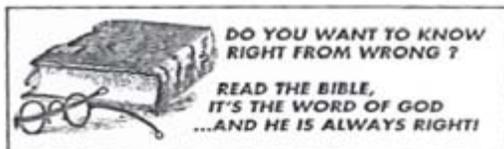


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 4th Quarter - Issue #4



CREATION CORNER

Neanderthal Nightmare: 4

Dr. Cuozzo, and his family were very glad to be home in the USA. But soon they found out that their troubles were not over. He got in touch with his friend whose sister (sorry, in the earlier story I said daughter) he had tried to visit in France. His friend was angry with him.

The story came out that someone had phoned the sister, and said he was Jack Cuozzo and that he would come over to have dinner with them on the 24th of the month. Now she thought this was her brother's friend and made a special meal and waited and nobody came. The 24th was two days after the Cuozzo's left France!

So the rest of the story was told, and it was obvious that someone had been trying to set up a situation where he and his family could be kidnapped because they had said they would send someone to pick them up. By God's grace, they left France before this could happen.

In December 1979 they found his friend (he calls Dr. Brown in the book) whose X-ray machine he had borrowed to take to France to do the research, dead under very weird circum-

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stances. . This was about 3 and 3/4 months after they returned from France. The man's address had been written on all the boxes the equipment was in, so people at the museum could easily copy it down.

Now, Dr. Cuozzo made plans to present the information at a scientific research convention. He wrote to the Society and they sent a letter saying they would be so very glad to have him present his information.

In the meantime, he sent some copies of his X-rays to a scientific group for them to do some measurements on. Also he was asked to send an outline of his material to the society where he was to speak. Little did he know what would happen after that!

He went to the meetings of the society and found there were many speakers and finally, in the last evening when everyone thought the meetings were over and were going for drinks and entertainment, he was given his time to speak. There was no announcement made, and no sign put up that he was speaking there; people did not even know there was another speaker.

When he got up to present his lecture, only 7 people were there and one was asleep. There was so much noise from the people out in the

hallway and lobby that he could hardly be heard at all. It was very clear that the scientists did not want people finding out the truth about Neanderthal skulls!

Dr. Cuozzo has continued to do his research and try to get people to know about his work. He has had people chase him in his car and shoot at his family. Now he has a book published called "Buried Alive", and it can be bought on the Internet. It has a lot of scientific information in it.

Boys and girls, it is clear that many scientists that believe in evolution, are not just mixed up, but really don't want to know the truth, and don't want other people to know it either. It seems some of them at least, are even willing to hide evidence, tamper with fossils, cheat, lie and even kill people to make sure the truth does not get out.

It is not just a matter of a different way of looking at things; it is Satan's prize project to keep people from believing in their Creator God. Satan sends special fallen angel-helpers to teachers of evolution, and so if you ever have to be around these people, be sure to pray for God to keep you, and send extra heavenly angels to protect you. We need to also pray that Satan will not get away with hiding the truth any more, that God's truth will get out and be heard!
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TRUE-STORY-TIME

"WHAT HAPPENED AT A FUNERAL"

While James and Ellen White were traveling in Ohio in 1858, they found a group of forty new Sabbathkeepers in a small settlement called Lovett's Grove. On Sunday afternoon, March 14, a funeral was held in the schoolhouse for a youth well known in the community. Elder White was asked to preach the sermon. When he had finished, Mrs. White arose to say a few comforting words. While speaking, she paused, and her listeners noticed that the expression on her face had changed. Instead of looking at those seated before her, she was gazing upward, as if seeing something in the distance.

Then they heard, in a rich, musical voice, the shout, "Glory to God!" Again the same words, as full of melody as before, yet lower and softer, "Glory to God!" And a third time, as if coming from a distance, "Glory to God!"

James White spoke. "My wife is in heavenly

vision." She had become weak, as usual when entering into vision, and was leaning backward, supported by her husband's arm. Soon she stood up and took a step forward, a radiant smile lighting her face.

The people seated at the school desks watched in awed silence. Now and then they caught a word, perhaps a sentence, an exclamation, or question. Whisperings were heard around the room. "Hush, she must be talking with someone!"

James White said, "She is conversing with her accompanying angel. In these visions she is shown many things that those around her cannot see. At times she is given a view of things which happened long ago, or which are still in the future. Sometimes she seems to be in heaven, talking with Jesus and the angels."

