

The Advocate of Truth



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The cover picture was sent in by Denise Gonzales.



Naaman, Two Mules, and a Pile of Dirt

By David Royer

I read a Bible story about an interesting Syrian called Naaman and how two mules and a pile of dirt became part of the story.

This story, in the Books of II Kings, has all the makings of a “made for TV movie”; with intrigue, personality traits, heroes, a scoundrel and a maiden; an emotional rollercoaster of fear, pride, humility, disbelief and faith.

When you have the opportunity, read II Kings Chapter 5 for the actual story. But here is how the movie outline would read:

Story Source 1:

II Kings is actually the fourth book in the series on the history of the Hebrew kings as presently arranged. It also serves as the final account of the demise of the divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah. The narrative of this volume concentrates on the miraculous ministry of the prophet Elisha. Events parallel the prophetic ministries of Amos and Hosea in Israel and eight prophets of Judah, including Isaiah and Jeremiah. The book also covers the reign of Amaziah (853 B.C.), to Zedekiah (586 B.C.), in Judah. Included are the accounts of the Assyrian conquest of the northern tribes and the deportation of Judah in the Babylonian captivity.

The author of II Kings is not known with certainty,

although Jewish tradition claims it was Jeremiah. He certainly had every quality necessary to be the author of this material. He was both a prophet and a priest. Jeremiah had direct access to Judah’s last kings and was an eyewitness of her final destruction.

Historical Setting 1:

Anyone wishing to indulge in hours of true drama that makes fiction seem tame should begin with I Samuel and read straight through to the end of II Kings. Those four books narrate the rise and fall of the monarchy in Israel, from its establishment under the prophet Samuel to its demise with the deportation of the last two tribes into captivity. It is a sad, often violent story made bearable only by the unconditional promise of God to King David that his throne would never lack for one of his descendants (Acts 2:29-30).

After Solomon’s reign, the 10 northern tribes of Israel united under Jeroboam (not a descendant of David), while the two southern tribes (Benjamin and Judah), were ruled by Solomon’s son, Rehoboam. Jeroboam introduced Baal worship in the north, and it remained. Because the northern tribes would not remove idols from the land, God removed the tribes from the land.

Not surprisingly, most of the major and minor prophets of the Old Testament were active during the time of II Kings. They condemned the idolatry, immorality, social injustice, and ungodly alliances perpetuated by Israel’s ungodly kings and called those rulers and the people to return to God. The story of Elijah’s ministry begins in the last pages of I Kings and concludes in II Kings with Elisha’s succession. These books were written sometime between 586 and 536 B.C.

Israel’s spiritual disobedience and idolatry are viewed against the backdrop of the rising fortunes of Assyria in the eighth century B.C. and Babylon in the sixth century B.C. The northern kingdom finally fell to the Assyrians in 722 B.C., and the southern kingdom fell to the Babylonians in 605 B.C., with the final destruction of Jerusalem coming in 586 B.C.

1. <http://www.bible-studys.org/Bible%20Books/2%20Kings/Book-of-2-Kings.html>

Geographical Setting:

The land promised by God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) was in ancient Canaan, on the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea. Canaan is an early name for what is often called Israel or Palestine. Lebanon and Syria lie to the north and Egypt is to the south. The “Promised Land” of the children of Israel, was divided into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms. Our story takes place in the Northern Kingdom in an area called Samaria.

Time Frame:

The events take place approximately 130 years before the Assyrian invasion in 722 B.C.

Characters: (in order of appearance)

Naaman—Commander of the Syrian armies.

Jewish Maiden—A young Israelite woman captured by the Syrians and now a slave servant to Naaman’s wife.

King of Syria-- Ben Hadad; Syria was called Aram in those days.

King of Israel—Joram (aka Jehoram) was the son of Ahab and Jezebel who became king of Israel upon the death of his brother Ahaziah.

Elisha—Chief of the prophets in Israel. Elisha was a faithful disciple and successor to the Prophet Elijah.

Gehazi--Elisha's servant; the con man.

Synopsis:

Naaman was an accomplished General of the armies of Ben-Hadad II, the king of Syria. He was highly respected, courageous, a national hero and wealthy. One problem: he was also a leper. A young girl, captured during one of the frequent border skirmishes with Israel, was enslaved in Naaman’s household and took pity on him. She told her mistress, Naaman's wife, “... Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.” Upon hearing this news, Naaman requested permission of King Ben Hadad to let him travel to Samaria in search of this prophet. Permission was granted and the King drafted a letter of introduction and request to the King of Israel.

One hundred and fifty miles later, Naaman shows up at the door of his enemy, King Joram of Israel. Distressed, the King directs Naaman to the home of Elisha. Elisha already knows why Naaman is seeking his services, but,

instead of receiving him, gives specific instructions for Naaman to dip seven times in the river Jordan to be cured of his leprosy.

Well, Naaman is furious that he is not being respected by this holy man. Elisha did not make any incantations over his leprous body, let alone meet personally for his healing to take place. He is also angry that he is being told what to do and where to do it. There were even cleaner rivers in Syria. As Naaman begins home with his entourage, his servants convince him to try Elisha’s cure. They said: “My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?”

With the attitude of “nothing to lose” Naaman goes to the Jordan River and to his astonishment, he is miraculously healed by following the simple act. This display of healing power, so transparent without sacrifice, payment or magic formula, forces Naaman to say “... Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel...”. Here is where the story usually ends, but that would result in missing “the rest of the story”.

Naaman returns to Elisha, meets him and offers a great tribute and reward, which is refused. (Here is where the mules and dirt enter the picture.) Naaman then asks for a load of dirt to be taken back to his home in Syria. Enough dirt to, either be carried by two mules or placed in a cart pulled by two mules. It is surmised that this soil will be used to build an altar at his home, because Naaman says: “... for thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the LORD.” Permission is given and Naaman returns home with the dirt.

During his return trip, Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, catches up to Naaman and lies to obtain some of the reward money and clothing for himself. Greed and jealousy have overcome Gehazi. He returns to his master, the prophet Elisha, and lies to him as well. For his deceit, Gehazi and descendants are stricken with leprosy.

"With the attitude of 'nothing to lose' Naaman goes to the Jordan River and to his astonishment, he is miraculously healed by following the simple act."



