

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 3rd Quarter - Issue #12



CREATION CORNER

False Dating

Archaeology is very important, for it provides us with information about ancient events, places, and peoples. Men dig in the ground in the Near East and learn about Bible times.

We are thankful for the many discoveries that have been made. But, unfortunately, men who dislike the Bible and those who believe in it, have tried to change the method of figuring out the dates of what is found in the ground.

The world and everything in it was created during Creation Week, a six-day creation period, followed by a one-day sabbath rest. They were literal 24-hour days. Just like ours today. Later, the worldwide Flood occurred for a whole year.

Creationists believe that Creation Week occurred somewhere between 4000 and 8000 B.C.

But, all the evidence indicates it may have occurred at approximately 4000 B.C. This is almost exactly 4,000 years before the birth of Christ in 4 B.C. The date of the Flood is variously set at 2300 to 4500 B.C. But 2348 B.C. may be the best date. These lower dates are in best harmony with

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Biblical records and non-Biblical evidence. The Bible is the most accurate ancient historical record known to mankind.

This would mean the Flood occurred about 1,656 years after Creation. Within a hundred years after the Flood ended, people may have entered Egypt and started its first kingdom.

There are many problems in archaeology. It takes a long time to dig in a small area. Some of the best information is never found; perhaps the site was anciently burned or rotted away. Those in charge of the dig are the ones to decide how to interpret what is found. That can be a problem because of their personal beliefs. For all these reasons and more, archaeologists need the Bible. It is the oldest and largest history book in the world.

Yet most of the universities today, are controlled by people who do not believe in God or the Bible. They have invented a dating theory that tries to disprove Bible events, but their theory is wrong. Archaeology, correctly interpreted, agrees with the Bible.

A good example is the walls of Jericho; mentioned in Joshua 6. When Joshua and his men marched around that city for seven days, about the year 1400 B.C., the walls fell down flat outward. Then the city was burned, without taking any of

the clothing or furnishings out of it.

Four years of digging at Jericho convinced John Garstang, in the 1930s, that the outer wall on one of its levels had fallen flat outward, that the ash from the level was very thick, and that it dated to the time of Joshua (1400 B.C.)

But later, in the 1950s, another researcher came. He applied erroneous dating theories to those same walls and said they dated to several hundred years earlier. But that dating theory has been shown to be incorrect. It is based on hunches that have no basis in fact.

We can be thankful that the Bible is so very accurate in all that it tells us! It was the God of heaven who inspired that living book. As we read it, we learn how to live better lives. This is the final lesson of our "Evolution is a Myth" course.
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TRUE-STORY-TIME

The Dollars Kept Coming!

Emerson Hartman

April 10, 1966, was the last day on which Mrs. Wright could pay the second half of her taxes before they would become delinquent. Her problem was that for two years she had been unable to pay. The city government would soon sell her home for those back taxes.

A frown crossed her usually peaceful face as she recounted her pitifully inadequate funds. Even before she paid tithe, there was far less than enough. Should she use her tithe money to help pay the bill?

Instantly putting away that thought, she counted out God's portion and tucked it into a tithe envelope. After all, if the city authorities sold her home, God would surely have something else for her.

She put the tax bill and her thin billfold into her purse and left the house. Instead of going at once to the courthouse, she drove to the house of Irma Johnson, a fellow deaconess and her best friend, who instantly saw that something was wrong.

"Edith! You look as though you've lost your best friend. What's the matter?"

"I feel as if the four walls of my house are falling in on me. It's my unpaid taxes."

"Taxes!" Mrs. Johnson exclaimed. "What's wrong with them?"

Today's the last day to pay them, or they'll sell my home. And I just don't have the money to—."

"Let's get down on our knees and pray about it," her friend interrupted.

Down on their knees the two women went. Mrs. Wright was too depressed to pray much. Her church sister also said a short prayer. When they stood up, Mrs. Johnson told her, "Now go on and take care of your business, and stop worrying."

Mrs. Wright felt as if a ton had suddenly been lifted from her. Tears forced themselves from her eyes.

But even as she drove to the distant courthouse, worried thoughts kept returning. True, she knew the Lord would do His part. But how? And where would she live if the house was sold? Maybe she should keep the money to rent a house. No, that wouldn't be fair. Didn't the Bible say, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's". She needed to pay all she could.

When she reached the courthouse, the problem was still unsolved. She went to the cashier's window and asked the cashier for advice.

