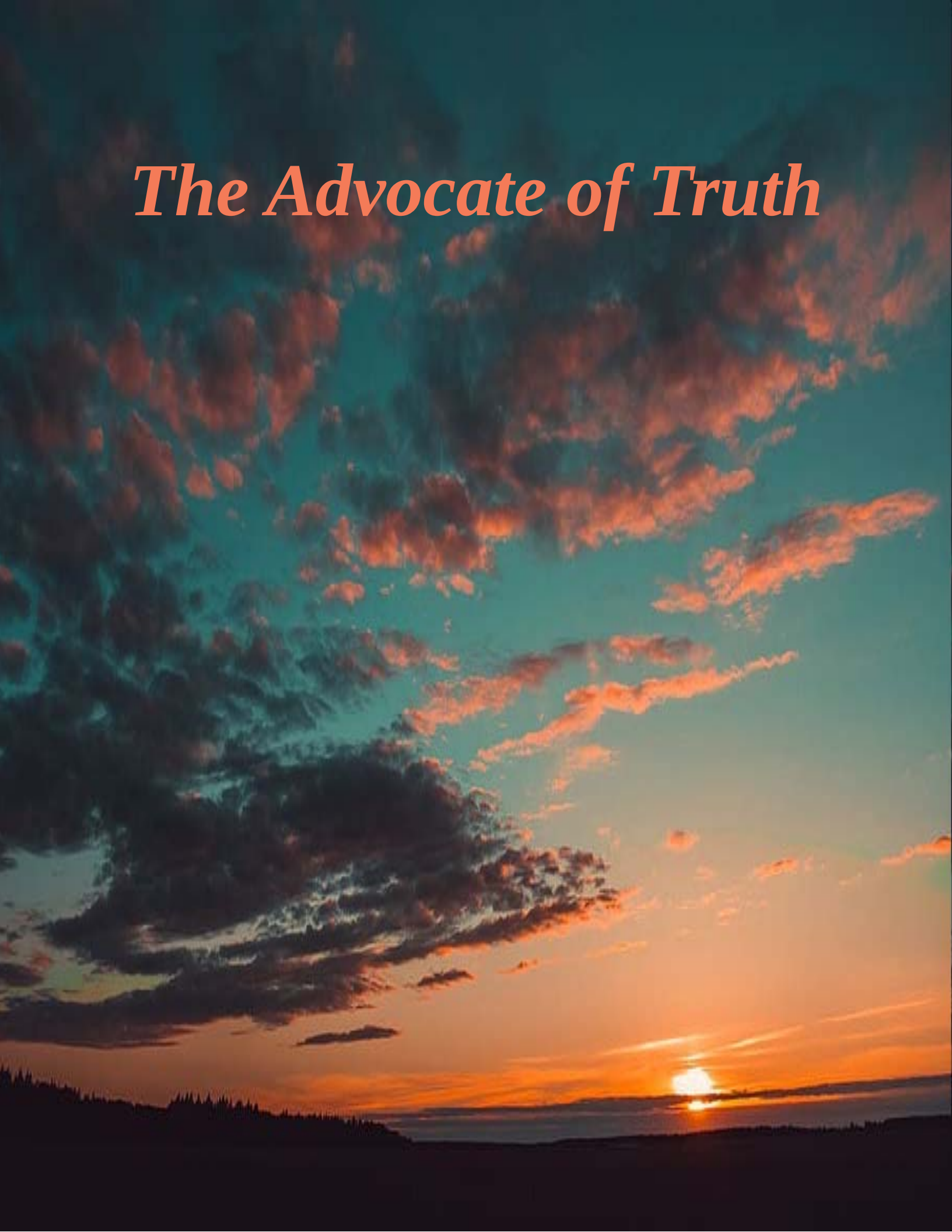


The Advocate of Truth





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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
<i>Wisdom</i>	<i>3-4</i>
<i>Hailstorms</i>	<i>5-7</i>
<i>Questions And Answers</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Benefits When You Truly Put Your Trust In God</i>	<i>8-10</i>
<i>"All Things Are Lawful Unto Me"</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>The Children's Pages</i>	<i>11-14</i>
<i>December Calendar</i>	<i>15</i>

