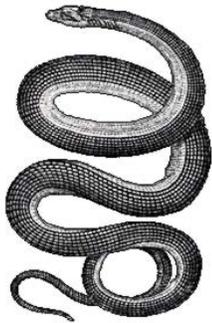


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

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

Year 3 - 1st Quarter - Issue #11



CREATION CORNER

Chats on Green Lane Doorsteps Number 7 GLIDING GARTER CHATS

When Garter Snake glides to her door,
And pauses there to say a word,
We shrink at first, but soon we find
We have a pleasing story heard.

I AM about to cross the Green Lane, and if you are like people generally, frightened at the sight of any sort of snake, you'll be alarmed at the sight of me, Bobby and Susie. I thought so - you stop dead still, fearing to come a step farther, as you discover me in your path. Don't worry. I shall glide quickly into this hollow under this big rock, where I shall settle comfortably for a long nap. I know that it is yet early morning, and that most of my neighbors are only well awake, instead of thinking of going to sleep; but night or day or daylight or darkness has little to do with my sleeping time.

Do you see that great bulge in the middle of my body? That shows where my stomach is located, and the bulge means that I have just swallowed a whole field mouse, at one mouthful. I

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did not pulverize the mouse by chewing him, to make him easily swallowed, as is usually done with food, because I cannot chew.

Haven't I teeth? Oh, yes, I have teeth; but they are made merely for seizing and holding, and I cannot chew with them. None of the snake family have teeth for chewing, but all swallow their food whole, and generally a whole meal at one big mouthful. You may hardly believe me, children, but most of us can swallow things larger than our heads. I did so when I swallowed that large mouse, and that is the reason for the big bulge in my stomach. When the mouse is digested, the bulge will go away, and my body will return to its natural size.

You see, the bones of my jaws are very loosely put together, and can be spread a good distance apart without dislocating. My throat and stomach, also, are very elastic, and can be greatly stretched without injury. So all I have to do, when I find some food, is to grasp it in my teeth and begin swallowing. If it is larger than my mouth, my jaws spring apart, my throat and body stretch as it goes down; and little by little, by much swallowing, I force the food into my stomach.

If the mouthful is very large, I often have a

hard struggle to get it safely swallowed, and am very tired afterwards, and sleepy also. So I crawl into some snug corner and sleep and rest, most of the time, while digesting my good dinner. Thus my sleeping time depends largely upon what time of day or night it may be when I find a meal.

How long we sleep depends, to a great extent, upon how long it takes our meals to digest. My big cousin Anaconda, largest of snakes, who lives in South America, and is said to grow sometimes to be forty feet long, swallows a calf, a sheep, or a deer at one mouthful, and sleeps for three weeks afterwards. Though we enjoy such large meals, none of my family eat often. It is said that my relative the English water snake finds two or three frogs enough food for a whole year.

I haven't much in common with the vicious members of our family, so I shall not say much about them. Instead, I'll tell you of some of my relatives who are as harmless as I am, and much more interesting. In India lives Cousin Sand Snake, whom the snake charmers capture to use in their tricks. He has a tail almost as thick as his head; and the snake charmers sometimes cut this tail with knives, to make it look like another head, and then they pretend they have a two headed snake.

In India lives also Cousin Rat Snake, who loves to live in or near houses, where he comes out at night and hunts rats, like a cat. Perhaps the smallest of full-grown snakes is Cousin Pigmy, of Java, who is scarcely a foot long, and so gentle and harmless that some of our savage relatives living near, often benefit by the fact, and seize him for a meal.

Cousin Egg-eater, of South Africa, is another little relative, only about two feet long, and living in trees. He lives mostly upon birds' eggs, but some-times comes to the ground and robs a hen's nest. Small as he is, this cousin can swallow a hen's egg, his mouth being made to stretch enormously. Besides the regular seizing teeth, he has a row of teeth in his throat, which catch the egg when it comes to them, break it, and leave the shell to be cast aside.

MINNIE ROSILLA STEVENS. From *Our Little Friend* 1924 = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

What an African Schoolboy Did

This is a story of the Solusi Mission in Africa back in the 1920s. As you read the story, find out what this African schoolboy did, and then ask yourself whether you could have done as well.

One day, a native schoolboy in Africa was going home. On his way he was overtaken by a storm. The hail began to beat down severely just as he was going by the home of an old man named Baleni Gumbo. So he went in.

Among the native people in Africa, it is the custom for a stranger coming into the hut of another to sit down beside the fire and greet no one. It is very rude for him to greet anyone in the house, without their first greeting him.

While this schoolboy was sitting by the fire, he was greeted by Baleni Gumbo, who inquired where he was from.