The cashier told her, "Pay your second installment. When you do that, all the overdue taxes become a bill to be paid, but the authorities can't touch your home. You must pay eventually, of course, but you can take as long as you need to."

"Then they can't sell my home?" Mrs. Wright cried eagerly.

"No, not after you pay the half that is due today."

This was a real break. "Then I'll pay it now. I have just enough in my purse.

Mrs. Wright handed the clerk her money. The clerk counted out the correct amount and handed back some change in dollar bills. Mrs. Wright slipped these in beside a thin sheaf of dollar bills she still had. Then she turned and crossed the hall to the delinquent-taxes window.

"May I make a small payment on my delinquent taxes?" she asked.

"Have you paid the bill?" the clerk asked, noting the tax bill Mrs. Wright was still holding in her hand.

Yes. See, it is receipted. I have a few dollars left over, and the clerk said I could pay the delinquent taxes a little at a time."

"Yes, that's right. Let me get your file."

When she had found the bills for the delinquent taxes, the clerk added them up. Then she asked Mrs. Wright how much she wanted to pay.

"I think five dollars," Mrs. Wright replied. She opened her billfold to the thin sheaf of one-dollar bills.

One at a time she took five out and then placed

them on the counter. Then she noticed that she still had some more in the billfold. She told the clerk not to write the receipt because maybe she could spare 10. She counted five more dollars.

There were still more dollar bills in the purse. Strange! She counted another five. And still there were more. What was happening? Perhaps she should just take bills out until she saw only a few left. She began piling them one at a time on the counter.

The clerk was watching sharply, counting each bill as it was placed on the growing pile. It was like watching a performer taking handkerchiefs out of an empty hat, because already there were too many bills to ever go back into the billfold.

Finally Mrs. Wright saw that there were only three more dollars in the billfold. She looked up and met the clerk's puzzled eyes.

"If you can dig up 50 cents," the clerk said, "you'll have the whole bill paid. I've been counting. There are 147 dollar bills here."

"No! There can't be that many!" Mrs. Wright cried.

"Yes, there are. I counted them as you put them down.

"Well, here is another dollar."

The clerk placed 50 cents on the pile of bills and handed the other half dollar back to Mrs. Wright. Just take this across to the treasury window and pay there," the clerk directed, handing Mrs. Wright the delinquent bills.

The cashier was surprised to see Mrs. Wright back so soon. "Why didn't you pay when you were here the first time?" she asked.

To this, all Mrs. Wright could answer was, "I don't know."

One by one the cashier counted the 147-dollar bills. The 50-cent piece finished the count. Stamping the bill "Paid in full," she handed it over with a question in her eyes.

Mrs. Wright had a question in her eyes too. Her mind was such a swirl of impossibilities that she left the window in a trance. Moving to a little table, she began searching through her purse.

The tithe envelope still had the exact amount she had put in it. Her billfold had two dollars in the paper-money section. No. No. That billfold could never have held even a fourth of the immense pile of bills on the counter. Only God could have done this thing.

Closing her purse she bowed her head to say a sincere "Thank You, Father." Then returning to her car, she drove home rejoicing. She knew that in spite of what some people said, God was not dead. Only a living God of love could have performed this miracle just to help a poor widow woman. = ^ .. ^ =

STORY LESSON

Water Treatments # 3

We learned that there were two problems about the blood: (1) There may not be enough of it for emergency needs, and (2) it has a tendency to gather, or pool, in sick or hurt areas. But water therapy can help in both of these problems.

Water treatments can speed up the circulation of the blood, bring it more powerfully into and out of the afflicted area, and, in time, even increase the total amount of blood in the body. Water therapy brings the blood where it is most needed. But when a congestion of blood has occurred, the skillful use of water applications drains away the congestion and brings fresh newly-circulating blood to the area needing it.

The heart, itself, pumps the blood all over the body. But in the more distant parts, the pumping action of the heart cannot send the blood along very fast. But the blood vessels, themselves, have the ability to dilate (enlarge) and contract (reduce) in size, and thus pump the blood along also. Oh, how wondrously our God has made us! This is called the "peripheral circulation." And in reaction to hot or cold water applications, this peripheral circulation really jumps into high gear. This pumping action, powerfully increases under many different water treatments.

Here are a few principles that will help you to better understand some of the effects of hot, cold and neutral (lukewarm) water on the human body:

1 - It is the heat and cold of the water that produces the results. Neutral temperatures are quite relaxing, but they do not produce the powerful effects that hot and cold can give.

