A photograph of an open Bible with hands holding it, a bowl of fruit, and roses in the background. The Bible is open to a page with text, and the hands are holding the edges. In the background, there is a bowl of fruit, including apples and grapes, and a bouquet of red roses. The scene is set on a wooden surface.

The Patriarchal Age

I

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Visualized Bible Study Series

Written by
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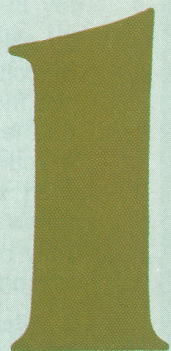
**AN OBJECTIVE SURVEY OF THE BIBLE
AND CHURCH HISTORY**

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Jule Miller

GOSPEL SERVICES INC., HOUSTON, TEXAS 77017



The Patriarchal Age



PURPOSE OF THIS LESSON

To present basic Bible stories which took place during the first period of Bible history—to help the Bible student develop a better concept of our Heavenly Father—and to lay a foundation of faith in the Bible as the all sufficient Word of God.

SYNOPSIS

This is the story of the creation, the first people, the first children, and the first sin. We see how God provided sacrifice for sin. As people multiplied on the earth, they became exceedingly wicked and because they would not repent, they were destroyed by a great flood except for eight people who believed and obeyed God. The story continues with the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, and finally ends with the deliverance of God's people from Egyptian slavery.



1. WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS! You are holding in your hand the first of five fully illustrated lessons which will help you in your study of the world's most wonderful book, **the Bible**. We welcome you into the ever-widening circle of people who are earnestly seeking a fuller understanding of God's Word. We congratulate you upon your decision to make this study. This may well be one of the most important decisions of your life.

Q. This course helps you study the world's most wonderful book, the _____, which is God's Word.

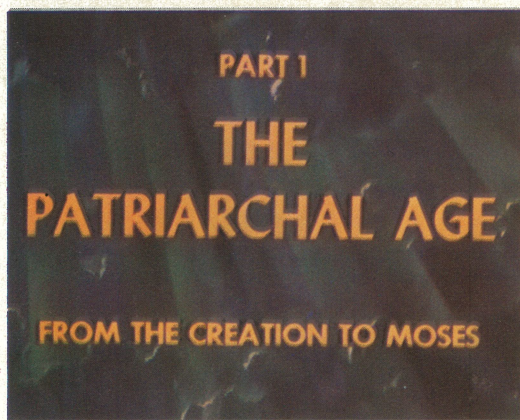
BIBLE



2. AN ATTRACTIVE AND IMPRESSIVE certificate of completion is waiting for you when you finish the five lessons. We recommend that you complete one lesson per week. Each lesson will mean more if you will first read the booklet through leisurely, then study it more in detail. **Bible** references follow many of the paragraphs so that the student may read the truths of **the Bible** for himself. Each lesson is concluded with 100 review questions.

Q. After first reading the lesson through the student then should _____ it more in detail for best results.

STUDY



3. PART ONE of the Visualized Bible Study Series is entitled "The Patriarchal Age." During this first period of **Bible History** God ruled men through family heads called "Patriarchs." Beginning with the Creation this Bible age reaches all the way to the time of Moses and the Exodus of God's people from the land of Egypt.

Q. The first Bible age is called THE PATRIARCHAL AGE because during this time God ruled through family heads called _____.

PATRIARCHS



4. FAMILIES LIKE THE JOHN NELSONS enjoy reading **the Bible** together daily because it contains the greatest message of the ages. **God's Word** is the most important book on earth because it is God's only **written revelation** to us. We owe it to ourselves to study **the Bible** daily, for, when Jesus comes again, each of us will be judged by **the Bible** (Revelation 20:12).

Q. The Bible is God's only written _____ to man.

REVELATION

5. JOHN NELSON IS A TYPICAL CHRISTIAN. He knows he will live forever, even after death. He knows also that **the Bible** is the **only book** which reveals where man came from, his purpose on the earth and what he is to believe and do to live with God eternally.² He can also know as he reads that every event and every person referred to in **the Bible** is in perfect harmony with all known secular history. Even the geographical references to rivers, lakes, physical terrain, and distances, are absolutely correct. Give yourself a chance to know this **Book of Life**.

¹ John 5:28, 29; ² 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.

Q. The only book which reveals man's origin, purpose and destiny is the _____.

BIBLE

6. PICTURES PAINTED BY GREAT ARTISTS are used throughout this series to help acquaint you with the world's only divinely inspired book, **the Bible**. Although about forty different men of varying backgrounds, castes, and cultures had a part in writing **the Bible** over a period of 1600 years, it contains a remarkable unity of message and harmony of purpose. This harmony is no accident. These writers were guided by Divine Wisdom.¹ Therefore, **the Bible** is the mind of God in human language. The apostle Peter said, "For the prophecy came not in the old time by the will of men; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit . . ." (2 Peter 1:21).

¹ Galatians 1:11, 12; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 13.

Q. The writers of the Bible were guided by Divine _____.

WISDOM

7. THIS CHART SHOWS that **the Bible** is actually a library of 66 books. The top shelves represent the 39 books of the **Old Testament** and the bottom shelf represents the 27 books of the **New Testament**. Both testaments are very important to the Christian, but the **New Testament** books are the Christian's guide for today.¹ For instance, when a person desires to become a Christian, he can read the **New Testament** Book of Acts which gives examples of conversions.²

¹ Hebrews 1:1, 2; ² Acts 2, 8, 16.

Q. Of the 66 books in the Bible, 39 are in the Old Testament and 27 in the New _____.

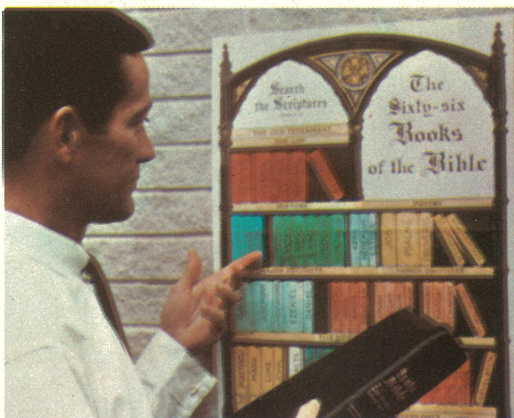
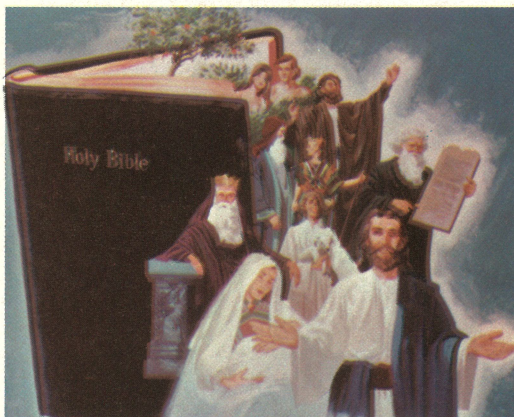
TESTAMENT

