

# THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

God's Plan  
Presented in Simple Form  
For Young Children.

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# INTRODUCTION

## FOR ADULTS

This little book has been prepared with the desire to assist parents, grandparents and others in the imparting to very young children of knowledge concerning the plans of God for the human race, in such a way as should help them, though young, to form right conclusions and reasonable pictures in their minds, -- conclusions and pictures that should not need to be 'unlearned' later on.

Because this is the aim, the sequence of the topics dealt with is probably not the sequence that some would expect. For example, the Garden of Eden story in some detail comes not in the earliest stories but in Stories 4 and 5.

The plan of the series is to establish certain features of the Truth in the sequence that is natural to the young child, and which follows the line of questions naturally arising in his or her mind. Much thought has been given to the manner of presentation of these truths. It is not the intention to use fiction, but, for the purpose stated, we have chosen to introduce three characters -- a mother and her two children.

The following brief Table of Contents may be helpful:

### **STORY 1 AND STORY 2**

Establish two important matters:

- (a) God, a spirit being.
- (b) The Bible, the Word of God.

### **STORY 3.**

From reference to the children's garden, an idea is given of the future Kingdom of Christ on earth.

### **STORY 4.**

The idea of 'helpers' in the home garden leads on to the idea of Jesus' helpers in the Kingdom, some helpers to be in heaven and some on earth.

### **STORY 5.**

The discussion about the 'helpers' is interrupted here to tell of Jesus, God's first creation and His chief helper. More detail of the Garden of Eden story. Very simple explanation of the ransoming work of Jesus. Result: Resurrection of all people.

### **STORY 6.**

Continuation of the story of God's helpers -- Jesus' helpers.

- (a) The 'little flock' as spirit beings.
  - (b) Faithful people of olden times as 'princes in all the earth', e.g. Abraham, Moses, Daniel, etc.
- Stress is placed on the training of helpers.

### **STORY 7.**

A lesson regarding temptation -- How Satan tempts. What to do when tempted.

### **STORY 8.**

A Glimpse into the Future. The Kingdom Established. Summary and recapitulation of subject matter learned in previous stories. Use of terms 'Millennium' and 'Ancient Worthies'.

Because of our experience in connection with the reactions of some young children, their comments and impressions, the writer has been anxious not to evoke any ideas that may have to be

corrected later. Let us illustrate: Young children cannot be expected to understand what God looks like. In fact, we cannot know this ourselves. Little children cannot know about spirit beings, and, in speaking of them, we can sometimes inadvertently convey a totally wrong idea. We remember a small boy who came running in to tell us that he had seen God. He took his mother outside and pointed up into a tree. There was a bird sitting on a high branch. "There!" the child exclaimed. "Is that God?"

Now, this, of course, seems ridiculous to an adult, but that child was quite sincerely asking a genuine question. He had been told that God lived away up in the sky, far, far away. That little child was only four years old at the time, and to him that bird was a long way up.

Another child, somewhat older, had been told that God makes the flowers and trees to grow so, when he saw a gardener watering the plants in the park, he wanted to know whether that was God.

There is no need to give other examples, but we have tried to introduce the idea of God in such a way as to make it seem logical to the young child that he or she cannot know what God looks like, cannot see where He is, but can be absolutely sure of His existence, and can know for certain that God knows all about everybody, and that He has a great love for the beings whom He has created. Others may prefer to convey this in another way, but for the present purpose we have adopted a method that we believe will achieve the result that we desire.

Before concluding these introductory comments, the writer would like to make some reference to the experiences of a certain small girl of many years ago -- something younger than six years of age -- whose early problems, though solved, have never been forgotten. She had, at that early age, become concerned at the contradictions inherent in the account of God's dealings with people as the subject was presented by the Sunday School Teacher. She felt greatly concerned regarding certain teachings that depicted God's judgments as being inconsistent with His character as a God of Love and all-round goodness. Then came the occasion, never to be forgotten, when the mother, having herself come to understand and appreciate God's great Plan (in the first place through a study of the book entitled *The Divine Plan of the Ages*), decided that she could now answer satisfactorily her little daughter's questions.

So the picture comes to mind of a small girl, no older than six years and probably a little less, sitting quietly on a small chair, intently listening to her mother who, radiant with enthusiasm and gladness, was sitting a few feet away.

Earlier, the mother had been troubled in mind because of her inability to give a complete and certain answer to the questions that puzzled and worried her young daughter. The main question that the child had asked her had concerned the 'punishment of the bad people', which the Sunday School Teacher had said was everlasting punishment in a big fire, and the inconsistency between this punishment and the idea of a God of love and goodness. Another question related to the 'holy spirit' or 'Holy Ghost'. Both of these subjects and the errors regarding them had been responsible for the many terrifying nightmares that the child had frequently experienced.

In retrospect, it is evident that the basic problem to the child was not so much fear as complete bewilderment that the God who, according to her mother's teaching, was loving and in every way

good, could permit such possibilities as 'hell torment' to prevail. With His goodness and His great power, why could He permit such situations? Why did He not stop such things, if indeed they existed? The Sunday School Teacher said that God could do anything that He wanted to do.

So Why? Why? Why'? Clearly there was something wrong somewhere, but what could be the truth of the matter?

And so we return to the little girl sitting on her little chair, absolutely entranced by the wonderful story of God's great Plan for the blessing of the human race. That story, the TRUE STORY of God's love and wisdom, His justice and His power, put an end to the nightmares forever, and satisfied the mind and heart of the child. It brought peace and gratitude. It brought wonder and awe, and it implanted in the heart of the child an intense desire that the Heavenly Father would, in due time, grant her a share with Christ in the wonderful work of blessing in the Kingdom. In the decades that have followed, the influence of her mother's faithful ministry of love and loyalty to the Truth has never waned.

If the use of this little book makes it easier for even a few adults to pass on to young children something of the joy and wonder of the perfect Plan of the Ages, conceived by the Heavenly Father and carried out by Him through the agency of His son Jesus, the writer will indeed be happy.

*The plants in the garden,  
The blue skies above,  
The lambs on the hillside.  
All tell of God's love.*

*The beauties of color,  
Green, yellow and blue.  
Red, brown, orange, purple,  
They speak of Him too.*

*And He who created  
The first human pair  
Has a Plan for all people  
His blessings to share.*

*So this is the reason  
These stories are told:  
For God's love for His children  
Is more precious than gold.*

*His Son, the Lord Jesus,  
Will soon be the King  
Who will bring peace to all,  
And 'make new' everything.*

## THE FIRST STORY

# THE TWINS AND THEIR GARDEN

It was springtime, and two small children were sitting on a brightly painted seat in the garden of their home. Their mother was finishing washing up the dishes, and she now and again looked through the window and watched the children. They were twins, a boy and a girl. Their mother could not help noticing that they both looked very serious, and when her work was finished she went out into the garden

"What games have you two been playing since lunchtime?" she asked. The twins looked at each other, and then the little girl answered, "We haven't been playing anything. We don't want to play." "But, Sally, why not?" asked the mother in a surprised tone.

