

## NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM

Nebuchadnezzar was a mighty king of Babylon. Because the children of Israel did not obey the words of the Lord, He allowed this wicked king to come down to the land of Israel, and carry many of the Israelites back to Babylon. The Israelites were slaves in this strange land, and many of them died because they had to work so hard.

At one time Nebuchadnezzar signed a law that whosoever would not fall down and worship his image, should be cast into the midst of a burning furnace. Three of the Israelites, who were wise men, did not worship the image; and they were cast in the furnace. God protected these men, and they were not killed by the flames.

One time while Nebuchadnezzar was resting in his house, he saw a dream which made him afraid. He called in all his wise men and told them the dream, but they could not tell him the meaning of it. At last Daniel came before the king.

Nebuchadnezzar spoke to Daniel and told him his dream. The king had seen a very tall tree standing in the midst of the earth. The tree was very strong, and it reached to heaven, and could also be seen all over the earth. There was a great amount of fruit on this tree; the casts and birds would eat the fruit

thereof. Then the king saw a watcher and an holy one come down from heaven. This watcher said that the tree was to be cut down, and only the stump was to be with the beasts, and his heart was to be changed from a man's heart to a beast's.

After the king had told Daniel his dream he asked him to tell him the meaning thereof. He told Daniel that the other wise men in his kingdom had not been able to tell him the meaning of the dream, but he knew Daniel would be able to because he had a different spirit than the other men.

When Daniel had heard the dream he was greatly amazed, and his thoughts troubled him for one hour. The king knew he was troubled for he said, "Let not thy thoughts or the interpretation thereof trouble thee."

Then Daniel spake, and said, "My Lord, the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies. The tree which thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached to heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth; - It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reached unto heaven, and thy do-

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## Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (Cont. from page 1.)

minion to the end of the earth. Where-  
as the king saw an holy one from heaven,  
saying, 'Hew the tree down, and de-  
stroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots  
thereof in the earth, --- and let his por-  
tion be with the beasts of the field, till  
seven times pass over him.' This is the  
interpretation, O king, and this is the  
decree of the most High, which is come  
upon my lord the king."

Then Daniel went on telling the king  
the meaning of the dream, and he told  
him that he would be driven from a-  
mong men. He said Nebuchadnezzar  
would eat grass as the oxen, and would  
dwell like this for seven years. After  
the king would be punished in this  
"When a church stops doing, it starts  
mighty and ruleth over all. When Dan-  
iel had finished telling the king the  
meaning of his dream, he asked the  
king to turn from his sin, and become  
righteous.

The king did not heed the words of  
Daniel, but continued living in an un-  
godly way. One year after Daniel had  
told Nebuchadnezzar the meaning of  
his dream, the king was walking in his  
palace. While he walked around, he  
spoke, saying, "Is not this great Baby-  
lon, that I have built for the house of  
the kingdom by the might of my power,

and for the honour of my majesty?"

While the king spake, a voice from  
heaven said, "O king Nebuchadnezzar,  
the kingdom is departed from thee."

That very hour the king's dream was  
fulfilled, and Nebuchadnezzar was driv-  
en from among men. He ate grass like  
the oxen, and his hair grew long like  
eagles' feathers, and his nails become  
like birds' claws. Nebuchadnezzar lived  
out in the field like the beasts, and at  
the end of that time the Lord returned  
his understanding to him again. Then  
the king blessed and praised and honor-  
ed the Lord God of heaven. He knew  
now that the people on earth are as  
nothing in the eyes of God, for He alone  
is all powerful.

## I NEED TO PRAY

When I am naughty at my play  
And quarrel and fuss to get my way,  
When I am selfish with my toys  
—And keep them from the girls and boy  
When I say things that are unkind  
And keep for mine the things I find,  
I need to pray to God.

I need to say, "Dear God, forgive  
My naughtiness, and help me live  
Sweetly as Thy children should;  
Help me be both kind and good,  
Help me make right the wrongs I've  
done  
And say I'm sorry for each one."  
I need to talk to God.

-- Sel. --

"When a church stops doing, it starts  
dying."

way, he would know that the Lord is  
living ones?"

**YOUR LESSONS****THREE MEN VISIT ABRAHAM**

Lesson for August 5, 1961

*Scripture Reading: Genesis 18:1-8.**Memory Verse: "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Galatians 3:6. —*

Many years ago there lived a very righteous man named Abraham. Abraham obeyed the Lord in everything, and God was with him and blessed him.

One day while Abraham was sitting at the door of his tent he saw three men. As soon as he saw the men he ran to meet them, and bowed himself towards the ground, before them. He spake to them, and said, "If now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee from thy servant." Abraham also told the men that he would get some water for them, and then they were to rest under a tree, while he and Sarah would fix something for them to eat.