2 - Heat is measured in degrees by a thermometer. In these lessons, we will only use Fahrenheit. Most homes only have Fahrenheit thermometers, so that is what we will use. Normal body temperature taken by the mouth is 98.6 ° F. Temperature is important in water therapy. If your country uses Celsius, you can find charts that convert Fahrenheit to Celsius.

MISSION STORY

'Dr. Rabbit' Graduates: 4

3 - Water is capable of absorbing and storing a larger amount of heat than nearly any other substance. This means that when water is applied to the body (in a cloth, bath, shower, etc.), it will give more heat (or cold) than any other substance at the same temperature. Because water stores so much heat and gives it off so readily, it will seem to the body to be hotter or colder than other substances. If you step from a room at 75° F. into a bathtub the same temperature, it will feel cold to you.

4 - Ice is, in its effects, far colder than its temperature of 32° F., and steam is far hotter than 212° F. This is known as "latent heat." This gives water a very wide heat and cold range. (Remember, steam can burn!)

5 - Water must be in contact with the body for a while to pass on heat or cold. But it only need contact it for a moment to give a "thermic impression" that can be quite strong. For example, plunge your arm for only a moment into a pail of very cold water. It was only there for a moment, but the effect on the circulating blood in the arm will be powerful. This is "thermic impression," and it is important, for you do not have to cool the body with lengthy cold in order to have it react strongly to that cold.

6 - In the Cold Mitten Friction, the impression of cold from the brief application of water is combined with the mechanical stimulus of "friction" (the rubbing of the cloth on the arm). Both acting together produce a much greater effect on the body than either alone. The same is true of sprayed water and pail pours. The water "hits" the skin (there is "percussion" on the skin) and deepens the reaction of the body to the cold.

7 - Water is the world's greatest solvent. As a result it can cleanse better than anything else. It can remove wastes. But it can also hold nutrients placed within it for the body to absorb. Keep this in mind: many of the diseases of mankind would not exist if people drank enough water. Any time you start feeling a headache or some other problem, try drinking a large glass of warm or not too cold water every 30 minutes until you feel better. It is far better than drugs. Even most asthma attacks will go away if the person slowly drinks a large glass of very warm water every 15-20 minutes and rests quietly! = ^ .. ^ =

A rather gruesome episode that Eric called his jungle graduation exercise, happened this way. He was sleeping alone in his bamboo-and-leaf house. His wife and Nurse Gibbs were away for a day or two. It was about midnight. His day had been long and hard, so it took some time for him to awaken enough to realize that someone was calling, "Doctor! Doctor! Letter! Letter!"

Eric finally arose, looked out, and stood petrified at the sight of three almost naked men, bodies greased, holding gleaming knives in their right hands and small oil lamps in their left. It was a heart-stopping, eye-popping, hair-raising sight, and it took a few moments for the dazed young man to see that one of the men was holding a piece of paper and saying, "Letter! Letter! Doctor! Doctor!"

In Eric's own words: "I swallowed hard, stroked my hair down, patted my ears back into position, then reached down and took the letter. Quickly I lighted my lamp and read: "Dear Mr. Hare: "An Indian marijuana addict has run amok here, and has chopped up a Burmese woman and her 12-year-old son. Bring all your needles and sutures and see what you can do. BALDWIN, District Forest Officer"

Eric knew Mr. Baldwin and other government men who often stayed at the rest house not far from the mission. Now thoroughly awake, he dressed quickly, loaded all the surgical supplies and medicines he had into his bag, and joined the greased-up messengers. He tried to get more information about the incident, but the Burmese men could not understand Karen, nor could he understand Burmese.

They went single file through the jungle, two men in front of Eric and one behind. The Burmese men were all very tense; every crackling sound startled them. The long wicked-looking knives were held ready for instant action. Not only were they afraid of the crazed addict, but this was tiger country. Fortunately they met neither madman nor tiger, and in about twenty minutes arrived at the village.

The whole village was in a state of alarm; huge bonfires lighted the streets as if the villagers were trying to push back the terrifying darkness. The village headman met Eric and gave him the grisly details as they came to the house where the woman

and her son were. "It's terrible," he said. "I don't know if they are still alive." He opened the door and pushed Eric inside, saying, "I can't bear to look at them," and dosed the door.

In the dim light of his lantern Eric saw the mother lying on a cotton mattress on the floor at one side of the room, and the boy on another mattress on the floor at the other side of the room. Eric had never seen so much blood. The smell of it was strongly nauseating.

