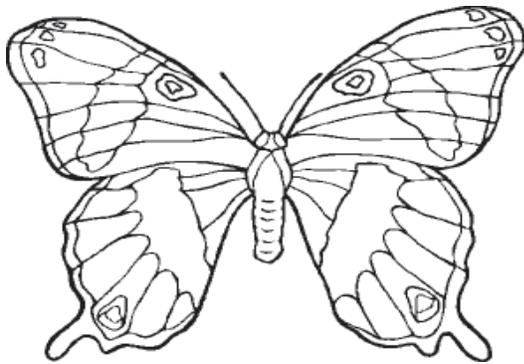


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 3rd Quarter - Issue #8



CREATION CORNER

Scientists Speak About Evolution

Everything about us is so wonderfully made. The stars overhead, the planets circling the sun, the moon so close yet never falling into the earth. The beautiful hills and broad plains, with trees and flowers and singing birds and fluttering butterflies.

God gave us all this. There is no other way we could have been given such beauty.

Yet evolutionists want us to disbelieve in God. They tell us that everything in the world and in the sky made itself. But when we ask them for evidence—proof that this could have happened—they have none to offer.

But they do have fairy tales. It really is too bad when grown-up people believe in fairy stories. But evolutionists believe them. Here are some examples:

Where the whale came from. Charles Darwin explained that, because a black bear had been seen swimming with its mouth open to catch insects, it is very possible that, after doing this for awhile, one gradually changed into a whale.

How the elephant got its long nose. Now that story is quite a bit like this one, which was written

for little children:

Once upon a time a baby elephant did not stay close enough to its mamma, and an alligator caught its nose and started pulling. The two thrashed about for a time, before the elephant got away. But it was too late: The elephant's nose was permanently stretched! That is how the elephant got its long nose.

How the giraffe got its long neck. Here is another story that evolutionists tell us is true. But it sounds as foolish as the story about how the elephant got its long trunk:

The giraffes used to look like cattle and other grazing animals, but then they started reaching higher and still higher to get the leaves in the trees. This stretched their necks, which kept getting longer.

And that is how the giraffes got their long necks! Evolutionists tell us that shorter-necked giraffes and grazing animals died out because they could not as easily reach the leaves which were higher up.

But what about the zebras and other grazing animals all over Africa? Why did they not die out, since they could not reach the tall trees? And what about the female giraffe? She is 24 to 36 inches shorter than the males! There should be no females

CONTENTS:

CREATION CORNER

STORY TIME

STORY LESSON

MISSION STORY

WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON

alive today!

It is known that the giraffe has a complicated blood pumping system, which enables it to reach down for water and then up for leaves without blacking out. That special system could not be developed by stretching!

How the catfish learned to walk:

Here is a fishy story by the evolutionists: One day a fish decided to jump out of the water. This was a great occasion, for it marked the beginning of land animals. The little fish sprouted legs, began to breath oxygen, and eat grass. As it grew stronger, it had baby fish, which produced lizards, turtles, and birds.

A living creature emerges from the dust:

This is another long ago and far away story: Long ago and far away, nothing was alive. Then one day some seawater sloshed, and, presto, it changed itself into an animal. It is thought that perhaps a lightning bolt hit some water, and it changed into a living creature! You are supposed to believe it, because the evolutionists say it happened.

How the phoenix bird came to life. Now here is a fairy tale, which comes not from the evolutionists, but from ancient Egyptian mythology: Once, long ago, there was a great bird. Only one of these birds ever existed. Once every 500 years, the bird would make a nest, set it on fire, and then perish in the flames.

Then, lo, the lifeless ashes and soil at that place—would change themselves into another phoenix bird!

You do not believe? Well, if seawater can change itself into living creatures, and fish can turn themselves into animals, ashes should be able to do it also.

How the fish got its shape. The fish made its body sleek and streamlined because, if it had not done so, it would not have been able to swim fast enough to keep from being eaten. It keeps its present sleek shape because, if it did not retain it, it could not swim fast enough to survive. But how, then, did all the slow fish in the ocean survive? There are lots of them.

When the whale got back into the water. Evolutionists took Darwin's bear-change-to-whale story and made an up-to-date evolutionary "fact"!

Remember that fish, which climbed out of the water, grew legs, started eating grass and weeds and produced a variety of hairy land animals?

But that is not the end of it. After awhile, one of

those creatures (a mammal) decided to go back into the sea and live there. Life was probably rough for the first few years, but it gradually got used to it.