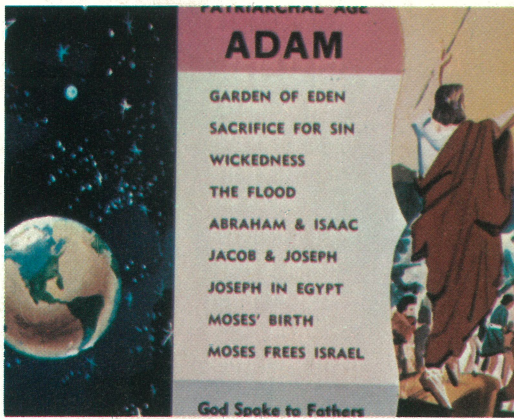
8. WE SHALL CONSIDER THE BIBLE from the standpoint of its three periods of history. These are: the Patriarchal Age, the Mosaic Age, and the Christian Age. Notice at the bottom of the charts that God spoke in the first period of time to the fathers of the households such as Adam. In the second period God gave **His law** through Moses. In the third period in which we now live the gospel came by Jesus Christ.¹ Once a person sees the overall picture of **the Bible**, he is able to understand, appreciate and study it more intelligently.

¹ John 1:17.

Q. There are _____ periods of Bible history.

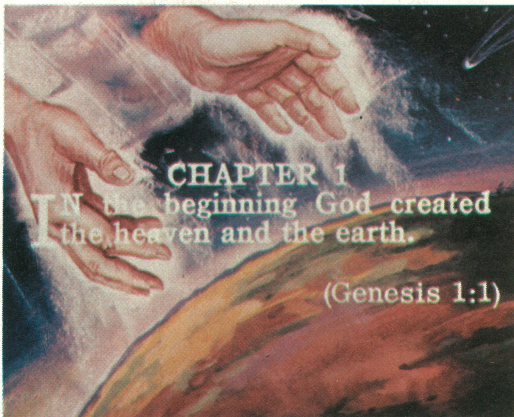
THREE





9. THE PATRIARCHAL AGE, the first period of Bible History, begins with the Creation. This period contains events which are well known to many people. After creation these events follow in order: The Garden of Eden, Sacrifice for Sin, How the World became Filled with Wickedness, The Great Flood, Abraham and Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, Joseph in Egypt, The Birth of Moses and Moses Frees Israel. Now we begin the account of God's creation:

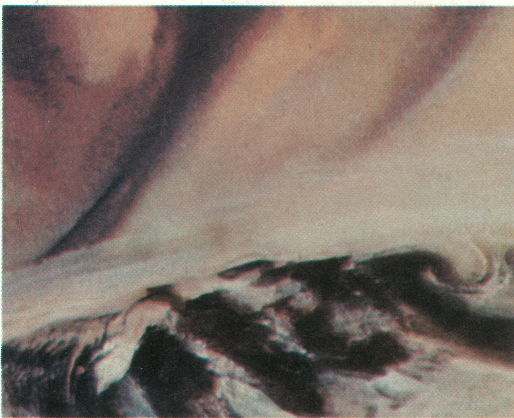
Q. The Patriarchal Age begins with the _____ CREATION



10. "IN THE BEGINNING GOD created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). This first verse of the Bible tells that God is the Creator.¹ The time of the creation was "in the beginning." Scientists now recognize five components which make up the world: time, force, energy, space and matter. All these components are in the very first words of the Bible: "In the beginning (time), God (force) created (energy) the heaven (space) and the earth (matter)."

¹ John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:16; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Hebrews 11:3.

Q. The first verse of the Bible sets forth God as _____ CREATOR



11. AT FIRST THE EARTH was a shapeless mass as suggested by this painting. The Bible says, "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" (Genesis 1:2). Then God commanded, "Let there be light."¹ This was the first recorded command of God.

¹ Genesis 1:3.

Q. The first recorded command of God was "Let there be _____." LIGHT



12. AT GOD'S WORD LIGHT CAME INTO existence. We know today that light is necessary to sustain life. The creation of light before life illustrates the fact that God created all things in logical order.

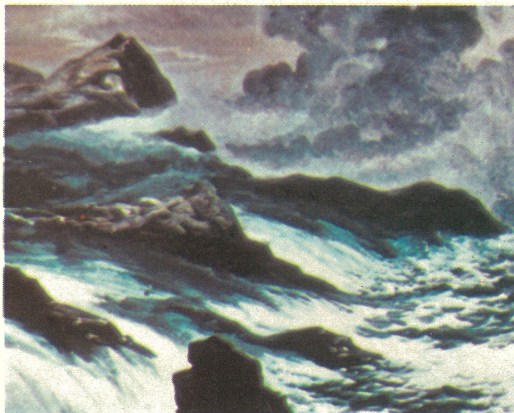
Q. God created all things in logical _____ ORDER

13. GOD SAID: "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear;" (Genesis 1:9). God called the dry land "Earth"; and the bodies of waters "Seas." The earth was now prepared for plant life.

¹ Genesis 1:10.

Q. Before creating plant life, God caused the dry _____ to appear.

LAND



14. NEXT, GOD SPOKE, "Let the Earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself."¹ Every living thing was created first by miracle, full-grown and able to reproduce after its kind. But after the miracle creation, reproduction followed according to God's natural law. Though begun by miracle, God's creation is sustained by constant natural laws.²

¹ Genesis 1:11; ² Genesis 8:22.

Q. Every plant God created was able to _____ after its kind.

REPRODUCE



15. THE BIBLE SAYS, "And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night; He made the stars also" (Genesis 1:16,17). The stars include many galaxies other than our own. **The Bible** refers to several constellations of stars such as Orion and the Pleiades.¹

¹ Job 38:31

Q. In addition to the two great lights, God also made the _____.

STARS

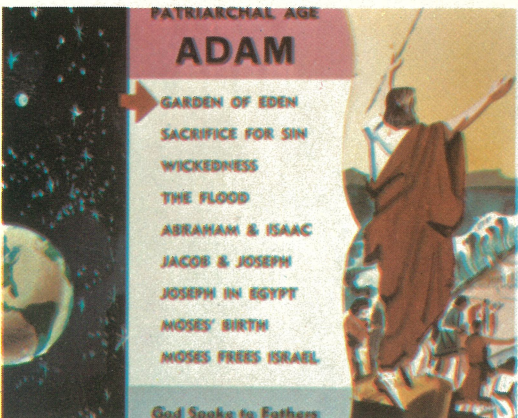


16. FISH, OTHER SEA CREATURES and fowls were next in order of creation. **The Bible** says, "And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind; and God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:21).

Q. God created fish, other sea creatures and _____ on the same day of creation.

FOWL





17. LAND ANIMALS WERE CREATED NEXT. God ordered, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind. And God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:24).