The little boy, Tony, was the one who answered this time. "When is Daddy coming home? He promised us that he would help us and show us how to make the ground ready, and how to plant the seeds and to look after the little plants when they grow. And he said that we could pick the peas and dig the carrots. But he is not at home, and we don't know how to make the garden properly. We do wish that he would come home and help us."

Their mother understood perfectly, because she too was missing Daddy very much. But she was a wise and good mother, and she very quickly thought of a way to make the twins feel better. "I have something to show you," she said to them. "It arrived only a while ago. Didn't you hear the postman's whistle?" "Yes!" exclaimed Sally, "but I didn't know that he had come to our house." "Well, he did," said their mother, "and guess what he brought to us!" The children looked at each other and then eagerly asked, "Did he bring a letter from Daddy?"

Their mother looked at their eager faces, so excited, and was so happy that she had good news for them. "Why, yes!" she said. "There was a long letter to all of us from Daddy."

The children would not be satisfied until they had seated themselves on a garden seat to listen to their mother as she read to them the letter that their daddy had written. How interesting it all was! First of all, their daddy had said that he loved them very much. He told them that, though he was far away from them, he was thinking of them all the time! He told them that he knew that they would be wanting to get the ground ready for their garden, and he told them what they could do to help to prepare the soil for the seeds and seedlings that would be planted a little later. How happy they were, because now they knew that they would be doing what their daddy wanted them to do, even though he was far away.

There was much more than this in the letter. The children's father knew that they would want to know about him, so he told them something about the place where he was staying, something about other people who lived there too, something about what he was doing and also about things that he planned to do. It was all so interesting that the twins asked their mother to read the letter over and over again until they almost knew it by heart.

When the mother put the children to bed that night, she brought Daddy's letter with her and put it on the table, but in her hand she held something else. Can you guess what it was? It was a book. Can you guess now? Why, yes, of course. It was Mother's Bible, and from it she read some lovely words for the children to think about before they fell asleep.

## THE SECOND STORY

# GOD AND HIS BOOK

As the weeks went by the children were delighted to find that the postman regularly brought letters from their father. In fact, they came so often that Mother thought of a wonderful idea. One evening she suggested to the twins that, if they put the letters in order from the first to the last and fastened them together at one side, they could make a book. Then the children suggested that they could, with their mother's help, make a cardboard cover for the letters, and then it would be a real book. It took many weeks to do this, but by the time that their daddy was to return home they had a fine well-bound book of his letters to show him.

This 'book' was useful in so many ways, for their mother often read the letters over to the twins. Their daddy had many times reminded them that he wanted them to be good children and to help their mother. He urged them to be obedient, and he told them that, when he said his prayers at night, he always prayed that God would look after Sally and Tony and their mother, and help them to be happy and good each day. And he told them that he had many plans in mind about things that he would like to do for the children later on. He promised to tell them all about these plans in later letters, and he did this too. So you can see how it was that the book became quite large.

The children loved to have their mother talk with them, and so, soon after our last story, Sally and Tony took their little chairs and sat down by their mother, who smiled at them as she picked up her Bible from the table. "You know, children," she said, "when we have been reading Daddy's letters, I kept thinking of this precious book, the Bible. I wonder why I kept thinking of it?"

The children looked puzzled and could not think of an answer. "Well," said Mother, "I'll explain what I mean. You see, this Book is much more precious than any other book in the world.

"This Book is a very special book for many reasons. First, we must say that the stories in it are true, but the most important thing about this book is that we have it because our great Heavenly Father wanted the people of the world to know about His plans for us.

"You see, Daddy made some plans with you about making a vegetable garden, but you didn't know what to do about it until he wrote a letter in which he told you what you could do to get ready for planting the seeds.

Matthew 6:9-13  
Luke 11:2-4

"Now, Tony and Sally, you know that we have a Heavenly Father too, who cares for us in every way. Do you know what His name is? Yes, He is called God. You know that we say our prayers to God. We cannot see Him, but we know that He is a



real person, but not a person like people on earth. God is very wonderful. It was He who made the earth itself, the sun that shines in the sky in the daytime and the moon and stars that shine at night.

"It was God who decided a long, long time ago that there would be human beings, that is, people living on this earth. You remember that Adam and Eve were the very first man and woman whom God made, and He gave them a lovely part of the earth in which to live. It was called the Garden of Eden, wasn't it? But even before God made the first people on earth, He had created or made angels, spirit beings to live in heaven.

"God Himself is what we call a spirit being. So is His son Jesus. You know what Daddy looks like, don't you, because he lives here with us most of the time. It is only when he has to go away to another place that we cannot see him, and then we are so glad to receive his letters. But with God it is different, because we cannot see Him at any time. We cannot see spirit beings at all, because our eyes are not made to see them, but are only made to see things on the earth or in our sky. We would not even know that there is a God, and we would not know about His son Jesus, and we would not know about the angels in heaven, if God had not arranged it that we could have this precious book, the Bible, that tells us about them.

"And now, I want to tell you something that is very interesting indeed. You know how sometimes an idea comes into your head, and you run outside to do something that you have thought of?

"Well, God, at times, long ago, put special thoughts into the minds of certain people whom we call prophets and apostles, and made them understand that these were special thoughts from Him, and that they were to be written down so that all people who wished could read them and learn from them. God saw to it that many such special writings should be made, and when all were finished they were made into books called Bibles. The Bible then is sometimes called the Word of God, or God's Word.

2 Tim. 3:16-17  
Isaiah 55:11  
2 Peter 1:21

"So now you know why Daddy and Mummy call the Bible their special Book, because this book contains those things that God, who is our Heavenly Father, wants us to know. Many, many years ago, when we were children, we loved the Bible, and we love it more than ever now that we are older and know more about it. And we are quite sure that we shall always love it because it tells us such wonderful things, and it helps us to understand things that we could not possibly know without it.

"So you see, Sally and Tony, our earthly father can write us a letter, and tell us things that he wants us to know; and our Heavenly Father has given us a book that tells us wonderful things about ourselves and about His plans for us and for everyone.

"But we do need to remember that our Heavenly Father, God, is much, much greater than any earthly father. We cannot see Him or know what He looks like, but we know that He is holy and good and wise, and that everything that He does is good and right."

*'God loved the world so much,  
that He gave His only begotten son,  
that whosoever believeth in him  
should not perish  
but have everlasting life.  
For God sent not His son into the world  
to condemn the world;  
but that the world through him might be saved.'*

John 3:16, 17.

## THE THIRD STORY

# THE GARDEN OF THE LORD

In the next few weeks Tony and Sally enjoyed themselves very much as, with Mother's help, they made a kind of fence with stones around the plot of ground that was to be their very own garden.

Mother told them that some day the whole earth will be like a beautiful garden, and that everyone will be happy and good. Sally looked rather puzzled about this, because she had that very day found something in the garden that she couldn't feel happy about. Do you know what it was? There were some great, big snails which had spoiled some of the plants. "So," said Sally, "how can we be happy if after all our work the snails and other pests come in to eat the plants and stop them from growing properly?"

