

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 3rd Quarter - Issue #6



CREATION CORNER BIRDS!!

November 30, 02—At dawn that AM, I was crossing the huge ‘Skyway Bridge’ over the western corner of Lake Ontario. It is like going over a high hill and so as you drive up into the sky, you look up sort of naturally.

Then something caught my eye; at first I thought I was seeing spots before my eyes, as this happens to me sometimes, but then I realized that high above me the sky was swirling with small birds. Not a few, but hundreds of them in a huge flock. They were like whirling snow-flakes in a blizzard, whirling and twirling and not just one or two flocks but flock after flock came into site as I drove over the Skyway.

Dozens of flocks and hundreds and hundreds of birds in each flock. Thousands of small birds!

It was amazing! I have no idea what they were doing, but it was like a grand bird jubilee! They were whirling and soaring and going up and down; the only way I can come close to describing them, is it was like they were boiling and seething.

I began to talk out loud to the Lord, praising Him for His wonderful works. Oh, how very little we humans really know about the wonders of God’s

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creation!

It was so amazing, I had to be careful not to sway from my lane on this fast, multi-lane super-bridge, but I was trying to watch this high, black ‘snow-storm’ of boiling birds, the grace and co-ordination of their whirling tumbling, aerial acrobatics brought tears to my eyes. I was thinking, every one of those little dots of happy life is powered by a tiny beating heart, and is something no human can design or make—or even fully understand.

I kept saying, “Oh, Lord, It’s beautiful! Look what You have made! Thank-you; it’s so beautiful.

As I drove away from the water area, the flocks thinned out and there were no more black ‘snowflakes’ whirling in the wind.

There was such a sense of wild, untamed joy and exhilaration in the sight—like as if they were having a wonderful celebration and playing together in the winds.

When I returned home this PM, there were no little black birds there, they had all gone on their way to—God only knows where!

It brought back to my mind a scene I had witnessed many years ago in the Maritime province of Newfoundland. (Pronounced NEW’-fun-LAND’ by

the way.) We were camping on the beach of a remote fishing village. There were high cliffs, which caused the wind to swirl and eddy, and the sea gulls were using it as an amusement park.

They would fight their way against the wind and then turn and soar whoosh!—Down the wind current like a child going down a slide. Again and again they would do this, their wild cries expressing their delight at the game they were playing together on that wild coast.

Dear readers, God's creation is a happy creation! Sin has brought much suffering and sorrow to this speck of a world and all creation suffers under its effects, but always, still, there is to be seen that happy, joyousness that ruled when the 'Morning Stars sang together and the Sons of God shouted for joy'!

Someday the agony of sin will be finished and that one pulse of joy will once again beat through the entire universe. I choose to be there to see it, how about you? = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

The Lame Pup

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the pups. And set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard. As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of a little boy.

"Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies."

"Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat of the back of his neck, "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money."

The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer.

"I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?"

"Sure," said the farmer. And with that he let out a whistle "Here, Dolly!" he called. Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur.

The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse.

Slowly another little ball appeared, this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up.

"I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt.

The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would,"

With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers. In doing so he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg, attached to a specially made shoe.

Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands."

There is an interesting verse in the Bible: "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15.

Did you ever stop to figure out just what this is telling us? Well, it is saying that when we go to Jesus and tell Him about our temptations and troubles, He knows what we are going through, because He lived on earth as one of us and He knows what it feels like.

He is 'Someone who understands!' = ^ .. ^ =



STORY LESSON

Natural Remedies # 4 Flax Oil

Flax is one of the few seeds that contain both of the essential fatty acids needed in human nutrition, Omega 3 and Omega 6, and actually has more O3 than O6. When we lack these 'essential oils' we can have health problems such as dry skin and eczema, hair loss, slow healing, weakness, impaired vision, learning problems, circulation problems and many other things.

In the cell these essential oils help in attracting oxygen out of the blood to be used by the cell. They are also part of the cell walls and if we lack them it will cause problems anywhere in the body. Essential oils help prevent and reverse many chronic diseases like arthritis, colitis and other chronic 'itis' conditions.