All at once the boy began to yell, and the young missionary knew that at least one of the victims was alive. He stepped over the motionless body of the mother. As he did so he stepped on the edge of her mattress and he saw blood ooze out around his shoe. His head began to swim, and he realized he was about to faint. That would never do; he simply must not fall in the middle of such a mess, so he talked out loud to himself: "No, you don't, Dr. Rabbit. This is no time or place to faint! Keep your wits about you!"

His lecture to himself worked. In a moment he was comforting and caring for the frightened and severely wounded boy, who had a deep gash in his neck. Fortunately no major blood vessel was cut, but two of the lad's fingers were nearly cut off. Eric worked swiftly and soon had the neck bandaged and the fingers in splints. He helped the boy to the door and handed him over to the headman. "Call Mr. Baldwin," he directed. "I'll be needing his help."

At once Mr. Baldwin was at the door. He took one look and opened his mouth to speak: "I say, Hare, . . . you've got. . ." His voice trailed off, and Eric looked up in time to see the man's face turn white. He sprang up to catch Mr. Baldwin as he fell limp into his arms.

Eric called the headman. "This is no good. Put some cold water on his face, and have the men carry him to the rest house. I need help. Isn't there someone who will come and give me a hand?"

After a long moment during which no one moved or spoke, a little old grandma who spoke Karen said, "I will help you, Doctor. I'm so old and skinny that the evil spirits won't bother me." And she really did help, she on one side of the apparently dead woman, and Eric on the other.

It was no situation for the fainthearted. The patient's forehead was split open, exposing the tissue underneath. Her cheek was hanging just by the flesh of the lower jaw, leaving a hole through which the teeth and tongue were visible. The flesh

of her upper right arm was opened up to the bone on two sides. The left arm had been entirely severed below the elbow. Eric looked to see how this affected his little old helper, but apparently she could handle it. She knew just how to hold and tie and pin up bandages. Eric could feel no heartbeat, but he could see weak spurts of blood at the end of the severed forearm. Perhaps there was a little life, after all.

With tourniquets and bandages Eric and his helper did the best they could to cover the open wounds and to bind severed flesh in place. He then called for some warm milk. When in a few minutes it was brought, he put a spoonful to the woman's lips, and to his surprise she swallowed it. Although apparently dead, the woman swallowed half a cupful of milk, then opened her eyes and spoke faintly, "I am not going to die."

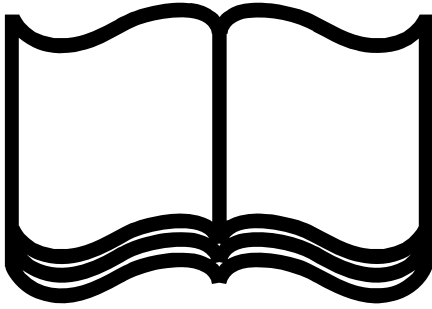
Eric had no doubt; this was a miracle, but if she continued to live she must have surgery much beyond his ability, supplies, and equipment. He urged the headman to get his men to make a bamboo stretcher on which to carry the woman, and to commandeer the largest canoe in the village on which to transport her downstream sixty miles to the nearest government hospital.

With six strong men to paddle it, the canoe bearing the poor woman pushed off at about two-thirty in the morning. As it disappeared in the darkness Eric heard someone running up behind him, and a voice called, "Doctor, Doctor, do you want this?" Eric could not see what the bearer had in his hands, but reached out to take it. It was the cold dead arm that had been hacked off! Eric gasped. "No! No! We can't do anything with that now. Take it away and bury it!"

On his way home Eric stopped at the rest house. Mr. Baldwin was still shaken and pale. He shuddered more when he was told all that had taken place. "I don't see how you can do it," he said with deep conviction. He did not know, of course, how near to fainting Eric had come. But the young missionary knew, and always looked back on that experience as his "graduation" exercise. From that time on he would be a genuine jungle doctor.

Many years later he testified that after that gruesome episode, the sight of blood, the most terrible burns, severe mauling by tigers, or goring by buffalo or elephants never again made his head go round and round or made him feel like fainting.

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Year 2: 3rd Quarter:
“THE AMAZING EXODUS”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 12:
“THE 12 SPIES”

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: “Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.”
Deuteronomy 14:9

Sunday

Text: Numbers 12:1-3 “And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it. (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)”

At the next camp, a still more bitter trial awaited Moses. Aaron and Miriam had a position of high honor and leadership in Israel. Both had the prophetic gift, and both had been guided by God to help Moses in the deliverance of the Israelites.