There was an awed silence in the room. Someone whispered, "Heaven is near, very near!"

Softly another person said, "It seems as if we are listening at the open gate of heaven. If only we could catch a glimpse of the glory within, and hear the angel voices!"

"What can she be looking at now?" someone whispered. "It must be something terrible! See! She is wringing her hands as if in distress; and the expression of anguish on her face—what can it mean?"

Elder White answered quietly, "She is probably looking at scenes of great suffering!"

Breathlessly everyone waited and watched. What could be causing her such grief? After a time the anxious, troubled look left her face and a pleased expression took its place.

"Evidently the scene now before her is a joyous one," said Elder White.

The gloom had lifted. The coffin at the front of the room was for the time forgotten. It was now late afternoon. The people watching saw a change come over Ellen White. For the two hours that she had been in vision she had not breathed at all, but now she took a full, deep inhalation as if filling her lungs for the first time. After a brief pause there was another deep breath, then another.

She began to notice the people around her. They had gathered close to her and were asking what she had seen in the vision. But she did not wish to talk, she said—not just yet. It was a solemn time.

The coffin was borne to the graveyard, and

relatives and close friends left for that part of the service. Some of the people remained, hoping that Mrs. White would tell them what she had seen in the vision. She described some of the scenes just presented to her, and they listened with special attention. What she had been shown we today call the Great Controversy vision.

On Tuesday, as the Whites traveled from Ohio to Michigan, Mrs. White told her husband more about what had been presented to her, adding, "I must write out the vision."

"And then we'll print it in a little book," her husband added.

At Jackson, Michigan, they stopped to visit their old friends, Brother and Sister Dan Palmer. Mr. Palmer took James outside to look around his garden while the two women visited. Suddenly in the middle of a sentence Mrs. White felt a strange sensation in her mouth. Her tongue seemed thick and numb. She could not pronounce the words she was trying to speak. A chill passed over her head and down her right side, and she knew nothing more until she heard the two men praying for her. She looked around and tried to rise, but fell back helpless.

"A stroke! A severe stroke!" she heard the men say. But they continued to pray. After a time she made another effort to rise. With her husband's assistance she was able to stand and move around a little.

The next day, despite the Palmers' invitation that they stay until Mrs. White was better, with her husband's support, she painfully made her way to the carriage and was lifted in. Soon James and Ellen were on the train for the two-hour ride to Battle Creek. For some time after getting home, she could not take one step alone, nor could she feel the coldest water poured on her head. Yet she could not forget the command of the angel to write the vision and publish it.

She asked for writing materials while her side was still paralyzed. Trying with all her strength, she managed to write a few sentences, and the first day completed one page. It wasn't easy, but each day she accomplished a little more than the day before. By the time the vision was written out and printed, the effect of the stroke had disappeared, and she was in her usual health.

After she completed her writing, but before the book was printed, God showed Ellen White

in vision that the stroke she had suffered in Jackson at the home of the Palmers was Satan's attempt to kill her. Satan did not want her to be able to write out what she had been shown about him.

The vision filled a book of 219 pages. It told of the beginning of sin and sorrow, first in heaven, then in the Garden of Eden. It revealed how Jesus offered to die in the place of sinners. It showed His battles here on this earth with His great enemy, Satan, who finally led wicked men to nail Him to the cross.

She described the interest shown by angels and the inhabitants of unfallen worlds in God's great plan for saving people, and the wonder of the entire universe at God's unspeakable love in giving His own Son to save a race of rebels. She told of their joy when Christ arose to life and returned to heaven, having conquered Satan, sin, and death. She pictured the joyous welcome He received as He returned to His Father's home amid the shouts and praises of millions of angels.

Later, Mrs. White added a brief history of God's people from the time when sin entered the world to the time when it will be uprooted forever. This wonderful story, as she wrote it more fully in later years, fills five large books, called *The Conflict of the Ages Series*. These books have been translated and published in many languages and are read by millions of people. They explain many of the mysteries connected with the great cosmic battle between Christ and His holy angels on one side, and Satan and his evil angels on the other.





COUNTERFEITS: 1

The Truth About Harry Potter

Now I am going to tell you right away that I am not going to be saying much about what is in the Harry Potter books or movies. Instead, I want to tell you about why Satan wants people to get into reading and learning about these things. I want to help you learn how to spot Satan's tricks and how to find real power for your own life.