"I am from Solusi school."

The old man had heard about the people at the Solusi school.

"Oh," said he, "that is the place where they teach people to keep Saturday for Sunday."

"No, they keep Saturday for the Sabbath, not for Sunday."

"Well, what is that in your pocket?"

"That is my New Testament."

"Oh, they teach you to read the Bible over there?"

"Yes. Would you like to know why they keep the Sabbath?"

"Well, yes; but I don't suppose a young boy like you could tell me anything about it."

But this young native took out his Bible and read a few texts about the Sabbath. Then he handed the Testament to Baleni Gumbo.

"Now you read me two or three texts about Sunday," he said.

The old man began to look through the New Testament.

"Well, I must confess your Bible looks the same as mine, but somehow I cannot find anything in it. I will get my own Bible."

Baleni Gumbo looked, and looked, and LOOKED! Of course he could find no texts which showed that God had ever made Sunday a holy day. That set him thinking. He became so interested in studying the Bible with this young Solusi schoolboy, that they sat by the fire and

talked until the early hours of the morning.

Baleni Gumbo decided that the young boy knew more than he at first thought. Soon after that, he called for a minister, and as a result he and ten of his family were baptized.

Baleni Gumbo was one of the first African converts of the London Missionary Society. He was so loyal to the British Government during the early wars that the local officials came to think a great deal of him. Finally, the government gave him two hundred acres of land to be his for life. There he settled, with his large family, and built a little church and a school. He had been trying to live an upright, sincere life. But now he felt that his past life was worse than nothing.

"I have been preaching to the people for years," he said, "but I have preached lies. What I told them was not in the Bible."

Then he made a covenant with the Lord. "Dear Lord," he said, "You have kept me all the years of my past life. Now I am an old man. My hair is turning gray. I have a large family. I have children and grandchildren. But for every year that You will keep me alive in this wonderful truth, I will bring one soul to You. That shall be my covenant with God. I shall be able to count the years by the number of people I bring into the third angel's message." Every year after that, Baleni Gumbo brought to camp meeting the soul he had won.

Three miles from his village is a little company of about a dozen natives with whom he meets every Sabbath morning. Six miles farther is another little company. Three miles farther another little company, and six miles farther is another; four little companies with whom he is studying the Bible.

He is not paid for this work, and when asked why he does it, he says, "Ah, those other people at camp meeting were just the covenant I made with God. These little companies I go out to visit are my soul warmers." If I did not go out and visit them, my soul would shrivel up and die. There are thousands of my people who have never yet heard of Jesus! Thousands who have never heard yet! Oh, I want to be a blessing, and walk sincerely before my God." = ^ .. ^ =

STORY LESSON

"Our Amazing Health Message!" Part 7

We have been learning about some of the people that were guided by God to find out natural ways of caring for sickness and helping people to be well. The Health reform message was simple. God guided the people to give up harmful things like coffee, tea, alcohol and tobacco. They were also urged to give up rich, greasy foods and pastries, heavy meals and to keep their homes, clothes and bodies very clean.

Although God guided Ellen White and the Adventist Pioneers early to give up harmful habits and use simple natural treatments for sickness, it was in May 26, 1863 that a most amazing vision was given to Ellen which gave the Adventists a real foundation for our Health teaching and how our Sanitariums were to be run. It gave more than the other natural healers in the world even knew about. In this vision she was shown the harmful effects of eating the flesh of dead animals and many other important things.

God told us of the importance of the laws of health and that sickness happens when any of them are broken. It is just as much breaking God's laws to not obey good natural health laws as it is to kill or steal.

God told his people through His messenger that we were to have clinics and sanitariums where people could go and learn about good health habits, proper diet and be treated with water treatments and massage. They were not to use drugs but only the natural things of nature to help the body.

Over and over again Ellen White was shown by God that drugs never cured but only made things worse in the long run, even if they seem to help at first. Here is what she wrote:

"There are many ways of practicing the healing art, but there is only one way that Heaven approves. God's remedies are the simple agencies of nature that will not tax or debilitate the system through their powerful properties. Pure air and water, cleanliness, a proper diet, purity of life, and a firm trust in God are remedies for the want of which thousands are dying; yet these remedies are going out of date because their skillful use requires work that the people do not appreciate. Fresh air, exercise, pure water, and clean, sweet premises are within the reach

of all with but little expense; but drugs are expensive, both in the outlay of means and in the effect produced upon the system.”—Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 443 (1885).