Perhaps it was a cow, which went into the ocean. For several years it had to learn how to swim, but it eventually got used to that. Then it had to learn to adapt to fish instead of grass, and that took awhile also.

Another problem was when it bore its young. The baby calf had to immediately learn to swim and nurse underwater at its mother's side without breathing. But, you know, an animal in an evolutionist's story can get used to anything. It can make itself out of lightning, jump out of water and grow legs, or jump back in and change, over a period of millions of year, into a whale.

Cows and calves had a hard time sticking through to the end of those millions of years, but it was worth it. Finally it changed into a sleek whale.

That is a really-truly story-just for you-from the evolutionists. It is an actual evolutionary "fact."

Oh, you're worried about that calf? You do not need to fear. It was holding its nose shut with its hoof, while it nursed. Calves have to be persistent, you know, or they do not live very long.

The truth is that many, many scientists have written books about how foolish evolution is. But most people do not know all this. We need to tell them the truth.

Evolution is just not true!

The truth is that it is the God of heaven who made everything. There is no other answer to where everything came from. There really is no other way everything about you could be made. God loved you and me enough to make the stars and our world. He made the plants and animals, the sea and the sky, and us too.

Thank God that He is a God of love. Thank Him that He did all this because He loved us so much.

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TRUE-STORY-TIME

Winter Morning Guest

One winter morning in 1931, I came down to breakfast—and found the table empty. It was cold outside. The worst blizzard on record had paralyzed the city. No cars were out. The snow had drifted up two stories high against our house, blackening the windows.

“Daddy, what’s happening?” I asked.

I was six years old. Gently Dad told me our fuel and food supplies were exhausted. He’d just put the last piece of coal on the fire. Mother had eight ounces of milk left for my baby brother Tom. After that—nothing.

“So what are we going to eat?” I asked.

“We’ll have our devotions first, John Edmund,” he said, in a voice that told me I should not ask questions.

My father was a pastor. As a Christian he’d been chased out of his Syrian homeland. He arrived as a teenager in the United States with no money and barely a word of English—nothing but his vocation to preach. He knew hardship of a kind few see today. Yet my parents consistently gave away at least 10 percent of their income, and no one but God ever knew when we were in financial need.

That morning, Dad read the scriptures as usual, and afterwards we knelt for prayer. He prayed earnestly for the family, for our relatives and friends, for those he called the “missionaries of the cross” and those in the city who’d endured the blizzard without adequate shelter.

Then he prayed something like this: “Lord, Thou knowest we have no more coal to burn. If it can please Thee, send us some fuel, if not, Thy will be done. We thank Thee for warm clothes and bed covers, which will keep us comfortable, even without the fire. Also, Thou knowest we have no food except milk for Baby Thomas. If it can please Thee. . . .”

For someone facing bitter cold and hunger, he was remarkably calm. Nothing deflected him from completing the family devotions, not even the clamor we now heard beyond the muffling wall of snow.

Finally someone pounded on the door. The visitor had cleared the snow off the windowpane, and we saw his face peering in. “Your door’s iced up,” he yelled. “I can’t open it.”

The devotions over, Dad jumped up. He pulled,

the man pushed. When the door suddenly gave, an avalanche of snow fell into the entrance hall. I didn’t recognize the man, and I don’t think Dad did either because he said politely, “Can I help you?”

The man explained he was a farmer who’d heard Dad preach in Allegan three years earlier. “I awakened at four o’clock this morning,” he said, “and I couldn’t get you out of my mind. The truck was stuck in the garage, so I harnessed the horses to the sleigh and came over.”

“Well, please come in,” my father said. On any other occasion, he’d have added, “And have some breakfast with us.” But, of course, today there was no breakfast.

The man thanked him. And then—to our astonishment—he plucked a large box off the sleigh. More than sixty years later, I can see that box as clear as yesterday. It contained milk, eggs, butter, meat, grain, homemade bread and a host of other things. When the farmer had delivered the box, he went back out and got a cord of wood. Finally, after a very hearty breakfast, he insisted Dad take a ten-dollar bill.