Everything good that God has given to His people, Satan has made a counterfeit of, and he even counterfeits things that belong only to God. What is a 'counterfeit'? It is a copy that isn't real. It may look real but it isn't. You can get toy coins that look all bright and sparkly like gold. But they are just hollow and have gum or chocolate in them. Real gold is worth a lot, if you had a big, pure gold coin, you could buy a lot with it, but if you took one of these toy coins to the bank, they would just laugh at you.

There is one thing that we know, if there is a counterfeit; there must be a real thing somewhere. Nobody makes a counterfeit 3-dollar bill, because it wouldn't fool anybody. There are no real 3-dollar bills. So when Satan is busy fooling people with his counterfeits, we can know that there are real blessings that God has for us.

Satan's aim is to get us all mixed up, so we go after his lies and throw away God's truth. You see, he knows that we can't have his lies and God's truth together. Some of the things Satan promises people are things that are not possible for us to have at all. They are things that only God really has. They only belong to God.

Things like being able to create a living being or make a dead person come to life; living forever and never dying; being able to know the

future before it happens. These things only belong to God. (See John 1:3; 1 Timothy 6:16; Isaiah 46: 9,10)

Satan can't do these things, but he tries to trick us into thinking he can. In fantasy stories and witchcraft, people are told that if they have the right words to say, or actions to do, or ingredients to mix together, then they will be able to do these very things, make things alive that are not alive, make dead people talk to them, stay alive forever, and be able to either control what happens in the future, or be able to tell what is going to happen.

He tricks people into thinking such powers are real and if they just learn enough, or obey him or study ancient mysteries, they can learn to have these powers. Now the truth is that even Satan does NOT have these powers, nobody has them except God. So how does Satan get you to think he has them?

Mainly, though lies. He just tells people they will not die, that they can live forever. People like to believe that lie. Remember, he told Mother Eve that lie didn't he? But we are not like Eve now, we see people die, we see dead bodies, so he has to tell us another lie. He tells us that our body isn't really us. He says we have a part inside called a 'soul' and that part is really us, and it never dies even if our body dies.

He has most everybody in the world believing that lie. But the Bible tells us in Genesis, that man became a living soul, it does not say we have a soul or we were given a soul. It also says that souls die. (See Ezekiel 18:4)

Another way he is tricking people, is to have his angels change how they look and imitate someone who is dead. Then he has them tell you things that you think only the dead person would know about, but Satan's angels know about these things too. So people are fooled into thinking that spirits of dead people live on and can talk to us. But the Bible tells us that the dead don't know anything. (Ecclesiastes 9:5) This is a counterfeit.

What about telling the future? Well Satan has a hard time here, because he doesn't know the future; but he has been around a long time. He saw your daddy and your great grand-daddy and so on. He knows what they were like and what they did; this helps him to know what you might also do.

There are other ways he tries to tell the fu-

ture. He tells what he and his angels are planning to do. And so if God does not stop him, he can make his story about the future happen. If he says a certain plane will crash, he can go and crash it, unless God doesn't let him do it. If a fortune teller says to you that you will meet some wonderful person and fall in love, Satan can do a lot to make this happen.

Now if someone tells you they have power to do these things, or that you can learn to have power to do them, just walk away from them and have nothing more to do with them; because it is all a lie and a counterfeit.

But there is a real part. God has these powers. God tells us about the future in the Bible prophecies. God promises if we come to Jesus and give our hearts to Him, that He will save us, and someday we will live forever. God can create and make the dead come to life again and He will, when Jesus comes again. Don't let Satan trick you into throwing away what is real; to try and get what is not real. Continued = ^ .. ^ =



MISSION STORY

The Jungle Band: E. B. Hare: 9

A year after Dr. Bear came to Ohn Daw, another notable arrival was announced on December 5, 1921, when to Mama and Dr. Rabbit, a baby boy, Leonard was born. A few months later, in August of 1922, Eric and Agnes went on furlough to Australia, happy that they could show off the baby to granny and granddad and other relatives and friends. But Eric had a special mission to work at while on furlough.