The body actually uses more O6 than O3, so why does it matter that flax seed and also chia seed have more O3 than O6? The reason is in our modern diet we get way too much O6 in processed and refined food and hardly any O3, because it is very delicate and has to be fresh to be helpful to the body.

Now this is not all of the story; many of the nasty chronic diseases that people have these days are related to chronic inflammation, and Omega 6 is something that causes inflammation! Omega 3 is anti-inflammatory. So when enough Omega 3 gets into the diet of a person with these conditions, it helps them to get well, especially when they also add lots of fresh leafy greens and raw veggies and fruits.

We can use the whole seeds of either chia or flax, but in order for us to get the good oils from them, they have to be blended up or fresh ground. Getting flax that is already ground is not good as the Omega 3 oil spoils too quickly.

We can also use fresh flax oil. 1-2 Tbsn. daily will meet your needs. Flax oil must be refrigerated and in dark bottles. Always check the expiry date on the bottle you buy. If the oil develops a sharp chemical taste, it is rancid and must be discarded. Flax oil is a wonderful food but should never be heated! It can be put on vegetables or salads as a dressing or take it in a smoothie, or drink.

Margarine, hydrogenated fats, and refined vegetable oils contain harmful trans-fats, which interfere with your body being able to use O-3 oils, they clog up our body's machinery.

Using good quality unrefined flax-oil every day can help you to a healthy body and alert mind. Try it! = ^ .. ^ =

MISSION STORY

Alipati & the Great Controversy

The new chapter in the work for Fiji began with a bang! As soon as possible one of the boxes containing the new Great Controversy was opened. Alipati was on hand, and such oh-ing and ah-ing and dancing up and down and clapping of hands as you have never imagined took place.

"I must start selling them right now," said Alipati. And he did. Nothing could hold him back. He went all through Suva and Tamavua and the nearby villages and sold Great Controversy everywhere.

"Misi Fulitoni," he begged one day, "if you could only take me and a big box of books in the new launch to the Ra Coast, I'm sure I could sell a lot of books there."

"I will," said John, and to the Ra Coast they went. Left alone, Alipati did more than just sell books. He preached and talked the message and also health reform everywhere he went.

He did more than just talk health reform. He had watched Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Fulton and Mrs. Gates while they performed wonders with fomentation cloths, sweat baths, and compresses, and now he took his turn at treating the sick with hydrotherapy.

He knew how to improvise fomentation cloths by using a wet cloth and a hot water bag. He knew how to make a sweat bath with a Primus stove and a pan of water under a chair, while the patient was enveloped in a heavy blanket, and it wasn't long before the village folks found a new name for him. They called him Dr. Tanga ni Wai Katakata ("Dr. Hot Water Bag"). But God greatly blessed Alipati, and Dr. Hot Water Bag healed the sick and sold books.

After some time he returned with great joy to Suva Vou for more books. "Misi Fulitoni," he exclaimed, "What is the largest number of books you ever sold in one house?"

John thought a moment then replied, "I can remember once selling three books in one home."

"Three books?"

"Yes, three. Why? What is the largest number you have sold in one house?"

"Thirteen!" he exulted, and a halo of light seemed to glow around his face.

"Thirteen?" said John a little skeptically.

"Yes, thirteen!" said Alipati triumphantly, then hastened to explain. "You see I was in Ratu Joni's

house in Nanukuloa and he was holding a council meeting with the sub chiefs of his district. Of course, you know Ratu Joni is a member of the legislative assembly of the colony, and is therefore highly respected. Ratu Meli was also there, and can you believe it? Ratu Joni let me tell about the book Great Controversy before them all, and then he bought one and advised each one of them to buy a copy also. And they did!"

"Splendid!" said John.

"And now Ratu Joni wants you to come over and hold some meetings in his town."