Epilogue:

Our movie has ended. As the credits roll, contemplate these significant meanings as offered by: www.gotquestions.org/Elisha-and-Naaman.html

First, there is a clear contrast between the faith of the young servant girl, who knew of Elisha and believed in his power; and the distress of Israel's king, who did not even think of Elisha and fretted over his own lack of power.

Second, we have a contrast between the pomp of Naaman and the lowliness of Elisha. Naaman came to be healed carrying rich gifts in fine chariots; Elisha had no such finery, just the power of God. Naaman's pride was almost his undoing: too proud and stubborn to follow the prophet's simple instructions, he almost bypassed the blessing that God had in store. We, too, should obey the Word of God, even when God's way does not make sense to us.

Also, those who serve God, do not do so for financial gain but out of love and simple obedience to the Lord. Elisha refused the princely gifts offered to him. God is a giver, not a taker, and His gifts cannot be bought. Naaman's healing from leprosy is a wonderful picture of our salvation from sin—freely bestowed by the grace of God in response to faith (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Gehazi's greed and deception are warnings to us. The Bible warns us against "pursuing dishonest gain" (Prov. 1:19). We are called to be honest in all of our dealings, knowing that God sees everything and will judge accordingly. We can be sure that our sins will find us out (Numbers 32:23).

A short Father's Day article

THE GODLY FATHER

What must a godly father do?

Bond Tennant

The godly father must love his wife who is the mother of his children. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25). "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself" (verse 28). "Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband" (verse 33). "Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them" (Colossians 3:19).

The godly father must provide material needs of his family. "Behold, the third time I am ready to come to you; and I will not be burdensome to you: for I seek not yours, but you: for the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children" (II Corinthians 12:14). "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel" (I Timothy 5:8).

The godly father must govern the house. "For he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should bear rule in his own house, and that it should be published according to the language of every people" (Esther 1:22). "One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)" (I Timothy 3:4-5) "Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well" (verse 12).

The godly father must provide spiritual training and guidance from God's Word. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

REMEMBER LOT'S WIFE

Note: The following article should be read by all Christian parents, especially mothers who have daughters and sons.

Hurry! Hurry! Not a moment to spare! Sodom will soon be destroyed!

Such was the scene in the home of father and mother Lot, that sad night. The evening before, two heavenly messengers had entered that city. Lot hastened to entertain them. Before morning, the angels made their errand known. They were sent to warn him that Sodom would be destroyed in a few short hours. The message struck terror to the hearts of father and mother Lot. What were they to do? In that doomed city lived their daughters who had married men of Sodom.

Father Lot rushed out into the midnight air. He went straight to his daughter's home close by. Yes, they were still up. A bright light shone out of their house. Lot entered and in great excitement told them the terrible news. They made light of his warning.

"Well, wifey, what's wrong with the old man? He's gone crazy on religion."

"Now father, don't go on so, we have been to a dance, and just got home. We are too tired to go with you."

With great disappointment, father Lot left that house, for he must hurry. He ran to the home of another daughter a few blocks away. As he neared her home, he became frantic with fear. Yes, they were up too. A bright light shone out from their house.

Without warning to announce his coming, he burst into the room. The sight that met his eyes pierced his heart.

There were half a dozen tables. Around them sat a merry throng, playing cards and drinking wine. His abrupt entrance startled them. He rushed to his daughter and tried to take her with him. He shouted the warning, but it fell on deaf ears. Half a dozen strong arms grasped him, and he found himself in the street and the door closed behind him. Thoroughly aroused now to his terrible position, he started home.

Mother Lot had been in great suspense during his absence. Her mind had wandered back to the days when she had a happy home with innocent, frolicking daughters about her. They lived in the open country then. But it was not so now. On a sad day, they had pitched their tent towards Sodom.

She well remembered the day when father Lot drove his first cattle into the city market. His glowing reports stirred a desire in her heart to see the sights. Next time he went to Sodom, she went too. Life never was the same to her after that visit to the big city. As she now looked back, she remembered how she felt about it at that time, and it almost broke her heart. She saw the young folks of the big city and envied them. She wished her daughters might have their "advantages." Her girls were just ignorant country children with sunburnt cheeks and bare feet. Her daughters must get into the "best society," she was determined.

At length she persuaded father Lot to move into Sodom. Now she cursed the day when her wishes were granted, and they so moved. They were rich, and their coming made a great stir among the "upper" classes. The mayor gave a reception in honor of the Lot girls. How

mother Lot's heart burned within her as she saw the happy couples whirling past her on the dance floor. Her own girls--O, they were so awkward! But never again must this happen.

Next day the best dancing master in Sodom was employed to teach the Lot girls the latest and most graceful steps. He was an expert, as could be seen a few weeks later, when mother Lot gave a dance party in honor of the birthday of her eldest daughter. Their life was then one merry round of pleasure. It pierced her heart now as she remembered how it leaped for joy then to see her daughter in the arms of the mayor's son as they swung around the floor in time with the music. All the "exclusive" society was there.

It made her a little uncomfortable, at first, to see her daughters keeping late hours, playing cards, dancing, going to the theaters, sipping wine.

But she must not be too harsh with them. Young people must have their fun. Her daughters must be included in the social set, so everything must be done to assure their invitation to all the social doings. Now the time has come when she has to reap what she has sown.

At this moment, she was startled by the sound of approaching footsteps, and hastened to the door to meet father Lot. Where are the girls? No answer was necessary. The ghastly look on father Lot's face told the story. They had no time to talk, for a heavy hand pushed them to the door, and into the street, and a stern voice commanded them to hasten. The two younger daughters helped make up the sad procession. When they came to the gate of the city, they were given their orders--"Escape for thy life, look not behind thee."

Mother Lot's heart ached as she trudged on. Oh, her poor daughters!

--Reprinted

THE FATHERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Reprinted

When God created Adam, He turned over three responsibilities to him. God delegated to Adam that he was to be a priest, prophet and king. In God's relationship to man, He has the same three great offices. When Jesus came to this world, God also bestowed upon His only begotten Son to be Prophet, Priest and King.

In every home, the father stands in a parallel relationship to his family. There are three main offices delegated by Divine Authority to the head of the household, from which the father may never abdicate (or refuse to do) in the right of God the Almighty Father. Every father in every dispensation is called by God to be the priest in his home. As a priest, he represents his family to God. As a prophet, he does the opposite, he represents God to his family. As

a king, he rules, or governs, his family on behalf of the Almighty Father.