Q. God created every living creature after his _____.

KIND

18. HAVING PREPARED THE EARTH for man's home with plant and animal life to sustain him, God then said, "**Let us make man** in our image, after our likeness."¹ Since God is Spirit, His offspring is also a spirit being.² Man's fleshly body is only the temporary house of the spiritual man or soul which is destined to live forever.³ Therefore, man, made in **God's image**, was God's highest creation on earth. He is far different from all other creatures. When God, the Father, said, "**Let us make man . . .**", He was speaking to the other two personalities of the Godhead: Christ, the Son, and the Holy Spirit who were coexistent with Him from eternity. God made man **ruler** over all His creation when He said, ". . . let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth . . ." (Genesis 1:26).

¹ Genesis 1:26; ² Hebrews 12:9; ³ 2 Corinthians 5:6.

Q. The fleshly body of man is only a _____ house.

TEMPORARY

19. AT FIRST ADAM WAS THE ONLY HUMAN being, but God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him."¹ Therefore, God made Eve, a wife and companion for Adam. Adam said, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh . . . Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:23,24). Later, Jesus taught that this original marriage and home is God's ideal arrangement for all time.²

¹ Genesis 2:18; ² Matthew 19:3-6.

Q. In marriage a husband and wife become one _____.

FLESH

20. AS WE RETURN TO THE CHART, the red arrow points out "The Garden of Eden." God showed His deep love by providing a special home for Adam and Eve. It was a paradise on earth! So that Adam and Eve could exercise the power of choice, God placed among all the trees one tree they were not to touch. God said, ". . . For in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17). The word death means "separation."

Q. God gave Adam and Eve the ability to exercise the power of _____.

CHOICE

21. WHILE IN THE BEAUTIFUL GARDEN God's children enjoyed a perfect home. In addition, they could eat of the "Tree of Life" and all the other trees in the garden except the one forbidden tree.¹ But Satan appealed to Eve's vanity and insisted that God had unduly restricted them. Satan further insisted that she would not die as God had warned, but promised she would become wise like God. So Eve yielded to the temptation and ate the forbidden fruit. Then she shared it with her husband. Instead of becoming wise, they became ashamed and tried to hide from God because they knew they had sinned.² In the Bible the word "sin" means disobedience to God's will.

¹ Genesis 2:16, 17; ² Genesis 3:1-7; ³ 1 John 3:4

Q. After they had disobeyed God, Adam and Eve knew that they had _____.

SINNED

22. BECAUSE OF THEIR SIN Adam and Eve lost their paradise-home, their close fellowship with God and their right to the "Tree of Life."¹ We recall that God had warned them of death, a word meaning "separation." Separation from God meant spiritual death and eternal doom to their souls. Separation from the "Tree of Life" meant the beginning of physical death.² But the loving Heavenly Father did not leave His wayward children without hope.

¹ Genesis 3:24; ² Romans 5:12

Q. Because of their sin Adam and Eve died both _____ and spiritually.

PHYSICALLY

23. PRONOUNCING A CURSE upon the Devil, God said, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). Centuries later, Jesus, "the seed of woman" (Galatians 4:4), was crucified for our sins. In this way the Devil bruised Jesus' heel; that is, gave Him a minor injury. But in rising from the dead, Jesus bruised the serpent's head. That is, He gave the Devil a crushing blow from which he can never recover.¹ Jesus proved that we, too, may overcome death through Him.²

¹ Colossians 2:15; ² Hebrews 2:14, 15.

Q. In His resurrection from the dead, Jesus gave a crushing blow to the _____.

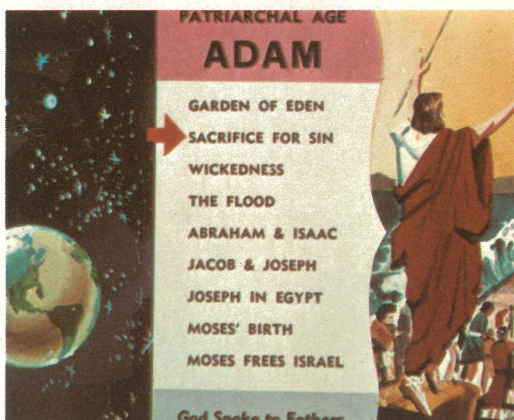
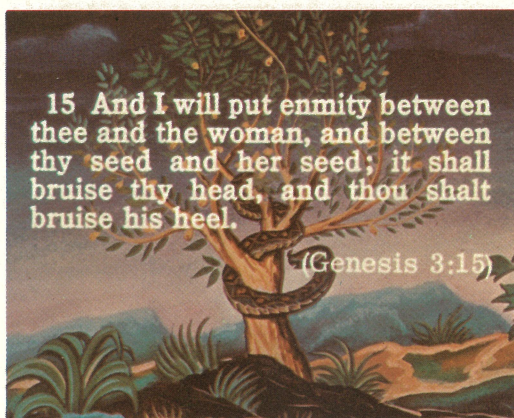
DEVIL

24. SACRIFICE FOR SIN now became necessary! Adam and Eve had turned their backs on their Father, and they of themselves could never pay the price for their sin. Mankind was forever doomed.¹ But God again showed His compassion for man by providing that animals could be sacrificed to atone for sin. God was just in making this arrangement for He knew that Jesus, the Perfect Sacrifice, would eventually be offered to pay the full price for all sin.²

¹ Romans 3:23; ² Hebrews 9:13, 14.

Q. God provided animal sacrifice knowing that _____ eventually would be offered as the perfect sacrifice for sin.

JESUS



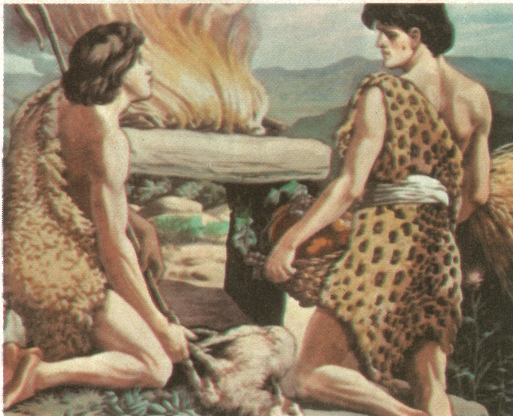


25. IN KEEPING WITH GOD'S EARLIER Command to "multiply and replenish the earth,"¹ Adam and Eve began their family. They had many children, two of whom were Cain and Abel. Cain grew up to be a **farmer**, and Abel became a **shepherd**.²

¹ Genesis 1:28; ² Genesis 4:1-8.

Q. Cain and Abel were born to Adam and Eve as they kept God's _____ to "multiply and replenish the earth."

COMMAND



26. AS TIME WENT BY Cain and Abel offered sacrifices to God. Through faith Abel offered a lamb in keeping with the will of God.¹ But Cain, being disobedient to his Heavenly Father, substituted a vegetable offering, which God rejected. Instead of repenting of his sin, Cain, in jealousy and rage, killed his own brother.² The worship experiences of Cain and Abel illustrate **two kinds** of worshipers. Abel worshiped as God directed and God was pleased. Cain failed to express love by worshiping as God directed. Instead, he substituted his own worship and God rejected him. God will not accept **substitutes**.³

¹ Hebrews 11:4; ² Genesis 4:1-8; ³ Isaiah 55:8, 9.