Almost every day Dad reminded us that “God is the Provider.” And my experience through adult life has confirmed it. “I have never seen the righteous forsaken nor their children begging bread.” (Psalm 37.25). The Bible said it. But Dad and Mom showed me it was true. The Lord helps those who help others. = ^ .. ^ =

STORY LESSON

Natural Remedies # 6

Poultices

Poultices are an old-fashioned but very effective form of treatment. They are a mashed up paste of some sort of herb or vegetable material, spread on a cloth and applied to an area of the body surface, usually hot. The herbs or vegetable matter can be mixed with hot water, apple cider vinegar, herbal teas, liniments or tinctures. Their purpose is to draw away toxins or foreign material and to help healing and circulation.

Things you can use poultices for are, venomous bites and stings, boils and eruptions, abscesses and blood poisoning, inflammation and pain.

Area to be covered is usually washed with 3% Hydrogen peroxide, a thin coating of olive oil applied

to the skin and then the hot poultice (Make sure it is not too hot!) placed over area and cloth or bandage used to hold it in place. A source of heat such as a hot water bottle or heating pad may be used on top to keep the poultice hot. It is usually best hot, but don't burn the skin!

Poultices covered with plastic and flannel cloth can be pinned or taped in place and left on overnight. Note that some poultices can stain clothing so take safety measures.

Don't reheat and reuse any poultice that has been used on any infected area.

Herbal extracts, strong teas, or tinctures can be added to a base of cornmeal, flour, slippery elm, or Irish moss powder to make a paste and be used as a poultice.

Some Poultice Recipes:

MUSTARD POULTICE: Mix 2-3 oz. boiling water with 2 1/2 oz. ground mustard. Separately mix 6-8 oz. boiling water with 2 1/2 oz. ground flax seed. Combine the two mixes for poultice. Use: Brings the blood to the surface and so eases chest congestion, chest colds. Leave on 20 min. or less. Watch out for blistering!

FLAX SEED POULTICE: 10 oz. boiling water to 4 1/2 oz. flax seed meal. Stir to poultice consistency. Apply hot but not too hot! Use: moistening, drawing.

POTATO POULTICE: For Pink-eye inflammation. Wash, peel and fine shred raw potato. Place pulp on a cloth and apply cold to closed eye. Hold in place with a gauze patch and secure with cloth bandage. For hot burning eyes, apply shredded cucumber cold.

POTATO POULTICE #2: shredded raw potato 4 parts and 1 part fresh shredded ginger root. Add flour to make into a paste. Apply to abdomen, wrap around with flannel, top with plastic and leave on overnight. Use: helps weak digestion, strengthening vitality.

FIG POULTICE: Split open black fig and soak in warm water. Use for, inflamed boils, abscesses, scar tissue, pain, gum and teeth abscesses.

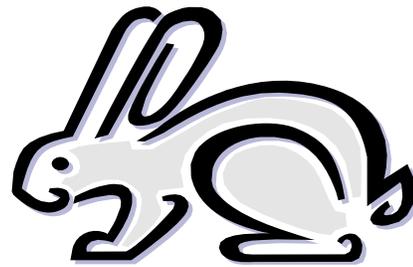
BREAD POULTICE: Heat breadcrumbs with soy, rice or nut milk. Stir to thickness required. Add small amount olive oil to prevent skin from becoming wrinkled. Use: Infections and to draw out splinters.

CARROT POULTICE: Shred four ounces of carrots, add one ounce corn meal. Add enough boiling water to make poultice texture. Use: inflammation and infections.

ONION POULTICE: As above but with onions. Use: inflammation and infections, also on chest for chest colds.

GARLIC POULTICE: Make pulp of raw garlic, mix with a bit of flour to make a paste, place on cloth and apply. May sting but is effective! Use: abscesses, fungus skin infections, and boils. It kills germs quite well.

A Plaster is like a poultice. An effective plaster for drawing out fever is made by squeezing the water from tofu and mashing it with pastry flour and 5% fresh, grated ginger root. = ^ .. ^ =



MISSION STORY

'Dr. Rabbit' The Story of E. B. Hare: 2

This week we are continuing our story of the wonderful storyteller E.B. Hare.

Young Eric grew and grew like most healthy young boys. Soon he went to Avondale College and graduated in 1913. Always he would think about that 'special place' where God wanted him to work as a missionary and wondered where it would be.

If you remember the Fultons from our stories about Fiji, and their little girl Aganisi or Agnes in English, Well she also grew and grew as healthy little girls do, and she also attended school and graduated. In the course of time, young Eric and Agnes fell in love and soon were planning to be married.

It was natural that Eric and Agnes planned to go to Fiji and continue the work there. Agnes taught Eric the Fijian language and he was doing quite well at it.