Shortly before they left, Eric went on a preaching tour, taking Harold Baird and fifteen boys from the school. The students helped carry supplies and equipment, but also learned to be preachers and evangelists. Eric took his cornet, which had worked to get attention on previous tours. Harold took his cornet too. When L. W. Melendy, the union mission secretary, learned what they were planning, he begged to go along

with them, and he also played a cornet!

The music of three cornets brought the people together in a way that seemed miraculous. The village seemed deserted when the mission party arrived, but the three instruments began their rousing rendition of "Lift Up the Trumpet, and Loud Let it Ring." As Eric described it:

"From out of the bamboo jungle they came - run-ning, laughing, carrying their little ones on their backs -mothers and fathers, uncles and aunties, grandpas and grandmas, and all the little cousins. Till at last there were more than fifty at our meeting! No wonder Tha Myaing had a big smile on his face when he got up to preach! And no wonder the boys danced up and down and clapped their hands after the meeting and said, 'We know what did it! It was the trumpets! It was the trumpets!' Then looking very much in earnest, they added, 'Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone of us had a trumpet!'"

Then and there the dream was born to have a jungle band. By the time their tour ended, Eric had formed his plan. Soon he and his family would go on furlough and he would go from church to church and school to school and camp meeting to camp meeting to tell about his work in Burma. You may be sure it was exciting when he described the preaching tours with the mission staff and the big boys who were learning to preach, and how they each wanted to have an instrument to help preach the gospel.

Eric's appeals were so interesting and the church in Australian was so generous, that soon, Eric had collected twenty-three silver and brass instruments. They weren't all cornets and trumpets, either; they were enough to make a band with all the essential instrumental voices.

In October of 1923 the Hares returned with their personal things and those precious boxes of instruments. A week went by as Eric and Agnes settled back into the routine of the mission station. The boys at the school were curious and tried to figure out what was in those boxes.

Then one morning in chapel Eric read the names of the boys who had been chosen to play in the band. The first band practice was set for noon that day, but it wasn't possible for anyone to wait until noon. Lots of help was on the spot to pry the covers off the boxes.

One by one the instruments were handed to those who had been chosen. They had seen trum-

pets, of course, but here were silver and brass instruments they had never seen. One can only imagine how clumsy were, their attempts to take hold of an instrument, to learn how to place and move their fingers, how to place their lips, and how even to make a sound. And when they did succeed in making sounds, what a horrible noise followed! It was so bad that Agnes had to flee into the jungle with the baby to avoid going insane-or so she said.

Eric was so exhausted after three hours of that kind of band practice that he got to a severe attack of malaria. But the tooting went on, morning, noon, and night, until Eric was tempted to think he had made a grave mistake. How could they ever function as a band when not one of the boys could make the same sound twice?

The boys themselves found the answer. They were so eager to “play the band” to help carry the gospel to their people that they made it the subject of constant prayer. Eric reported the outcome in these words: “The great God whom we love and serve, the God who has given white men wisdom enough to make these marvelous instruments, gave those humble jungle boys enough skill to play them.

“It sounds like a fairy tale, but just exactly four weeks from our first band practice, we were holding our first open-air meeting in a village nearby. Why, no, we didn’t play any difficult music. We played three little hymn tunes, but we played them again and again, and the jungle people said it was wonderful, and I think it was wonderful too.”

The band brought a new day for Burma evangelism. Practice brought great improvement and many opportunities to give a strong Christian witness followed. To the missionaries, the band was a great help to put to rest the fear the villagers had of dawtakas and other evil spirits. When the band played, the people lost their fears. The band played for annual meetings at outstations, and was very popular at camp meetings, which grew in attendance from thirty the first year to 1,500 in a very short time.

Thus it was through medical attention, education, evangelism, and music that the confidence and love of the Karen people were won and the number of believers steadily increased. Satan fought for every inch of territory, using a variety of troubles to discourage the missionaries, but they found that for every one, God had a special miracle to match. = ^ .. ^ =



Year 2: 4th Quarter:
“FROM THE WILDERNESS TO CANAAN”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 4: “SNAKES & GIANTS!”

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 as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

John 3:14,15

Sunday

Text: Numbers 20:14,17 “And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom, Thus saith thy brother Israel, Thou knowest all the travail that hath befallen us: 17 Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink of the water of the wells: we will go by the king’s high way, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders.”