“Nature will want some assistance to bring things to their proper condition, which may be found in the simplest remedies, especially in the use of nature’s own furnished remedies—pure air, and with a precious knowledge of how to breathe; pure water, with a knowledge of how to apply it; plenty of sunlight in every room in the house if possible, and with an intelligent knowledge of what advantages are to be gained by its use. All these are powerful in their efficiency, and the patient who has obtained a knowledge of how to eat and dress healthfully, may live for comfort, for peace, for health; and will not be prevailed upon to put to his lips drugs, which, in the place of helping nature, paralyzes her powers.”—Medical Ministry, pp. 223, 224

At first Adventists took hold of this health reform and many wonderful results came as they used simple water treatments, diet and the 8 laws of health in treating the sick. Soon people began to come wanting these treatments and small sanitariums were set up and were very successful.

God had a plan for His people that they were to have a special kind of medical healing that would be different from the world’s ideas and ways. If they would obey Him and follow His ways He would bless them until all over the world Adventists would have been famous for a very different way of health treatment that did not use drugs, but the simple things of nature and the blessing of God.

If they had followed what God said, everywhere in the world there would have been special clinics and sanitariums where our people, specially trained in natural treatments but not using drugs would have worked to help the sick and teach right habits of living. This kind of work would turn people’s eyes to heaven and God’s Law and make it easy to explain the Sabbath. Many would believe the message because they saw the wisdom and power of God in the special health plan.

God even gave Ellen instruction for a special kind of dress for Adventist women to wear that would have been healthy, practical and looked very neat and nice too. If they would have accepted this and followed it carefully, everyone

would have said how wise were the Adventist people and how blessed by God! But instead so many of the women complained because they did not want to be different than the world and they wanted to wear the fashions that made women weak and sickly. So much trouble came of it that finally God said, “Enough! If that is how you are going to be, forget it. It would have been a blessing but you are making it a curse!”

He then told Ellen the women were to wear another style but it would not be as unique and special as the ‘reform dress’ would have been. The blessing of having the world able to recognize the wisdom of God in a special outfit, and being able to know Adventists where ever they went, was gone.

What about our special unique kind of medicine? Next week we will look at what happened.
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Year 3: 1st Quarter:

**“GO YE...AND PREACH THE GOSPEL”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 11: “BACK TO
JERUSALEM”**

This series of Bible Story Lessons is about the wonderful adventures of the apostles. 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: “Thou therefore, my son,
be strong in the grace that is in Christ
Jesus.” 2 Timothy 2:1**

Sunday

Text: Acts 20:6, 7 “And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days. And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.”

After leaving Ephesus and the worshippers of Dianna, Paul went on his way visiting and preaching in other places. He went to Macedonia and Greece for three month and when the Jews again were trying to kill him, he went on to Troas.

Paul was now gradually working his way towards Jerusalem and when he was there with the believers at Troas, the Holy Spirit told him

that this was the last time he would see these people.

It was on the first day of the week in the evening, that was Saturday night, and the people who loved Paul wanted to hear as much of his teaching before he left them forever. They had a meal at the church and then Paul preached until midnight.

A teenager named Eutychus, had sat up in the window ledge but had grown sleepy and fell asleep. All at once he slumped over and fell from his place three stories to the ground.

Quickly all the believers rushed out to were he lay, but when they picked him up he was found to be dead. But Paul, under the direction of the Holy Spirit put his arms around him and told the people, “Don't worry, he is alive!”

So did they go home to bed then? No, they were all so excited about this wonderful miracle, they went back in and had some food to eat and then Paul preached some more until morning.

Then Paul went to the ship with his friends to leave for Assos, but Paul decided to walk to Assos and meet them there.

Thought - Paul wanted time alone to pray and think about what God was showing him about his future. The long walk was a good way to do this.

Monday

Text: Acts 20:18-20 “And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house.”

From place to place they sailed, Paul wanted to be able to be back in Jerusalem by the day of Pentecost. He stopped and preached to the believers at Ephesus again and told them that he knew he would not get to see them any more on this earth.

They were very sad and wept and did not want to see him go. Then he knelt down and prayed with them all. They went with him back to the ship and before he got on, they hugged

him and wept that he would not be back again.

Again traveling on from place to place they came to Tyre and there they found some believers. The ship was unloading cargo so they had seven days to stay and talk to these people. Some of them who had the gift of prophecy warned Paul that he should not go to Jerusalem as he would be arrested there.

Again when Paul went to get onto the ship the believers followed and they all kneeled down on the shore and prayed. Then they said a loving good-bye and Paul and his friends sailed on to another place.

Thought – Paul had a deep desire to help his own people the Jews at Jerusalem to see the truth about Jesus, so even though he was warned to go there was dangerous, he still wanted to go.