Mother smiled at the two children, and said, "Why, that is a very good question indeed." Then she added, "Suppose that we have a little rest from work now, and we can sit on the garden seat while I tell you what the Bible tells us in answer to your question."

You see," began Mother, "the Bible tells us that God made this beautiful earth to be the home of the great human family. The earth is really very big indeed, and at present many parts of the earth are what we call uninhabited. That means that in many parts of the world there are no people living there at all. But in the parts of the world where people do live, they do find, just as you did, Sally, that there are many pests that cause a lot of trouble, snails, grubs, caterpillars and many others.

"But the Bible tells us that some day, before very long, Jesus, God's own Son, will take charge of the earth for a thousand years, and that in that time only good things will be allowed. That means that no pests will be allowed, and nothing at all that would spoil things and make people unhappy."

Mother opened her Bible. That wonderful time is often called the Kingdom of Christ, because Jesus Christ will then be King. But remember, he is a spirit being, and human beings will not be able to see him. However, Jesus will see to it that everything will be good at that time.

Isaiah 11:6, 9

Isaiah 35

"You know, the prophet Isaiah wrote down some wonderful thoughts that God had put into his mind. He said, 'They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy kingdom.' He also said, 'The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid: and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.' We are also told that in the Kingdom 'the desert shall blossom as the rose', and that the whole earth will become like the Garden of Eden. So we can be sure that the time will certainly come when there will be no pests of

any sort to spoil the beautiful world that God created for the whole human family."

But Mother noticed that Tony was looking very thoughtful, and she wondered what he was thinking about just then. "You know," he said, "it's not just snails and grubs that spoil the garden. People spoil it too. Those children who climbed through the fence and broke some of the tomato plants and trod on the lettuces spoiled the garden too. Will people do things like that in the Kingdom?" "A good question," said Mother. "No, people won't be allowed to do wrong things. But it will be even better than that, because people will learn not to want to spoil things. Perhaps they won't learn to do good things all at once, but gradually all will learn, until in the end everyone will be happy to do what is good, not only for themselves but for everyone. You know how happy you are when you have made Mummy and Daddy and others happy. Well, during the Kingdom, when Jesus is the King or Ruler of the whole world, all people will become like that."

The children looked at one another and then at their mother. "Could we help you tomorrow to dig and look after the Big Garden -- yours and Daddy's?" "Why, of course!" said Mother.

## THE FOURTH STORY

# GOD'S HELPERS

A few days later, Sally and Tony were busy helping in what they called the 'Big Garden'.

Ephesians 3:11

After a while Mother called them to her, and said, "Today I have something really wonderful to tell you, something about God's plans for the people who live on this planet Earth."

The twins hurried to their mother and sat down on their little chairs, their faces eagerly turned towards her. How keen they were to hear what their mother had to tell them. Their mother too was eager to talk again with the children about the things that God tells us in the Bible, but this time the twins could see that their mother was quite excited. Her face was pink with enthusiasm. That big word means that their mother was just bubbling over with gladness about the things that she wanted to tell them.

You know, children," she said, "I've noticed how happy you have been today and yesterday, specially happy, and I know why. It is because you have been so glad to help Daddy and Mummy with the work in the 'Big Garden', where we are growing vegetables and fruit for the family, and some flowers too to put in the vases. It is good to be helpers, isn't it? I expect that there have been other children watching through the fence and wishing that they could help too. But, of course, they aren't asked to do so. But later, when the vegetables and fruit grow, well be glad to give them some to take home, won't we?

Now, dears, here is a wonderful part of God's plan that makes Mummy and Daddy and others who know about it so happy that they want to tell everyone about it. They just can't keep it to themselves.

You see, just as Daddy and Mummy love to have helpers in their Big Garden, so God long, long ago decided that He wanted to have helpers too. What do you think of that?

"Well, in the Bible God has told us that He, first of all, decided that forever His dear Son Jesus Christ would be His chief helper, but He also decided that Jesus (who, you remember, is a spirit being) would have some special helpers too.

Now, listen to this! God had made some wonderful angels in heaven, hadn't He? He could have chosen them, or some of them, to be Jesus' special helpers in the Kingdom, couldn't He?

"But He didn't, you know!

He decided instead that He would choose some people from the ones on earth, not angels, but human people, men and women who love God and want to work for Him. God decided that some people from this earth would be made 'spirit beings' in the Kingdom. That means that in the Kingdom, instead of living on earth, they would live in heaven with Jesus. They would be his helpers. That would truly be wonderful, wouldn't it?

"The Bible tells us that most people in the Kingdom will be happy to live on the earth, but some will live with Jesus in heaven, because that will be where they really want to be."

At this point, Sally had a question. "How many helpers will Jesus have?" she asked.

Luke 12:32

"The Bible tells us that there will be many thousands," their mother answered. "That may seem to us to be quite a big number, but Jesus said that there would be a 'little flock'."

"Oh," exclaimed Tony, "That means 'sheep', doesn't it?" Mother smiled. "Not always. Jesus meant that, just as a little flock of sheep would be rather a small number, so it would be that only a certain number, not a big number of people, would become Jesus' special helpers as 'spirit beings' in the Kingdom.

"You remember, of course, that Adam and Eve were the very first people to live on this earth. You know that they had children and grandchildren, and since then millions and millions and millions of people have lived on earth. Most of these people will live again on this lovely earth in the Kingdom, but those who will be Jesus' 'little flock' will not be on the earth, but will be spirit beings like Jesus."

Tony looked a little puzzled.

"Mummy, Adam and Eve lived in a lovely garden once, didn't they, and they did what God said they mustn't do, and they had to go out of the garden, didn't they? Where are they now? Are they in heaven with Jesus?"

"No," said Mother. "God made Adam and Eve, the first man and woman. This earth was to be their home and the home of all their children and grandchildren and the rest of the people. That is why God had made the earth. He made it for all the people who were to live on it. That was God's plan. As you know, Adam and Eve disobeyed God, so they were sent away from the Garden of Eden, and afterwards, after many years they died. Every person since then has sooner or later died, when his or her life has been lived.

John 3:16  
1 Timothy 2:6

"But God loved the people whom He had made, and Jesus loved them too, and so in the Kingdom Adam and Eve and all the people will wake up and live again on this earth. It is lovely to think that they can come back and learn to do right, isn't it?"

"Now, Tony, you asked whether Adam and Eve are in heaven, and I have said, No.

"The reason for this is that they were never invited to go to live in heaven. They were told that the earth would be their home.

"For a long time nobody was invited to become Jesus' special helpers in his Kingdom.

But the time at last came when this special invitation was given to some of earth's people. However, we shall have to leave this wonderful part of God's Plan for another day, as Mother has some more work to do."