Q. Abel offered a lamb to God by _____.

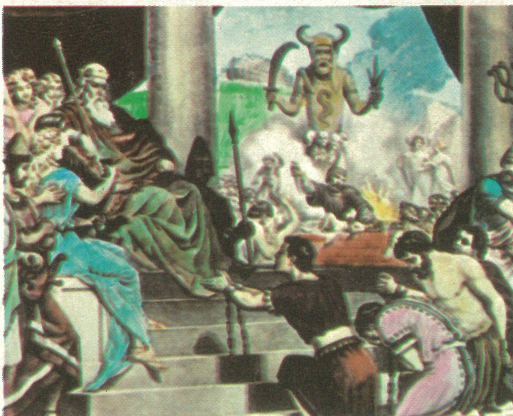
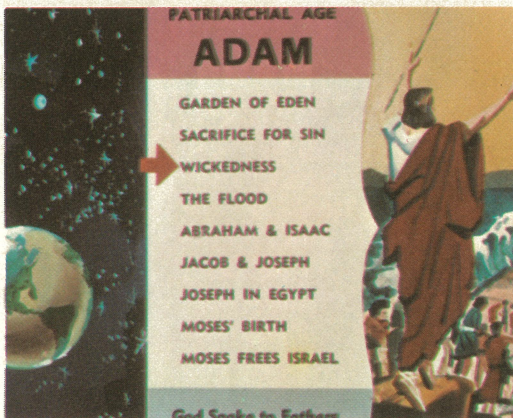
FAITH

27. WICKEDNESS soon began to fill the earth. As the population grew, wickedness rapidly spread. The Devil was dominating the lives of practically all the people.¹

¹ Genesis 6:1-6.

Q. As the population grew, the earth was filled with _____.

WICKEDNESS



28. JUSTICE, LOVE AND MERCY soon disappeared. From ruler to peasant the people became so corrupt that even their thoughts and imaginations were dominated by sin and violence. As God saw those who were made in His image now under the control of Satan, it grieved Him in His heart.¹

¹ Genesis 6:5, 6.

Q. When God saw that man had become so wicked, it _____ Him in His heart.

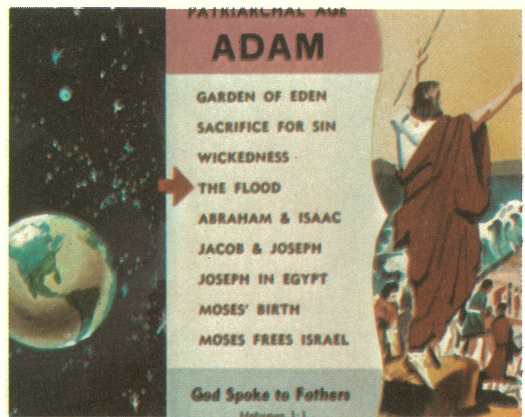
GRIEVED

29. THE FLOOD was the means that God devised to cleanse the earth of all wicked people and to give mankind another opportunity to serve Him in righteousness.¹

¹ Genesis 6:7, 8.

Q. God sent a great flood upon the earth to cleanse it of all the people who were _____.

WICKED

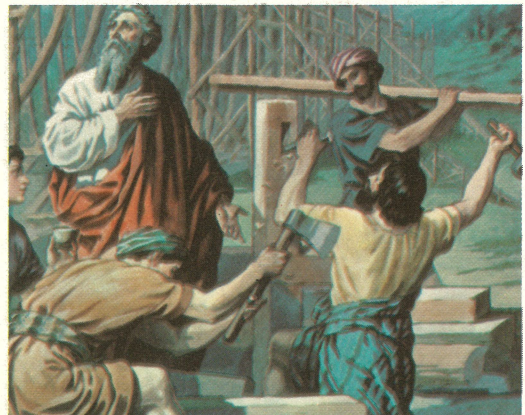


30. NOAH AND HIS FAMILY were the only people who still obeyed God. God chose Noah to build a giant boat or ark¹ of **gopher wood** and to warn the people of their impending doom. Since the life span of early **Bible** characters was long, for nearly 120 years Noah had the opportunity to preach to his generation while building the ark.² God was showing love and mercy even to these wicked people by allowing them time to change their lives before the flood came.

¹ Genesis 6:9-18; ² 2 Peter 2:5.

Q. Before God sent the flood to cleanse the earth of all the wicked people, He showed great love and _____ toward them.

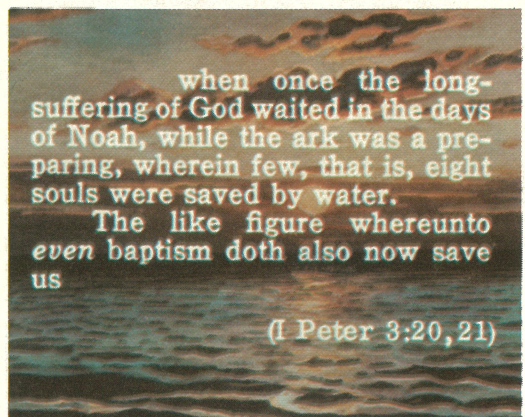
MERCY



31. THE APOSTLE PETER later referred to God's patience and mercy in 1 Peter 3:20, 21. "... When once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us . . ."

Q. In the New Testament the apostle Peter tells us that eight souls were saved by _____.

WATER



32. WHEN THE TIME CAME to board the ark, Noah followed God's command to bring his family and pairs of the various kinds of animals into the ark. He had previously stored provisions for them in the ark just as God had told him to do.¹

¹ Genesis 6:19-22.

Q. In obedience to God's command, Noah and his family boarded the ____.

ARK

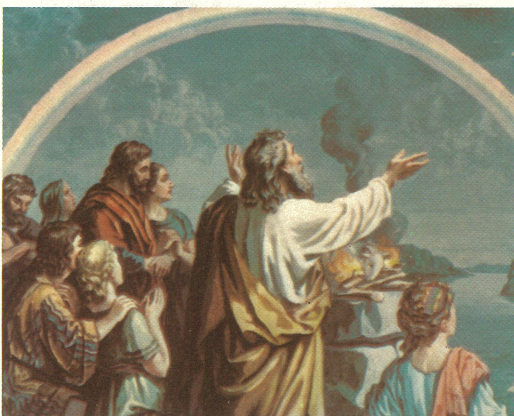
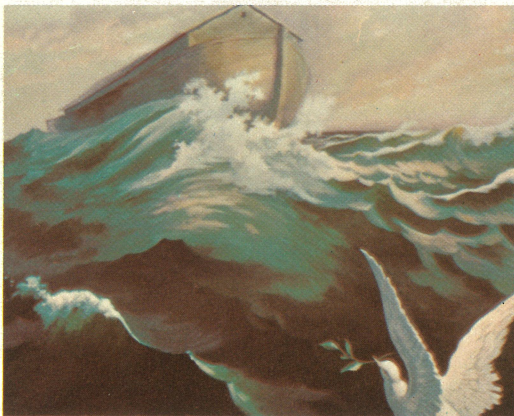




9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

(II Peter 3:9, 10)



33. EVERYONE ELSE HAD REJECTED Noah's warnings. In rejecting these warnings they were also rejecting God's love. Therefore when **God shut the door** of the giant boat no man could open it.¹ The flood rose to the tops of the mountains.² The day of God's mercy was gone! The wickedness of the wicked had sealed their own fate. Those who were not saved could blame only themselves. In this same way men are disregarding God's warnings of today that He will destroy the earth by fire.

