

BIBLE SKETCHES
OF THE
CREATION AND THE FALL.

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SKETCHES
FROM
THE BIBLE.

CHAPTER I.

Creation of the World.

My dear children, you live in a pleasant world. How happy it makes you to walk out in the fields, and to look at all the beautiful things that God has made and given to you. There is the glorious sun which sheds such a blaze of light that your eyes can hardly bear to look at it. Have you never seen it when it rises in the morning, and shines upon the steeple and the windows, and makes the

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drops of dew on the grass to glitter like the diamond in a lady's ring? Do you not love to look upon it when it sets in the evening, with purple, and red, and golden clouds all around it? If it were not for the sun it would be always dark, and we could not read or work without a candle. And if we were to walk out, we could not see the colour of the grass, or flowers, or houses, or trees; every thing would look black. How thankful you should be to God, who has made the sun to give us light!

Then there is the moon, that rises in the evening, and sends such a pleasant, soft light into your chamber windows. And the many, many stars, that twinkle, every clear night, all over the heavens. Do you not thank God for making the bright moon, and the beautiful stars?

Sometimes your parents, or your elder brothers or sisters, take you into the orchards and groves, where you can gather fruit and flowers, and hear the birds sing, and see the little fishes swimming about in the clear rivulets. Do you know who made all these things, which it makes you so happy to see and hear? Yes, you know, for your parents have told you, that God made them. Do you wish to learn how he made them? I will try to tell you out of the Bible. Six thousand years ago,—I do not know but these are more years than some of you can count, but it was a very great while ago,—the great God who lives in heaven above, began to make this world. And he made it in six days. This world is sometimes called the earth. It was not difficult for God to create the earth. It was very easy

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He could have created it in a moment. But he chose that it should be six days before it was finished, and he rested on the seventh day. I will tell you presently *why* he rested on the seventh day.

In the place where God chose to make the world, it was very dark and gloomy. There was no land to tread upon, and no clear sky. And God said, Let there be light, and the light instantly began to shine. And he divided the light from the darkness, and when the light shined, he called it day, and when the darkness came, he called it night. This was the first day.

The next day, God made the air which is all around the earth. Do you know what the air is? You cannot see it, but every time you breathe, you draw it into your nostrils, and it goes into your body and keeps you

alive. And sometimes you can feel it blow upon your cheek. When you see the leaves on the trees move, it is the air that shakes the leaves. Do you remember, when it was winter, now you drew your chairs close to the fire, and heard the wind whistle, as it blew around the house and through the trees? That was the air that you heard, for the wind is only the air moving very fast. The air helps the plants to grow. How good God was to make the air, that men and animals might breathe, and that the grass, and trees, and flowers, might grow up all over the earth.

The third day, the earth was all covered with the waters. And God commanded the waters to flow away from the high places on the earth, and to run into the deep places which he had made for them. And the high

places were left dry and hard, and were called land, and the waters were called seas and rivers. Now there was nothing to be seen on the land, but the brown earth, with the rocks and stones scattered about upon it. And God commanded the grass and trees to grow, and the earth was, in an instant, covered with a beautiful green carpet of grass, and the tall trees grew up in thick groves upon the hills, and the fruit trees were loaded with fruit in the valleys, and the sweet flowers opened their tender blossoms.

On the fourth day, God said, Let there be lights in the heavens to divide the day from the night, so that we may count the days, and the seasons, and the years. So God made two great lights; the greater light, which was the sun, to shine by day; and the

lesser light, which was the moon, to shine by night. He made the stars also, and set them in their places in the heavens. And now the fourth day ended, and the world was finished. You may think how fresh and beautiful it was. But though it was so beautiful, it was very still; for there were no living creatures upon it. There were no birds to sing in the branches of the thick woods. There were no fishes to play in the waters. There were no cattle to eat grass in the meadows. God saw the earth when it was made, and said that it was good; but there were no men and women to see and admire it, and praise God for his great works. The sun went down that night on a silent world.

