eight feet deep were dug in the ground. The posts were then put in, and a man was put in with the post to hold it upright, then the dirt was filled in and the man was buried alive.

Missionaries working against great hardship succeeded in completing the Fijian New Testament by 1847, just thirteen years after the arrival of the first missionaries. The Old Testament was completed a few years later. Thakombau the cannibal king was converted and baptized in 1857, just twenty-three years after the arrival of the first missionaries!"

Today you can go to Mbau and still see old Thakombau's council house where twenty-one Tongans were buried alive in the post holes, and if you go into the Methodist church there, right in front of the pulpit you will see a great stone. It is now used as a baptismal font for sprinkling converts. Well, that stone was the very stone against which old King Thakombau ordered his victims' heads to be smashed before they were cooked and eaten.

When old King Thakombau became a Christian, he realized that no Fijian king could ever bring peace to the many chiefs who were so jealous of one another that they were continually fighting and killing one another's people, so in October, 1874, he ceded the Fiji Islands to Queen Victoria of Great Britain and sent his old favorite war club to her as a present. Since that time the British have been in charge, and since about 1890 cannibalism has not been heard of.

However, there are a lot of them still in league with the old devil himself. On the rocky shore of the island of Kandavu, there are two large roundish rocks. At certain times the women from a nearby village dress up in their best clothes, clamber up on those rocks, and chant a request for a huge turtle they have named Rauninalithe to come to the surface and show itself. Believe it or not, after chanting this request two or three times, up comes this great turtle, pokes his head above the water as if to say, 'Here I am, ladies,' then after a while down he goes again. After resting a moment the women chant for Tinandi Thambonga [Mother of Turtles] to appear, and believe it or not in a minute or two up comes the mother of turtles, half as big again as the first monster. She floats on the surface

for a minute then slowly sinks down into the depths again! If that isn't be-ing in league with the devil, what is it? No white man has ever been able to fathom their secret.'

On the little island of Mbengga there is a group of people called fire walkers. They dig a pit two or three feet deep and fill it with big stones. Then they pile firewood on top of the pit, set the wood on fire and keep it burning for twenty-four hours. During the night before the ceremony the fire walkers stay together in a nearby hut. If you ask them what they do all night, they will say, 'We talk with a small devil: Apparently this is so, for the next morning, after the embers are raked off and the red-hot stones are smoothed out, they come out of the hut looking as if they were in a trance. They walk in single file and slowly circle around on the stones. When they are finished their assistants throw damp leaves on the rocks, and the hissing clouds of steam prove how hot the stones are, and yet no one has ever discovered a burn or a blister on the feet of those fire walkers! White men have looked again and again for some evidence of trickery but have found none!

John waited a moment at the close of this story, then said, "The greater the darkness, Brother Edward, the greater the need of the light of the gospel! Susie and I and our two little girls will go to Fiji."

Edward Hare listened intently to what John said. Then he said, "John, of course you will go to Fiji, and God will go with you. You are a decided, immovable Fijian missionary, John. God bless you." = ^ .. ^ =



Year 2: 2nd Quarter:
"FAVOURITE BIBLE STORIES"
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 5: "JOSEPH, THE DREAMER"

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 patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him; and delivered him out of all his afflictions." Acts 7:9,10

Sunday

Text: Genesis 37:3,4 "Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours. And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him."

The story of Joseph is so important in the Bible that several chapters talk about it. It is a wonderful story and as a child I never tired of reading it.

Jacob, whom God had given the name 'Israel', ended up with four wives. He had only wanted to marry one of them, but he was tricked or manipulated into the others. Rachel was the one he loved, and had worked 14 years for, but she did not have any children until later on, when she had Joseph and then Benjamin. She

died when Benjamin was born and so these two boys from his beloved wife were very precious to Jacob.

It is never God's will for a man to have more than 1 wife and it always leads to trouble and problems in the family. Jacob was unwise because he let his special love for Joseph be seen in the family circle and this made his other children jealous.

