

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 2 - 4th Quarter - Issue #5



CREATION CORNER

Bear Repellant

Jim Hornberger, who wrote the book, *Escape to God*, lives in an area where there are many dangerous bears. He did not feel he wanted to buy a gun to protect himself, but instead to rely on God to protect him and warn him of danger. Here is his story told in his own words:

"I knew that some time, some place this plan of mine was going to be put to the test. Then and only then would I have the opportunity to confirm whether I really believed in my God.

"The opportunity came, but not exactly in the way or at the time I expected it to. I wish I could say to the Lord, "At 11:00 tomorrow morning, I will be ready to be tested on patience." But it doesn't work that way. We must always be ready to give an answer for the faith that lies within us.

"One day the ravens were carrying on in the woods. This usually means some type of animal has died. My boys were concerned that one of the deer we pet and feed treats by hand might have died, so they asked if they could go exploring to find out. I not only gave them permission to go but agreed to go along too. Now, young boys do not always want to move at the same pace as their

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father, and I let them move on ahead toward where the ravens were crying. The trail split into two different paths paralleling each other. The boys took one and I unknowingly took the other.

"The idea that there might be a grizzly bear on the carcass never occurred to me. It had however, occurred to a bear. Thankfully, my two boys were quite young and excited. They made sufficient noise that the bear heard them coming and decided to leave with all possible haste, right down the trail I was walking. The bear and I met face to face at close range. The bear reared up on its haunches, growling and snarling. Grizzlies seem to hold the opinion that if you aren't looking for trouble, you should keep your distance, and if you want trouble, they will be only too happy to oblige.

"I had always known that some day this would happen. Secretly, I wondered how I would react in that moment. Would I turn tail and run or drop to the fetal position and cover my head as all the experts on bear attack instruct people to do? Maybe I would try and climb a tree or fall to my knees in desperation. None of these thoughts came to mind.

"As I stood eye to eye with that most-feared beast of the wilderness, I sensed not fear but Someone stronger standing by my side. In almost a casual gesture, I reached out and broke off a small twig

from the branch in front of me and said, “Lord, she’s all Yours!”

“Friends find it hard to believe that my pulse wasn’t racing wildly, but it’s true. There was no panicked rush of adrenaline or sweat on my brow, just a quiet assurance that I was in the hand of my constant Friend and Companion. I knew that the Sovereign of the universe was my Shield and Protector.

“One of my favorite promises in all the Scriptures is, “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear” (Hebrews 13:5-6).

“Still gazing at the bear—which seemed to have materialized out of nowhere—I worried that my boys might come down the path looking for me. I wanted to yell and warn them to stay where they were. However, this would be inviting disaster for me. Yell at a black bear, and it will usually run. Yell at a grizzly, and it will charge. My choice was easy, as a parent I had to protect my boys.

“Boys! Stay where you are!” I shouted. True to form, the grizzly dropped down to all fours and started to charge me when suddenly she wheeled about to look behind her. My boys have been trained from the time they were little to come immediately when called. So, when I called out “Boys,” they didn’t even wait to hear the rest, they simply came running.

“It was their voices and the noise of breaking twigs and branches as they moved toward us that dissuaded the bear, from charging. Soon my boys appeared on the other side of the bear, who was by this time both furious and desperate to escape these strange creatures who did not play by the usual rules. Taking a wide detour around me some thirty feet off into the woods, the bear returned to the trail behind me all the while growling and sputtering, leaving us with no doubt about her feelings toward us. Then she turned and ran down the path away from us.

“Talk to anyone who lives in bear country. We did everything wrong you can do in a bear encounter, still we had been protected due to the benevolence of a living God, Who not only controls all the creatures of this world but also walks by our side.”

“The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.” Psalm 34:7 = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

Ellen’s Dream of the Narrow Way

Over 100 years ago God gave Ellen White a dream. In the dream she was traveling with a large group of people. Some of the people had their wagons loaded with all their things. The road they were traveling on was steep, and on one side was a big drop-off and on the other side was a high white wall.