HE SET MY SPIRIT FREE

*Lord, I want to thank You for being there for me.
For giving me the strength to be as you want me to be.
For helping me to face all that life has in store.
So that someday I may walk on that heavenly shore.
Lord, you gave me strength that no one else can give.
And my life for You I always want to live.
A life filled with such happiness and sweet peace inside.
It is such a wonderful feeling that I never want to hide.
I really want to share it with all the world around.
And let them know the joy that I have found.
Since I listened to the Word of the Lord above.
He filled my heart with this sweet and wonderful love.
he's waiting there for all who will just let Him in.
For every soul He is just waiting to win.
I just want to thank Him for being there for them.
When, oh, so long ago He set my spirit free.
It isn't always easy to walk the straight and narrow way.
The devil is always waiting for you to wander and to stray.
But I thank the Lord for the strength to fight back.
And only with His help I shall walk the right track.*

by Bertie I. Adams



Wisdom

by Carlo Rasmussen (deaced)

Wisdom is found many times in the Bible. The Scriptures inform us to get wisdom and understanding above all things. When one possesses wisdom and understanding they will come to know and give reverence unto the Lord. Through wisdom and understanding the things of God take on a clearer meaning. When a person has wisdom, he is in the dominion of the wise. It is the same thought with being in a kingdom - one is in the dominion of the King. There are two kinds of wisdom. There is the wisdom requested by King Solomon of God, which the Lord did grant unto Solomon. Thus Solomon became the wisest of all men (I Kings 3:9, 12 and 28), and continued as such until his fall (I Kings 11:4-6). Crudens Concordance states, "The wise man has the use of his eyes and reason, he sees his way, and orders all his affairs with discretion; he foresees, and so avoids many dangers and mischiefs. Knowledge directs a man what is to be done, and what is not to be done; but wisdom directs him how to do things duly, conveniently, and fitting". This is godly Wisdom, and one who possesses this wisdom is truly wise indeed. There are many today who have great knowledge, however lack the wisdom to make good use of their knowledge. We find also in the Scriptures those who are wise in the wrong, or sinful things, and are found against God. In the book of Job 5:13 we read where the Lord, "...taketh the wise in their own craftiness..." This is an example concerning the end of those who have become wise in evil things of this world and shall be dealt with accordingly in due time. As children of God we are concerned with the Wisdom of God such as Solomon

prayed for and received.

A modern-day example of wisdom can be described in an incident which took place one day. A man was driving a large machine down the road when the machine became stuck under a bridge and could not move itself further. As the crowd began to gather there were spoken many different ideas on how to solve the problem of the stuck machine. Such solutions as dismantling a great part of the machine were proposed. During all the discussion and confusion a young boy approached and suggested they let the air out of the tires. This would drop the height of the machine enough to loose it from the bridge. When this was done the machine was backed out and taken away. This example could be applied to man today. All who inherit Eternal Life must deflate their hearts and minds that they may become free from the obstructions of sin. This is what the Apostle Paul meant when he wrote, "...I die daily" (I Corinthians 15:31). Paul deflated the carnal things from his heart and was filled with the Holy Spirit of God. In this way the apostle kept himself free from the carnal obstructions which could have snared him and kept him bound in sin.

In the 8th chapter of Proverbs we read of Wisdom as a Person. That Person we know to be the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ. The Scriptures reveal unto the seeker that the Son of God was created before anything else in all the heavens (John 1:1-3, 14; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1:15-16; Revelation 3:14). In verses 22-23 of Proverbs 8 we read, "The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was setup

from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was." These verses, and those following, speak of Jesus Christ Who is Wisdom personified. As we read all the verses of this chapter we can begin to vaguely understand how wonderful it must have been at the Creation with the heavenly Father and His Son together. The Son "...was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him" (verse 30). What a complete paradise that must have been as we consider this joyous setting being described. This must have been what Jesus meant in His prayer in John 17:5 when He spoke of "...the glory which I had with thee before the world was." After the adversary worked his wicked deviances and mankind fell into sin and corruption, we find Jesus advising all to "...hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways...For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD" (Proverbs 8:32-35). We find the parallel to this in Matthew 13:45-46: "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it."