¹ Genesis 7:16; ² Genesis 7:18-20.

Q. When the people were rejecting Noah's warning, they also were rejecting God's

LOVE

34. "THE LORD IS NOT SLACK concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also, and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (2 Peter 3:9, 10). As Noah warned his generation that the earth would be destroyed by water, so **the Bible** warns us today that the earth shall be destroyed by fire.

Q. The people of Noah's time were destroyed by water but today the New Testament warns us that the earth ultimately will be destroyed by _____.

FIRE

35. NOAH'S ARK WAS LIFTED high above the land by the waters of the flood.¹ The same waters which destroyed the wicked and cleansed the earth also served **to save** those who were in the ark.² Just as those who were saved then were in God's ark, today those who are saved are in **GOD'S SPIRITUAL FAMILY, THE CHURCH**.³ After 150 days the waters began slowly to subside. Finally the waters receded and the ark rested on Mt. Ararat.

¹ Genesis 7:17; ² 1 Peter 3:20; ³ Acts 2:47.

Q. God used the same waters which destroyed the wicked to _____ those who were in the ark.

SAVE

36. HAVING SPENT MORE THAN A YEAR in the ark, Noah, his family and all the animals stepped out on dry ground. Noah offered an animal sacrifice in worship to God. God placed the **rainbow** in the sky as a sign of His promise that never again would He destroy the earth with water.¹ However, we remember that Peter says **the earth** will be destroyed by fire at the end of time.²

¹ Genesis 7:13-9:17; ² 2 Peter 3:9, 10.

Q. Before Noah, his family and the animals stepped out on dry ground, they had spent more than a _____ in the ark.

YEAR

37. IN RECENT YEARS excavations by archeologists in various regions of the earth have revealed evidences of a **great flood**. In two separate excavations an eight-foot layer of clean, water-laid clay has been found with **artifacts** of an older civilization buried underneath. In other places **marine fossils** have been discovered on the tops of mountains. There are also references to a great flood among the historical **legends** of Egyptians, Chaldeans, Greeks, and among present day Mexicans and South Sea Islanders. All this information points to the truthfulness of **the Bible** record of the great flood.

Q. Facts have been gathered from various sources which point to the truthfulness of the _____ as it records the Great Flood.

BIBLE

38. ABRAHAM AND ISAAC enter Bible history nine generations after the flood. During those intervening years Noah's descendants lost faith in God and defied Him in attempting to build the Tower of Babel.¹ After God scattered the people, the population kept expanding. With the increase in the earth's population came also an increase in sin.

¹ Genesis 11:1-9.

Q. After the flood both the population of the earth and _____ continued to increase.

SIN

39. DURING THIS CONFUSED AND SINFUL TIME

God chose Abraham who, like Noah centuries before, stood above his generation because he wanted to please God. Because of his unquestioning faith, Abraham loved and obeyed God. God directed Abraham to leave his country and relatives when He said, "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee . . ."¹ God promised that through Abraham's descendants Jesus would be born (Galatians 3:16).

¹ Genesis 12:1.

Q. Abraham obeyed God because of his unquestioning _____.

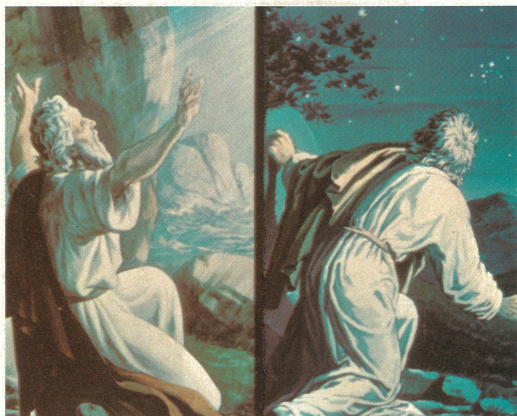
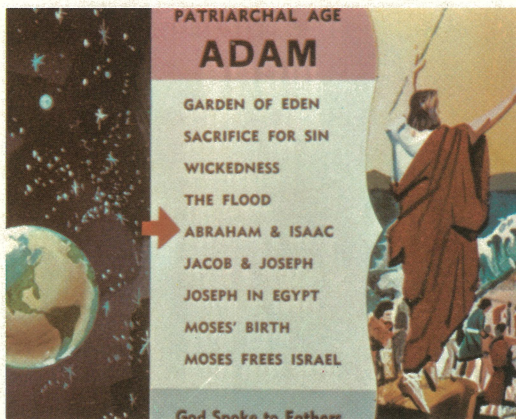
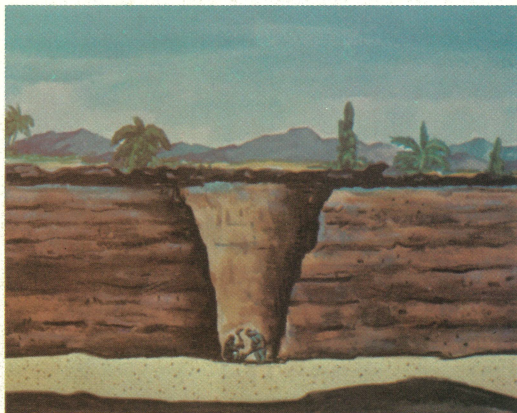
FAITH

40. LATER GOD RENEWED HIS PROMISE to Abraham on several occasions. He promised that Abraham's children would be **numberless** as the sand on the sea shore and the stars of the sky.¹ But at the time of this promise Abraham was childless and growing old.²

¹ Genesis 15:1-6; ² Romans 4:19, 20.

Q. Though God had promised that Abraham would have many descendants, when he had grown old he was still _____.

CHILDLESS





41. EVENTUALLY GOD SENT three men with good news to Abraham who at that time was in the Plains of Mamre. They revealed to Abraham that he and Sarah would have a son.¹ God was now beginning to fulfill His promise to Abraham.

¹ Genesis 18:1-10.

Q. God promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a ____.

SON



42. WHEN SARAH OVERHEARD their conversation, she laughed to herself because she and Abraham were almost a hundred years old, far too old to become parents.¹ But later Abraham could thank God time and again for his son, Isaac, who was born according to **God's promise** within a year after Sarah laughed.²

¹ Genesis 18:11-15; ² Genesis 21:1-5.