The road got narrower and narrower so they had to leave their wagons because there was not room enough for them. Some of the people tied their luggage on the horses and rode the horses.

The path kept getting more narrow, so the people were all crowded near the wall. When their luggage hit it they would sway toward the edge. They were afraid they would fall off the edge, so they cut the luggage from the horses and it fell off the side. When the road became so narrow that they were afraid they would lose their balance, they got off the horses. Finally they left their horses behind and followed each other, walking in each other’s footsteps.

Just then small ropes came down the wall and they grabbed them to keep their balance. The ropes moved as they moved. Finally the path became so narrow that they had to take off their shoes and stockings. Even then it was difficult to stay on the narrow and dangerous path.

Many people who were not used to such hard traveling had already stopped climbing. But the people who were used to things being hard kept traveling and wanted to reach the end of the road.

Because the road became so narrow they could not walk on it they had to hold on tight to the ropes saying “We have to hold on from above! We have to hold on from above!” Each person said these words to the next person on the path.

Suddenly the people on the path heard all kinds of noises from below the cliff. They heard naughty words, bad music, loud laughing and also loud crying. The people holding on to the ropes on the wall were more determined than ever to keep going up the narrow path.

The ropes got bigger and stronger. In the dream Ellen saw that the white wall had blood on it. It made her sad to see the beautiful wall stained with blood. Then she realized that when people came up the path and saw the stains they would know that others had been there before them, and

even though they suffered a lot of pain they had kept on going up the path. This would encourage them to keep on going, too.

Now the people came to a big cliff below them and the path ended. There wasn't anywhere to put their feet. They must trust the ropes, which had become very thick. Some of the people wondered where the ropes came from and what was holding them.

Then in her dream Ellen White looked across to the other side from the cliff and saw a beautiful field of green grass about six inches high. She could not see the sun, but bright beams of light like fine gold and silver rested on the field. It was more beautiful than anything she had ever seen on earth. But would they reach the field? What if the ropes broke?

Again the people whispered the words "What holds the ropes?" Then someone said, "Our only hope is to trust in Jesus. The ropes have held us safely all this way; they will still hold us."

While they were waiting they heard the words, "God holds the ropes. We need not fear." Then Ellen's husband James White swung himself over the cliff and landed in the beautiful field. Ellen then took the rope and swung across. Then the rest of the people did the same. They felt so relieved and happy and thankful. They then sang a beautiful song to God.

Many times James and Ellen had hard times, but then they would remember the dream and ask God to be with them and help them.

Let's remember, boys and girls, that we too are traveling to a beautiful place and if, like the people in the dream, we hold on to the ropes of faith, we will be carried safely to God's heavenly home. Adapted from *The Spirit of Prophecy Emphasis Stories*, vol. 2, pp. 59-62 = ^ .. ^ =



STORY LESSON

COUNTERFEITS 2

The Truth About Harry Potter

This week we will talk some more about the lies and tricks that Satan is using to snare boys and girls (and big people too) and get them to turn away from Jesus, the One who loves them so much that He died to save them, to go chasing after the devil's rabbits. Even if they catch one, they will find out it will just turn around and bite them.

So many people get lured into different kinds of magic and witchcraft, thinking they are going to get some special power and have a better life through it. Many even go into it, thinking that if they get these special powers that it promises them, that they can use them to help other people and not for anything bad.

Very few people go into magic and New Age and Wicca and so on, thinking that they are going to serve Satan and do his bidding. That is why so many young people, and older ones too, when they see the warnings on our Harry Potter Magic site, write to us all angry, and deny that they have anything to do with Satan.

But sadly, saying so doesn't make it true, and when Satan can get people to serve him, he is especially happy when they don't even believe he exists. That way he can fool them easier and when he does some tricks for them, they are all excited thinking THEY have special powers or that God is doing it for them.

Satan can use these people better to fool others, even Christians, into doing things that are really just witchcraft under new names.

But there are some people, yes, even some children, who are quite happy to serve Satan, if they could just get some of those powers, like they read about in the Harry Potter books.

I received a very sad letter from a little boy who is all caught up with Harry Potter. His letter was full of bad words so I can't print it here for you to read, but what he said showed some of the tricks and lies that Satan tells to these poor people.