After the Lord had allowed Moses to have the 70 chosen elders to help him in the work of directing the Children of Israel, and the grumbling

in the camp had died down, all at once Aaron and Miriam started to grumble against Moses! Now that really hurt, when his own brother and sister, who were to help and support him, began to complain and criticize him.

Miriam started to make fun of Moses' wife, calling her a 'Cushite woman' because her skin was a little darker than the Israelites. Zipporah was a Midianite, also a descendant of Abraham, and her father was also a worshipper and priest of the true God of Heaven.

The real problem was that Moses had not asked their permission when the Lord chose the 70 elders. They were jealous; they were afraid someone else would have a more important job, closer to Moses than they did.

Moses really felt the task of leading the people, much more strongly than Aaron and Miriam ever did, and yet they began to act as if they had the same authority as Moses, and he was not honoring them as he should. Miriam blamed Moses' wife and came grumbling to Aaron, and he, instead of telling her she was wrong to talk like that, joined in her grumbling. Their complaint was wicked jealousy, but Moses, who was very meek and humble, just kept quiet and said nothing back to them.

Then God spoke and ordered Aaron and Miriam to come and stand before the sanctuary. He told them He was displeased with their words. He also told them a very important truth. He said that while they might be prophets, and He would speak to them in visions or dreams, that Moses was more than a prophet.

“Why weren't you afraid to speak against my servant Moses?” He asked. Then the cloud rose up and went away, and the presence of the Lord was gone from the camp. When Miriam looked down she saw her whole body was white with leprosy!

Thought – This was a very good lesson, jealousy and envy and wanting to be honored more than others, is a disease of the mind that will eat up the person just like leprosy eats up the body!

Monday

Text: Numbers 12:13-15 “And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee. And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out

from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again. And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.”

Miriam saw just how terrible her words and actions had been to the Lord. She knew she was wrong and repented of her sin. Aaron wasn't struck, but he felt just as bad as he saw what happened to his sister. Aaron repented and said to Moses, "Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned," and cried to Moses to plead with God to heal Miriam.

Moses prayed to God that she be forgiven and healed, and God healed her, but said she had to go out of the camp for seven days, as a sign of God's displeasure, and only then would the presence of the Lord come back and the cloud return to the sanctuary.

I want you to notice that God told Aaron and Miriam that, yes, they were prophets, but Moses was more than a prophet. There are two other people that we have been given the message that they were 'More than a Prophet'. One was John the Baptist whom Jesus Himself said was 'More than a Prophet'.

The other person that we have information that they were 'More than a prophet' was Ellen White. When asked if she was a prophet, she said that her work, that she was to do, was more than the work of a prophet. Think about that when you hear people criticizing her books!

You will find that such people are rejecting her because they do not want to believe and obey what Jesus has told us in her writings, and they are jealous and want the people to believe them instead.

Thought – It is important to remember that the sin of jealousy and envy are terrible in the sight of Jesus. He cannot bless those who have this kind of attitude. If you ever find yourself angry because someone got something that you think you should have, or someone gets more attention than you, remember the leprosy of Miriam. This sin will eat you up and ruin you for this life and eternity.

Tuesday

Text: Numbers 13:17-20 “And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain: And see the land, what

it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many; And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds; And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the first-ripe grapes.”

In just eleven days, the Children of Israel were camped at Kadesh, right on the border of the Promised Land. Rather than just follow the directions of the Lord and go into the land, the people wanted to send some spies to have a look and see if the land was good or not and how strong the people were that were in the land.

This again showed that they did not trust God to give them what He had promised them to give. They had to see for themselves if it was a good land or not. Moses prayed to the Lord and He gave them permission to do this.

They chose 12 men, one from each of the tribes, and sent them to go through the land and see what it was like and bring back a report. They had the Word of God and His promise to them, but instead of believing it, they set up a committee to bring them a report about if it was true or not.

They went off into the land and were gone for 40 days, while the people anxiously waited for them to return with the report. Finally the shout went through the camp that the spies had returned and the people excitedly gathered to hear the news about the land, if it was good or not.

Thought – We should never 'set up a committee' to study something that the Word of God tells us plainly in the Bible or Spirit of Prophecy. We should never discuss whether it is true or not. We should obey it!

Wednesday

Text: Numbers 13:27,28 “And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.”

When the spies returned they had all kinds of lovely fresh fruit with them. They brought a bunch of grapes that was so large it took two men to carry it! They told the people that it was a wonderful land, full of good things, well watered and beautiful.