*'God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;  
and there shall be no more death,  
neither sorrow, nor crying,  
neither shall there be any more pain:  
for the former things are passed away.  
And he that sat upon the throne said,  
Behold, I make all things new.'*

Revelation 21:4, 5.

## THE FIFTH STORY

# GOD'S CHIEF HELPER, JESUS

Revelation 3:14  
Colossians 1:15

"Now, dears," said Mother, next evening, "before I tell you any more about the wonderful invitation that God has given, so that some people could become His special helpers in the Kingdom, I want to tell you about Jesus, because he was the very first being (person) that God created (or made), and he has always been God's most faithful helper.

"So you can see that those of us who want to be God's helpers want to know all that we can about Jesus.

John 1:3  
Genesis 1:26  
Col. 1:15,16

"You remember that, long, long ago, before there were any people on the earth, before there were any angels in heaven. God was all by Himself. God decided then that He would like to have a son, so He made another wonderful spirit being and called him the Logos. The Logos was good and loving like his Heavenly Father, and they were very happy. They talked together, and, John after a time, they made many other spirit beings which we call angels. The Logos himself was the very chief of all the beings that had been created. In the Bible he is sometimes called the Archangel or Chief Angel. The Logos was specially wonderful, for he was God's son, wasn't he? This is the one whom we know as Jesus.

"Among the angels was one called Lucifer, who was very beautiful too, but it was sad that Lucifer began to be jealous of the Logos, and he wanted to be even as great as God. This Lucifer later had another name, for he came to be called Satan.

"Now, you, Tony, and Sally too, know how wrong it is to be jealous and greedy. If we let ourselves be jealous and greedy for something that belongs to someone else, it makes us and others unhappy, and it causes us to do bad, selfish things that we would never have thought of doing before. That then is what happened to Satan (Lucifer).

"However, let us go on with the story; and remember that all these stories are True Stories. This is important. Many stories that are told are only made up, but these stories are from the Bible and are true, really true.

Genesis 1:26,27  
Genesis 2:7,8  
Genesis 1:31

"You already know that God and His son, the Logos, (Jesus), had prepared this earth, with its mountains and green valleys and rivers and seas, -- and the lovely sunshine in the daytime and the moonlight and the twinkling stars at night. There were animals and birds, too, and flowers and fruit. At last the time came when a part of the earth was all ready for the people whom God intended to make. Then He made Adam and Eve, and how happy they were in their lovely home, which was called the Garden of Eden. Everything was beautiful, and everything was very good.



"In the Bible we read that in the garden there were many lovely trees, beautiful to look at and, no doubt, bearing lovely flowers of the most beautiful colors. Some of the trees were fruit trees, and Adam and Eve were able to enjoy fruit as well as the vegetables that they could grow; so they would be very healthy and happy.

"When you are older you will be able to read all about this for yourselves, but even now we can enjoy the truths of the Bible together, can't we? I want to read to you a verse from the first book in the Bible. It says, 'And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.' Look on my Bible and see for yourselves these words that I have just read. That's right. It's verse 9."

Genesis 2:9

Tony and Sally looked intently at the verse that their mother pointed out to them, and smiled at her. "Read us some more," they said. "Will you, please?"

"Yes, I shall," said their mother, "and I want you to listen very carefully. You see, God had provided for the man and woman everything that they could need, everything. But there was one tree in the garden whose fruit they were not to eat. Listen! I'll read the verse. Here it is. Verse 17. Of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.'

"God said, 'Thou shalt not eat of it.' That was plain enough, wasn't it, but Adam and Eve disobeyed God and were sent away from their home in Eden. They could have lived for ever in that lovely home if they had been obedient, but it was Satan, that proud and jealous angel, who tempted them and persuaded them to disobey. Because of this God could not let them live for ever there, and so they went away into the part of the earth outside Eden, until many years later they died.

"Now this was very sad. But God was so wonderfully kind and good that He had a special plan that would help the people. God planned that, although all the people would die, His son, the Logos, (Jesus), would do a really marvellous thing so that all the people would live again in the Kingdom.

"Do you remember, Sally, when you were very naughty one day, and Daddy and Mummy sent you into your bedroom all by yourself as a punishment? Its not often that you are naughty, but you were that day, and you cried hard when you were shut in your bedroom. Poor Tony was so sorry for you. Do you remember what he did for you? He asked us to shut him in the room and let you come out. Do you remember how we let him do that for you, and you were so happy, and so was he? This was kind of Tony, wasn't it? But, you see. Jesus was so loving and kind that he was very willing to come from heaven to earth, even to become an earthly being, a man, for a time, and to die, in order to make it possible for all the people of the world to live again.

"That is just what he did!

1 Timothy 2:5-6

"Adam and Eve sinned, that is, they did wrong, and were punished. That was why they could not live for ever in Eden, but they died, just as God had said they would if they disobeyed. But Jesus took the punishment himself for them, and, because he did that, Adam and Eve and all people who have ever lived will come to life again, when the right time comes. What Jesus did in allowing himself to be killed, so that all others could have life, is called in the Bible the 'giving of his life as a ransom for all', but this is something that we can talk about more when you are both a little older. Haven't we a lovely time ahead of us! The Bible is just full of wonderful treasures that we can talk about and think about all of our lives."

### **MORE ABOUT JESUS**

"We were talking about Jesus, weren't we? You know that he left his home in heaven, and was born as a perfect little baby at a place called Bethlehem in Judea. Here, I'll show you the place on the map. It's not far from Jerusalem, only about five miles. That is eight kilometers. But, until he was a grown man of thirty years of age, he probably spent most of his life in the little town of Nazareth, which was not very far from the Sea of Galilee. I'll show you all these places on the map. It's interesting, isn't it?

Luke 2:10-14  
Luke 2:40-51

"We can read in the Bible about the time when Jesus was born. Even the angels sang for joy at his birth. Some time you can read in the Bible about the time when he was taken to Jerusalem when he was 12 years of age. There he spent some time in the Temple discussing with the learned men many things concerning Gods plans and the Kingdom. It is a very interesting story indeed. Even when Jesus was very young he loved to discuss the Word of God, or perhaps we could say the Words of God, those things written down in the Bible for us.

"Jesus had a great love for his Heavenly Father, and when he grew to be a grown-up man, he spent his time teaching the people about God, and helping them in many ways. One of his apostles has told us in the Bible that Jesus 'went about doing good'.

"Mummy and Daddy are so happy to tell you about the things that Jesus taught the people about God and His wonderful plans for the Kingdom, and we know that you too are happy to think of these things.

"You know, Jesus is the only person who has ever lived on this earth without ever doing or saying anything wrong in his whole life. He loved to do right, and he never did wrong, not ever!"

Matt. 19:13, 15 "He loved people and wanted to help them in all ways. He loved the children, and once when some mothers brought their children to see Jesus, some of Jesus' friends were going to send them away, because they thought that Jesus was too busy to see them. But what do you think? Jesus saw them and he said, "No, no, let the little children come to me!" Wasn't that lovely? How very glad those children must have been to have Jesus talk with them.