When one has searched diligently and found Wisdom (Jesus Christ) they become part of a House of Wisdom. This "House" is described in the 9th chapter of Proverbs. Proverbs 9:1 states, "Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars:" The House recorded here is the Church of God, the Body of Christ, the pillar and ground of the Truth as shown in I Timothy 3:15. The seven hewn pillars could represent the completeness of all the necessary supports within the Church anchored solidly upon the Rock, and that Rock is Christ. We understand that Jesus Christ is also called the "Cornerstone" of the building. The number "7" in the Bible is known as God's number representing completeness. For example there are 7 days in every complete week. The number 7 can be found many times in The Scriptures. In verse 2 of Proverbs 9 we read where, "She hath killed her beasts..." and we know that during the time of the Levitical Priesthood countless sacrifices were made for transgressions which pointed towards the One Supreme Sacrifice by the Lamb of God, our Lord Jesus Christ. Today the Body of Christ accepts the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus knowing that in Him was fulfilled all that was necessary to allow mankind to obtain eternal life. The ceremonial laws of the Levitical Priesthood were abolished through Jesus Christ. In this present age we are under the Melchizedek Priesthood

with Jesus Christ as our High Priest at the right hand of the Father in heaven, Hebrews 7:11-24. "...she hath mingled her wine" it continues to read in Proverbs 9 verse 2: the "wine" here can represent all the good things of God which He has shed so abundantly upon the world and especially upon His Church. What a wonderful mixture the Lord has proved for all. God's people through the centuries have always enjoyed the many blessings poured out from the windows of heaven. It is truly a most Holy Wine which has been spiritually savored by the Saints of all ages.

"...she hath also furnished her table" is the last clause of verse two. This furnished table could be representative of the "Bread" and the "Cup" provided as the Emblems of the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ at the Annual Supper Table. The Table has truly been set for all the Saints at the appointed time each year, I Corinthians 11:23-26.

In Proverbs 9:3 we read that, "She hath sent forth her maidens: she crieth upon the highest places of the city". In Matthew 25:1-13 we understand the Saints to be likened to "virgins," who go forth shining as lamps for the Lord and proclaiming His Word. In the early history of time we find such men as Noah and Abraham who proclaimed the Word of God to the world. The Prophets of Israel were God's messengers during the Levitical Priesthood. In today's age the Church of God is commanded by Jesus Christ to go forth and preach the Word of God, Matthew 10:5 and Acts 11:18. In the closing days of this age we hear the Word of God spoken through His servants proclaiming the three complete messages from God for this time. The complete messages of God are found in Revelation 14:6-10, and are called the three Angel's Messages.

The call of the Wisdom of God is truly going forth in these last days. The cry is a plain one and will be heard by everyone who will diligently search and prayerfully attain unto it. "Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled. Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding" (Proverbs 9:5-6). Let us come unto the Wisdom of God. Allow the Lord Jesus Christ to fill our heart's cups to overflowing with the Oil of His Spirit, that our hearts may be refreshed in all understanding.

May God bless you as you consider these thoughts, in Jesus' name.



HAILSTORMS

By David Royer

1784, SC — Perhaps the most significant death toll in the United States caused by a single hailstorm was reported by the South Carolina Gazette, where eight people were said to have been killed by hail along the Wateree River. From the Gazette: “On the eighth of May last, a most extraordinary shower of hail, attended with thunder and lightning, fell in this district, and along the banks of the Wateree; the hail stones or rather pieces of ice, measured about 9 inches in circumference; it killed several people, a great number of sheep, lambs, geese, and the feathered inhabitants of the woods.”

1888, Moradabad, India — This hailstorm is said to have killed as many as 246 people and over 1600 sheep, cattle, and goats. The hailstones were reportedly as big as goose eggs and oranges. Most of the deaths were on the bare and level ground, where people were caught unaware. More than one marriage party was caught by surprise by the storm and annihilated.

1932, Honan, China — The NY Times reported 200 people were killed and thousands injured by a hailstorm that struck in the Honan Province; Hail as big as baseballs.

1979, Ft. Collins, CO — A violent forty-minute hailstorm bombed Fort Collins, CO, with hail up to grapefruit size. Two thousand homes and 2500 automobiles were severely damaged, and about 25 people were injured, mainly when hit on the head by the enormous hail. A three-month-old baby died of a fractured skull, struck by a large hailstone while being carried by her mother, who was running with her to seek cover.

1992, Wichita, KS — Two batches of severe thunderstorms, occurring within 6 hours of each other, dumped hailstones up to 4.5 inches (11 cm) in diameter

across Sedgwick, including the city of Wichita and surrounding counties in south-central Kansas. Over 10,000 homes were damaged. The hail left wheat fields in a near-total loss. Estimated property damage totaled \$500 million, with crop damage at \$100 million. The thunderstorm episode ranks as one of the worst ever to hit Kansas.