He also was taking a missionary male nurse's course at Sydney, which taught young men how to do medical missionary work in areas where there were no doctors or hospitals available.

Then one day, all unexpected, Elder Fulton received a cablegram from the General Conference president. It read:

"We need a young medical missionary for a new mission station among the Karen Spirit

Worshippers of Burma. Will Eric and Agnes accept the invitation?"

Burma? What about their plans for Fiji? Where is Burma? Agnes wasn't so sure about this idea, as her heart had been set on their working in Fiji, where she had grown up. Soon though, with tears in her eyes, she agreed that if that was where God wanted them to be, that is where they should go together.

On June 24, 1915, Eric and Agnes were married. Eric graduated from his nursing course in September of that year and in October; they set sail for Burma, which is east of India.

By train and ship Eric and Agnes made their way to Burma, with brief stops in Colombo, Madras, and Calcutta. They arrived in Rangoon, Burma, on October 31, 1915. They were greeted at the wharf by Pastor George Hamilton, superintendent of the Karen Mission, and by Mary Gibbs, the missionary nurse. Soon the new missionaries were told the exciting stories of how God opened the way to secure land for the new Karen Mission, on the banks of the Salween River.

The mission at that point was only temporary houses, where the Hamiltons and Miss Gibbs lived. Permanent houses and the clinic were being built, and the nurse, in the shade of big mango trees, was already giving medical aid.

Nurse Gibbs had more than she could handle in caring for the sick and suffering people who came each day. Eric wished heartily that she could stay. She had much practical experience and could speak in the Karen language. But, she had been asked to start a new school for girls as soon as possible. This was why Eric and Agnes had been called to be medical assistants at this new station.

"First, you will be given six months for language study here in Rangoon," Pastor Hamilton explained. "Then it will be time to roll up your sleeves and get right into your work at the station. By that time the clinic and your bamboo house will be built." Eric and Agnes wondered; was this really the "special place" that would answer Eric's life long prayers?

Six months went by quickly. The Hares could speak Karen enough to get by in most situations and could read the Karen Bible, at least a bit. They traveled by river steamer and motor launch to the mission station. A little bamboo and leaf house was ready, and they quickly settled into it with their few belongings.

Eric reported to Nurse Gibbs at the dispensary.

Her warm smile of welcome put him somewhat at ease. She pointed to a doctor's white jacket hanging behind the door. When he turned to look at the patients lined up on the veranda, he was dismayed. Perhaps twenty persons waited their turn; some proudly displayed their bandages as they described what the white woman "doctor" had done for them.

There was an unsettling array of tropical ailments from which men, women, and children were suffering: sore eyes, ringworm, fever, ugly ulcers, and in children, evidence of stomach disorders such as worms.

Nurse Gibbs spoke pleasantly. "Here's a man who needs to have a tooth pulled, Doctor. How about you, doing it for him?"

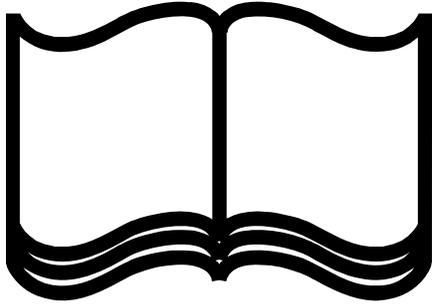
Self-confidence melted quickly. Pull a tooth? Doctor? He knew very well that he was not a medical doctor. His training had been only as a nurse. Of course, the Karen word for doctor was used for all professional people.

"But, Miss Gibbs," he whispered, "I've never pulled a tooth in all my—"

Miss Gibbs exhibited no sympathy at all. "Here are the forceps, the oil of cloves, and the lance and elevator if you need them." She placed the small tray of instruments in his hands. "And there is your patient!"

Describing his sudden start into medical missionary work for the jungle folk, Elder Hare wrote: "There was no way out. After all, was not this what I had come to Burma to do? All right, then, I would do it. I asked the patient to open his mouth and show me the tooth. Fortunately, it was a first molar, easy to get at, and it was very loose. I picked up a small swab and dipped it in the oil of cloves. I noticed that my hand was trembling. That would never do. Me, a strong young man, trembling! I painted around the tooth with the oil of cloves and said to myself, 'Mr. Hare, control yourself! Control yourself!' But it did no good. The trembling extended to my arms. I picked up the forceps, and by the time I had fastened them on the tooth, my knees were knocking together. I broke out with cold perspiration all over. Then suddenly the tooth was out! I'm not quite sure yet whether I pulled that tooth or whether it just fell out with the trembling"

Once that first tooth had been pulled and the grateful old man had gone, Nurse Gibbs turned to Eric with a smile and remarked, "Well, Doctor, you lived through that." So began the medical career of 'Dr. Rabbit'. = ^ .. ^ =



Year 2: 3rd Quarter:
“THE AMAZING EXODUS”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 8:
“A BROKEN PROMISE”

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 ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.” Exodus 23:25

Sunday

Text: Exodus 24:1-13 “And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them. And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.”