There was only a short journey between the camp of the Israelites and the borders of Canaan, but the land of Edom, the descendents of Esau, Jacob’s brother lay between. God had told them they were not to attack Edom or take their land in any way. But he did tell them to go ahead and march through Edom.

God had told them to send a courteous request to the king of Edom and so they did. But the king sent back a nasty reply: "Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword."

Now this is where Israel should have trusted God and just marched through anyway, as God had told them. He would have sent His angels to protect them and the Edomites would have been made afraid to attack them. But instead, they hesitated and sent another request, and this gave Satan time to stir up trouble against them. The King gathered his soldiers and was determined to attack them if they came into the land.

Now God did not want Israel to fight with Edom, even though the king was nasty; so after he had gathered his soldiers to fight with Israel, they had no choice but to go around the country, which would be a long, hard journey.

Thought - When we clearly know what God wants us to do, we should go right ahead and do it. If we think about it, or try and find out if we can do it or not, Satan takes advantage of our doubting, to try and stop us.

Monday

Text: Numbers 20:23-24 "And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in mount Hor, by the coast of the land of Edom, saying, Aaron shall be gathered unto his people: for he shall not enter into the land which I have given unto the children of Israel, because ye rebelled against my word at the water of Meribah."

The people had to turn south now and begin the long trip around the land of Edom. At their first camp, God told Moses that it was time for Aaron to die and that he was to go with him up into the mountain, and Aaron's son Eliazar was to go with them.

Together these two old men and the younger one climbed slowly up the mountain. The heads of Moses and Aaron were white with the snows of 120 winters. Their life had been spent in unselfish labor for God and their fellow men; their faces showed great wisdom, firmness and nobility of purpose, and strong affections.

It was a hard climb and they often stopped to rest and talk about the past. Aaron's work for Israel was done and when they got to the mountaintop, Moses took the special priest's clothes off of Aaron and put them on his son

Eliazar. This was how God showed that Eliazar was to be the next High Priest for Israel.

When this was done the Bible tells us, "There Aaron died, and there he was buried." Deuteronomy 10:6. Moses and Eliazar came back to the camp and told the people that Aaron had died in Moses' arms and they had buried him on the mountain.

The people felt sad. They thought about their murmuring and how Moses and Aaron were not allowed to go with them into Canaan. They wept and mourned for Aaron for 30 days. Moses must now continue the work alone; but he knew that God was his friend, and upon Him he leaned more heavily.

Thought - To be 120 years old and still able to climb a mountain is very wonderful. When we give our whole heart to God, we live wonderful lives.

Tuesday

Text: Numbers 21:4-6 "And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way. And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread. And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died."

After they left and traveled on, king Arad the Canaanite attacked them and took some people prisoner. This time the people turned to God and prayed to have the victory over this king and his cities. God answered their prayer and he was defeated and Israel took the cities for their own.

But as they kept on their journey through the hot desert, they got tired and again forgot their lessons and began to grumble. They decided that they could have fought with Edom and beaten them and had their land too. They began to complain about their food and water again and say the Manna wasn't good enough for them.

Now we don't know how much God's blessing and protecting us, gives us what peace we have in this life. So it was with the children of

Israel, God was helping them a lot, but when they began to grumble and complain, He could not help them so much and things got much worse for them.

In that area there were a lot of poisonous snakes and scorpions. The snakes were called fiery serpents because their bite was so painful and deadly. God had been protecting them from these hurtful things. Now when they began to sin with their words against God, He could not continue to protect them and He allowed the nasty snakes to come in and attack the people.

Satan was very happy that they had fallen for his temptations again. You see, the wicked people that lived in Canaan were servants of Satan, and he did not want God's people to come in and spoil his fun. So he was tempting them to do things that would make it impossible for God to bless them.

So in came the serpents, people began to get bitten and some began to get sick and die. Soon nearly every tent had someone sick or dying. If they thought they had trouble before; they really had a problem now! They stopped grumbling and came to Moses saying, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee."

Thought – When you are tempted to complain, sing a song of praise to Jesus instead. Satan will be defeated and things will get better for you and you will have strength to bear the problems.

Wednesday

Text: Numbers 21:8,9 "And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived."

When the people came to Moses and were sorry for their sin of grumbling, Moses asked God what to do. God told him a strange thing. He said for Moses to make a brass snake and put it up on a pole and then carry it through the camp.