On the fifth day, God began to create animals. He spoke, and the fishes and fowls lived. Then, all at once.

the waters were covered with fowls of every kind, which sprang out of the waters, and flew away into the air. There was the noble eagle, which is called the king of birds, because he is larger and stronger than most birds, and he can fly higher than any other bird. If you had been there, you would have seen him rising out of the water, and flying up towards the sun, which he loves very much to look upon. And the pretty peacock alighted upon the grass, and shook the drops of water from his bright feathers, that are covered all over with spots like stars. The little birds flew into the woods, and began to build their nests among the leaves of the trees. And while they were at work they sung for joy. And there were a great many others that I have not time to tell you about.

But we must not forget the fishes that had just begun to move about in the waters. The sea was almost filled with them. Some of them have fins that help them to swim very fast. Some of them are covered with a thin coat of shell. These creep about on the sand, or hide in the rocks at the bottom of the sea. Some of them lie quite still in their shell houses. Others have wings, and can fly a little way in the air; and others live in a boat of shell, and when they choose they can rise to the top of the water, and put up a little sail that grows upon their bodies, and the wind blows them along, just as it does ships. This is all that was done on the fifth day.

The sixth and last day was now come. And God commanded the earth to bring forth all the animals that walk or creep upon the earth.

And as soon as God had spoken, beasts of every kind came up out of the ground. Oh! how many of them there were. We cannot think of them all at once, there were so many. The great elephant was there, and the cunning fox, and the generous horse, and the faithful dog, and the timid sheep. And all sorts of beasts, and serpents, and insects, were there. They were very different from each other. Some of them could run very swiftly. Others were very strong and large. Some of them had teeth and claws which were very sharp. Some of them knew a great many things, and others were very ignorant and stupid. Some of them chose to live alone, and they went away into the mountains, and caves, and lone'y places. Others, like the cattle and sheep, were fond of

company and they went about together, in flocks and herds.

And now all the beasts, and birds, and fishes, were created, and had begun to find out their places to live in, and to enjoy themselves in the way they liked best. Can you think of any thing else that was wanting to make this world complete? Yes, there was something wanting. God had made a great many curious animals, but not one among them knew that God made him, or could understand any thing about God. And if they could not understand any thing about God, they could not love and obey him. They could not pray to him. They could not thank him for his goodness in making them so happy. A dog knows more than other animals. You can teach your dog many things. You can teach him to love

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you, and follow you about, and to thank you when you give him food. You can teach him to find your handkerchief, if you have lost it. You can teach him to watch by your house at night, and keep away the thieves who wish to come in and steal. He will be very sorry when you are sick; or when you have fallen down, and hurt yourself. But you cannot teach him that God made him. Oh no! If you were to tell him this, he would not understand you. You love your dog for being so grateful and obedient; and you do not blame him for not thinking about God, because you know he cannot understand such things.

So God determined to create a man and woman; and to give them reason, that they might know something about God, and love him, and obey him.

And God made Adam and Eve, and placed them in the garden of Eden. It was a very fine garden, which God had made on purpose for them to live in. And God told Adam and Eve, that they might rule over all the animals; and he said that all the animals must obey Adam and Eve. And God made all the beasts, and fowls, and every living creature, to go to Adam; and Adam gave them names; and they were afterwards called by the names which Adam had given them.

CHAPTER II.

More about Adam and Eve.

Now, my dear children, I wish to talk to you a little more about Adam and Eve; but I am afraid you will not understand me, unless you are very attentive; because what I am going to say, is more difficult than most that I have been telling you. But I will try to find out the easiest words; and I hope if you attend to every word that I say, and do not think about any thing else till I have done, you will know what I mean.

God said that he would make man in his own image, which meant that he would make him something like himself. Now you know if you were to draw a picture of a tree, it would

be a very different thing from the tree itself, yet it would be something like it. So Adam, who was only a man, was very different from the great God: yet in some things he was like him.