"I will go, Alipati," John replied with emotion. "Truly health reform is the right arm of the message and our literature work and our colporteurs are the feet of the message. We must follow where they lead."

In due time John Fulton went over to Nanukuloa, Ratu Joni's town, and inquired for a place where he could hold some meetings.

"You are welcome to use the courthouse, Misi Fulitoni," said Ratu Joni. "During the last hurricane the Wesleyan church here was wrecked, so they have their services in the courthouse on Sunday, but you are welcome to use it any other time."

"Thank you, Ratu Joni," said John, "then I'll start tonight."

"Right above the table," added Ratu Joni, "the Wesleyans have hung a large kerosene lamp. Feel free to use it, Misi Fulitoni."

"Thank you, Ratu Joni, I will," replied John.

That evening the old log drum that was once used to call people to a cannibal feast, was beaten loud and long to call people to a gospel meeting, and a good number of people responded. The courthouse was filled. John went through the usual opening exercises and was well into his sermon, when the local Wesleyan preacher, dressed in his long white minister's gown, strode angrily into the courthouse and pushed his way right down to the table where John was standing.

"Do you wish to say something?" asked John quietly, hoping that nothing would happen to interrupt the meeting.

"Yes, I do," he shouted. Then pointing to the lamp he added, "That is our Wesleyan light." John didn't want to have an argument so he replied, "I am sorry if our using it displeases you. But do what you think is best."

"I will," he said, and he reached up and extinguished the light. Then he strode outside again. At once several hand lanterns were lighted and

passed up to the table, and John went on with his sermon.

Just then Ratu Joni entered the courthouse and sat down near the door. Noticing that the large hanging lamp was not burning, he whispered to the man beside him, "What's the matter with the big lamp?"

"The Wesleyan preacher came in and put it out," the man whispered back.

"He did?" said Ratu Joni indignantly. He rose suddenly and hurried down the path to the nearby parsonage and made no attempt to conceal his rage.

"You ought to be ashamed of yourself," he shouted at the preacher. "Do you think you can put out the Adventist light by an act like this? The Adventist light comes from the Bible and you can never put it out. Look away up there in the mountains where the towns are many. You will see, the Adventists will go up there also and set up their light, and you will lose much. After the meeting tonight take your lamp and all your belongings out of the courthouse, and then find some other place to worship till your church is rebuilt."

But this was not the end of the controversy. The humbled preacher took his lamp out of the courthouse and then distributed D. M. Canright's book 'Adventism Renounced' to all who could read English.

He gave one copy to Ratu Joni who could read and speak English fluently. But in a few days he returned it saying, "I didn't like that book. I only read the preface. If it took Canright twenty-eight years to find out that he was wrong in keeping Sabbath with the Adventists, then he must have been a fool, and I don't care to read what he says."

Little did John Fulton realize at the time how prophetic was Ratu Joni's statement about the Adventists setting up their light in the mountains, or how soon that prophecy would be fulfilled. Samuela had visited the mission in 1902 and had took a little book of Bible studies and some copies of the Rarama back into the mountainous district for his brother Methusela to read.

Well, Methusela was teaching a Wesleyan school up there, and he read and studied, and reread and restudied that little book and those papers for two years. By the end of that time he had made up his mind that he was going to keep the Sabbath. So he called the townspeople together, and said, "Dear friends, I have been studying for two years and I am convinced that the seventh day of the week is

the true Bible Sabbath, and I am going to keep it.”

Angry voices were heard on every side.

Turncoat! That’s what you are,” yelled some. “Jew!” yelled others.

“Well, you can’t teach my children anymore,” called out another.

“Nor mine!” “Nor mine, either,” said others.

Methusela had carefully weighed his decision and this was just about what he had expected. So he said calmly, “Then if you wish, I will resign and you can call a new teacher.”

However, not everyone in the town was against him. Methusela still had many friends, and right then one of them called out,

“Well, if you don’t want him to teach your children, he can stay and teach mine anyway.”

“Mine too.”

“And mine too,” shouted several others.