Matt. 14:14-21 "He did many wonderful things that proved that he was really the son of God. God made him able to do these things. For example, Jesus one day was telling a great crowd of more than five thousand people about the Kingdom, and also about the way God wanted them to live. After a time the people began to feel hungry: and, would you believe it, most of the people had been so eager to come to see and hear Jesus that they had not brought any lunch. Among them all they had only five loaves and two fish. Think of that! That wouldn't go far among so many people, would it? But Jesus just asked God to bless the food, and then he divided it all and told his friends to share it out among the people. But another surprising thing was that, after all the people had eaten all that they wanted, there were 12 baskets of food over! Now, we know perfectly well that no one else but God and His son Jesus could perform a miracle like that."

John 11 At this point Tony and Sally sat very quietly for a minute. Then Sally spoke. "Mother, didn't you tell us one day that Jesus made a dead man alive again? No one else could do that either. Would that be a miracle too?" Their mother looked pleased. "Why, yes, indeed. That, I suppose, John was the most wonderful miracle of all. That man's name was Lazarus, and he had two sisters named Martha and Mary.

Luke 7:12-15  
Luke 8:41, 42,  
49-56 "We also read in the Bible that Jesus brought a young man and a girl back to life. The little girl was only 12 years of age when she died, and how happy her parents were when Jesus woke Luke her up again.

"But remember, children," said Mother, "the important thing is that, because Jesus obeyed God in every way and even died for Adam and Eve and all the people of the world, in his Kingdom all the people, everybody who has died, everybody, will be given life again. That will be very wonderful, won't it?"

"Now," added Mother, "would you like us to read together the part in the Bible about Jesus feeding all those people?"

The children, with eyes shining, nodded. So Mother opened her Bible, showed the twins the place, and then read to them the story as the Apostle Matthew told it and wrote it down. (Matthew 14:14-21).

"That was wonderful!" exclaimed Tony, when his mother had finished reading. "It will be a happy time when all people in the world have all the food they need and

everything else that they could want."

"Yes, that is true," replied his mother, "and remember that, at that time, no one will be ill. Everyone will be fit and well."

"That will be good." said Sally. "The little girl over the road will be glad about that because she is blind and can't see any of the things around her, the flowers and birds and animals. She can't even see her own father and mother. Will Jesus make all the blind people see again?"

Isaiah 35:5, 6

"I'm glad that you have asked that question." answered her mother. "The answer is right here in the Bible, so we can be quite sure about it. When Jesus was here on earth, he healed some blind people, making them able to see again. But in the Kingdom all will be healed, not just a few. You remember the prophet who wrote that 'the desert shall blossom as the rose'. That was the prophet Isaiah. Well, he also said that the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped'. He said too that the lame people will be made well again.

"Jesus did make some blind people to see and he made some other sick or lame people well and healthy again, but that was just so that we would truly know that he could do these things, and that he will, at the right time, during his Kingdom, bless all the people.

"You know," added Mother, "one of my favorite stories is written for us in the Bible in the ninth chapter of the Gospel record that the Apostle John has given us. John was a faithful follower of Jesus. See, here's the chapter. It tells us that one day Jesus saw a man who had never been able to see -- not ever. He had never seen the blue sky or the green fields and, when people spoke of places and things, that man had just to guess what they may have been like."

"Poor man," said Sally. "Just think what it would be like only to be able to stroke our pet lamb, but not to be able to see him. I wouldn't like that."

"I'm sure you wouldn't, and neither would I," replied Mother. "Anyway, we read in the Bible that Jesus worked a marvelous miracle for that man, and gave him perfect sight so that he could see as well as you and I can. How do you think that man would feel?"

"He would say 'Thank you' to Jesus, wouldn't he," said Tony, "and he would be so excited to see the people and animals and trees, -- everything that he'd never been able to see before."

"That's right," agreed his mother. "And I want to tell you something very important about Jesus. He was able to do those wonderful things, those miracles, because his Heavenly Father, God, gave him the power to do them. Jesus loved God very dearly, and when people thanked him he always said that the blessing really came from God. Jesus did not boast, did he? He loved God and he loved all the people.

from God. Jesus did not boast, did he? He loved God and he loved all the people. That is why he always wanted to help and bless the people."

"You would think that all the people would love such a good and wonderful person as Jesus, wouldn't you!" exclaimed Tony. "Yes, indeed," answered his mother. "Many did love him, and they came to be known as his disciples or followers. But there were people who, like Satan, you remember, were jealous of Jesus. These people became his enemies, and at last Jesus was put to death. He was killed very cruelly. Of course, Satan was very glad when Jesus was killed.

"But God knew all about it, and three days later He brought Jesus back to life, and soon afterwards he (Jesus) returned to his heavenly home. How glad God and all the holy angels must have been to have Jesus, the great Logos, with them again.

"But, you see, Jesus had done a wonderful thing. He had taken the 'punishment' of death so that Adam and Eve and all their children -- all the people who have ever lived -- will come to life again. That means the whole human family of millions and millions and millions."

Suddenly Sally had an idea. Her eyes sparkled. "Why!" she exclaimed, "What a big family Adam and Eve had! Ours is only a little family. There are only you and Daddy and Tony and me."

"But what about Grandpa and Grandma?" asked Tony.

"Quite right," said Mother, "and you have another Grandpa and Grandma who write to us but live too far away to visit us. One Grandma and Grandpa are my parents, and the others are your daddy's mother and father. So our family is quite large, isn't it? And, of course, we have other relations. Then we remember that our grandparents had parents and grandparents, too. In fact, when we think about it, we understand that all people are members of the one great human family. Isn't it good to know that all of them will live again in the Kingdom, and they will enjoy all the happy times that God has planned for them. Let us remember that all this will come about because Jesus, the Son of God, came to earth and died for us all. No wonder we love him so much!"

## THE SIXTH STORY

# SPECIALLY TRAINED HELPERS

The next day, the twins were ready for another story. Early in the afternoon when Mother had finished her work, they reminded her that she had promised to tell them more about Jesus' helpers. "Yes," said their mother, with an affectionate smile. "I was wondering whether you would remember."

"Oh, yes!" exclaimed the twins together. "We couldn't forget that." They looked at each other, and added, "We both want to be Jesus' helpers."

Mother looked lovingly at her two dear little children. "Yes, I'm sure that you would," she said. "Well, the first thing to do is to learn all you can from the Bible. Mummy and Daddy will be glad to help you. We shall enjoy that, shan't we?"

"Then there is something else very important. God is so good. His son Jesus is so good. They do want their helpers to want very much to be good too. We all make mistakes and are not always as good as we want to be, but we must always try to do our best, mustn't we?"

The children agreed that this was right, and so Mother began her story.

"You remember," she said, "that when the time has come for Jesus to be King over the whole world, he will have some special helpers to help him to do all that will have to be done.