God knows every thing; and God gave Adam reason, which helped him to know something about God, and something about his duty to God, and something about what it was right or wrong for him to do. So God made Adam after his own image.

There was another thing in which God made Adam after his own image. He made him holy. You know what it is to be holy. To be holy, is to be good. To be holy is always to feel right, and always to act right. God is perfectly holy; and God made Adam holy, so that he might always love to do right, and please God

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God made Adam after his own image, because he made him holy.

There was another thing in which God made Adam after his own image. He made Adam's soul immortal: that is, he made it to live for ever. God will always continue to live. So he made Adam immortal; for he gave him a soul that will never die. If Adam had never disobeyed God, his body would never have died. But though he did disobey God, and though God punished him, and his body died, yet his soul will never die. It will live for ever and ever. God made Adam after his own image, because he made him immortal.

The seventh day was now come, and it was the first Sabbath. The work of Creation was finished, and God rested from his work on the seventh day. We do not know how

this Sabbath was kept in heaven ; for God does not tell us in the Bible. But I suppose that the angels praised God for making this world, and for creating Adam and Eve. And I suppose that Adam and Eve kept this Sabbath, by thanking God for his goodness to them, and by resting from their work, and by trying to learn all that they could about God, and about their duty to him. God meant that the Sabbath should be kept by Adam and Eve, and by all their children. He meant that it should be kept by all the men, and women, and children, who should ever live in this world. And he showed them how to keep it ; for he rested from his work on the seventh day. And, many years after, he said in the fourth commandment, REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY.

My dear children, let me ask you a plain question. Do you remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy? I will tell you what it is to keep the Sabbath holy. You must not do any work—you must not play about the house, or in the fields—you must not think about your playthings, and talk about them, and wish the Sabbath was over. When you rise in the morning, you must pray to God that he would help you to keep holy the Sabbath day. And you must ask your father and mother to talk to you about God, and tell you what you can do to please him. And when you are at the Sunday-school you must listen to every word that your teacher says, and try to remember it. And when the minister prays at church, you must try to understand him, and pray with him in your heart. And if you see any

wicked children playing on the Sabbath, you must tell them that God sees them, and that God has said,
**REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP
IT HOLY.**

CHAPTER III

What have you learned ?

Dear children, I have finished all that I had to tell you about the creation of the world. And now let us think of it a little. It does not do you any good, to read the history of what God has done, unless you think about it, and try to learn something from it. I will tell you some of the things you ought to learn from this story of the creation of the world.

One thing that you cannot help learning is, that God is very great and powerful. To be powerful, is to be able to do a great many things. If God had not been very powerful, he could not have made this world. Do you know any one who could make

such a world as this? Do you know any one who could make any of the living creatures that walk on the earth; or any of the plants that grow out of it? Think of the rose. When you look at it in the morning, and it has just blown, how beautiful it is. The drops of dew are upon it. Its leaves are softer than silk or velvet. It hangs its head, and blushes. Its fragrance makes the air sweet all around it. Could your father or mother make the rose? Oh no! Nobody but God could make the rose.

Think of the rainbow, when the shower is almost over, and the sun begins to shine—you have seen it, looking like a broad ribbon with rich stripes, painted on the clouds which are opposite the sun. Men could not make the rainbow. An angel could

not make it. Nobody but God could make the rainbow.

Think of the elephant. He is so large, that perhaps he could not stand up in the room where you are sitting. He is so strong, that he can tear up trees by their roots, and pull down houses, and trample cattle and horses under his feet. When he is angry, he is terrible to all other animals; for with his long trunk and sharp tusks, he can throw many of them into the air, or tear them in pieces. Yet he is very kind and affectionate to his master, and will do as he is bid. You must not try to deceive or hurt him; for if you do, he will find it out, and punish you. If you are kind to him, he will remember it, and love you.—Could any one but God have made the elephant—so large an

strong, and taught him to know so many things? Oh no!