Then Abraham hurried into the tent and told Sarah, his wife, to make some cakes for their company. After this Abraham ran to his herd and brought back a young calf. One of his servants prepared the calf, and then the food was taken to the three visitors.

Then the men asked Abraham where Sarah was. Abraham told them she was in the tent. Then one of the men told Abraham that God was going to give a baby boy to him and Sarah. Now Abraham and Sarah were both very old. He was ninety nine, and she was ninety. God had never given them any babies, and they felt very sorry about this. When Sarah heard the words of one of their visitors she laughed.

Then the Lord turned to Abraham and said, "Wherefore did Sarah laugh? Is there anything too hard for the

Lord?" Then the Lord told Abraham again that He would surely send them a baby boy.

Now Sarah was afraid, and she said that she hadn't laughed; but the Lord replied, saying, "Nay; but thou didst laugh."

Then the men arose, and looked towards Sodom. Abraham walked with them. As they walked along, the Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; seeing that all nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?" The Lord continued talking and told Abraham that the people of Sodom and Gomorrah were living very wickedly, according to the cry which had come up to Him. The Lord said that He was going to the cities, and then He would know if the people were sinful or not. Then the two men turned and started going towards Sodom; but Abraham stood before the Lord.

When the other men had gone away, Abraham came near the Lord, and said, "Wilt Thou destroy the righteous with the wicked?" Then he asked the Lord if He would destroy the city if there were fifty righteous people living therein.

The Lord replied saying, He would not destroy the city if there were fifty righteous people therein.

Abraham continued changing the number of righteous people, and at last he came down to ten righteous.

The Lord said He would not destroy the city if there were ten righteous people therein.

**Questions To Answer**

1. How many men came to Abraham's cities?
2. What did the angels say they would give Abraham and Sarah?

## TWO ANGELS VISIT LOT

Lesson for August 12, 1961

Scripture Reading: Genesis 19:1-7.

Memory Verse: "He shall give His angels charge over thee." Psa. 91:11.

After Abraham had talked to the Lord about sparing the cities if there were ten righteous souls therein, he returned to his home. The Lord also went His way.

That evening Lot sat in the gate of Sodom, and he noticed two men nearing the city. He went to meet the men, and like Abraham, bowed himself to the ground before them. Lot asked the angels to come to his home, and spend the night with him. He said they could continue on their journey early the next morning.

The men replied, "Nay; but we will abide in the street all night."

Lot did not want these men to stay in the street all night and he begged them to come home with him. Finally the men agreed to go to Lot's house. Lot was very kind to them and prepared food and set it before them.

Lot was not the only one in Sodom who had seen these men enter the city. Before Lot and his guests had gone to bed many of the town people were gathered outside Lot's house. These people called to Lot, and said, "Where are the men which came in to thee this night? Bring them out unto us, that we may know them."

Lot went outside, and shut the door behind him. He tried to reason with the people, for he did not want any harm to come to the men whom he had taken to his home.

The people were not pleased with what Lot had said. They said they would now deal worse with Lot than with the men. They crowded near to Lot, and almost broke the door of his

house. Then the angels put forth their hand and pulled Lot into the house. They also shut the door as soon as Lot was safely inside. Then the angels punished the men who had tried to harm Lot. All of these men were smitten with blindness. They tried and tried to find the door to Lot's house; but they could not.

Then the angels asked Lot if he had any more children, besides the ones who were living at home with him. They told Lot they were going to destroy that city, because the people who lived there were so sinful, and did not love the Lord.

As soon as Lot heard these words he went to the homes of his married children. He told them all that the angels had said, and told them to get out of the city; but they would not believe him.

In the morning the angels put their hands on the hands of Lot his wife, and their two daughters, and led them safely out of Sodom. The angels told them to hurry on their way, and to be sure not to look back at the city.

When Lot and his wife and daughters had left the city, the Lord rained fire and brimstone upon Sodom and the other wicked cities. Lot's wife did not obey the words of the angels, and she looked back. God punished her, and she turned into a pillar of salt. Poor Lot and his daughters must have felt very sad as they journeyed on without her.

## Questions To Answer

1. Who came to Lot's house?
2. What happened to the men who tried to harm Lot?
3. What happened to Sodom?

## GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM FULFILLED

Lesson for August 19, 1961

*Scripture Reading: Genesis 21:1-3  
—and 8-12.*

*Memory Verse: "O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good." Psalm 107:1.*

The Lord remembered the promise which He had made to Abraham, and one day He sent them a baby boy. Abraham and Sarah were very happy, and they praised the Lord because He had been so good to them. Abraham called the baby Isaac.