As a priest, the father is called upon to intercede for his family, bringing their needs in prayer before God and claiming God's protection and blessing upon them. This he cannot do without faith. Not the least of the father's responsibilities is that of exercising faith on behalf of his family.

In the Old Testament, this is typical by the ordinance of the Passover. In each family, it was the duty of the father to slay the lamb and to sprinkle its blood over the door and on the side posts of his home (Exodus 12:3-7). By this act of faith and obedience, he obtained the

protection of God for his whole family.

In the New Testament, the same principle is dramatically illustrated in Mark 9:20-27, where the father of a demon-filled son comes to Jesus. Imploring help for the child, the father says to Jesus, "if thou canst do any thing, ... help us." Jesus immediately returns the responsibility for the child upon the father and says, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible..." The child's deliverance hinged on the father's belief and faith. A dad has both the right and the responsibility to believe for his children.

The second office given to every father by God is that of a prophet. He is to represent God to his family. A father does this whether he realizes it or not – Be it good or bad. Most people involved in counselling or working with youngsters will bear witness to the fact that every child forms his, or her, basic impressions of God from one source -- his father. Is it any wonder so many of our youth want little or nothing to do with God? Now look around you, the children will go to church with mother until they are old enough to get away from her apron strings if the father does not go to church. But if Dad, the head of the house, goes to church, the youngsters continue to attend. How many dads are shirking their God-given duties? I wonder what kind of a punishment awaits the many fathers who have neglected this duty that was given them along with fatherhood?

The third office of the father in his home is that of a king. As a king, the father is required to govern his family

on behalf of God. In describing his qualities and the qualifications of a leader in the church, the Apostle Paul specifies that he must be "One that ruleth well his own house..." (I Timothy 3:4). The word "rule" indicates the exercise of authority. There is a direct relationship between leadership in the home and leadership in the church. The home is the proving ground for the life and ministry of every man.

Let us face up to one simple, objective fact. If our religion does not work at home, it does not work period. Let us not export something that does not work at home and expect it to work in the world. The world already has enough of strife and discord and confusion. It needs no more.

The tragic disaster of the American home is the renegade male. The men reading this may feel that the word "Renegade" is too strong, it might be insulting. However, I use it for what it stands for in the dictionary. A renegade is one who "Reneges," and the vast majority of males have shirked their duties at home and have reneged from these three primary responsibilities – as fathers and husbands and spiritual leaders. It has left us with a matriarchal society, dominated by the mothers. You cannot blame them for this. The males that reneged have brought it on themselves. Who today prays with the children? Who gets them ready to go to church? Who reads them the Bible stories? It is the mothers. They certainly should share in the spiritual growth of the children, but it is the father who is called upon by God to be the imitator and leader in the spiritual life of the family.

Let No One Take Your Crown!

By David DeLong

If a crafty person comes
And tries to bring you down;
Don't go with him, my brother, please,
Let no one take your crown!

Don't look to rich and famous folks,
Or, people of renown;
But, follow only Jesus Christ,
Let no one take your crown!

The world will try to make you laugh,
Erasing every frown;
But, we must suffer for Christ's sake,
Let no one take your crown!

Temptations come from everywhere,
In countryside, or town;
But, we can surely overcome,
Let no one take your crown!

THE INFLUENCE OF ONE

By Stephen D. Eckstein, Jr.

The world has never been influenced by a group, but only by individuals. A group is composed of individuals, each of whom must act for him or herself. No one can act for you. Thus, no one should minimize any person, young or old, rich or poor, male or female. Each person wields an influence which is eternal in its reach and impact.

BAD

Adolph Hitler was once a babe in arms. Later, he became dictator of Germany and for twelve years changed the course of history. Directly and indirectly, he was responsible for the death of over 20 million people and the maiming and wounding of millions more in body and mind. His decisions led to property loss in the trillions of dollars. His influence has affected directly and indirectly nearly every person alive today.

GOOD OR BAD

In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. No one can measure the influence this instrument has exerted over our world. The number and kinds of calls made by people stagger the imagination. This scientific marvel is neutral. A person may use it to encourage the sick, talk to a loved one, convey the gospel of Christ, gossip about another, tempt one to sin, or threaten someone. How do you use the telephone?

GOOD

Abraham lived about 2000 B.C. Major events in his life are recorded in Genesis 12 – 25. The influence of this patriarch is evident as one reads the Bible. Fifteen Old Testament books and eleven in the New Testament refer

to him. John 8, Acts 7, Romans 4, Galatians 3 and 4, Hebrews 7 and 11, relate his significance in the biblical message. If all the material in the Bible about Abraham were deleted, great gaps would appear in the text. Abraham exerted a powerful influence upon the world and still does through the biblical record. What kind of impact do you have on people for the glory of GOD?

SINGLE BUT IMPORTANT IMPACT

After Joshua reprimanded Israel for serving other gods, he declared, “as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:15). Joshua’s choice has uplifted countless numbers of people.

Ruth, a Moabitess, chose God rather than idols and became a link in the fulfillment of the promise of the Messiah. A Bible book bears her name. Her sister-in-law, Orpah, chose Moab and left no record other than her wrong decision (Ruth 1:14-18; 4:21; Matthew 1:5).

An unnamed captive Israelite girl changed the course of Naaman’s life by a few words to her mistress concerning a prophet who could cure leprosy (II Kings 5:2-3).

Each choice we make will influence someone, even though the world may not know it. Perhaps you may not know it. God knows and will honor every cup of water given (Matthew 10:42). “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (I Corinthians 10:31).

A TREMENDOUS LASTING INFLUENCE

About A.D. 62, Paul wrote four letters while bound

by chains and guarded by Roman soldiers. He had no idea that nineteen centuries later his letters, as part of the New Testament, would be translated into over 1,000 languages and be read by millions of people all over the world. Nor did Tychicus, a beloved fellow servant, realize the importance of his ministry – to deliver the letters to their destinations (Ephesians 6:21; Colossians 4:7-9). Both writer and messenger had important tasks and far-reaching impacts.