When he gave Joseph a special coat of many colors one day, the brothers were really jealous. They were afraid that Jacob was going to pass the birthright to Joseph instead of to Reuben, the oldest son from one of the other wives.

When Joseph one day told his father about some wickedness the brothers had done, this made them hate him even more. They wouldn't even talk nice to him after that.

Then he had a dream that he and his brothers were tying sheaves of grain in the field and all their sheaves bowed down to his sheaf. He told his brothers about it, and they hated him some more.

He had a second dream in which the sun, moon and 11 stars bowed down before him and he told his father and brothers. "Shall we indeed bow down to you?" they said and even his father seemed displeased about it. But he kept it in his mind and wondered what it would mean, while the brothers were meaner than ever to poor Joseph.

Thought - Never let jealousy come into your heart over anything; it is like a worm to eat out your spiritual life. Then the spirit that controlled Cain comes in!

Monday

Text: Genesis 37:13,14 "And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I. And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem."

Jacob had large flocks and often the brothers had to go long distances to find enough grass to feed the animals. The 10 brothers had been away for a long while this time and Jacob wanted

to know how they were. He got the idea to send Joseph to get the news and come back and tell him of how his sons were.

With a joyful heart, Joseph parted from his father, neither the aged man nor the youth dreamed of what would happen before they should meet again. When, after his long and solitary journey, Joseph arrived at Shechem, his brothers and their flocks were not to be found. Upon inquiring for them, he was directed to Dothan. He had already traveled more than fifty miles, and now an additional distance of fifteen lay before him, but he hastened on, forgetting his weariness in the thought of relieving the anxiety of his father, and meeting the brothers, whom, despite their unkindness, he still loved.

The brothers saw him coming, and their hearts were so hard that they never thought how tired their little brother would be, and how they ought to welcome him. No, they got a cruel idea in their hearts that Satan put there; "Let's kill him!" they snarled, "We'll be rid of him and nobody will ever know."

Poor Joseph when he ran panting the last of the way to where he saw his brother's camp, his heart was joyful to see them, but they grabbed him and ripped off his special coat and would have killed him then and there, but Reuben got them to throw the poor boy into a deep pit instead. He meant to come back later and let the boy go home to his father.

No doubt Joseph had carried some goodies from home for the brothers to eat, and so they sat down to eat leaving Joseph, tired, cold and hungry in the pit. Reuben had gone away from the others, as he was afraid they would find out he intended to release Joseph. While he was away, a caravan was seen coming.

It was Ishmaelite merchants traveling to Egypt to trade and make money. Judah suggested they sell Joseph to them as a slave and get some money. So they took him out of the pit and sold their own brother for 20 pieces of silver.

Thought - Have you ever walked a mile or two? Then imagine walking for 50 miles and then 15 more!

Tuesday

Text: Genesis 37:31-33 "And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood; And they sent the coat of many

colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no. And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces."

Poor Joseph, how he pleaded with his brothers not to sell him. It was a fate worse than death to be a slave, as they were often treated very cruelly, and their owner could do anything his wanted to with them. These men had let the worm of jealousy and hatred eat out their hearts until they were as cruel as Satan himself.

When Rueben sneaked to the pit to let Joseph out, he found him gone and ran to the others to find out what they had done. He couldn't get Joseph back, so he agreed to join in with the lie to Jacob and they killed a kid and soaked the coat of many colours with the blood and took it home to Jacob.

Jacob was heart-broken and so upset that nothing would comfort him. "I will go down to the grave mourning for my son", he cried.

As the caravan went on its way, with Joseph now part of the 'goods' they had to sell, it passed by the hills where he knew his father had his camp. His heart was in great grief and terror. The picture of his brothers' angry looks rose before his eyes, and their harsh words echoed in his ears. The future looked dark and fearful.

Then he remembered the God of his fathers Whom he had been raised to trust in. Now all these precious lessons came vividly before him. Joseph believed that the God of his fathers would be his God. He then and there gave himself fully to the Lord, and he prayed that the Keeper of Israel would be with him in the land of his exile.