Abraham and Sarah were very careful about teaching Isaac, and they taught him about the Lord, and all His goodness.

One day when Isaac was between the age of sixteen and twenty, the Lord called to Abraham. Abraham was a very Godly man, and was always ready to do the will of the Lord. He answered the Lord, and said, "Behold, here I am."

The Lord told Abraham he was to take Isaac, his son, and offer him for a burnt offering, upon a certain mountain.

No doubt this seemed rather strange to Abraham because the Lord had asked him to sacrifice him: but Abraham did not question God. He arose early in the morning and took two of his servants, and Isaac, and started towards the place of which the Lord had spoken. He also took some wood for the burnt offering. They journeyed for two days, and on the third day Abraham looked, and he saw the place where he was to offer up Isaac. He told his servants they could go no farther, but were to wait there, while he and Isaac went to worship.

Abraham and Isaac carried the knife, and the fire, and the wood, and they walked on unto the place which God had spoken of. As they walked

Isaac spake, and said, "My father: behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

Abraham answered, "My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering."

Soon they came to the place which God had chosen. Abraham built the altar, and laid the wood in order upon it. Then he laid Isaac on the altar, upon the wood. Just as he stretched forth his hand to slay Isaac, an angel from heaven called to him.

Abraham answered, "Here am I."

The angel told Abraham not to harm his son. He said, "Now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

Then Abraham looked, and he saw a ram caught in the bushes, by its horns. Abraham took the ram and offered it for a burnt offering instead of his son.

After Abraham had finished sacrificing, an angel of the Lord spoke to him again. The angel told Abraham that the Lord was going to greatly bless his children down through the ages, because he had fully obeyed the voice of the Lord.

Then Abraham and Isaac returned to the two men, and together they journeyed home.

## Questions To Answer

1. What promise had the Lord given to Abraham?
2. What name did Abraham give the baby which God had given to them?
3. What did God ask Abraham to do with Isaac?
4. What happened just as Abraham was going to slay Isaac?
5. Why were Abraham's children going to be greatly blessed?

## APOSTLES PREACH THE WORD

Lesson for August 26, 1961

*Scripture Reading: Acts 8:5-17.*

*Memory Verse: "They prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost." Acts 8:15.*

On one occasion Philip went down to the city of Samaria. He preached about Jesus to these people. All the people that heard him listened to his words. Many miracles were performed by the Lord, at the hand of Philip. Many unclean spirits were cast out of the people, and many who were sick were healed. There was great joy in the city of Samaria after they had heard the word of God.

There was a certain man in Samaria, named Simon. Before Philip had come to Samaria this man had used magic on the people. He wanted the people to believe he was some one great, and because of the power of the devil which was in him the people listened to him. They thought the man had the power of God in his life. After the people and Simon heard Philip preach they were sorry for their sins, and believed in Jesus, and were baptized. Then they did not believe magic any more. After Simon was baptized he continued listening to the words of life which Philip spoke, and was amazed at the miracles which were done.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that the people in Samaria were believing in Jesus, they sent Peter and John to help Philip in the work of the Lord. Peter and John prayed for the people, and laid their hands on them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost. These disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, and on whomsoever they put their hands upon, and prayed, that soul would also receive the Holy Ghost.

When Simon saw the power of the Lord in the disciples, he offered them some money, and said, "Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost."

His words were very grievous to the disciples, and Peter said, "Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. . . Thy heart is not right in the sight of God." He then told Simon to repent of this wickedness, and perhaps God would forgive his wicked thoughts.

Then Simon asked Peter to pray for him. He wanted God to forgive his sin, that none of the things which Peter had spoken of would come upon him.

After the disciples had stayed a while in Samaria, and preached the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem. They continued preaching the gospel in many of the villages of the Samaritans.

One time the disciples at Joppa sent for Peter. When Peter came to where the disciples were he found many of the people crying, because one of their loved ones had died. Peter prayed for the lady who was dead, and she came back to life. This lady's name was Dorcas. Many people believed in Jesus after they had heard of this miracle.

### Questions To Answer

1. Who preached the Word in Samaria?
2. What had Simon done before he believed in Jesus?
3. What did Simon want to buy, and what did Peter tell him?
4. What miracle did the Lord perform at Joppa?

## THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOUR

Many years ago in the land of Israel, in the city of Bethlehem, a Baby was born. This baby was not put into a clean warm bed, as most babies are but wrapped in soft clothes, and put into a manger. The man who was the keeper of the inn, or hotel, at that place had said there wasn't any room in his inn for the Baby's Mother. Since there was no place else where Mary was able to go, she and Joseph were forced to go to the stable, and that is why the Baby was put into a manger. This precious Baby was none other than the Son of God, and His name is Jesus.

Even though the people in Bethlehem did not seem to be concerned about this Baby, there was someone who was greatly rejoicing. God, the Father was glad that His Son had been born, and He let some of the people know of His birth.

There were shepherds watching their flocks that night; and suddenly an angel appeared to them, and the glory of God shone round them. The shepherds were afraid when they saw the angel, but the angel told them not to fear. The angel said, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,-- For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. --Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. "Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will towards men."

As soon as the angel had returned to heaven, the shepherds decided to go to see the Baby. They hurried to Bethlehem, and when they arrived at the stable they found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in the manger. After the shepherds had seen the

Baby they returned to their flocks, and told all whom they saw of the wonderful birth of the Lord; and they praised God for His goodness.

There were wise men living in an Eastern country, and God also told them of the birth of Jesus. God had a special star appear to these wise men, and by this they knew the long waited for Saviour had been born.

They came to Jerusalem, and asked the king where Jesus had been born. They called Jesus, "The King of the Jews," and this saying greatly troubled King Herod. He gathered the chief priests and the scribes together, and asked them where Christ should be born. They told the king that Christ would be born in Bethlehem.

The king told the wise men that they were to go to Bethlehem. As soon as the wise men had departed from the king, the star which they had seen in the East, appeared again. The star moved on before them and showed them the way, until it came and stood over the place where the Baby lay.

The wise men went into the house and saw Baby Jesus, and His mother. They were very glad to see the Baby, and they bowed and worshipped Him. After they had opened the gifts which they had brought for the Baby, they departed to their own country again.

Just as the wise men and shepherds rejoiced and praised God for sending Jesus to the world, so we should praise the Lord today. If Jesus had not left His home in heaven to come down to this sinful world, and suffer and die for us, we would not be able to have eternal life. We should love and praise Him for all He has done for us; for He surely loves each one, and it is His will that everyone should live pleasing to Him.

## NEWS FROM TRINIDAD

We have recently received a letter from Brother Kenneth Wilson, of Couva, Trinidad. Brother Kenneth wrote about the meetings which the Youth Group is having at Couva. We thank the Lord for the zeal of these loved ones, and praise Him for His blessings. The number who attend the meetings is steadily increasing. Surely, those who labor in the work of the Lord, do not labor in vain.

We are always glad to hear of the activities of various Youth and Children's Groups. We would be glad to hear from any one of you.

## WHAT IS MY NAME?

## Questions To Answer

1. When I was very young I was put in a basket in the river?
2. I ate the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and gave some to my husband.
3. When I was born I was wrapped in soft clothes and put in a manger.
4. Peter prayed for me and I was raised from the dead.
5. God took my mind away from me for a while, and I ate grass like the oxen.
6. The Lord spoke to me one night when I was very young.
7. I betrayed Jesus with a kiss.
8. When Jesus came to our house, I was cumbered about much serving while my sister Mary sat at Jesus' feet.
9. Joshua and I were among the twelve spies sent out by Moses to search the land of Canaan.
10. I am a king who made a great feast to a thousand of my lords. and during the feast I saw a hand writing on the wall.
11. I am a prophet who was taken to heaven by a whirlwind.

12. At midnight, Silas and I sang praises unto God, and suddenly there was an earthquake, which opened the prison doors.

## SPECIAL OFFER ! ! ! !

Would you like to own a new Bible? You may receive one for writing just ONE letter to the paper, between August 1st, and November 1st, 1961. We are dividing our readers into two age groups. One group includes the ones from 6 or younger to 10 years of age, and the other age group is from 11 to 15. For the best letter in each group we will gladly reward the writer a Bible. We shall be looking for your letters, and will publish as many as space will permit. Be sure to state your age and address, and please let your letter be of your own making. Address your letter to: "The Church of God, Box 365, Toppenish, Wash. U.S.A." May the good Lord bless you one and all.

## GOD'S HOUSE

Whenever I go to God's House,  
I never fidget or squirm;  
I sit as quit as a little mouse  
And listen and try to learn.

We little ones must be quiet,  
For God speaks to us there;  
He speaks in the songs and the music,  
In sermon, and in prayer.

I sing my best with my mother,  
And she is smiling and glad  
To know that I try to please her,  
And never act naughty or bad.

Then, after church, my daddy  
Smiles at me tenderly,  
And all afternoon I feel  
God, too, is smiling at me.

--Sel--

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Psalms 100:4.