THE GREATEST LIFE

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came in human form, died on a cross for the sins of all people, was raised from the dead, and before ascending into heaven promised to come again. HIS life completely changed the course of human history; hopelessness into hope, death to life. “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, sweetest name I know” is absolutely true to each child of God. If each Christian removed the name of Jesus every time he had read it in the Bible, in a paper or periodical, sung in a song, spoken in a word, or heard from another person, then great segments of one’s life would be radically altered. Every joint-heir of Christ will say, “Jesus has changed my life completely.”

Strangely, even non-Christians are profoundly influenced by GOD and JESUS. Why do people not swear and use profanity in the name of John Doe instead of in the name of our Creator and Savior? It is because GOD and JESUS are known as the greatest names in the world. The profane person supposedly fortifies his words by the vain use of the name of God and Christ.

The Christian recognizes the powerful influence of Jesus in such marvelous communication as these:

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” (Romans 8:1).

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (II Corinthians 5:17).

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

--Adapted from **Does God Exist?**

The Tabernacle Service--Types of Christ and His People

By David DeLong

The Tabernacle service in the Old Testament represents Christ, His sacrificial work, and God's people and their spiritual work. Let us begin this article with some of the furniture of the tabernacle.

The Table of Shewbread

"Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about...And thou shalt set upon the table showbread before me alway" (Exodus 25:23-24,30).

The obvious representation of the shewbread is that it typifies Christ. This shewbread was to be eaten by the regular priests in the tabernacle. See Matthew 12:3-4. Jesus, Himself, said: "For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world" (John 6:33).

The Golden Candlestick

"And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same. And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the

one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side:" (Exodus 25:31-32).

Again, the obvious representation of the golden candlestick typifies Christ. Jesus taught in John 8:12: "...I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

But the candlestick can also represent God's people shining their testimony of His truth before the world. In Matthew 5:14-16 we find: "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

A similar analogy is found in Revelation 1:12-13: "And I (John) turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle." Verse 20 gives us the identity of the seven candlesticks: "The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches." Here we see Jesus (the light of the world) walking amongst seven candlesticks (seven churches as lights among men).

The Altar of Incense

"And thou shalt make an altar to burn incense upon: of shittim wood shalt thou make it. A cubit shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof; foursquare shall it be: and two cubits shall be the height thereof: the horns thereof shall be of the same. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, the top thereof, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns thereof; and thou shalt make unto it a crown of gold round about" (Exodus 30:1-3).

"And thou shalt put it before the veil that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with thee. And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations" (verses 6-8).

The altar of incense was to be placed before the veil

which separated the most holy compartment from the holy compartment of the tabernacle. Aaron was to burn incense upon it every morning and every evening. Aaron also was to "make an atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin-offering of atonements". See verse 10. This, of course, was on the Day of Atonement.

The burning of incense has to do with the prayers of God's people. Psalm 141:2 reads: "Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice." And in Revelation 8, just before the seven last plagues are poured out upon the earth, we find in verses 2-5: "And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake."

The Brazen Altar

"And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof shall be three cubits. And thou shalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof: his horns shall be of the same: and thou shalt overlay it with brass. And thou shalt make his pans to receive his ashes, and his shovels, and his basins, and his fleshhooks, and his firepans: all the vessels thereof thou shalt make of brass" (Exodus 27:1-3).

The brazen altar, of course, was where the priests offered burnt sacrifices to the Lord. The sacrifices offered represented Jesus Christ who willingly offered Himself as a sacrifice for our sins.

The Sacrifices

Some of the sacrifices to be offered upon the brazen altar are listed in Exodus chapter 29. "And thou shalt cause a bullock to be brought before the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the bullock. And thou shalt kill the bullock before the LORD, by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And thou shalt take of the blood of the

bullock, and put it upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar. And thou shalt take all the fat that covereth the inwards, and the caul that is above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and burn them upon the altar. But the flesh of the bullock, and his skin, and his dung, shalt thou burn with fire without the camp: it is a sin offering. Thou shalt also take one ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram. And thou shalt slay the ram, and thou shalt take his blood, and sprinkle it round about upon the altar. And thou shalt cut the ram in pieces, and wash the inwards of him, and his legs, and put them unto his pieces, and unto his head. And thou shalt burn the whole ram upon the altar: it is a burnt offering unto the LORD: it is a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD. And thou shalt take the other ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram. Then shalt thou kill the ram, and take of his blood, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and upon the tip of the right ear of his sons, and upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the great toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about. And thou shalt take of the blood that is upon the altar, and of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it upon Aaron, and upon his garments, and upon his sons, and upon the garments of his sons with him: and he shall be hallowed, and his garments, and his sons, and his sons' garments with him. Also thou shalt take of the ram the fat and the rump, and the fat that covereth the inwards, and the caul above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and the right shoulder; for it is a ram of consecration: And one loaf of bread, and one cake of oiled bread, and one wafer out of the basket of the unleavened bread that is before the LORD: And thou shalt put all in the hands of Aaron, and in the hands of his sons; and shalt wave them

for a wave offering before the LORD. And thou shalt receive them of their hands, and burn them upon the altar for a burnt offering, for a sweet savour before the LORD: it is an offering made by fire unto the LORD" (verses 10-25).

The Priests' Garments

"And thou shalt embroider the coat of fine linen, and thou shalt make the mitre of fine linen, and thou shalt make the girdle of needlework. And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and bonnets shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him; and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office. And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach: And they shall be upon Aaron, and upon his sons, when they come in unto the tabernacle of the congregation, or when they come near unto the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his seed after him" (Exodus 28:39-43).

The linen clothing that the priests wore represented the righteousness of Christ which was imputed to the priests. Revelation 19:7-8 tells us: "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints."

Today, God's people make up His tabernacle, or temple, where He dwells among them. The Apostle Paul wrote: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (I Corinthians 3:16-17).

The Liberal Soul

By David DeLong

Proverbs 11:25 tells us: "The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

Today, the word "liberal" does not have the same meaning that was intended in the Proverb above. Especially in

politics, the Liberal Left is actually a party that is anti-God. Several of their beliefs amply show this attitude. The first belief is that of abortion. As children of God we believe that abortion is wrong--that it is actually murder. But, to the Liberal Left, abortion is not only acceptable and respected, but now is becoming allowable even upon the mother's delivery of the child. One Liberal Governor supports abortion even after the delivery of the child. So, when will the murder eventually stop? When the child enters school? When the child becomes an adult at age 18? And you can be absolutely sure of this: if this line of reasoning continues much further, euthanasia is only a short step away.