Q. A son, Isaac, was born to Abraham and Sarah according to God's _____.

PROMISE

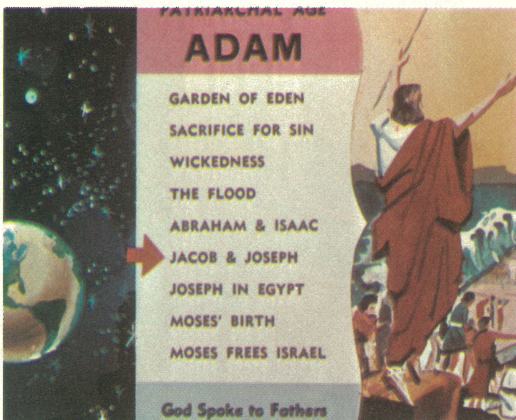


43. WHEN ISAAC GREW UP Abraham sent back to his own people and brought Rebecca to be Isaac's wife.¹ Like Sarah, Isaac's mother, Rebecca was unable to bear children for a long time. However, when Isaac pleaded with God for children, He blessed them with the birth of twin sons, Jacob and Esau.²

¹ Genesis 24:1-67; ² Genesis 25:20-26.

Q. Jacob and Esau were the twin sons of _____, the son of Abraham.

ISAAC



44. JACOB AND JOSEPH are the next two famous Bible characters in line. Jacob, one of Isaac's twin sons, eventually became the father of twelve sons.¹ Among these twelve was Joseph, one of the best known men of **the Bible**.

¹ Genesis 35:22-26.

Q. Jacob, the son of Isaac, had 12 sons, the most famous of whom was _____.

JOSEPH

45. JOSEPH WAS THE FIRSTBORN SON of Jacob's beloved wife, Rachel, and was born after his father was old. Therefore, Jacob was partial to Joseph and gave him a fancy coat of many colors. Because of this partiality the older brothers resented Joseph.¹ Despite his troubled life, Joseph found happiness because of his **deep faith** in the Heavenly Father.

¹ Genesis 37:34.

Q. Joseph was resented by his _____. BROTHERS



46. WHILE STILL A BOY Joseph dreamed that sheaves and planets bowed down to him, predicting that his brothers and parents were some day to bow before him. These dreams increased his brothers' envy,¹ but later events fulfilled these predictions. God was speaking to Joseph through these dreams.

¹ Genesis 37:5-11.

Q. Joseph's brothers were made even more envious of him because of what Joseph _____. DREAMED



47. WHEN JOSEPH WAS ABOUT 17 YEARS OLD his father, Jacob, sent him to see about the welfare of his brothers who were herding sheep some 50 miles away.¹ This was a dangerous errand since Joseph's brothers hated him. He departed, little knowing that he would not see his father again for 22 years.

¹ Genesis 37:12-14.

Q. When Joseph was parted from his father, so that he saw him no more for 22 years, he was only about ____ years old. 17



48. "JOSEPH IN EGYPT" is an accurate title for the remainder of Joseph's life. We shall see how Joseph was sold into Egypt and eventually how he was exalted to second highest position over all Egypt.

Q. The remainder of Joseph's life was spent in _____. EGYPT



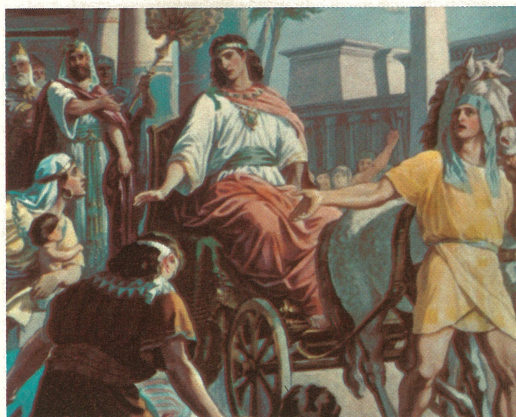


49. WHEN JOSEPH ARRIVED at his brothers' camp, they took him prisoner, stripped him of his beautiful coat and cast him into a pit. In spite of Joseph's pitiful pleas for mercy, his brothers ruthlessly sold him as a slave to a caravan of traders heading for Egypt. They dipped his many-colored coat in goat's blood and returned it to their father to deceive him into concluding that his favorite son had been killed by a wild beast.¹

¹ Genesis 37:17-35.

Q. After Joseph's brothers sold him as a slave, they _____ their father by showing him Joseph's blood-smeared coat.

DECEIVED



50. IN EGYPT, Joseph was sold to Potiphar, captain of the guard.¹ Potiphar soon placed Joseph over all his financial affairs, a position which carried with it much prestige. Things went well until Potiphar's wife fell in love with Joseph. When he did not respond to her, she falsely accused Joseph of making advances. Her husband sentenced Joseph to prison.²

¹ Genesis 37:36; 39:1; ² Genesis 39:2-20.

Q. Potiphar put Joseph in prison when his _____ falsely accused Joseph.

WIFE

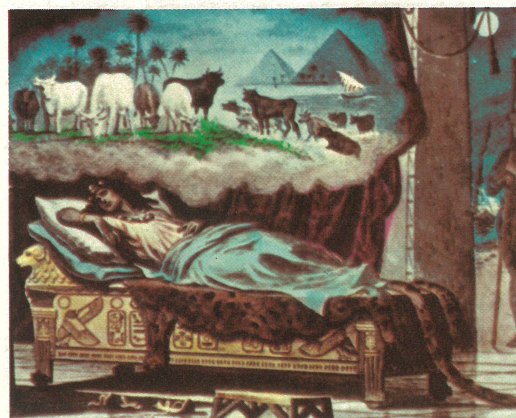


51. EVEN IN PRISON Joseph continued to experience God's protection and care. Joseph was soon placed in charge of all the other prisoners. God also empowered Joseph to interpret the dreams of Pharaoh's butler and baker, who were in prison. The butler dreamed that he again served wine to the king. The baker dreamed that his bread was eaten by birds. Joseph told the butler that his dream meant that he would be restored. He told the baker that his dream meant he would be hanged. Both predictions came true.¹

¹ Genesis 39:21-40:23.

Q. After Joseph had interpreted the dream of the butler and the baker, his _____ came true.

PREDICTIONS



52. ABOUT TWO YEARS LATER Pharaoh had a dream. He saw seven **fat cows** come up out of the Nile River. The fat cows were eaten by seven lean cows, but the **lean cows** grew no fatter.¹

¹ Genesis 41:1-4.

Q. In Pharaoh's dream the seven fat cows were eaten by _____ lean cows.

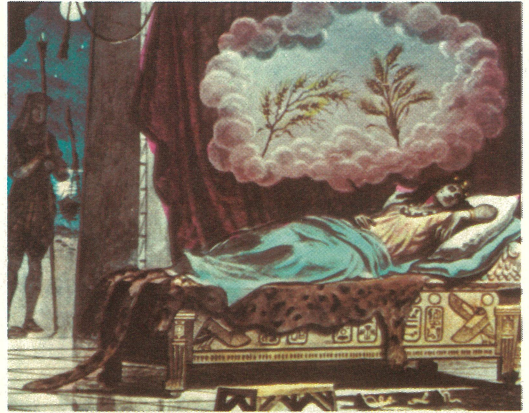
SEVEN

53. IN A SIMILAR DREAM the king saw seven full ears of grain swallowed up by seven lean ears, but the lean ears grew no larger. None of the king's wise men, magicians or servants were able to interpret the dreams.¹

¹ Genesis 41:5-8.