But then something happened. They started to tell the people that the people that lived in the land were very powerful warriors. They had strong cities with walls around them and there were even giants there! Then they told the people that it was no use to try, they could never have that country for themselves.

Now Caleb spoke up with courage and said, "Let us go up and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it."

Now the ten spies started to say even worse things about the land. They said the giants were so big that they were only like grasshoppers along side of them. They said that the Children of Israel could not conquer this land. Then they said something really stupid. They said the land was so bad that it 'ate up' the people who lived in it!

Now they had just brought the lovely fruit, they had just said the people were strong and even giants, so how could this happen if the land were as bad as all that? You see, once they had started to bring a gloomy report, they were determined to keep on, even if they had to lie and make stuff up. They were not going to admit they were wrong.

After this a terrible thing happened. The people all began to cry and wail and say they wished they had stayed in Egypt or died in the wilderness. They howled and cried all night long!

Thought – If you ever have problems that make you feel that you are just a 'Grasshopper'; remember Jesus promises to be with us and help us. May we always trust what He tells us!

Thursday

Text: Numbers 14:2-4 "And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness! And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt? And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt."

The next day they went even further in their complaining and doubting the Lord. They accused God of lying to them. They accused Moses and Aaron of bringing them there just so they would all get killed.

As they chose to reject God's Word that He had already given them the land, Satan got full control of their minds. He put more and more wicked thoughts in there and made everything look so dark and gloomy. They decided they had better choose a leader and go back to Egypt.

Now Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before God, and Caleb and Joshua tore their clothes to show how badly they felt at what the people were saying. They ran into the crowd and they said that the land was a good land and that God would give it to them, if they would believe His promises. They said the words of our memory verse and urged the people not to rebel against God, because that was exactly what they were doing!

They told the people not to be afraid of the giants, "they are bread for us", they said. In other words, we will eat them up, because God's blessing is gone from them. The Canaanites were wicked people and God intended for them to be driven out and destroyed.

But the people only got worse and accused the two faithful spies and Moses and Aaron of wanting to get them all killed and their wives and children made into slaves. The more Joshua and Caleb tried to show them the truth, the madder they got until they picked up stones and were going to kill the two faithful men who told them what God said was true.

These angry people forgot that God was listening to their wicked words and saw what they were planning to do. All of a sudden a dazzling light shown around the sanctuary and the people stopped in their tracks. The stones fell out of their hands and they were very afraid. The 10 lying spies, who wanted the people to kill the faithful ones, crouched down and slunk away to hide in their tents.

Thought – When we doubt the Word of God, we are sitting ducks for Satan to control us.

Friday

Text: Numbers 14:11-13 "And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed

among them? I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they. And Moses said unto the LORD, Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;)"

Again God offers Moses the chance to be the father of a new chosen people, and again Moses pleads for the wicked Israelites. But notice, he does not say to God, "Oh forgive them, God, they didn't really mean it." No, Moses is concerned for the influence on the rest of the world that this would have, and how the heathen would despise the Name of God.

He does not ask God to spare the people because they are basically good people and only got a bit carried away in wrong. He does not ask God to ignore sin. But instead he is concerned for God's own honor. The nations would say God was not strong enough to bring the people to the land, they would claim their idol gods were stronger than the God of heaven.

Moses pleaded that God would forgive because of His great mercy. "And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word: But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD." Numbers 14:20,21.

But their wicked unbelief was to have terrible results. Because the people had cried in God's ears

and said, "We wish we had died in Egypt or we wish we had died in the wilderness", God was going to give them their wish. Now he told them that they were to go back into the wilderness and wander there for forty years, one year for each day the spies had gone through the land.

The people that had refused to go into the land, and had said it was a bad land, would never get to see it. They were to die in the wilderness, and their children, who they said would 'be a prey' of the giants, they would get to have the good land. And Caleb and Joshua would get to go into the land.

When the people heard this they changed from being ready to kill Caleb and Joshua into mourning. The ten unfaithful spies that brought the lying report got the plague and the people saw them die before their eyes. They knew the sentence God gave, was what they deserved.

Now they were sorry, but it was not that they were truly sorry for the wrong they had done, they were just sorry for the results. They hoped to get God to change His mind.

We need to be careful of what we say, God is listening and He just might give us what we ask for!

Thought – It is especially true, that when people who claim to belong to God, do wicked and wrong things, they dishonor God's name and cause unbelievers to say, "Well if that's what Christians are like, we don't want to be like them!" = ^ .. ^ =