Another belief of many in the Liberal Left is a guaranteed income for every American family, whether they work for that income or not. The concept of Socialism is being accepted by more and more advocates of the Left. Some "Christians" may believe that Socialism was being espoused by the early disciples in Acts 2:42-47. Here we read: "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

But, Socialism was not being lived out in this passage of Scripture. Socialism is a political system that is imposed upon people. Here, in Acts, the disciples were voluntarily giving of their goods, in a common cause, to help support them. Nobody taxed the more affluent members of the group to support the less affluent. These disciples were actually living out Proverbs 11:25: "The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

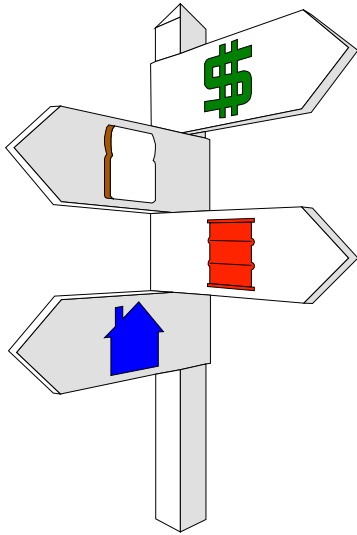
A guaranteed income for every family sounds good, humanly speaking. But, such measures do not work in the long run. We can witness, first hand, what Socialism has done for such countries as Venezuela, the former Soviet Union, and others. Many of these countries have become

bankrupt, or nearly so. In the former Soviet Union, I have heard of accounts where stores were almost empty of a number of products. The massive amounts of money it takes to support Socialism makes the concept prohibitive. Not to mention that it is not supported by Scripture. To those on the Liberal Left who advocate guaranteed incomes, I must counter from the Bible where the Apostle Paul wrote: "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat."

Some of the supporters of the Liberal Left are apparently espousing the belief that the Bible is a racist, and intolerant book. They believe these things because, for instance, the Bible emphasizes the nation of Israel so much. And, because it condemns the gay and lesbian lifestyle. If the Left gains too much power in the U.S., it is easy to see why they would ban the Bible and get rid of our Constitution. It has been reported that another constitution has already been written, just ready to replace the existing one.

The Bible's concept that the liberal soul shall be made fat emphasizes what Jesus preached in Matthew 10:42: "And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."





THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

If you have any items of interest that you would like to submit to this segment, please send them to The Church of God Publishing House, PO Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328.

HAPPENING NOW

Well, as things stand now, another partial government shutdown has been averted. The Senate and House passed a spending bill, and President Trump signed it. He did not like it because it did not include funds for the border wall which he campaigned on. He signed it because he did not wish to claim another partial government shut down. Next, he declared a National Emergency in order to get the funds. The problem with that is the House distributes the money allocated funds. He suggested that the money to build the wall could be taken from some money allocated for other projects such as the military and disaster relief. This would violate the constitution. Several states have filed lawsuits against the declared National Emergency. The decision is likely to be decided by the Supreme Court.

The investigation into the Mueller investigation continues, but it may be about over. President Trump said that it was nothing but a witch hunt. However, several of his associates have been indicted, and at least three of them drew prison terms. At this time, the President's former lawyer for ten years, who said that he would take a bullet for the President has turned on him and is now appearing before a committee and telling of some of the things that the President has done that may be grounds for impeachment or other punishment.

President Trump and Kim Jong Un of North Korea are now in Vietnam for a second summit on the denuclearization of North Korea. However, there is a debate about the reality of North Korea's willingness to

fully denuclearize. President Trump's advisers do not want the president to give up much on the American side and receive little or nothing from North Korea.

President Trump is also thinking about having another summit with Russia's president Putin. No one knows just what was accomplished at the first one in Singapore since the only ones who talked were President Trump, Putin and the translators.

Russia is bragging about having nuclear weapons that can do amazing damage to the United States and others. Many fear that we are now in a nuclear arms race such as we were during the cold war. Without a doubt, Russia is an enemy of true democracy.

There is much concern about the trade war between the United States and China. President Trump said that he will delay the tariffs that he will put on certain items from China.

IN GENERAL

They say that the makeup of the House of Representatives better shows the real cultural diversity of people in the United States. Without a doubt, this is true. However, this does not mean that all will act civil when they are in session. Each representative will want to do his or her best to get bills passed that will benefit his or her constituents. However, some others will oppose the bills and all will not be satisfied. It seems like people not being satisfied is the attitude of many people today in these last days.

I would like to reprint an article entitled *Never Satisfied* by Apostle Moises Torres M. in the October 23, 2006

issue of **The Advocate of Truth**. The same situation applies today:

Speaking about His generation, the Lord Jesus once said: “But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows, And saying, we have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented. For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children” (Matthew 11:16-19).

The Lord Jesus denotes in these words the sad spiritual state of His generation. They were never satisfied, and they criticized and contradicted everything. If their friends wanted to pipe so they could dance and have joy, they refused. If their friends mourned, they refused to lament. They did not accept the asceticism of John the Baptist and accused him of being demon possessed. The Son of man came eating and drinking in a normal manner, and they refused Him. It is supposed that if John’s manners did not suit them, Jesus’ more ordinary habits would have pleased them, but **NOTHING PLEASED THEM!**

Our generation presents the same symptomatic signs of that spiritual sickness. There is a countless number of people in all the spheres which display the same “never satisfied” attitude in their lives.

Our Lord’s generation lacked an emotional stability and a definite purpose in life because they refused the spiritual guidance of the Son of God.

THE SAME HAPPENS TODAY. People are never satisfied, no matter what, because they are not interested in divine affairs. They do not want to know anything about God and His moral laws.

The rejection of the principles of God as a base for a good living makes people unhappy and never satisfied. Everything the Word of God commands and teaches helps man to have definite intensions in life. It encourages also to be content and to have definite vision and purpose.

John and Jesus exposed the word of salvation in

different aspects and same purpose, but their generations were not interested in accepting either. Then Jesus concluded, saying, “wisdom is justified of her children.” Yes, all those who did not believe and follow the example of Jesus justified and confirmed in themselves the goodness of that wisdom personified in Himself.