Remember last week we learned that when the Children of Israel heard the Ten Commandments told to them by God, that they all said they would obey them?

After speaking the Ten Commandments in such an amazing scene there on Mount Sinai, God also told many civil laws to Moses and told him to write them down in books for the Children of Israel. They really were the Ten Commandments in detail. This was to be their nation's system of justice for the courts and for guidance in everyday life. The people also promised to obey all these laws too.

Then God called Moses to come up into the mountain and He would give him the Ten

Commandment law carved into two stone tablets. The Stone was to tell the people that this law was forever and would never change or be done away with. The Stone tablets stand for Jesus, the Rock, and the laws written there, are His character.

The elders and leaders of the people had come partway up the mountain and they remained camping there for a while. At one point they also saw the form of the Lord from a distance: “And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness.” Exodus 24:10

What a wonderful experience this was!

Now Moses was to wait until God signaled him to come up to the mountain and receive the tables of stone.

Thought – When people try to tell you that the Ten Commandments are done away with; remember that God wrote them on stone so we'd know they were forever!

Monday

Text: Exodus 24:15-18 “And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount. And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud. And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel. And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.”

Moses went up to the place where he was to wait until God called him. For 6 days he waited and then God called him up into the fiery cloud on the top of the mountain.

Now I want you to think about what all the people of Israel had seen at Mount Sinai. They had seen the fire and clouds and lightning. They had heard the thunder and also the voice of God speaking His Ten Commandment Law. The leaders and elders had also seen the form of God from a distance. And now for all these days, cloud and fire had rested on the mountaintop.

God had wanted the people to spend this time thinking about what He had told them and searching their hearts in prayer to get ready to learn

what else He wanted to teach them.

While Moses was there in the cloud on the mountain, God was giving him all the plans for the special sanctuary tent that was to be built to help the people to learn about the promised Messiah. He told Moses how it was to be built and who was to build it. He told him who were to be the priests, and also all the details about the services and ceremonies that would be done at the sanctuary, each one of them to teach lessons about the plan of Salvation.

For forty days and nights Moses was there with God. He didn't eat or drink but he didn't need to, because when we are with God, we are with the very source of all energy and life.

Thought – Do you remember who else fasted for forty days and nights? It was Jesus, when He went into the wilderness to prepare for His ministry. After this He was hungry and weak though, but God sustained Moses. Jesus bore more than He ever asks His people to bear.

Tuesday

Text: Exodus 32:1 “**And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.**”

Now this is really just amazing, and it shows how very blind and stupid people can be, when they want to do as they please and not obey God. Remember all the things they had seen and heard? And now they could still see the cloud on the top of the mountain and yet they decided they wanted to make an idol god so they would have something they could SEE! Remember too that every day the Manna fell for their food!

Actually the problem was they wanted a god that they could control. An idol god is good in this way; they could carry it and do what they wanted with it. They always had to wait until the pillar of cloud moved before they could journey, and wait for it to stop so they could camp, but with an idol god, THEY would be the ones who decided whether to go or stop.

Again they were looking to Moses as their leader, ‘that MAN who brought us out of Egypt’, and forgetting all the evidence they had seen about the

great God of Heaven who was really their leader. It sure makes you wonder how they could do this while they could still actually see the cloud on the mountain!

Now they had the idea that they would go back to Egypt and carry this idol before them and so they would be welcomed back by the Egyptians as being the same religion as them.

Thought – We need to take a good look at our own lives too; I have seen young people who just can't wait for Sabbath to end so they can turn on the TV or go to some worldly entertainment. If we are only worshipping Jesus on Sabbath, we don't really worship Him at all!

Wednesday

Text: Exodus 32:3-5 “**And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.**”

Now here is an even stranger thing, Aaron had been at the camp part way up the mountain. He had been one of the leaders who actually saw the form of God in the distance. But now when the people were all so excited about making themselves an idol god, he just went right along with it.