"Now, people can't help if they don't know how to, can they? Do you remember when the builder arranged to build our new house, when he was ready to start work, he asked two young men to come to work for him for a few weeks. Those two young men were carpenters. They had spent a few years learning all about building houses, and when they had finished their training they were able to go out working at building houses. What do you think might have happened if the builder had not bothered to get proper carpenters, but had just asked anybody to help him?"

"Why," said Tony, "I suppose the walls might be crooked." "Yes," laughed Sally. "Perhaps the roof might fall in, and the rain would come in."

"Exactly," laughed Mother. "So you see that people who are to be helpers must be made ready beforehand. They have to be taught first, don't they? Then the builder would know that the job would be done properly.

"Now, Tony and Sally, what about Jesus' helpers? Do you think that it would be very important for his helpers to be got ready beforehand?" "Oh, yes," said the children.

"Well," said Mother, "in the Bible we read that for a long time God has been watching and taking notice of the people who love Him, and love to do right and to help others. He sees them when they are little children like you, and He sees them when they are grown up like Mummy and Daddy. He specially notices that they try to find out from the Bible what He wants them to do, so that they can do the best things.

Revelation 20:4

"I'm sure that you remember that I told you that God has been choosing some special helpers who will be with Jesus, and will 'live and reign with him for a thousand years'. These ones are the 'little flock' which we spoke of before. They will be spirit beings, won't they, like Jesus, and heaven will be their home.

"But Jesus will need some special helpers right here on the earth, won't he? We must remember that all the people who have ever lived will be alive again, and most of them will be on the earth. Some of these have been just the kind of people who will be ready to do what Jesus knows should be done to help all the rest of the people.

"The Bible tells about Abraham, Isaac, Moses, Daniel and many others who lived many, many hundreds of years before Jesus left heaven and came to this earth.

Psalms 45:16  
Hebrews 11

"The people who lived in those early times were never invited by God to become Jesus' helpers in the Kingdom as spirit beings, to live in heaven. But some of those faithful ones of the time long, long ago will be able to be Jesus' helpers here on earth. The Bible tells us that Abraham, Isaac, Moses and others will be 'princes in all the earth'. They will teach and help the people in many ways, as Jesus' helpers. What do you think of that?"

"Won't all the people want to help?" asked the children. "Why, of course," answered Mother. "In the end, earth will become a very happy place where everyone will be helpful to everyone else. No one will be unhappy."

There was silence for quite a while. Mother sat watching the children, but she didn't interrupt their thoughts.

After a while, Sally and Tony whispered to each other, and then looked eagerly at their mother, and the question in their minds came out with a great rush, -- "Mother, will we be able to be Jesus helpers? We do want to help him in the Kingdom!"

Their mother smiled tenderly. "Yes, children, you will be able to help, and in fact you, though young, can start preparing now for that time."

"Will we be helpers with Jesus as spirit beings, Mother, or will we be helpers on the earth?" asked Tony. "That, Tony," replied Mother, "is not for me to say. It is God Himself and His son Jesus who make that choice. The thing for you to do is to learn

Himself and His son Jesus who make that choice. The thing for you to do is to learn about God and His wonderful plans that He has told us about in His Book, the Bible. I think that you will learn to love Him more and more as you come to know Him more, and then when you are older you will be able to know what you truly want, and God and His son Jesus will help you and show you how to succeed."

There was another quiet moment, and then both children kissed their mother and quietly walked off hand in hand to tend the plants in the garden.

*'Continue thou in the things which thou has learned  
and hast been assured of,  
knowing of whom thou hast learned them;  
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 Jesus Christ.'*

2 Timothy 3:14, 15.



## THE SEVENH STORY TEMPTATION

A few days later, when Mother was going into the garden, the two little children were waiting for her in silence by the kitchen door. At once, she knew that something was wrong, for Sally was very nearly crying, and Tony looked down at the ground.

"Now," said Mother, "what has happened? Something is wrong, isn't it? You must tell me."

At this, Sally burst into tears, and Tony very nearly did too, but he managed to speak in a shaky little voice. He didn't like to tell his mother what had happened, because both children felt guilty. They had done something that they knew they should not have done, and now saw the harm that their action had caused.

"We climbed over the fence into next door's garden, and Sally fell down on a flower-bed and some lovely gladioli are broken -- the very best ones. " At this, they both sobbed bitterly.

Their mother listened to their story, and when they had stopped crying, she asked them gently and sadly, "Why did you climb the fence when you knew that you have never been allowed to do that? Why did you do it?"

"I don't know," said Sally, miserably. "I don't know either," said Tony. "We just wanted to do it, and we didn't remember that we shouldn't."

"Well, first of all," their mother said, "we must go to tell our neighbor what has happened. Don't you think we should do that?" The children agreed, and with their mother they went to tell their neighbor how very sorry they were about the broken gladioli, and to promise that it would never, never happen again.

On their return to their own garden, Mother sat down with Sally and Tony on the old garden seat, and said to them, "You know, children, the really wrong thing that you did today was that you listened to Satan when he whispered to you to climb that fence."

The children looked surprised and puzzled at that, and wondered what their mother could mean. "You didn't actually hear someone whispering to you, or see anyone, did you," she added. "No," they both answered.

"But," said their mother, "you just think. Where were you when that little thought came into your mind to climb that fence?"

"Why," said Tony, "it was just when I was looking through the fence and wishing that I could see what was growing in the garden over the other side."

"Exactly," said Mother. "That's when Satan popped that naughty idea into your mind. Satan, you know, is that bad spirit being who was once called Lucifer. You can't see him but he is a real being, just the same. I've told you about him before, haven't I? It is he who has caused all the wrong things to be done, and he tempts people to do wrong whenever he has a chance. So when he put that thought into your mind, he was tempting you; that means that he was trying to make you do wrong. Do you think that you should have listened to him?"

"No, we shouldn't have," exclaimed the twins.

"You must always remember," said their mother, "that God loves you and wants you to be good, and then you and others will be happy. Always remember this. God never tempts us or coaxes us to do wrong, never. It is Satan who does this; so be careful, and when wrong thoughts come into your mind, you just send them out! You don't want Satan to cause you to do wrong things, do you?" "No, we don't," the children replied, both together. "Well, you mustn't let him. Remember this: Satan can't make us do wrong, if we don't let him. You didn't have to climb the fence, did you, just because Satan put the thought into your heads. You could have said, No. Let me tell you, though," added their mother, "that Mummy and Daddy and everyone else should be careful too, because Satan doesn't only tempt children to do wrong things, but he tries to make adults think and do wrong things too. He tries to make us disobey God. So we want to be strong, don't we, and to obey God at all times."

Tony looked thoughtful for a minute. Then he asked, "Is that how Satan made Adam and Eve disobey God? Did he tempt them the way he tempted Sally and me?"