“Never satisfied” is a consequence of a spiritual instability which men would display in the last days: “...lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers,...false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,...” are signs of a nonstable character (II Timothy 3:1-5). It is only through faith based on the moral principle of God that men can set their souls on the right path and be saved.

Let us be reminded that, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works” (II Timothy 3:16-17).

HOW CAN THAT BE?

I read that many LGBTQ millennials are embracing parenthood and wish to start a family. Such is an abominable departure from God’s design and definition of the family! Please read Romans 1:18-27.

FOREIGN VISITORS AND TOURISM

According to a news release, there have been less foreign visitors and tourists to the United States in the last two years since President Trump put forth his policy of America First.

MEASLES

Measles has made a comeback in the United States. Unvaccinated children help accelerate the spread. It is reported that the measles outbreaks in New York and Washington states have public health officials scrambling to contain a disease that was eliminated in the United States nearly two decades ago. I read that one public health official said, “When you have large numbers of unimmunized people and you introduce measles into that population, it’s like putting a lighted match into a can of gasoline. It will just spread pretty quickly.”

--Continued on page 19



Questions and Answers

QUESTION: Will you please comment on II Timothy 2:15?

ANSWER: II Timothy 2:15 reads, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

Most of us of the Church of God know this Scripture by heart. Let us meditate on it more and talk about the “word of truth!”

How do we determine what is truth? Do we trust in our own ideas, logic or teachings of human man? Or do we have a sure source of truth with which we can compare ourselves?

Jesus said, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17). He said “...thy word is truth.” He did not say, “their word is truth.” He was talking to His Father in heaven and not to individual people. Man may think himself wise by putting trust in his own judgment or logic, but then he is playing with death. “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Proverbs 14:12).

We are told by Isaiah, “Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his

spirit it hath gathered them” (Isaiah 34:16).

Let us compare the last part of II Timothy 2:15 with Isaiah 28:10. The last part of II Timothy 2:15 says, “... rightly dividing the word of truth.” Isaiah 28:10 tells us, “For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little”.

We must see what each of the Bible writers say about any one subject. In this way, we “rightly divide the word of truth.” We must not get our original subject confused with a similar subject or word, or we would not be “rightly dividing the word of truth.” Many well meaning people err in this manner.

James 1:5 tells us: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upraideth not; and it shall be given him.” II Timothy 3:15 records, “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” So we see that the Scriptures make us wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus! Jesus also said, “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me” (John 5:39).

“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding” (Proverbs 4:7). We have observed that we get wisdom from the

Scriptures.

“A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels” (Proverbs 1:5). Before starting a study of the Scriptures, one should pray that his understanding be opened unto wise counsels which are the Scriptures.

The Scriptures contain many types of writing. One of the most prominent and interesting type of writing is prophecy. Prophecy is really history recorded in advance.

Jesus said, “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). One editor discussed how one can be made free by obeying the true doctrines of the Scriptures. The study and believing of prophecy will make one free from the doubts and fears of world conditions.

We hear people say, “I cannot but wonder what the outcome of the world will be?” If these people would get down to some sincere study of Scriptural prophecy, they would delight in knowing God’s wonderful plan for this earth.

They would read of the wonderful resurrection, the Rapture of the Saints, and the thousand-year period when Satan is bound and the saints rule the nations. Finally, they would read of a complete new heaven and new earth.

One’s understanding of prophecy depends upon his willingness to obey the commandments and doctrines of other Scriptures. “A good understanding have they that do his commandments.”

While showing Daniel visions of the last days, the Lord told Daniel, “Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand” (Daniel 12:10). And again, it is the Scriptures that make us wise.

Let us be like the saints of Berea. “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so” (Acts 17:11).

But most of all let us never forget to “... take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand

in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with TRUTH, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked” (Ephesians 6:13-16).

QUESTION: I have a Catholic friend who believes that Mary is the “intercessor” by which we approach Jesus. Will you please comment on this?

ANSWER: Jesus did not say that believers were to approach Him through Mary or another saint, but He positively declared that all were to come to Him! “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). “...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6). “...He that cometh to me ... I will in no wise cast out” (John 6:35, 37).

The term “intercessor” is never once used to describe Mary. It is freely used in describing the work of Jesus for His followers: “Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? ... It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us” (Romans 8:33-34). “...He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:25).

QUESTION: What is the difference between a “manuscript” and a version?

ANSWER: A hand written copy of an original book (therefore, in the original language) is considered a “manuscript.” A “version” is a translation from a manuscript into a different language.

James 1:5 tells us: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

Church of God (7th Day) Young Adults Retreat 2019 Registration Form

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As you all know, our youth have a summer retreat available to them. So what happens after they are over 18? We are thrilled to inform you of the 2019 Young Adult Retreat! The retreat will be located in the beautiful natural setting of Cedar Hill, TX south of the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex! The young adult's retreat will be held on the weekend of August 9th through August 11th at Mt. Lebanon Camp 1701 Texas Plume Rd. Cedar Hill, Tx 75104. Check out the photos and directions at their website www.mtlebanon.com. The registration fee will be \$30 and is due with a signed Registration Form. Checks may be written to: Church of God (7th Day) and mailed to: Alfonso Telesca, 316 Kimberly Dr. Mesquite, TX 75149, email: alfonsotelesca@yahoo.com. If you would like a camp shirt please send an additional \$15 and your shirt size. *We will not be accepting registration forms after June 9th, 2019.* The camp will be co-ed and the lodging will be in separate male/female dormitories supervised by our local and visiting church leaders. We would like to open this camp to men and women ages 19-25, unmarried and with no children. The schedule is below:

Arrival Date/Time

Departure Date/Time

Young Men/Women - 19-25 yrs. August 9th, 12:00PM August 11th, 4:00PM

Camper's Name _____ M or F Birthdate _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Phone # _____ Email address _____
What is your shirt size? _____
Name and Telephone of an emergency contact:
Name _____ Phone # _____

Circle Any That Apply:

Heart condition, diabetes, asthma, or other condition?: _____
Drug Allergies? Yes or No Drug _____ Reaction _____
Any other (food, etc.) allergies and reactions? _____
Any dietary regimen at this time? Yes or No.