But Methusela said, “I will not stay unless you let me go down to the coast and bring up an Adventist preacher. Then after you have heard his explanation, if you want me to stay, I’ll stay.”

“That’s fair,” shouted several.

“Yes, you go and bring up an Adventist preacher and let us hear what he will say,” agreed others.

So Methusela set out to go to the coast. It was not many days before he found the Lotu Savasava at Suva Vou, and there he found Alipati bubbling over with enthusiasm over his success in selling Great Controversy in the Ra Coast district. Alipati showed Methusela the new book in the Fijian language, and quickly sold him a copy.

Methusela sat right down and read day and night till he had read it through.

“Alipati,” he begged, “there are many people in the mountain district who need this book. Please, please come back with me and bring a whole box of books.”

Then he told how he had been giving Bible studies for two years, but was still the only one keeping the Sabbath up in the mountains. He told how angry some of the townspeople were, and how he had promised to bring an Adventist preacher to explain the Bible to them. Then he added, “I am sure God wants you to come with me now.”

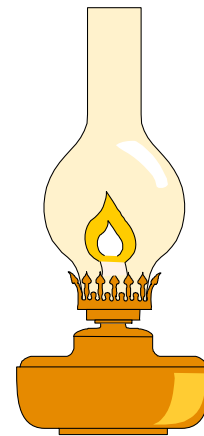
And so it came to pass that in a day or two John Fulton put a box of books in the launch, took Methusela and Alipati on board, sailed out of Suva harbor, and went as far as the river would permit them toward the mountains.

The Spirit of God took possession of Alipati. He began at once selling books, treating the sick,

and preaching. He preached in the morning, he preached at noon, he preached at night. He was as Paul says, “Instant in season, out of season.”

His enthusiasm was infectious and soon the whole district was ablaze with the Adventist light. As the years went by, the light became brighter and brighter till there were three churches organized there.

Thus was Ratu Joni’s prophecy speedily fulfilled. God used Alipati to sow the seed that later produced a bountiful harvest and kindled a light that never went out. = ^ .. ^ =



Year 2: 3rd Quarter:
“THE AMAZING EXODUS”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 6:
“LIFE IN THE WILDERNESS”

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 said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.”
Exodus 15:26

Sunday

Text: Exodus 15:23-25 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah. And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink? And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them."

As the Children of Israel left the shores of the Red Sea, now lined with the scattered bodies of the fearsome Egyptian army, they were full of joy and all their complaints were hushed. But this did not last long.

They traveled on into this bleak wilderness for three days, and by then they were beginning to run out of the water they had brought with them. They began to get tired. They began to get thirsty. Moses knew that the first source of water they were going to get to was called 'Marah' (bitter) because the water was not fit to drink.

Sure enough, the people spied the water up ahead and ran joyously to get a drink, and then quickly the shouts of joy changed to wails of disappointment and the Children of Israel again turned on Moses and demanded him to give them water to drink.

Again they had been tested and again they failed. Moses did what they all should have done, he prayed to the Lord and the Lord showed him a tree to cut down and put into the water. When this was done, the water was OK to drink. Now there was no magic in that tree. God just wanted to show the people that if they would seek Him and obey Him, then whatever they needed would be provided.

Then God went on to give them a very wonderful promise that we have for our memory verse this week. This promise is for us as well. In it God says that if we will just be very earnest about listening and learning His laws and instructions to us, and if we will be careful to obey them; then He will give us a very special blessing. He says He will prevent us from getting the nasty diseases like the people of the world are getting.

Thought – We were given so much wise counsel on staying healthy in these last days in the writings God sent us through Ellen White. Just this week I heard from a friend that some of the Catholic

priests are reading Ellen White 's books and asked why are we not following Ellen White's message on health when she has written everything about it. He said that if we had obeyed, we could have been the healthiest people in the whole world.