"Yes," said their mother. "He did indeed. You see, God had clearly told them that they were not to eat of the fruit of that special tree, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, and He made it clear that, if they disobeyed, they would in time die. Evidently Satan was very cunning. One day, Eve noticed that a serpent (which was a kind of snake) was coiled around a branch of the forbidden tree, that is, the tree whose fruit Adam and Eve had been told not to eat. The serpent was evidently eating some fruit from that tree, and Eve was interested to watch. This was the moment when Satan began showing his cunning. This is when he slipped the little thought into her mind, "Why, the serpent is enjoying that lovely fruit, and he looks quite healthy! He doesn't look as if he is dying." Eve quite forgot that God's instruction about the fruit concerned only herself and Adam. So Satan continued his evil work of temptation. Eve remembered that God had said that they would die if they ate the fruit, but now the thought came into her mind, "God said that we would die, but perhaps we would not. The serpent isn't dying. The fruit looks so lovely, and if it doesn't hurt the serpent perhaps it wouldn't hurt us. It certainly would be nice to taste some."

would be nice to taste some."

"A little more tempting by Satan, and Eve had reached out, taken some fruit, and had indeed tasted it. Without thinking further, she gave some to Adam, who ate it also. Oh, how foolish and wrong of them! Very soon they felt guilty and ashamed. They knew very well that they had disobeyed and deserved to lose the blessings that God had so generously given them. And indeed, this is what happened. As you know, they had to leave their lovely home in Eden, and in time they both died, just as God had said. What a sad thing it was that they had allowed them-selves to be led by Satan into that disobedient act. Their children too and all the rest of the human family suffered and died because of the sin of Adam and Eve.

"However, we know that Adam and Eve and all the members of their large family, that is, all the people who have ever lived, will live again, because Jesus willingly gave his life so that God's great Plan of blessing can be carried out. We are very glad about that, aren't we?"

The twins looked at their mother. "Yes," said Tony. "I'm glad that they will have a chance to do better."

"So am I," agreed Sally. "Adam and Eve did love their children, didn't they, and taught them about God. I think that they must have often felt sorry that they did wrong and brought trouble on themselves and their children."

"Yes." said Mother. "God is very loving and kind, isn't He? He knows that, when His Son Jesus becomes the King and Ruler, the people will learn to do right and will be happy to do so. But we can remember right now that God is always ready to forgive us, when we tell Him that we are sorry that we have done wrong, and promise that we shall do our best in future. We should think of this when we say our prayers at night, shouldn't we? We can ask God to forgive us for the things that we have done wrong, and we can ask Him to help us to do better. Do you know, I think that it is a good idea to say a little prayer in the morning, too. We can ask God to help us to be obedient and kind and good all day. He does help us, but we must try to remember, and not let old Satan lead us into wrong things."

Tony and Sally smiled at their mother. It was Sally this time who spoke for both of them. "We do want God to forgive us," she said, "and, please Mother, we are truly sorry that we did wrong and climbed that fence today. We promise that we'll be careful next time. We won't let old Satan win. We just won't!"

## THE EIGHTH STORY

# PEACE AND HAPPINESS FOREVER

Some time later, on a glorious sunny summer day, Mother and the twins enjoyed a very special 'treat'. They spent the whole day picnicking at a river a few miles from their home. They had visited the place months before in the winter time when the weather was chilly and many of the trees were bare of leaves. That time they did not stay very long.

But on the day about which I am telling you it was pleasant in every way; and all three of them enjoyed every minute of the time.

They enjoyed the sound of the river as the water flowed along, sometimes rippling over rocks and sometimes swishing against the banks. In one place the water divided and flowed on both sides of a small island which had some shrubs and small trees growing on it.

When the three walked some distance along the bank and turned a bend in the river, they came suddenly upon a really thrilling sight! There before them was a most beautiful waterfall, with ever so much water tumbling over a cliff into a large pool below. At this part of the river bank, there were lovely green ferns and trees, many of them with bright yellow flowers, and others with white and pink flowers. It was all so very beautiful that the children were amazed and excited. Of course, they gathered some wild-flowers that grew within their reach, but part of the time they were happy just to sit and listen to the sound of the splashing and flowing water.

After lunch, which Mother had so carefully prepared before they left home, the twins looked at her. Then they began to laugh. "Why!" said their mother. "This is a happy day, isn't it!"

"Yes!" exclaimed the twins. "And its a happy place too, isn't it?"

Mother smiled at them. "You know," she said, "I was just thinking that a happy day like this helps us to have a little idea of some of the wonders that people will enjoy when the Kingdom of Jesus Christ brings its blessings of peace and happiness to the world."

"When will the Kingdom be here?" asked Sally. "Will it be before Tony and I grow up?"

"I don't really know," replied her mother gently. "But the Bible makes it clear that it won't be very long. However, the important thing is that it will come at the time that God has planned, which will be the right time, won't it? God's plans always

come to pass. He always keeps His promises. Jesus always keeps his promises too.

Genesis 22:18  
Genesis 26:4  
Genesis 28:14

"The Kingdom in which Jesus and his helpers will bring about the blessing of 'all the families of the earth' will truly come, because God has promised it.

Suppose we sit here in this lovely place and pretend for a little while that we can actually see what will be happening in the Kingdom. Let's think what the world will be like then. How will we start, I wonder?"

"Well," said Tony, "after Jesus has been King, there won't be any weeds in the earth garden. There'll be only beautiful and good things."

"But some weeds are pretty," said Sally. "They're all right if they are not growing where we are growing our flowers and vegetables."

"You're quite right, Sally," said Mother. "Very well, gradually the earth itself will become beautiful with lovely flowers and ..." "streams and waterfalls and islands," interjected Tony. "Yes," continued Mother, "mountains and valleys, lakes and oceans. -- You remember the words of the hymn, -- 'All things bright and beautiful, The Lord God made them all'."

"But what about the people in the Kingdom?" asked Mother. "After all our discussions together, I'm sure that you know a great deal about the people in the Kingdom."

"One thing I know," said Tony, is that all the dead people will wake up and will be alive again.

"Yes," added Sally, and they will have plenty to eat, because all the earth will be made to grow everything that the people could want. There won't be any places that won't grow things, will there?"

"No," said Mother. "You are good children and remember very well. You remember, I'm sure, that the Bible says that 'the desert shall blossom ...' " "As the rose," chimed in the children, and Sally explained, "We know that, because we have some roses in our garden, and you told us about the bare ground becoming a garden to grow things."

Psalms 67:6

"The Bible says that in another way too," said Mother. It says that "Then shall the earth yield her increase: That means that the earth will grow all the crops for all the people. Everything that the people need will be there for them."

Suddenly, Tony looked a little worried. "Mother," he said, "what if, when all the people come alive again, there isn't enough room for all of them?"

"My! That is a question, Tony," said Mother. "Wouldn't it be strange if the great

God who made the earth on which we live, and then made the people to live on it, found out afterwards that He had made a mistake, and that the earth was too small!"

The children looked at each other and started laughing. Tony said sheepishly, "It was a silly question, wasn't it?"

But Mother answered, "Well, yes, although many people older than you have suggested the same thing; but we don't need to worry, because of course God has not made a mistake. He never makes mistakes. The human family will be just the right number for the earth home that God made for them. That is certain."