Source for above: Unless otherwise noted, this information was provided by the World Metrological Organization (WMO) <https://wmo.asu.edu/content/world-highest-mortality-hailstorm>

As devastating and lethal as these hailstorm reports are, another storm occasion far exceeds them. I am referring to the 7th plague poured out upon Egypt by God to convince Pharaoh to free the enslaved Israelites. According to the biblical account in the Book of Exodus, the children of Israel’s release from slavery and journey to the Promised Land begins with God’s intervention in Egypt, forcing Pharaoh to let them go.

- **The Hardening of Pharaoh’s Heart**

God hardened Pharaoh’s heart, making him to stubbornly refuse to let the Israelites leave Egypt despite repeated pleas from Moses and Aaron. Pharaoh’s resistance demonstrates God’s power and sovereignty over all nations, including Egypt (Exodus 9:16).

- **The Ten Plagues**

As a result of Pharaoh’s refusal, God unleashes ten plagues upon Egypt, each one more severe than the previous. These plagues include:

1. Water turned to blood (Exodus 7:14-24)



The land of Goshen (Near the towns of Tanis and Avaris, shown above) is mentioned in the biblical books of [Genesis](#) and [Exodus](#). In the story of [Joseph](#), which comprises the final chapters of Genesis, the patriarch [Jacob](#) is facing famine and sends ten of his sons to Egypt to buy grain. Joseph, another of Jacob's sons, is a high official in Egypt and allows his father and brothers to settle in Egypt. In Genesis 47:6 Goshen is called "the best of the land" of Egypt. But it is also implied to be somewhat set apart from the rest of Egypt, because Joseph tells his family to present themselves to the pharaoh as keepers of livestock, in order that they may settle in the land of Goshen. Genesis 47:11 interchanges the "land of Rameses" with Goshen: "[And Joseph placed his father and his brethren, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.](#)"

2. Frogs (Exodus 8:1-15)
3. Lice or gnats (Exodus 8:16-19)
4. Flies (Exodus 8:20-32)
5. Disease on livestock (Exodus 9:1-7)
6. Boils (Exodus 9:8-12)
7. Hail (Exodus 9:13-35)
8. Locusts (Exodus 10:1-20)
9. Darkness (Exodus 10:21-29)
10. Death of the firstborn (Exodus 11:1-12:30)

Focusing on Exodus 9:18-34; first, Moses says to Pharaoh: "Thus saith the Lord": 18. "Behold, to morrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now. 19. Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die".....

Skip to vs. 22. "And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt. 23. And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt. 24. So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

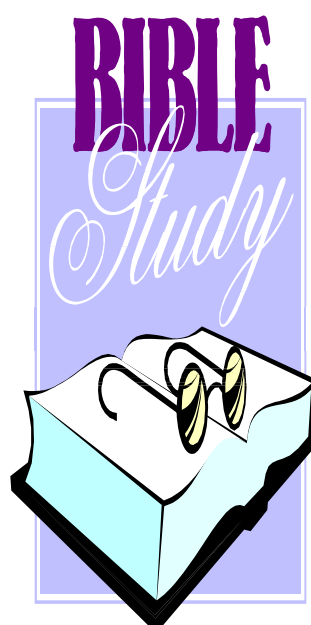
25. And the hail smote throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field. 26. Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail. 27. And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD is righteous, and I and my people are wicked. 28. Intreat the LORD (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer".....

Skip to vs. 31. "And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was balled. 32. But the wheat and the rie were not smitten: for they were not grown up. 33. And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the

LORD: and the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured upon the earth. 34. And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants."

This biblical account is an unprecedented example of extreme weather lasting many hours, if not days, of rain, thunder, and hail mixed with fire. (maybe lightning?) The loss of people, livestock, herbs, crops, and trees is tremendous. Unfortunately, Pharaoh lied again.