Monday

Text: Exodus 14:16:2,3 "And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

After the waters had been made good, they traveled on and camped at a place where there were 70 date trees and some wells. Then they went on into the wilderness. There was not much grass there for the animals, and the people were starting to run out of food. Again they were being tested to see what they would do. And again they flunked the test!

They began to grumble and complain again and accused Moses of bringing them out into the wilderness to die there. Again they totally forgot Who it was that brought them out of Egypt, and the incredible miracles they had just seen a few days before and just looked at the human and not to God. And again they forgot to simply come to God in prayer and ask for what they needed.

It is interesting that at this time, nobody was really hungry. They were running out of food, but as yet they still had food. But here they were grumbling and complaining for the future, imaginary wants. They even went so far as to say that they wished they were back in Egypt as slaves so they could have what they wanted to eat!

Now just to show you the human side of the problem these people were grumbling about, look at these facts. According to the Quartermaster General in the Army, it is reported that Moses would have to have had 1500 tons of food each day, to feed the people!

They would have to have water. If they only had enough to drink and wash a few dishes, it would take 11,000,000 gallons each day! Do you think Moses figured all this out before he left Egypt? I think not! You see, Moses believed in God. God took

care of these things for him. Now do you think God has any problem taking care of all your needs?

Thought – How many people today are staying in spiritual Egypt, just because they don't want to give up eating certain foods that we are told the Lord does not want us to eat. They are slaves to their appetites.

Tuesday

Text: Exodus 16:6-8 “And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what are we, that ye murmur against us? And Moses said, This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.”

Again Moses went to the Lord in prayer and God told him that He would send them some quails to eat that night, (Quails are like a small chicken.) and the next day He would send them a special kind of bread that would feed them.

As Moses explained this to the people, he was careful to show them that they were not grumbling against him, but they were grumbling against the Great God of heaven. After all that God had done for these people, they still were doing nothing but grumble and complain!

Every test that came along, they flunked. It is amazing the patience God had with them, and the patience He has had with us today!

Sure enough, the winds blew in hundreds of birds that evening for their supper and in the morning when they got up, a strange sight met their eyes; all over the ground lay a small seed-like something. As soon as they saw it, the people began to say “Manna? Manna?” Which means, “What is it?”

Thought – Next time you catch yourself starting to grumble or complain, stop right away, and remember how hateful it is to God when you do this. Instead start to praise the Lord for something and you will feel entirely different.

Wednesday

Text: Exodus 16:15-17 “And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat. This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents. And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less.”

Moses explained to the Children of Israel that this was the special bread God was sending for them to eat. He passed on to them from the Lord some very special instructions about this food. They people were to get up early and gather it in the morning. And they were only to gather as much as they thought they wanted to eat that day.

If they tried to gather extra to keep it until the next day, so they could sleep-in and not get up to gather it; it would spoil and get worms in it. Some of the people tried to do this and soon found out the hard way. Also if they did not get up early and gather the Manna, when the sun got hot, it just melted away.

There is a very special lesson here for us. In the Gospel of John, Jesus told the people the He was that ‘bread’ that came down from heaven. He was also the ‘Word’ of God. He told the people they each needed to eat that ‘bread’ from heaven. Every day we need to ‘eat’ the bread of heaven by getting up early, praying to the Lord, and reading and studying our Bibles. It seems that it is important to do this early, because if we put it off, we get busy with other things and we loose the chance to gather our ‘Manna’. Always be sure to gather your spiritual ‘Manna’ from the Word of God and prayer, early every day!

Now there was another very interesting miracle that happened with the Manna. It is important for us to remember because it proves something about the Sabbath day. There are people who say that the Sabbath was only given to the Children of Israel on Mount Sinai and therefore it is only for the Jews to keep. But if you notice, the manna miracle began before the Children of Israel even got to Mount Sinai.

What was this Sabbath miracle? Well, for 5 days a week the people gathered the manna for one day; and if they tried to gather more, it would spoil. BUT

on the 6th day they were told to gather enough for 2 days, and when they did this, it did NOT spoil. And then on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there was no manna to gather.