Tuesday

Text: Acts 21:10-12 “And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. And when he was come unto us, he took Paul’s girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles. And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.”

When they arrived at a place called Caesarea, they went and stayed for a while at the house of Phillip, who was one of the seven original deacons. Phillip had seven daughters who had the gift of prophecy.

Soon after the Apostle Paul’s arrival at Caesarea, the prophet Agabus came down from Judea. He had been warned by the Holy Spirit, of the fate that awaited Paul and came in and took Paul’s girdle and tied his own hands and feet with it and said, “Thus shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owns this girdle.”

The believers were very upset about this and began to beg and plead with Paul not to go into such danger. They wept at the thought of his being taken away from them.

Finally Paul felt so bad he asked them to stop breaking his heart as he felt it was his duty to go to Jerusalem no matter what happened to him there. So they stopped trying to

talk him out of it, though they still felt very sad about it.

After this they started the long walk to Jerusalem carrying their belongings on their backs. A man named Mnason went with them. They were going to stay at his house when they got there, as that time of year so many people came for the feast that there would be few places to stay in Jerusalem.

Thought – When the people of God are truly obeying Him they have the gift of the Spirit of Prophecy among them. Notice how in different places the people knew ahead of time what would happen. If we truly have the Holy Spirit with us, He shows us what we need to know.

Wednesday

Text: Acts 21:18, 19 “And the day following Paul went in with us unto James; and all the elders were present. And when he had saluted them, he declared particularly what things God had wrought among the Gentiles by his ministry.”

When Paul got to Jerusalem, the believers were glad to see him, and listened with interest to his mission report. But sad to say, the ‘Christian’ Jews at Jerusalem were still making trouble over the ceremonial law. They knew in their hearts that these things were all done away with, and fulfilled when Jesus died on the cross. But they also knew if they did not keep those things, the rest of the Jews would persecute them even more. So they kept trying to hang onto the old and the new together.

These mistaken ideas, held even at times by some of the apostles like Peter and James, were bringing a wrong spirit into the early church. They did not like the fact that Paul was bringing in so many people and he was teaching them only the gospel that Jesus told them to preach and not all the ceremonial laws as well.

Now they had a chance to admit they were wrong, Paul was indeed being blessed by God, and they should give up these old ceremonial laws, but they hardened their hearts and would not admit they were wrong.

So what did they do to poor Paul now as he came back tired and weary and full of the wonderful reports of how God was blessing his work just as he was doing it? They decided they knew better than he did how the work ought to be

done.

They tried to make it look like he was to blame for the wrong attitude they had towards him and his work. From someone in the group came an idea, whispered to them no doubt by Satan himself.

They told Paul that there were four men among them that 'had a vow' on them. Now again, these vows and things were all part of the old system, and these four 'Christians' had no business having this 'vow' on them. But this vow required that after a certain time some very expensive offerings and sacrifices had to be offered to finish off the vow.

Now you and I know that there was no reason for any animal sacrifices to be being offered by Christians-and they all really knew it too. But they not only wanted Paul to go along with these four men with their old Jewish vow, but they wanted him to pay out of his own pocket for all these four sets of expensive sacrifices!!

Thought – By the way, this shows clearly that the early Christians were not keeping a different Sabbath- if they were afraid to give up the ceremonies and feasts of the Jews, they certainly would have raised a big problem if they changed the Sabbath!

Thursday

Text: Acts 21:23,24 “Do therefore this that we say to thee: We have four men which have a vow on them; Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave their heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but that thou thyself also walkest orderly, and keepest the law.”

The church at Jerusalem was willing to say it was OK for the gentile Christians to just follow what Jesus had taught, but they were determined themselves to hang on to the ceremonies of the past, which were fulfilled and done away with at the cross.

They did not want to have that wall between them and the gentiles broken down, even though Jesus made it plain it was to be broken down. You see the way they wanted to do things, it would forever divide the church into two parts- Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians and this God did not want at all.

How mean and selfish they were to poor Paul! He was a poor man and supported his own self and his ministry by working long and hard as a tent maker. He had just come back from a long missionary trip. The church at Jerusalem should have taken up an offering to help him and care for him.

Instead they wanted him to pay an expensive fee for a bunch of sacrifices they had no business even making! What was Paul to do? He knew that this was unfair and wrong of the apostles and leaders of the Jerusalem church. He knew these ceremonies should be done away with. But he always tried if at all possible to please his fellow believers. So he decided to go along with it.

Thought – The early church was not all being directed by the ones in Jerusalem as some people try today to tell us. The leaders at Jerusalem were wrong in what they said to Paul.

Friday

Text: Acts 21:27, 28 “And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews which were of Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him, Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all men every where against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this holy place.”