NOTE: If you would like to learn more about the formation of hailstorms, NOAA has a great learning site: <https://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/hail/>



Question: *How does Nehemiah extol the great Creator?*

Answer: *"Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee" (Nehemiah 9:6).*

Question: *What does Nehemiah say of God's character?*

Answer: *"Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day. Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:" (Nehemiah 9:32-33).*

Question: *Is there any equal to God?*

Answer: *"To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One" (Isaiah 40:25).*



Benefits When You Truly Put Your Trust In God

By Bibi Shimon Allicock

When the Lord admonished us that if we have faith as a grain of mustard seed we can do so much in praying that the mountain or troubles (challenges) be removed from us, then definitely if our faith grows as the mustard tree, which is a refuge for so many things on or under it, we will do the things we are here to accomplish through Jesus Christ our Lord. "...The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof" (Matthew 13:31-32).

Here we see that although the mustard seed is the least of all seeds, yet it grows into a huge plant. Thus our faith must grow in Christ so that we can get the benefits if we truly put our trust in God. The Scriptures show us a man who brought his son who was a lunatic to the disciples, to be cured, but they could not help him. Our Lord therefore emphasized that praying and fasting must have to be done so that these miracles could be performed. "And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is a lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him. Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting" (Matthew 17:14-21). So

praying and fasting honestly and sincerely will enable us to gain the benefits from Almighty God.

The rich, young ruler had wanted to follow the Lord, so he went to him and said, "...Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he (Jesus) said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions" (Matthew 19:16, last part-22).

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:23-26).

After hearing all the admonitions from the Lord, Peter was anxious to know of his benefits. "Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or

father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life" (Matthew 19:27-29).

When we look at the rich, young ruler and his decision of not doing what the Lord had required of him, although he had a desire to follow the Lord, he was not willing to accept the Lord's offer because of a lack of faith. But as we can see, Jesus emphasized that if we leave all and follow Him, He has better things in store for us as He told Peter. The Lord asked the rich, young ruler to do things similar to what He asked Abraham, to offer his only son for a burnt offering. And as we study the Scriptures we see that Abraham obeyed everything accordingly, and he is also recorded among the faithful awaiting the promise, and his benefits await him as well. This was unlike the rich, young ruler who went away sorrowful, not willing to obey the trial, or test, that was placed before him, and not knowing the riches that awaited him which is greater than material things; that of eternal life. "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God...These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth...And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city" (Hebrews 11:8-10,13,15-16).

Many do not believe in an eternal life. Many claim that we all face our judgment while we are alive and will be punished for our wrongdoing. While we will be punished, or chastised, for our wrongdoings while we are alive, there will still be a resurrection of the dead where those who have done righteously will inherit eternal life, and those who have done unrighteously will have eternal damnation. There is a book which God is writing, after the angels have given Him records of our daily living, and we will all be judged from what is written therein, and that will be the final judgment. "For the Sadducees say that

there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit:" (Acts 23:8, first part). Well, at the end of time they will get a surprise if they are still in their unbelief. "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not...The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished" (II Peter 2:1-3,9).

If we study the Scriptures carefully we will see that those on earth who are obedient, and do the things that are commanded us to be done, will be caught up with Christ and His hosts of angels as He comes in the clouds of glory at His second advent. Those who died in Him will rise first, but the disobedient ones will be in the second resurrection, and will be cast into the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone which will be prepared for the devil and his angels. But, since those of mankind who want to follow their pernicious ways, they will also be a part of the punishment and destruction. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (I Thessalonians 4:16-17).

The Apostle John recorded where the righteous saints will be and where the unrighteous and unbelievers will be after they have gained their reward. "And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints" (Revelation 15:2-3).

As we continue to be obedient unto God and keep His commandments and do all that is required of us, there will be trials, struggles, challenges, etc., but we do have to

to endure all the hardships to attain what the Lord has in store for us. "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution...But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;...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, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Timothy 3:12,14,16-17).

As we continue in the faith our main focus must be on the prize which is eternal life, and not on temporal things we can see. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal...For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (II Corinthians 4:17-18; Romans 8:18).

God's people will be on the sea of glass, or New Jerusalem, while the seven last plagues will be pouring out on the unrighteous, or those who were not willing to keep the commandments of God and have the faith in Christ. "And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth...And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works...And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire...And, behold, I (Jesus) come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be...Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Revelation 16:1; 20:12,14-15; 22:12,14). Amen.