Q. Pharaoh could find no one to _____ his dreams.

INTERPRET



54. FINALLY, THE KING'S BUTLER remembered how Joseph had interpreted his dream in prison two years previously. Immediately Pharaoh summoned Joseph from prison to interpret his dreams. After stating that **only** God could interpret dreams, Joseph revealed that the fat cows and fat ears of grain meant seven years of plenty. But the lean cows and lean ears meant that a seven-year famine would follow.¹

¹ Genesis 41:9-37.

Q. Interpreting Pharaoh's dreams, Joseph said that there would be seven years of plenty followed by seven years of _____.

FAMINE



55. THE KING WAS SO IMPRESSED that he placed Joseph in charge of gathering grain for the coming famine. Joseph was exalted to be the ruler of all Egypt, second only to Pharaoh himself.¹ In recent years great underground bins have been discovered in Egypt resembling huge cisterns, with hundreds of tons capacity. Scholars believe that these bins are the ruins of **ancient granaries**.

¹ Genesis 41:38-45.

Q. Pharaoh placed Joseph in charge of gathering _____ for the coming famine.

GRAIN



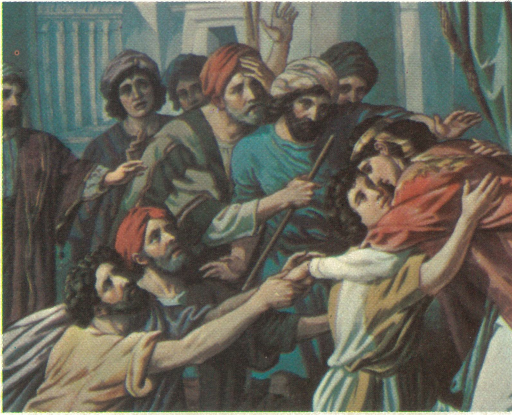
56. AFTER SEVEN PROSPEROUS YEARS, the world, including the land of Canaan, was struck by a general famine. Joseph's brothers were forced to come from Canaan to Egypt and stand before Joseph to obtain food. But after 21 years they did not recognize him. Here we see the brothers bowing before Joseph just as his childhood dreams had predicted.¹

¹ Genesis 41:53-42:8.

Q. Joseph's brothers had not seen him for _____ years.

21



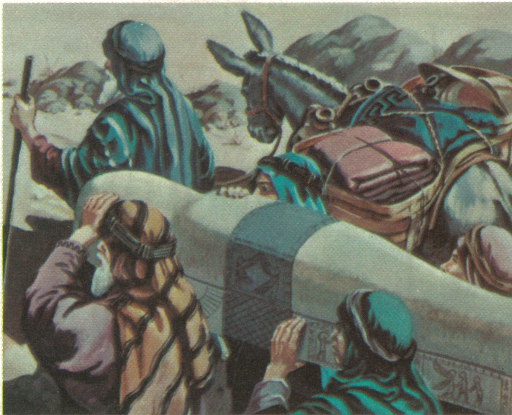


57. LATER, JOSEPH IDENTIFIED HIMSELF to his brothers and told them that he forgave them for having sold him into slavery. He then introduced his brothers to Pharaoh who welcomed them to Egypt. At Pharaoh's invitation their father, Jacob, and all of his descendants moved to Egypt and settled in Goshen, one of Egypt's choicest areas.¹ There they dwelled for several generations, growing into a mighty people who came to be known as the **children of Israel** or **Israelites**.²

¹ Genesis 45:1-46:28. ² Exodus 1:7.

Q. Joseph's family moved to _____, one of Egypt's choicest areas.

GOSHEN

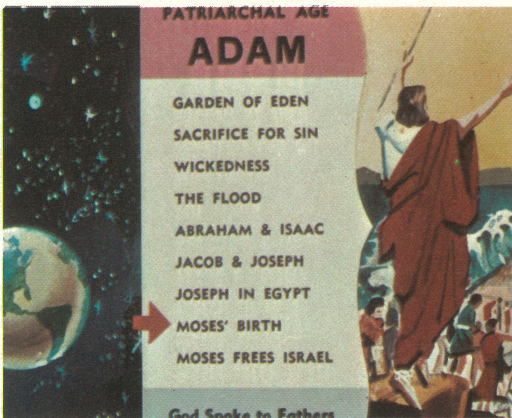


58. JOSEPH DIED when he was 110 years old. Just before his death, knowing that his people would some day return to the promised land, Joseph directed that his body be preserved and carried back with them to be buried in the land of Canaan.¹ This last wish was carried out under the leadership of Moses and Joshua many years later.²

¹ Genesis 50:22-26; Hebrews 11:22; ² Exodus 13:19; Joshua 24:32.

Q. Joseph requested that his body be carried back and buried in the land of _____.

CANAAN



59. MOSES' BIRTH occurred many years after Joseph died. A new ruler came to the Egyptian throne who began to persecute Joseph's people in spite of all that Joseph had done for Egypt. He made their lives unbearable through merciless slavery and other inhuman treatment. Moses was born during his reign.¹

¹ Acts 7:17-20.

Q. The new Egyptian ruler began to _____ the descendants of Joseph and his brothers.

PERSECUTE



60. TO REDUCE THE NUMBER of Israelites in Egypt, the wicked king had ordered that all male children should be thrown into the Nile River at birth. In order to save her son's life, Moses' mother prepared a special basket and set baby Moses afloat on the Nile River in the reeds just off shore.¹

¹ Exodus 1:15-24.

Q. Moses' mother saved his life by preparing a special _____.

BASKET

61. PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER FOUND BABY

Moses and loved him immediately. She decided to rear him in the royal palace as her own son. In the providence of God, the princess allowed Miriam, Moses' sister, to select a Hebrew nurse for the child. In this way Moses' own mother was employed to take care of him.¹ This famous story manifests God's providential love and care for His people.

¹ Exodus 2:5-10.

Q. Moses' own _____ became his nurse.

MOTHER



62. WITH HIS OWN MOTHER for his nurse, Moses learned that he was one of God's chosen people, a Hebrew or Israelite. As Moses grew older he became more and more unhappy at the cruel treatment his people received at the hands of the merciless Egyptians.

Q. Moses learned that he was one of God's _____ people.

CHOSEN



63. MOSES' RESENTMENT FOR THE EGYPTIANS

continued to intensify until at the age of 40 he killed an Egyptian slave-driver whom he saw beating one of his fellow-Hebrews. Moses had made his choice to defend God's people rather than to enjoy the opportunities of the king's palace. Fearing for his life Moses fled into the land of Midian where he served as a shepherd in the wilderness for 40 years.¹

¹ Exodus 2:11-15; Acts 7:23-30.