The people were told that if they were bitten and dying, if they would just look at this ser-

pent in faith, they would be healed. This was to be a special lesson for the people helping them to know more about Jesus. It was in obeying God and trusting Him they were to have help.

The people knew that there was no power in the serpent of brass to make them well by just looking at it. The healing power was from God alone. In His wisdom He chose this way so the people could see that this trouble came to them because of their sins. They were also told for sure that while obeying God they had no reason to fear, for He would keep them.

The joyful news spread through the camp, that all who had been bitten might look upon the brazen serpent and live. Many had already died, and when Moses raised the serpent upon the pole, some would not believe that merely gazing upon that metallic image would heal them; they died in their unbelief. Yet there were many who had faith in what God said. Fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters tried hard to help their suffering, dying friends to fix their eyes upon the serpent. If they, though faint and dying, could only once look, they were made well.

Thought – This is the way we are to work for our family and friends. We are to try and get them to see Jesus and give their hearts to Him and be saved from sin.

Thursday

Text: John 3:14-16 "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The lifting up of the brazen serpent was to teach Israel an important lesson. They could not save themselves from the poison in their wounds. God alone was able to heal them. Yet they had to show their faith in the help God had made. They must look in order to live. It was their faith that God accepted, and they showed they believed God when they obeyed and looked upon the serpent.

The serpent was a symbol of Christ; and how He would one day take on him the sins of the world and die for man. He would become sin for us. The people were used to bringing

their lambs for the sin offering and thinking that by doing this they were paying for their sins by giving God the lamb.

They did not see that the offerings were only to show the great price that God was paying for them. The Lord would now teach them that their sacrifices, by themselves, had no more power to save than the serpent of brass, but were to lead their minds to Christ, the great sin offering.

Everyone who has ever lived has been bitten by that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan." Revelation 12:9. The deadly effects of sin can be removed only in the way that God has made. The Israelites saved their lives by looking upon the uplifted serpent. That look meant they believed God. They lived because they believed God's Word, and trusted Him to heal them.

Jesus has the power to save all who come to Him. We must come by faith, "Him that cometh to Me," says Christ, "I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37. But we must come to Him; and when we repent of our sins, we must believe that He accepts and pardons us. Faith is the gift of God, but the power to exercise it is ours. Faith is the hand by which we take hold of God's promises to save us.

Thought – How sad that some of the people would not even try to look at the brass snake. It didn't make any sense to them that just looking could help, they couldn't explain it, so they refused. They did not believe God and they could not be helped.

Friday

Text: Numbers 21:21,22 "And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, saying, Let me pass through thy land: we will not turn into the fields, or into the vineyards; we will not drink of the waters of the well: but we will go along by the king's high way, until we be past thy borders."

The people were now traveling through a nicer area and making progress towards Canaan. God told them to leave Moab and Ammon alone as He would not give their land to them, and so soon they came up to the land of Sihon, king of the Amorites.

They sent a nice message asking permission to travel through this land. This was a last test for these people, if they would have been kind

and allowed Israel to pass through, they would have been allowed to stay there. But the king refused and brought out his army to fight. God had been kind to these people, trying to give them a chance to turn from their evil ways but they refused and now God led Israel against them. Quickly they were beaten and Israel captured their land.

Next they came to the land of Bashan, whose king was Og, and he was a giant! The Bible tells us in Deuteronomy 3:11, "For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of giants; behold, his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbath of the children of Ammon? nine cubits was the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man."

Nine cubits; thirteen and a half feet. And Four cubits; six feet. That was a very big bed! And we know that Og was a very big giant, at least as big as Goliath and maybe even bigger.

Some of the people remembered how forty years before, they had gone out to fight when God told them not to and had been defeated. But now, Moses was with them and the pillar of cloud was leading them so they knew it was God's will. They went forward by faith against the Giants and the walled cities and they won in the name of the Lord!

No matter how big an enemy of God is; he cannot win against God. God may in His mercy allow wicked men to prosper for a while, as He tries to get them to repent so He can save them; but if God's goodness does not lead them to repentance, they will perish. So Og was defeated and the Israelites took over all the land of Bashan.

Thought – Remember the story of young David? No Giant can defeat us when we trust and obey Jesus! = ^ .. ^ =