At this point the family decided to take another walk, so they strolled along a path leading away from the river, over a little hill, into a park. There they were pleased to see quite a crowd of people enjoying themselves in the sunshine.

However, quite soon, Mother and the twins agreed that they would like to go back to the river, and that's what they did. They found a grassy slope overlooking the little island that we spoke about before, and there they sat and continued their discussion about the Kingdom.

"By the way." Mother said, "we often speak of the Kingdom, using a longer name. We sometimes call it Christ's Millennial Kingdom. I don't think that you would know what the long word 'Millennial' means; do you?" The children shook their heads. "Well, that word just means 'a thousand years', so, when we speak about Jesus' Millennial Kingdom, we are just saying that it will be a Kingdom that will last for a thousand years. So it is quite an easy name, really. Can you say it, do you think?"

Tony said it first, "Jesus' Millennial Kingdom," and then Sally tried. They stumbled a bit at first, but very soon they could say it as well as their mother could.

Then Mother asked, "Who will be the one really in charge of everything during that Millennium or thousand years?" "Why, Jesus!" chorused the twins. "Right," said Mother. "Now, I wonder if you can remember enough to answer this next question as well as you answered that one."

The children listened carefully, eyes showing their keenness. Mother continued, "You know that Jesus is now and will always be a spirit being. Who will be his most special helpers in the Kingdom?"

"Oh, we know that!" exclaimed Sally eagerly. "It will be the 'little flock', and they will be spirit beings like Jesus."

Mother felt very happy, because, of course, Sally was quite right, and Tony agreed with her, and he was quick to say so.

"Now," said Mother, "Jesus and the 'little flock', though they themselves will be spirit beings and will not be seen by the people, will have helpers right here on the earth, helpers that all the people will be able to see. Who will those helpers be? Do you remember?"

The twins whispered together for a minute or two, and then Tony said. "I think that Abraham will be one of them." "Good boy," said his mother. "And Isaac," said Sally. "Yes," agreed Mother. "and what about the leader who led the Israelites away from Egypt across the Red Sea? Remember?" "Oh, that was Moses," said Tony, "wasn't it?"

"Yes," said Mother. "You are doing very well. Many of those faithful leaders who loved and served God in ancient times, or as we may say, long, long ago, will be Jesus' special helpers on the earth. Another of them will be David, who was a shepherd boy who became king of the little country of Israel, and Daniel, who would not disobey God, and was put in the lions' den. Another one would be John the Baptist who lived at the time when Jesus lived on the earth, you remember. He was the man who told the people that Jesus was the 'Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world'. These and others are often called 'Ancient Worthies', because they were very noble and good or worthy people who lived in ancient times (that is, long, long ago).

John 1:29

"So, in the Kingdom, Jesus' chief helpers will be, first, the 'little flock' who will be spirit beings, and second, the 'ancient worthies' who will be the chief of the human beings."

Now, Tony had another question. "What will happen then if people listen to Satan when he tempts them to do wrong?" he asked.

"Ah!" said Mother. "God, in the Bible, tells us very clearly that, when Jesus is King, Satan will be stopped from tempting anyone. Jesus himself said that Satan would be 'bound' at that time, so that he could not deceive or tempt the people. So you see that the people will be helped in every way to do right, and Satan won't be able to spoil things. But people will have to learn to want to do right. It's little good just doing right because you have to. God wants people to do right because they know that is the best way to live, and because they want to do right, -- because they want to be good.

"That's why Jesus is to be King for a whole thousand years. That will give plenty of time for all the people to learn about the good laws that God and His son Jesus have planned for their benefit.

"By the end of that time, every person who has ever lived will have come to know how they should live if they want to live for ever and if they would deserve to live for ever.

"Then, one more thing would need to be done. You have heard how the big children at school have tests or examinations to see whether they have learned their lessons properly. Well, Jesus told us in the Bible that, just for a little while, Satan would again be allowed to have a try at tempting the people to do wrong. God will let him try to do this, just for a little while. But, at that time, everyone will know clearly what is right and what is wrong. Any people who, at that time, choose to do wrong will have proved that they don't deserve to live for ever. What do you think will happen to them? Well, they will just die again and will not waken up ever. They will just have their life taken away from them. That would be the kindest thing, wouldn't it? I am sure that there would not be many at all who would choose to obey Satan at that time, and all the rest of the people will have what the Bible calls everlasting life on the earth. They will never die, and they will for ever be happy and perfect. How very happy they will be doing all the very interesting things that perfect people will find to do. God too will bless them always.

"But what will happen to Satan?" asked Sally. "Will he be bound again?"

"The Bible tells us," said their mother, "that Satan will lose his life forever. You remember, of course, that he is not a human being but a spirit being; but God knows that Satan has become so evil, so wicked, that he will not ever change his ways and become good. So he will die, and that will be the end of Satan and the end of all evil."

Revelation 21:4

They were all silent for a minute or two, and then Mother added, "When we arrive home, I want to read to you from the Bible a verse that a little girl whom I know used to call the 'happy verse. I think I can say it from memory. Let us see. Jesus told the apostle John to write down these words so that we could read them. 'God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.'"

"Just think -- no more sickness, so no more doctors or nurses will be needed. No one will die any more, so there will be no more funerals. No more unhappiness, not ever. What a happy place this lovely earth home will be."

"Oh, how wonderful it will be when all badness is finished for ever," said Sally. "Nobody will ever be bad, even by mistake, because no one will make mistakes."

After a moment's silence, Tony smiled at his mother, "I'm so glad that we have a Mother who tells us all these lovely things about God and about Jesus and the Kingdom."

"So am I," agreed Sally, "and I'm going to try to be good and to learn as much as I can from the Bible, because I do want to be one of Jesus' helpers in the Kingdom."



Mother was about to answer, but the children suddenly noticed that the whole western sky was glowing with all the glorious colours of the sunset. And this reminded Mother that it was time to begin their walk home. "It really is a little later than I thought, but the time has seemed to pass quickly."

"We've had such a lovely day!" said Tony, and Sally added, "Perhaps we can come here again soon."

"Perhaps we shall, dears. But now we must start off for home."

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The story is nearly ended. When the family arrived home from that happy day's outing, what should they find in the letter box but a letter from Daddy. This time it contained the wonderful news that, within a few days, he would be coming home! How very glad they all were!

How glad the twins were that their small garden and the 'Big Garden' were both looking well cared for. They were sure that their daddy would be pleased about that. "And," said Mother, "I know something else that will make Daddy very happy indeed. It will be to see the fine 'letter-book' that you have made with his letters, and to know that you love so much to learn all the wonderful things that we read about in that other most precious Book, the Bible, the Word of God."

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*"The ransomed of the Lord shall return,  
and come to Zion  
with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads:  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."*

Isaiah 35:10.

The book referred to in the Introduction

**THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE AGES**

**is highly recommended,**

also the Children's Bible Story Book

**GOD'S PROMISES COME TRUE**