Q. Moses spent _____ years in the wilderness of Midian.

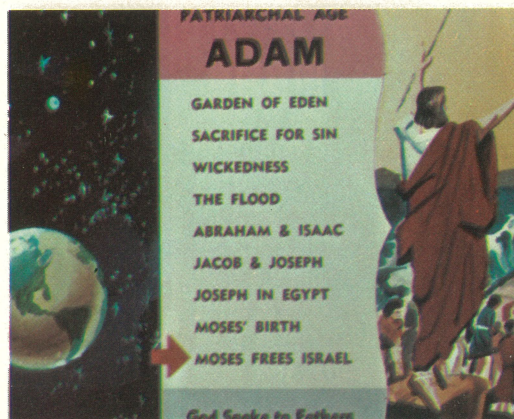
40



64. MOSES FREED ISRAEL after God had made him ready for the task. The many challenges of the wilderness helped to prepare Moses for the greatest work of his life, leading God's people out of Egyptian slavery.

Q. The wilderness helped to _____ Moses for the greatest work of his life.

PREPARE





65. GOD'S CALL CAME to Moses in a very unusual way. He spoke to Moses from a bush that was on fire but did not burn up.¹ "Moses, Moses, put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground . . . Come now, therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt" (Exodus 3:4, 10).

¹ Exodus 3:1, 2; Acts 7:30-34.

Q. God promised to send Moses before _____.

PHARAOH



66. MOSES RETURNED TO EGYPT and was welcomed by the enslaved Israelites. Working with his brother, Aaron, as his spokesman, Moses set out to free his people.¹

¹ Exodus 4:27-31.

Q. Moses used Aaron as his _____. SPOKESMAN



67. MOSES AND AARON soon were allowed to appear before Pharaoh to make known their mission. During their first interview Pharaoh replied with contempt, "Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice?"¹ During a later visit, in order to prove God's power, Aaron threw down **his rod** before the king and it became a **snake**.²

¹ Exodus 5:1, 2; ² Exodus 7:8-10.

Q. When Moses and Aaron first went before Pharaoh, he replied to them with _____.

CONTEMPT



68. AT FIRST PHARAOH was not impressed because his court magicians also produced snakes. But Aaron's snake **swallowed** all the other snakes! This demonstrated that no other power could cope with the power of Almighty God. But Pharaoh was stubborn and denied the Israelites their freedom.¹

¹ Exodus 7:11-13.

Q. Pharaoh continued to deny the Israelites their freedom because he was _____.

STUBBORN

69. MOSES IMMEDIATELY DEMANDED that Pharaoh release the Israelites. Again Pharaoh refused. As a result, he and his people suffered many plagues at the hand of God. God cursed the Egyptians with ten great plagues including lice, frogs, water turning to blood, thick darkness, and other calamities.¹ Each plague showed God's power over one of the **many gods** worshipped by the Egyptians.

¹ Exodus 7:14-10:29.

Q. God sent ten great _____ upon the Egyptians.

PLAGUES



70. STILL, INSTEAD OF RELEASING the Israelites, Pharaoh increased their burdens. As the Israelites continued to call upon God for deliverance, He heard their cry. Having already cursed the land of Egypt with nine of the plagues, God said to Moses, "Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards **he will** let you go hence" (Exodus 11:1).

Q. God promised that after the last plague, Pharaoh would let the people ____.

GO



71. TO PROTECT HIS PEOPLE against the last plague, God instructed each family to kill a lamb and sprinkle the blood on the top and side of the door opening.¹ The last plague was to be the death of the firstborn male of man and beast in all Egypt except among the Israelites where the blood was on the doors.²

¹ Exodus 12:1-7; ² Exodus 11:4-7.

Q. The last plague was to be the _____ of the firstborn of man and beast in all Egypt.

DEATH

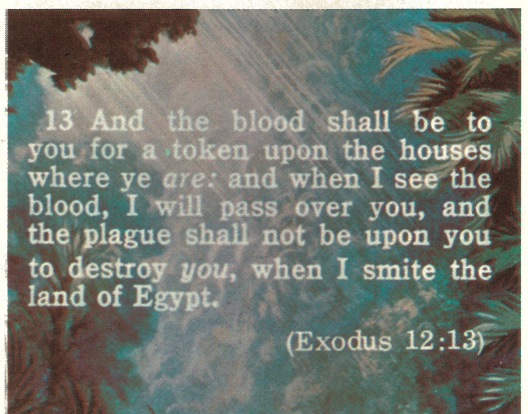


72. GOD SAID, "And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt" (Exodus 12:13). The blood of a lamb saved the Israelites from death. Later we will learn how the blood of Jesus saves us from past sins when we obey Him in becoming Christians.¹

¹ 1 Peter 1:18-19, 22.

Q. The blood of a lamb saved the _____ from death.

ISRAELITES

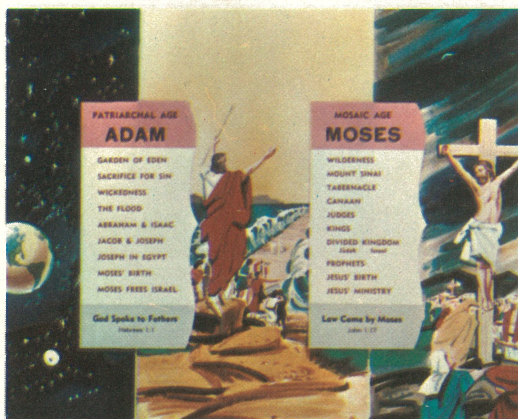




73. IN KEEPING WITH HIS PROMISE, the Lord came at midnight and death entered every house in Egypt, where the blood was not found. Even the king's palace did not escape. His eldest son was found dead after midnight. Following this calamity, Pharaoh ordered the Israelites to leave Egypt immediately.¹ But after they were well on their way out of Egypt, the king **changed his mind** and led the Egyptian army to overtake them.²

¹ Exodus 12:29-33; ² Exodus 14:5-9.

Q. Pharaoh changed his mind and led the Egyptian army to _____ the Israelites. **OVERTAKE**



74. YOU HAVE STUDIED the historical account of the Patriarchal Age: the Garden of Eden, Sacrifice for Sin, Wickedness, the Flood, Abraham and Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, Joseph in Egypt, Moses' Birth, and Moses Frees Israel. Our next study will deal with the Mosaic Period of Bible history including the wonderful history of the birth, life and death of Jesus, the Son of God.

Q. This lesson has covered the _____ Age. **PATRIARCHAL**



75. AS THE ISRAELITES LEFT Egypt by the order of Pharaoh, they were experiencing freedom for the first time after generations of slavery. But they soon learned that other crises had to be faced and that they were continually in need of God's care and protection.

Q. The Israelites needed God's care and protection as they faced other _____. **CRISES**