The people were angrily demanding their own way, and he was afraid to stand for right. Some people tried to point out, that to make an idol god like this was wicked and wrong, and these faithful ones were beaten up. Some were even killed by the angry crowd. People get angry when they are told they are wrong, when they really know it, but are determined to have their own way.

Aaron feared for his own safety; and instead of nobly standing up for God, he gave in to the people. His first act was to direct that the golden earrings be collected from all the people and brought to him, hoping that pride would make them change their minds.

But they happily brought the ornaments; and from these he made a molten calf, like the gods of Egypt. The people proclaimed, “These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of

Egypt.”

Now you remember how in the ten plagues that God had sent on Egypt, He had shown that every one of the Egyptian gods was worthless and powerless. But here were the Children of Israel giving credit to a calf for leading them out of Egypt!

Aaron did nothing about this insult to the Lord. He did even more. Seeing how happy the people were with their shiny new idol god, he built an altar before it, and said, “Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord.” The announcement was heralded by trumpeters from company to company throughout the camp.

Thought – If Aaron would have stood for the right, the people would not have gone as far in evil as they did. Always remember to stand for the right and truth, never follow a crowd to do wrong.

Thursday

Text: Exodus 32:6 “And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.”

As the next day dawned the people were up early and offered sacrifices to the calf. Then they made a feast and ate and drank, and then they danced and celebrated. They acted just like the heathen idol worshippers. But they excused it saying they were worshipping the Lord.

Only a few days had passed since the people had made a solemn promise to God to obey His voice. They had stood trembling with terror before the mount, listening to the words of the Lord, “Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.” The glory of God still hovered above Sinai where they could see it. But they turned away, and asked for other gods. “They made a calf in Horeb, and worshiped the molten image. Thus they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox.” Psalm 106:19, 20.

How could they have made a worse insult to Jesus, who had revealed Himself to them as a tender father and an all-powerful king? Now they were calling a model animal their god!

God never wants His people to behave in such a degrading and foolish way as people do at these heathen feasts. If something is wrong, it is always wrong. We can’t say something that is wrong is alright, just because it is a holiday.

God does not want us to eat unhealthy food and to overeat and drink harmful drinks. It is still wrong no matter what day it is. God does not want

us to act foolishly or waste our time and money. We cannot use holidays, as excuses to do things we know are not right and not healthy. If we do, we are just like those idol worshipping Israelites!

Thought – There is a time every year when there is another heathen feast that people hold, while they claim to be honoring Jesus and celebrating His birthday. People spend money foolishly, even going into debt. They eat and drink unhealthily and they do things they would ordinarily never do. But because they call it by the name of the Lord, they think it is just fine, and people who refuse to go along with the false ideas are treated with scorn, even hatred.

Friday

Text: Exodus 32:7 “And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves: They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.”

Now I want you to notice the words God spoke to Moses when He told Him about what the Children of Israel were doing. He said they were Moses’ people and Moses had brought them out of Egypt! He even said that Moses should let God destroy the people and He would make a great nation out of Moses.

Of course, if Jesus had really intending to destroy the people, Moses could not possibly stop Him! I think he was testing Moses, but what did Moses say? “And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand?” Exodus 32:11.

Moses quickly answered that these were God’s people and it was the Lord who had brought them out of Egypt. He did not for a minute take credit for what God had done. He also was not interested in having honor for himself, but he wanted only the honor of God and help for the people.

He knew that if God were to destroy these rebellious people, then the people of the nations

around would say He was not a good God. The heathen would dishonor His name. Nobody would think about the wicked things the Israelites had done, but instead would just blame God for destroying them.

Now Moses began to plead for God to spare the people and God agreed to do this. Of course it was really God's choice to spare the people, He is a God of amazing patience and mercy.

Now Moses took the two tables of stone with the Ten Commandments written by God's own finger, and started down the mountain. Soon he joined Joshua who was waiting and they came down together.

It wasn't long before Moses saw and heard what the people were doing. He was horrified and in grief and righteous anger at the insult to God, he threw the tables of stone down on the rocks and they broke. It was a good lesson to the people, because they had broken the promise they had made to God.

Thought – We need to be careful that we live in a way that God can bless us, so that people seeing our lives will see the blessings of God, and His name will be honored. Nothing so much dishonors Jesus as a person who claims to be a Christian and yet is mean, selfish and wicked, living for pleasure and appetite, just like the people of the world. = ^ .. ^ =