This boy said he had read all the books 3 times each. From what he said, he thought people who believe in Jesus are stupid. But what the poor fellow didn't know or forgets is, that Jesus is real and Harry Potter is just something that a woman made up, it isn't true at all. I believe that Satan helped her to make up these stories, as he wants to use

them to catch and fool boys and girls who read them. But still, it is only a fairy tale.

Now here is something interesting, people are saying it is good for children to read Harry Potter, because at least they learn to read. But this poor boy's letter showed that he did not know how to even write a proper sentence or spell even simple words. All his reading wasn't doing anything good for him; just putting him where he was hating Jesus and Satan could fool him.

Now this boy felt that he would get great power, if he could only get the right 'spell' and he meant witches spells. He even said he would sell his soul to get this power.

I want to talk for a moment about this idea that people have, that they can 'sell their soul' to Satan and he will give them great power, and they will live forever as a special evil servant of Satan. What a sad bunch of lies!

For one thing, we don't HAVE a soul--we ARE a soul. Soul just means what you are as a living thinking being. Even animals are called 'souls' in the Bible.

The second important thing to know is, you can't sell your soul, because you don't own it! Every living thing belongs to God. Even Satan's life belongs to God. God created all living things; they belong to Him.

Also, Jesus died to redeem you from Satan, so He owns you double; first because He made you, second because He bought you. So Satan can't buy from you what you don't own.

But, and this is a big But, there is a third way that God wants to own you, and that is He wants you to CHOOSE to be His. He won't force anyone to belong to Him if they don't want to. This is where Satan comes in with his tricks. He actually gets children even, to think they can sell their souls and they do some ritual for to do this. Then later when they find out how cruel Satan is, and they learn about Jesus and would like to belong to Him, Satan tells them they can't, because they sold their soul to him and now Jesus won't accept them.

Boys and girls, if you find anybody who has fallen for this trick, you just tell them that Satan is a liar! He can't buy a soul from you, because you don't have one, and God owns your life. He is just tricking you. Run to Jesus in prayer and tell Him you Choose to be His and He will help you right out of Satan's claws.

What if you do get some sort of power from Satan by promising to serve him? Well, remember,

these powers are not real. Satan himself does not have the powers he often promises to people stupid enough to listen to him.

He promises them they can live forever. Satan can't make anything alive or keep anything alive! In the end he will find out he can't even keep himself alive. All life belongs to God.

So what are some other powers: telling the future; this is not a power that people really can have; Satan's angels have to tell people what they want to know and they can tell some things because they are all over the place and know a lot about what is happening. They can also help make some things come true. But when the bad angels get tired of doing this for a person, he finds out, it was just a trick.

Levitating or flying; this is only possible when Satan's angels carry something and it looks like it is flying. If they get tired of carrying it--no more flying! In Heaven we will be able to fly for real!

Power to 'cast a spell' to hurt people; this is all done by Satan and his angels and not by people at all. It is interesting that in the mission fields in years gone by, when Adventist missionaries were close to the Lord, even the devil-doctors would say that their spells could not hurt God's people. God's angels are stronger than the fallen angels.

Jesus defeated Satan; someday he will be destroyed; why get tricked into serving a LOSER, when you can choose to belong to the WINNER?
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OLD TIME STORIES

STORIES FROM 1850-60s YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

Have you ever thought you would like to read stories from the children's papers of 1850? Well for a few weeks, we are going to put some of these very stories in TEMKIT for you. You will find them different, but I hope you will enjoy them. These two are from January 1853.

A Boy Rescued From the Flames

"Fire! fire! Fire!" This terrible cry waked up the father of a large family, who lived in a little village parsonage. He jumped from his bed to see what it meant. On opening the door, the smoke in the entry almost stifled him, while he caught sight of the flames bursting through the roof.

He ran to the chamber where his wife lay sick, and told her, with the oldest girls to escape for their lives. He then burst into the nursery, where the five

youngest children slept, roused the servant, who caught up the baby and called the rest to follow her. On their reaching the entry they found the stairs on fire, while the roaring flames were hemming them in on every side.