"All Things Are Lawful Unto Me"

David DeLong

In I Corinthians 6:12, Paul wrote: "All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any." Some people may use this verse to try to prove that Paul could eat unclean meats, break the Sabbath, and do about anything he wanted to. What is this verse referring to? Some believers thought that eating clean meats offered to idols made the food unclean. Paul believed he had the right to eat such foods without it defiling him (see I Corinthians 8:1-13 and I Corinthians 10:19-33). In the last part of I Corinthians 6:12 Paul wrote, "but I will not be brought under the power of any." And in I Corinthians 10:23-24 he wrote: "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not. Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth." Though Paul believed he could eat meats sacrificed to idols, he wouldn't do so if it offended another brother or sister. Back in I Corinthians 6:13, the first part, he even wrote: "Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them." What is important to God is that we do not offend each other.

Paul was saying, in effect, that all things which God approved of were lawful for him to do, even though some of the brethren would have disagreed with him. But Paul was not willing to offend another. In I Corinthians 10:32-33 he wrote: "Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved." So grievous is offending another of God's children to Him that Jesus commented in Matthew 18:6-7: "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!"

Let us also be of the mind set that we don't offend others, so that they might be saved.

The Children's Page

LESSON I JACOB IN EGYPT

Scripture Reading: Genesis 46:28-34; 47:1-12.

Golden Text: Genesis 47:7.

"And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh."

1. What land did Joseph's family go to? Genesis 46:28.
2. Did Joseph go to meet his family? What did his father do when he saw him? Genesis 46:29.
3. Joseph took his father and five of his brothers to Pharaoh. What question did Pharaoh ask them, and what was their answer? Genesis 47:3-4.
4. What did Pharaoh tell Joseph to do with his brethren? Genesis 47:5-6.
5. Jacob blessed Pharaoh and then Joseph took his family into the best land of Egypt. What was the name of this country? Genesis 47:10-11, 27.
6. Did Joseph continue to see that this family had bread? Genesis 47:12.
7. How long did Jacob live in Egypt, and how old was he? Genesis 47:28.
8. When Jacob became old and sick, what request did he have for Joseph? Genesis 47:29-30.

LESSON II THE LAST DAYS OF JACOB

Scripture Reading: Genesis 49:28-33; 50:3,11,15,19-26.

Golden Text: Hebrews 11:22.

"By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones."

NOTE: Jacob has called his sons together so that he could tell them what would befall them in the last days and to

Sabbath School Lessons

bless them. Genesis 49:1-2.

1. After Jacob (Israel) blesses his sons, what did he instruct them to do? Genesis 49:29-30, 33.

2. How many days did the Egyptians mourn over the death of Jacob? Genesis 50:3.

NOTE: A score is twenty years.

3. When Joseph and his brethren returned Jacob to the land of his father, what did the inhabitants say? Genesis 50:11.

4. After Jacob was buried, what did Joseph's brothers say about Joseph? Genesis 50:15.

5. How did Joseph treat his brothers after his father died? Genesis 50:19-21.

6. How long did Joseph live in Egypt? Genesis 50:22.

7. What were Joseph's last words to his family? Genesis 50:24-26.

LESSON III ISRAEL IN EGYPT

Scripture Reading: Exodus 1:7-22.

Golden Text: Exodus 1:7.

"And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them."

1. What happened to the children of Israel who lived in Egypt after Joseph died? Exodus 1:6-7.

2. How did the new Egyptian Pharaoh feel about the children of Israel? Exodus 1:8-10.

3. What did the Egyptians first do with the children of Israel? Exodus 1:11.

4. Why did the Egyptians still continue to grieve? Exodus 1:12.

5. How were the children of Israel treated by the Egyptians? Exodus 1:13-14.
6. What did the evil Egyptian king next command? Exodus 1:15-16.
7. Did the midwives do as the king commanded? Why? Exodus 1:17-21.
8. What did Pharaoh still command his people to do? Exodus 1:22.

LESSON IV THE BIRTH OF MOSES

Scripture Reading: Exodus 2:1-10.

Golden Text: Exodus 2:10 (last part).

"And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water."

NOTE: We learned in our last lesson that Pharaoh ordered all boy babies to be put to death. We will now learn about Moses and how he is saved.

1. When Moses was born, what did his mother do to save him? Exodus 2:2-4.
2. Who found baby Moses in the river? Exodus 2:5.
3. What did the sister of the baby say to Pharaoh's daughter? Exodus 2:7.
4. Whom did she call to nurse the baby? Exodus 2:8.
5. Did the mother take the child and nurse it? Exodus 2:9.
6. Did Moses become the son of Pharaoh's daughter? Why did she call him Moses? Exodus 2:10.
7. Moses' true parents had faith that God would save their baby. Hebrews 11:23.