Some people went out to look for it; “And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws? See, for that the LORD hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. So the people rested on the seventh day. Exodus 16:28-30

Now if there had never been any Law of God before Mount Sinai, how could God say they were refusing to keep His laws?

Thought – Also remember that God expects us to be as careful about keeping His Sabbath day, as the people back then were to be. All unnecessary work should be avoided. Many carelessly put off till the beginning of the Sabbath little things that might have been done on the day of preparation. This should not be. Work that is neglected until the beginning of the Sabbath should remain undone until it is past.

Thursday

Text: Exodus 16:31 “And the house of Israel called the name thereof **Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. And Moses said, This is the thing which the LORD commandeth, Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt. And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations.”**

Now this is what the Manna was like, sounds very nice. If we are faithful we will get to taste it in heaven. Who knows, maybe in the last days when God’s people will have no way to survive except as He cares for them, maybe He will send some Manna again?

“And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the LORD, and pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink.” Exodus 17:1.

Now they had the bread falling from the sky each day and again they were brought to a test. The place where they were led by the cloud to camp had no water.

Would they remember now to pray to God and ask Him for help? Would they remember the mighty miracles and have faith in Him? Would they refuse to grumble and doubt? Would they remember they were being led by God and not by a human?

Sad to say, they did not.

“And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst? And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.” Exodus 17:3,4.

Here after all that God had done for them, and also all that Moses had done for them under God’s direction, they started saying that they thought he was planning to let them all die so he could get rich by taking all their belongings. What a cruel lie to tell about one who was trying so hard to help them!

In their thirst the people tempted God, saying, “Is the Lord among us, or not?”—“If God has brought us here, why does He not give us water as well as bread?” This unbelief was wicked of them, and Moses feared that the judgments of God would come upon them. And he called the name of the place Massah, “temptation,” and Meribah, “chiding,” as a memorial of their sin.

Thought – Later, God told Moses and Aaron to take a pot of that Manna and put it into the Ark with the stones of the Ten Commandments. Do you know what else got put in there? It was Aaron’s rod, but we will learn about that later.

Friday

Text: Exodus 17:5,6 “And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go. Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.”

Now God gave another lesson for the people. He told Moses to take his rod and go and smite the

rock and water would come out. So he did and the water gushed out. Remember that this had to be not just a trickle of water, but a whole river of water, enough for all those people and their animals to drink, and enough to water the area so grass could grow for the animals to eat.

This smiting the rock was an object lesson that pointed to Jesus, the Rock, Who would be smitten for us to provide the 'water of salvation'. Jesus was the 'bread from heaven'; and Jesus was the Rock that gave the water.

Then came another lesson from God, to try and teach the people that it was God who was leading them and Moses was speaking the words of God to them and they should help him instead of making trouble for him every time things got hard.

A new danger now threatened them. Because of their murmuring against Him, the Lord suffered them to be attacked by their enemies. The Amalekites, a fierce, warlike tribe inhabiting that region, came out against them and smote those who, faint and weary, had fallen into the rear.

Soldiers were chosen and Joshua was to lead them to fight against the Amalakites. Moses and

Aaron and a man named Hur, were watching and praying on a nearby mountain overlooking the battle.

Soon it became clear that if Moses help up his hands to heaven, Israel began to win, but if he put them down, Amalek began to win. But Moses' arms got tired, so Aaron and Hur took a rock and sat Moses on it and then they helped him hold up his arms until the Amalakites were beaten and ran away.

So God showed the people that they were to help Moses in his work, not hinder him.

Thought – It is something to think about in your family life, do you help your Mom and Dad by being obedient and cheerful and quick to find ways to help them? Or are you just always demanding attention for yourself and grumbling if you don't have your own way? The Bible says this; "He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind:" Proverbs 11:29. It is a warning that children and teens should help to build up their family, not tear it down by selfishness and disobedience. 'Holding up the hands' of Mom and Dad is a wise thing to do. = ^ .. ^ =