Danger gave them courage; some of the children scrambled through the windows, and others made a narrow escape through the garden door. But these passages seemed closed up to the poor sick mother. She could not climb to the windows, and to reach the door looked impossible. Once, twice, three times she tried to face the flames, but they drove her back with their fiery breath. "Oh Christ," she cried, "save me from this dreadful death; but thy will be done!" She mustered her strength for one more effort; despair urged her on; wading through the flames, she escaped, scorched and naked into the street.

Were the children all safe? Were all the eight rescued from the burning building? At that instant a scream was heard from the nursery, louder than the roar of the fire; one little boy was left behind. O, the agony of the parents. The father dashed into the house and ran to the stairs; they fell beneath his feet, while the flames beat him back. The poor father fell on his knees and committed the soul of his child to a merciful God. The little fellow was now seen climbing up to the nursery window, surrounded by fire and smoke. He stretched out his hands to the people below.

"Save him! Save him!" is shouted on all sides; now or never. Ladders, there were none; moments are precious. One man leaps upon the shoulders of another; the walls are tottering, the heat is suffocating, but the window is reached; an instant more and the boy is safe in the arms of his deliverer. A shout of joy goes up. "Safe, safe!" In a few moments more the roof fell in, and the once pleasant home was a heap of ruins.

"Come, neighbors," cried the grateful and glad father, "let us kneel down; let us give thanks to God. He has given me all my eight children; let the house go, I am rich enough."

This signal rescue from a death so dreadful made a deep impression both upon the mother and the boy. She looked upon him as the lost one saved, and with an ever-grateful memory of his deliverance, she felt herself especially called upon to train this child for the service of God.

Nor did the boy ever forget or overlook the peril of his childhood; it made him thoughtful and serious. He felt that if God had spared his life, he

ought to love God, to obey and honor Him; he cherished a lively sense of his dependence upon Him, and could never speak of it without feeling deeply grateful; and when he grew up to be a man, a house in flames was engraven under one of his portraits with the motto, 'Is this not a brand plucked out of the burning?'

The boy thus saved was named John Wesley, born at Epworth in England, in the year 1703; he grew up to be an eminent minister of the gospel, and so intent was he upon brining people to a knowledge of God, that he used to go out in the commons and fields and highways to tell them of their great deliverer Jesus Christ, who came to seek and to save them which are lost.

Lydia and Her Brother

Lydia was sitting in the room and her little brother Oliver was out in the yard, drawing his cart about. Their mother went out and brought in some peaches, a few of which were large, red-cheeked rare-ripes the rest small, ordinary peaches. The father handed me of the rare-ripes, gave one to the mother, and then one of the best to his little daughter, who was then eight years old. He then took one of the smaller ones, and gave it to Lydia, and told her to go and give it to her brother, He was four years old. Lydia went out and was gone about ten minutes, and then came in.

"Did you give your brother the peach I sent him?" asked the father. Lydia blushed, turned away, and did not answer.

"Did you give your brother the peach I sent him?" asked the father again, a little more sharply. "No, father," said she, "I did not give him that"

"What did you do with it?" he asked.

"I ate it," said Lydia.

"What! Did you not give your brother any?" asked the father.

"Yes I did father," said she, "I gave him mine."

"Why did you not give him the one I told you to give?" asked the father, rather sternly.

"Because, father, I thought he would like mine better," said Lydia. "But you ought not to disobey your father," said he.

"I did not mean to be disobedient, father, said she, and her bosom began to heave, and her chin to quiver.

"But you were, my daughter," said he.

"I thought you would not be displeased with me, father," said Lydia, "if I did give brother the biggest peach;" and the tears began to roll down her cheeks.

“But I wanted you to have the biggest.” Said the father; “You are older and larger than he.”

“I want you to give the best things to brother”, said the noble girl.

“Why?” said the father, scarcely able to contain himself.

“Because”, answered the dear, generous sister, “I love him so--I always feel best when he gets the best things.”