A week went past. Paul was now in the inner temple to carry out what the church leaders had told him to do. He was risking his life to go into this place and the leaders knew it, but they didn't care as long as they could get him to do what they wanted. He was talking to one of the priests to make arrangements for the expensive sacrifices when all at once someone recognized him.

Right away this person began to yell, and soon all the people began to yell; it was like Dianna of the Ephesians all over again; but these were Jews! They were not content to just yell; they were determined to kill Paul.

Grabbing and snatching at Paul, they dragged him out of the inner temple and the doors were slammed shut. They would have stoned him or tore him to pieces at once, but the Roman Captain heard about the uproar and came with his men and rescued Paul.

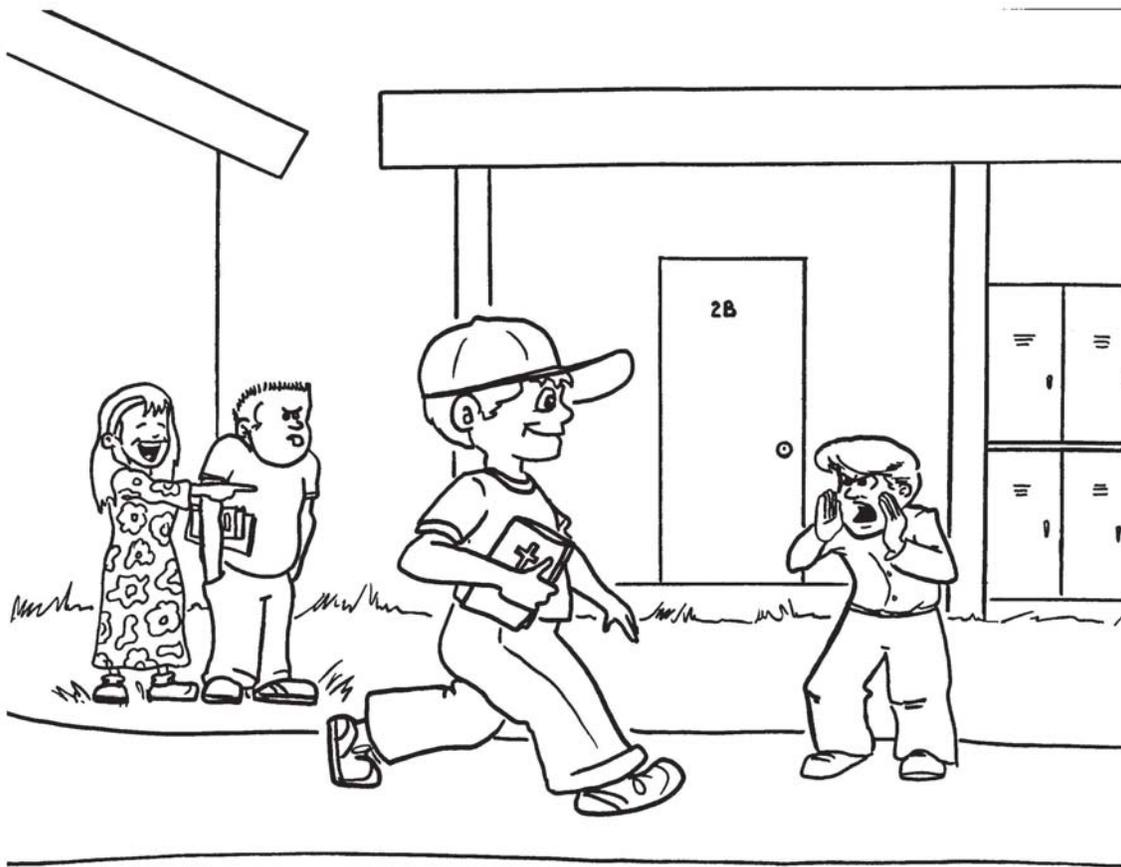
They had to carry him to keep the people from tearing him apart. As they were heading up the stairs into the Roman castle near the temple and the people were all yelling for Paul's blood, Paul asked if he might speak to the crowd.

He was allowed and as he waved his hand, a hush fell over the angry mob. Carefully he told his story about how he had been converted to Jesus. The people listened closely but when he

made the statement that God had sent him to teach the Gentiles- they all went mad! They yelled and hollered and tore their clothes off and threw dust in the air.

The Roman Captain ordered Paul carried away into the castle.

Thought - The church at Jerusalem did not appreciate the work of the faithful apostle Paul, and now God allowed him to be taken from them. = ^ .. ^ =



Concerning the Fiery Trials

1 Peter 4:12-19