BIBLE RIDDLES

By Madeline Pettet

*See how many clues it takes you
to solve their riddles.*

1. We live in holes.

We are sly animals.

We spoil crops.

Samson caught 300 of us.

Who are we?

2. I was born the son of Lamech.
I found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

I built an ark.

Eight of us were saved from the flood.

Who are we?

3. I am a city near Jordan.

Two spies were sent to me.

Jesus healed here and also Elisha.

My walls fell down.

What is my name?

4. I am the son of Zebedee.

I am also the brother of John.

Jesus appeared to me.

**There is a book by my name
in the New Testament.**

Who am I?

5. We walk in darkness.

God will mock us.

We must make a choice.

Jesus welcomes us if we confess.

Who are we?

6. They must be avoided.

Sometimes we get out of hand.

Herodias had one against John.

It takes two people to make me.

What am I?



BEING FRIENDS

"Oh, Miss Edgerton!" Tommy was in such a hurry to tell the news that he ran half a block to catch up with the teacher as she entered the school yard and then was so out of breath that he could not do anything but sputter for a minute.

"What is the matter?" asked Miss Edgerton, and she waited until Tommy calmed down.

"Denny Collins broke his leg!" cried Tommy. "He got knocked down by a car yesterday, and they put his leg in a cast, and he has to stay on a couch maybe three weeks!"

"Oh, poor Denny!" exclaimed Miss Edgerton, while the other children added what they had heard to Tommy's story.

"He won't have a chance to get the prize, will he, Miss Edgerton?" asked Peter Loe.

"No, I'm afraid not," Miss Edgerton answered. "It's too bad, for Denny has worked very hard. He and you, Peter, and Lucy have stood the highest so far." Peter looked at Lucy and Lucy looked at Peter. They said nothing to each other. Both wanted that prize as much as Denny did. It was a magazine for boys and girls to be given to the one who would make the highest grade for the term in arithmetic. Peter and Lucy were about even then, and Denny just a bit ahead of them. But if Denny had to miss three weeks - "I know I could get it!" said Peter to himself. And "I knew that I could get it!" said Lucy to herself; neither of them said anything to the other. Peter

couldn't keep from thinking however about how dreadful it would be to have to stay on a couch or a chair for three weeks, and the prizes, too. And Lucy remembered how her arm had hurt the time she fell out of the hammock and broke it. "And I'd just hate not to have a chance to win."

"Peter," said Miss Edgerton in the afternoon, "will you gather up all Denny's books and things? I'm going to ask you to take them to him. Maybe he can study at home." "Yes, ma'am," said Peter, "I'll be glad to."

When, he had strapped them all together neatly, he went up to Miss Edgerton's desk. "May I speak to Lucy a minute?" he asked. Miss Edgerton said, "Yes." Peter went back to his set after whispering with Lucy, looking as though something very important indeed had been decided.

After school, Miss Edgerton found Peter and Lucy waiting to speak to her, plainly eager and excited about something.

"Miss Edgerton," began Peter, "we are going to take Denny's books to him every day and help him, you know, so maybe - we thought."

"If we can explain everything, Miss Edgerton, just like you do, and he works all the problems himself and sends them in to you, we thought maybe he'd have a chance for the prize, anyway," said Lucy.

Miss Edgerton looked amazed. "Of course, he would," she said, "but you two - it would lessen your chance, you know. None else is near you."