“You are right, my precious daughter,” said the father, as he fondly and proudly folded her in his arms. “You are right, and you may be certain your happy father can never be displeased with you for wishing to give up the best of everything to your affectionate little brother. He is a dear and noble little boy, and I am glad you love him so. Do you think he loves you as well as you love him?”

“Yes father,” said Lydia, “I think he does, for when I offered him the largest peach, he would not take it, but wanted me to keep it; and it was a good while before I could get him to take it.” = ^ .. ^ =



Year 2: 4th Quarter:

“FROM THE WILDERNESS TO CANAAN”

WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 5:

“THE SONG OF MOSES”

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: “He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.” Deuteronomy 32:4

Sunday

Text: Deuteronomy 31:1-3 “And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel. And he said unto them, I am an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also the LORD hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan. The LORD thy God, he will go over before thee, and he will destroy these nations from before thee, and thou shalt possess them: and Joshua, he shall go over before thee, as the LORD hath said.”

In series 6, we told the story of Balaam and his donkey. This happened about now in our series so we will go on from that. (If you want to read that story go to series #6 – lesson 4.) Terrible trouble came to Israel and thousands died, because they listened to Balaam and joined in with the Pagan Holiday Celebrations and worshipped the idols and went out with wicked women. After this it was not long before they came to the Jordan River. Here God told Moses he was not going to cross the river but was soon to die.

Ever since Moses had known that he was not going to be allowed to go with Israel over the Jordan River and into Canaan, he had shown a very unselfish spirit as he worked hard to teach the people all he could to help them, and tried to give Joshua as much encouragement as he could. Never once did he grumble, complain or pout, even though he was very disappointed.

God called Moses and Joshua to come before the tabernacle and He would talk to them. He told Moses that He knew that the people, after they went into Canaan and after God had done so much for them, would still forget Him and worship the heathen gods. He gave Moses a song to teach to the people that told what would happen to them because they would do this wickedness.

The Holy Spirit was really with Moses in those last hours of his life, and God helped him to write down all the information in books for the Children of Israel to keep forever.

God also told Joshua not to worry that He would be with him, just like He had been with Moses. God said; “Be strong and of a good courage: for thou shalt bring the children of Israel into the land which I sware unto them: and I will be with thee.”

Thought - It was the fancy celebrations and holiday feasts, that looked like exciting fun, that led Israel, time after time, to join in worshipping heathen idols instead of staying with the true God. Holidays can do that to us too, if we are not careful!

Monday

Text: Deuteronomy 31:19, 20 “Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel. For when I shall have brought them into the land which I sware unto their fathers, that floweth with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten and filled themselves, and waxen fat; then will they turn unto other gods, and serve them, and provoke me, and break my covenant.”

Moses wrote all the laws in books and when he knew it was time for him to say goodbye to Israel, he called all the people together and he gave the Levites the books that he had written, and he wrote the song for the people and taught it to them.

You may have heard about the ‘Song of Moses’, but did you know there are two Songs of Moses? Most people know about the one that he sang when the Egyptian army was drowned in the Red Sea, but the other one is found in Deuteronomy 32:1-43.

You can read this song and think about what it means. In this song God is telling the people that if they would obey Him and keep His Commandments that they would be a happy, holy people and all what God wanted to do for them. And the song also tells that God knew that they would forget Him and all the trouble that would come when they did.

It was a Prophecy Song. The people learned the song and years later when it was sung; the truth of it was seen as everything happened just like the song said!

Moses called the people together for his last sermon to them, and he went through all of their history from the time of leaving Egypt to that time and he reminded them of how they had so often failed to obey God and so brought so much suffering and misery to themselves.

Finally he was finished with all he had to tell the people and on that same day, God told him to

go alone up into the mountain and die there.

Thought – Moses told them especially to teach these laws to their children. “...ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law.”

Tuesday

Text: Deuteronomy 32:49,50,52 “Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, unto mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, that is over against Jericho; and behold the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel for a possession: And die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people; as Aaron thy brother died in mount Hor, and was gathered unto his people: Yet thou shalt see the land before thee; but thou shalt not go thither unto the land which I give the children of Israel.”