If yes, list medications or dietary restrictions: _____

Any medication taken to camp must be in its original container and labeled, with directions, for the individual for whom it is intended.

I agree that the camp or its personnel will not be held responsible for accidents. I understand that attempts will be made to reach an emergency contact if the camper requires emergency medical/surgical treatment, but, if it is impractical to do so, and/or, until I can arrive at the scene, I hereby give my permission to the medical personnel selected by camp staff to secure proper treatment, to hospitalize, to order injections, anesthesia, x-ray or surgery for me. Any financial obligation incurred will be covered by me personally, or by the insurance policy listed below.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

INSURANCE CO. & POLICY # _____

A Seminar in Mexico on April 7, 2019.



Continued from page 15 - ROOMMATES

Many married couples who purchase a house in an expensive housing area rent their rooms out in order to help pay their mortgage.

THE SANDWICH GENERATION

Members of the “sandwich generation” lack enough savings. The “sandwich generation” refers to the cohort of adults with financial obligations to both children and parents.

ABOUT HEART DISEASE

The following is an article in **USA TODAY** by Brett Molina entitled *Study: Half of Americans have heart disease*:

Nearly half of adults in the USA deal with some form of cardiovascular disease, a new study says, driven largely by changes in guidelines for classifying high blood pressure.

According to the study from the American Heart Association, about 48.5 percent, dealt with heart or blood vessel disease as of 2016. The study says deaths from cardiovascular disease rose from more than 836,000 in 2015 to more than 840,000 in 2016.

The rise in Americans with heart disease is much higher than the 92.1 million reported in 2014. A key reason is changes to guidelines on measuring high blood pressure. In 2017, the AHA and American College of Cardiology updated its guidelines to define high blood pressure as a reading higher than 130/80, down from the original 140/90.

When causes of high blood pressure are removed, the prevalence of cardiovascular disease among Americans is 9 percent, or 24.3 million Americans.

“As one of the most common and dangerous risk factors for heart disease and stroke, this overwhelming presence of high blood pressure can’t be dismissed from the equation in our fight against cardiovascular disease,” Ivor Benjamin, volunteer president of the American Heart Association and director of the Cardiovascular Center at the Medical College of Wisconsin, said in a statement.

LESSON I

THE PUNISHMENT OF KORAH

Scripture Reading: Numbers 16:23-35.

Golden Text: Numbers 16:32 (first part).

"And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up...."

NOTE: We last learned that Korah and some others were rebelling against God and Moses. Moses asked the Lord not to destroy everyone for the sins of one man. We will now learn what happens to Korah and his followers.

1. What did the Lord have Moses to do concerning Korah? Numbers 16:23-26.
2. Did the congregation leave the tabernacle of Korah? Numbers 16:27.
3. What did Moses tell the people? Numbers 16:28-30.
4. What happened to Korah and his followers? Numbers 16:31-33.
5. Were the children of Israel afraid when they saw this? Numbers 16:34-35.

NOTE: Korah was one of Moses' own tribe, but he was jealous of Moses and sought to make himself the leader. Moses took this trouble to God as he did everything, and God settled the matter in no time. The earth opened and swallowed the rebels.

LESSON II

THE SIN OF MOSES

Scripture Reading: Numbers 20:1-13.

Golden Text: Numbers 20:11 (first part).

"And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice..."

NOTE: Many years of wanderings have passed between our lesson today and the rebellion of Korah.

1. As our lesson begins, one of the leaders has died. Which one was it? Numbers 20:1.

NOTE: Miriam was about 130 years old when she died.

2. Why did the congregation murmur at this time? Numbers 20:2-5.
 3. What things did they say to Moses and Aaron? Numbers 20:3-5.
 4. What did Moses and Aaron do? Numbers 20:6.
 5. What did the Lord tell them to do? Numbers 20:7-8.
 6. Did Moses do just as the Lord had said? Numbers 20:9-11.
- NOTE: Remember the Lord said "speak" to the rock. But Moses smote the rock twice, saying "must we". This was not giving God the glory.
7. Because Moses had done this thing, what did the Lord tell him? Numbers 20:12.

NOTE: It was just as the Lord said. Moses and Aaron did not get to lead the children of Israel into the promised land. Aaron and Moses both died that same year as they were nearing the land for which they longed.

LESSON III

THE LAND OF EDOM AND THE DEATH OF AARON

Scripture Reading: Numbers 20:14-29.

Golden Text: Numbers 20:29.

"And when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for Aaron thirty days, even all the house of Israel."

NOTE: The children of Israel are now at the city of Kadesh and want to travel through the land of Edom. Let us study to see what now happens.

1. Who did Moses send messengers to see, and what was the message he sent? Numbers 20:14-16.
2. What did Moses ask of the king? Numbers 20:17.
3. What reply did the King of Edom give? Numbers 20:18.

NOTE: The children of Israel ask again if they can walk through Edom by the highway and offered to pay for any water they would use. The king still refuses to let them go through his land. See verses 19-20.

4. Where did the children of Israel then go? Numbers 20:22.
5. Now that they were at Mount Hor, what did the Lord tell Moses and Aaron to do? Numbers 20:23-26.
6. Did Moses do as the Lord asked? Numbers 20:27.
7. Where did Aaron die? Numbers 20:28.
8. How long did the children of Israel mourn Aaron's death? Numbers 20:29.

NOTE: Aaron was about 123 years old at the time of his death.

LESSON IV

REVIEWING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 5:6-22.

Golden Text: Deuteronomy 5:10.

"And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments."

NOTE: The word "Deuteronomy" means "Repetition of

the Law." In this chapter, Moses is repeating the Ten Commandment law to the children of Israel that they might remember and obey it. Let us see how well we remembered the Ten Commandments from when we studied a few months ago (Exodus 20).

1. What is the first commandment? Deuteronomy 5:7.

NOTE: There are other ways of breaking this commandment than just bowing down to idols. If we think more of anything than we do of God, we are putting other gods first.

2. What does the second commandment tell us not to do? Deuteronomy 5:8-10.
3. What will the Lord do to those who take His name in vain? Deuteronomy 5:11.
4. The fourth commandment is the one that almost the whole world has forgotten. What is it? Deuteronomy 5:12-15.
5. Which day of the week is the Sabbath? Deuteronomy 5:14.
6. The fifth commandment has a promise with it. What is that promise? Deuteronomy 5:16.
7. What are the 6th, 7th and 8th commandments? Deuteronomy 5:17-19.
8. How are we to treat our neighbor? Deuteronomy 5:20-21.