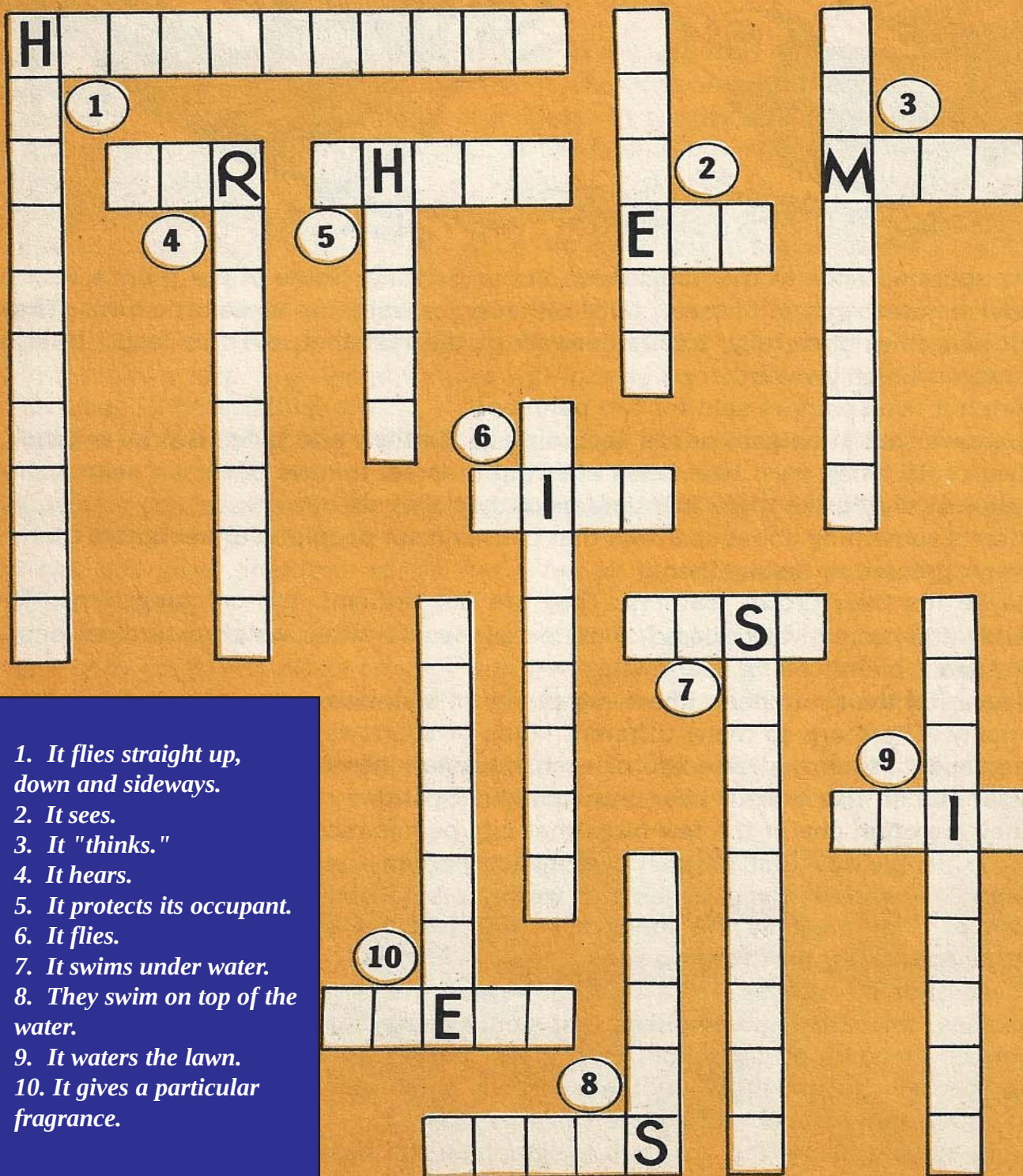
"That's alright," Peter declared hastily, "we want him to have a fair chance, and if he wins it, why."

"We'll be glad," said Lucy. "We haven't any broken legs, you see, and Denny's worked so hard he deserves the prize."

"Then that's fine," said Miss Edgerton. "That is really a kind thing to do."

How did it turn out? Well, Denny, Peter and Lucy all worked as hard as they could, fair and square, and Denny won the prize. They had become such good friends over the lessons that the magazine was passed from one to the other each month, and Miss Edgerton said: "it seems to me that you all won the prize."

GOD MADE IT FIRST - Many things that people have made are just imitations of God's creation. In the double puzzles below, the horizontal lines are things God has created. The vertical lines are man's imitation of it.



Church of God 7th Day

December 2025

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Sabbath Memory Verses

30

1

2

3

4

5

6

Look for next year's calendar in *The Advocate of Truth*

PO Box 328 Salem, WV 26426

Phone: 304-782-1411 email: cogsevday@aol.com

“Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves” (Matthew 10:16).

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8

9

10

11

12

13

Check out our website: churchofgod-7thday.org

“Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come” (I Corinthians 10:11).

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20

“So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider” (Isaiah 52:15).

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“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ” (I Corinthians 12:12).

28

29

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31

1

2

3

New Year's Eve

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