Joseph did some fast growing up on the back of the camel that day; he went from a somewhat spoiled son of a rich man, to a confident believer in the true God of heaven in a few hours. God would be with him, he knew it, and God would bring good out of what had happened!

Thought - No doubt while Jacob was weeping over his son's coat, Joseph was passing within a few miles of his tents.

Wednesday

Text: Genesis 39:1-3 "And Joseph was brought

down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him of the hands of the Ishmeelites, which had brought him down thither. And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. And his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand."

Deciding to trust in God made a great difference to Joseph, instead of being afraid and cringing, he had confidence and dignity even though he was a slave. He thought about how he could best honour God in all that he did. Every task he was given to do he did it well and was honest and careful in all his duties.

Bit by bit Potiphar, his master, learned he could depend on Joseph and also that Joseph's God blessed whatever Joseph was involved with. Soon he trusted the running of his whole house to Joseph, and everything seemed to prosper.

One thing that Joseph was careful about was to stay away from Idol worship and the sinful indulgences that surrounded him there in the rich man's house. He did not try to hide his religion or to go along with the parties and practices of the Egyptians. He was faithful to his God in all things.

If he would have been ashamed of his different religion and tried to be as much like the pagans as he could, so he wouldn't get in trouble, he would have fallen into temptation and God would not have been able to bless him!

Thought - Always remember, that God does not bless us just because of who or what we are, but He blesses those who live a life of obedience and faithfulness to Him.

Thursday

Text: Genesis 39:7-9 "And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, ... how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

Potiphar's wife saw Joseph working around the house day by day, and she was attracted to him. She decided she wanted to have relations with him, only meant for husband and wife to

have. She kept trying day by day to lure him to sin, but he refused.

Joseph knew that if he kept refusing her, she would get him in trouble sooner or later, but he did not care about that, he would be true to God and let God take care of the results.

Potiphar's wife schemed and arranged to catch Joseph alone one day when Potiphar was away. She took hold of his garment and insisted that he come to bed with her. Joseph knew trouble was coming, but he slipped out of his coat and ran away from her saying, "How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"

So for the second time poor Joseph had his coat tore off of him. The woman screamed and the servants rushed in and she told a lie that Joseph had tried to harm her. Then she kept the coat and waited until her husband came home.

She told him the whole lie, and showed the coat to him. Now I don't think Potiphar really believed her story or surely Joseph would have been killed; but for peace in his house, he had Joseph cast into prison.

Thought - We must always obey God no matter what happens as a result.

Friday

Text: Genesis 39:20, 21 "And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison. But the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison."

Joseph knew that God sees everything we do. Things may be kept secret from people but God sees us all the time. This was the secret of his being true to God and refusing to do wrong. Remember when Satan tries to tell you, "Nobody will ever know", that God sees you everywhere and always. God also sees when anyone treats us cruel or unfairly and if we are patient and trust matters to Him, He will bring good out of it for us.

Now, once again, Joseph found himself treated unfairly. First his brothers had hated him for no reason and sold him, and now this wicked woman had set a trap for him and tricked him, and here he was in the prison. He could very easily have got feeling sorry for himself; don't you think so?

But instead he just left things in God's hands and set himself to do his best to be helpful here in the prison. He was cheerful and didn't complain and tried to give courage and hope to others. And he was still fully faithful to the God of Heaven.

At first he was treated cruelly and put in fetters and chains in the dungeon. But Joseph bore it all with patience and trusted in God.

Soon the jailor found he could trust Joseph and after a while he let him be in charge of the prison. Still as Joseph continued faithful to God's ways, God blessed his work and it prospered. It was because of his right attitude that the way was eventually opened for him to come out of the prison to the throne.

When you think you are being treated unfairly, instead of fussing and yelling, "Not Fair", and sulking, try and be as helpful and kind as you can, and God will surely bless you also.

Thought - It is better to be blamed or even put in prison for something bad you did not do, than for something bad you did! = ^ .. ^ =