Just before Moses left them forever, he gave them a special prophecy blessing. You can read it in Deuteronomy 33. It ended, “Happy art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who is the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.”

Then he turned and went to the mountain. He was 120 years old, but still strong. Up and up he climbed to the part called ‘Pisgah’. When he got there he thought about all his life.

Then God told him to look and see the land that Israel was going to have. He looked and saw a beautiful land. But we are told that he saw more than just the land stretched out below him there; God showed him like a movie all the details of the land. Then He showed him the future and he saw what the children of Israel would do down through the ages.

Moses even saw the birth and life of Jesus, the Messiah, and how the people would reject Him and put Him to death. Then he saw more - he saw history down to the very end of time on earth and the Second Coming of Jesus.

Then like a tired warrior, he laid down there and fell asleep in death. “So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.” Deut. 34:5 And the Angels buried him in a valley.

Thought – Later Jesus came and called Moses back to life and took him to heaven. So even though he had not been allowed to go into the Land of Promise, God had something even better for him.

Wednesday

Text: Joshua 1:1,2 “Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ minister, saying, Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.”

After the people mourned for Moses for 30 days, it was time for them to go over the Jordan and enter the Land of Promise. God told Joshua to read and obey the laws that had been written in the books and He would go with him and help him.

Now the tribe of Rueben and Gad and half of Manasseh were to have their lands on the wilderness side of Jordan and so their wives and children were left behind in the houses they had got there. The men went on to help the rest of Israel to get their lands.

While they camped beside the Jordan River, Joshua send 2 men to go over and spy out the city of Jericho, which was a strong city with thick, high walls. However would they be able to capture that city? Joshua knew that God would tell him what to do.

The two spies went into the city to a lady’s house named Rahab. They found out from her that the people were very afraid of the Israelites because they knew that the God of heaven was fighting for them.

Thought – Remember that Joshua was one of the faithful ones of the 12 spies that were send 40 years before. He believed then that they could take Jericho!

Thursday

Text: Joshua 2:3-5 “And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country. And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: And it came to pass

about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.”

Rahab heard the soldiers were coming and she hid the two spies under the flax piles that she had drying on the rooftop. Then later on that night, she used a scarlet cord to let them down out of her window, because she lived on the wall of the town.

Before the two spies left, Rahab asked them for a favor. She asked that they would spare her and all her family when they came to capture Jericho. So they said they would but she was to have them all there in the house with her, and to tie the scarlet cord in her window for a marker.

Rahab told the spies to hide in the mountains for three days and then the soldiers that were looking for them would come back and they could get back to camp safely. They did this and soon were back in the camp of Israel. Rahab later became a worshipper of the God of heaven and is even one of the ancestors of Mary, Jesus’ Mother.

The spies reported to Joshua that God was certainly going to deliver Jericho into their hands because the people were all afraid of them. Then Joshua told the people to prepare food for three days and be ready, for the Lord was going to do great works for them.

Thought – Some of them must have thought about how they were all going to get across that river which was very deep at that time of year.

Friday

Text: Joshua 3:15-17 “And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,) That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho. And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.”

Careful instruction was given to the people. The special priests who were carrying the Ark of God where to go first. As soon as their feet touched the water it piled up on one side and flowed away on the other until there was a great dry place.

The priests marched to the middle of the riverbed and there they stood holding the covered Ark on its golden poles. Now the other people were to march through. They were told to not get too close to the Ark.

On and on the people marched through the dry riverbed until all were gone over. Then Joshua told them to have one man from each tribe go back into the riverbed and each one was to pick up a big rock and carry it back. After this was done, the

priests slowly marched out of the river and as soon as they were all safe on the shore, the water rushed back as deep and fast as ever.

Then they took the twelve big rocks and piled them up to make a monument in a place called Gilgal, where they camped. Joshua told them that this monument was to remind them to tell their children the story of how God had divided the Jordan River and let them walk through with dry feet.

Thought – God wanted parents to always tell the stories of how God led and blessed them to their children, so the children would learn to love and trust Him too. Why do you think this is so very important? = ^ .. ^ =