Answers to Bible Quiz:

1. Giant Goliath
2. John the Baptist
3. Samson
4. Nehemiah
5. Joseph

Answer to What Bible Lady is This?

SOMETHING TO SHARE

By Helena Welch

Jerry was unhappy. He wanted to go to visit Paul. Paul was the little boy who lived across the street. He and Jerry were good friends. He often shared his toys with Jerry.

But Jerry didn't have any toys to share with Paul. Jerry's parents were very poor. His Daddy worked hard, but Jerry's Mother had been ill a long time. Even though she was better now, she had to have a lot of expensive medicines. So there wasn't enough money to buy toys for Jerry.

Aunt Ellen, who had come for a visit, noticed how sad Jerry was. She put her arm around Jerry as he stood looking out the window at Paul's yard where Paul was playing. "Why are you unhappy?" she asked. "Won't you tell Aunt Ellen?"

Slowly Jerry nodded. He wanted to tell Aunt Ellen about not having any toys to share with Paul when Paul shared with him all the time.

"I wish I had something to share with Paul," Jerry added after he had told Aunt Ellen about it.

Aunt Ellen looked thoughtful for a moment. Then she said, "Maybe Paul doesn't need you to share toys with him. He has toys of his own. Maybe he would rather share your friendship. It can be pretty lonesome playing by yourself, even if you do have a lot of nice toys."

Jerry was quiet for a while. He was thinking about what Aunt Ellen had said. He had never thought of playing with Paul as sharing, but maybe it was. He remembered how happy Paul always was whenever he came to play.

Suddenly Jerry looked up at Aunt Ellen. "If playing with Paul is sharing, and sharing makes Paul happy, then I should play with him more often, shouldn't I?" he asked. Aunt Ellen nodded. "You certainly should," she answered and smiled at him.

Jerry was smiling, too. "Then I'm going to go and play with him right now," he announced as he ran out the door. "Thank you, Aunt Ellen, for telling me about having something to share. I'm always going to remember it." And Jerry did.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

MY DADDY WILL COME BACK

By Gladys Best

*My Daddy said he'd have to go away from us awhile:
But he'd be back before too long, he told me with a smile.*

*I hurried 'round and heped him pack: I put in nice,
clean clothes;
The Bible and some papers good for him to read, I
chose.*

*He said that I could go with him to watch him take
the plane;
Because he had to hurry so, he'd fly, much time to
gain.*

*And so we waited for the time that we should say good-
by;
And then he got into the plane to sail the heavens
high.*

*I stood and watched the airplane rise into the snowy
cloud;
"He told me he would come again." I said but half
aloud.*

*Our Jesus went into the sky in clouds of white one
day;
His followers stood by and watched in much this very
way.*

*And Jesus told them He would come again to take
them home;
Then they should live forever with Him and never had
to roam.*

ACROSS

1. Christ chose this man on the Damascus road
5. He lead Israel to Canaan
9. In addition to
10. Teacher of Samuel (I Samuel 2)
11. Negative reply
12. A penny-abbreviated
14. Overhead railway-slang
15. Quite a boat builder
16. Paddles
18. That man
19. Nephew of Abraham
23. Central, ____ term
25. Registered nurse
26. Small duplicate
28. San Francisco (abbrev.)
29. Take to court for damages
31. Cover
33. Theatrical platform
36. Simon _____
37. Cease, halt

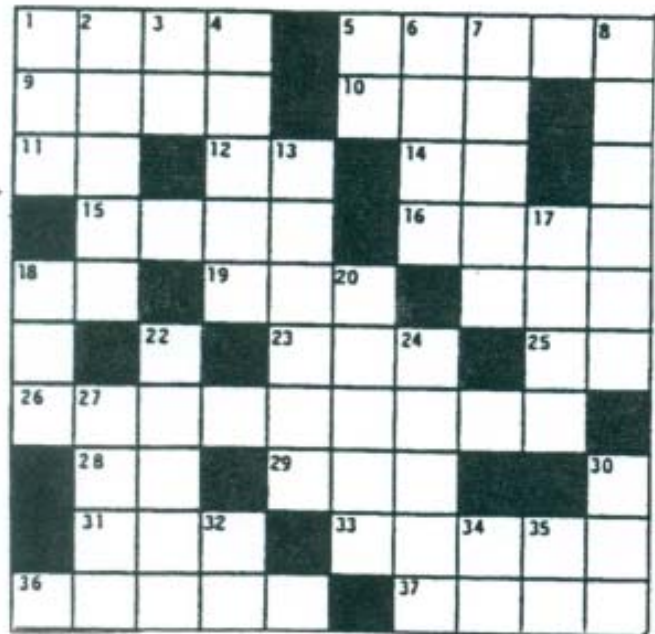
DOWN

1. Cooking utensil
2. Unaccompanied
3. You and me
4. Regional
5. Personal pronoun
6. Butter substitute
7. Paul's companion of Acts 16
8. Heroic slayer of Philistines (Judges 14)
13. "The Doubter"
17. Uncommon
18. A son of Noah
20. Paul wrote one epistle to this apostle
22. Not qualified
24. Singing teams of two
27. Small island
30. Energy, vim
32. Of, Latin, as ____ Soto
34. In the direction of
35. Move ahead, progress

BIBLE QUIZ

From the following sentence descriptions, name the person.

1. He was big and was killed by a stone.
2. He wore raiment of camel's hair and ate locusts and wild honey.
3. He was strong, and his eyes were put out.
4. He was the king's cupbearer and helped to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
5. He had a coat of many colors.



WHAT BIBLE LADY IS THIS?

My first letter is in white, but it isn't in black?
 My second's in bag, and it's also in sack.
 My third is in end, but isn't in start.
 My fourth is in hand, but it isn't in heart.
 My fifth is in fast, but not in quick.
 My last is in thin, and it's also in thick.
 My whole is the name of a woman who prayed,
 And God granted her the petition she made.

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From 12pm Friday to 4pm Sunday.

Young Adults Retreat Registration form on page 18.