How great is God, who has made this world, and all the wonderful creatures that live in it. You should reverence so great a God, and fear to offend him.

You learn from this story of the creation, that God is very good. He could have made the world dark and unpleasant; but he chose to make it light and convenient. He could have made our eyes so that we could not see any bright colours. He could have made our palates so that we could not taste; or he could have given us only such fruits and vegetables, as would be very disagreeable to our taste. He could have made our ears so that we could not hear any sweet sounds. But he chose to make every thing pleasant around us;

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and he has so made us, that we can enjoy all these pleasant things. All the living creatures that God has made, seem to be happy. Even the little insects that are darting about in the sunbeams, show much joy in all their motions. This shows that God is very good. If God is so good, you ought all of you to love him.

I have only one thing more to say. You may learn from this story of the creation, that every thing in this world belongs to God. The house you live in, belongs to your father. Perhaps he did not build it himself; perhaps he only paid money to some men, who built it for him. Yet it belongs to him; and all the furniture that is in it, belongs to him, and nobody can take it away from him. God made this world, and every thing in it, and it all belongs to God. And

if every thing in this world belongs to God, then the people that God made, ought to do what God commands them to do. But has God ever told us what we must do? Yes, he has told us in the Bible. If you read the Bible, you will find what God commands you to do. And you will find that he will reward you, if you obey him; and punish you, if you disobey him. It is right for God to do this; for he made you, and gave you every thing you have, and you belong to him. If you belong to God you ought to obey him.

CHAPTER IV.

Story of Adam and Eve, continued.

WHEN God had made Adam and Eve, he put them into the garden of Eden, and told them that they might live in it, and that they must take care of the garden. I suppose you would like to know in what part of the world Adam and Eve lived. They lived in Asia; which is many miles eastward of America, where we all are. Some of your friends will show you, on the map of the world, the place where the garden of Eden was. And when we are talking about the garden of Eden, you need not think of your father's garden, with narrow beds, and straight alleys between them, and rows of flowers on the

borders, and vegetables beyond, and a grape-house at the end of one of the walks, and a pointed fence all around the whole: the garden of Eden, which is called Paradise, was very different from this. The Bible says, that God planted in it every tree which is pleasant to the eye, and good for food; and so, I suppose, it must have been very large. And I suppose it had, all around it, mountains and high hills, which were covered with thick woods. And there was an opening in the mountains, where a beautiful river came into the garden, and went winding along among the meadows and groves, till it came to the other side of the garden, where it flowed out between another opening in the mountains. This river was so smooth, that when Adam and Eve looked into it, they saw

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the willows that hung their branches over the river, and the clear blue sky

In some parts of the garden, were beautiful groves of orange and lemon trees. And all kinds of fruit trees grew in the orchards, and their branches were loaded with fruit and blossoms. The finest flowers were springing up in every part of the garden. And many birds were singing very sweetly, in the pleasant groves where Adam and Eve used to walk. Flocks of sheep were eating grass in the meadows, or drinking the cool water out of the little brooks. And at noon you might see the cattle lying down to rest, under the tall trees that were scattered about the fields.

Among all the animals that were in Paradise, there was not one that wished to hurt any of the others. The lion walked quietly around.

among the sheep and cows. The deer and tiger were jumping about together, on the banks of the river. The little mouse was not afraid to lay her head upon the paw of the cat, and go to sleep.

Adam was not obliged to dig in the ground, and plant seeds; for God made the finest fruits and flowers to grow up of themselves. And he was not obliged to work hard, and build himself a house; for the air of Paradise was so mild and soft, that a house was not necessary. But I suppose Adam and Eve had a bower, where they could sleep, and sit when they chose. It was made of trees which grew near each other, and twined their branches and glossy leaves together. And perhaps roses and jessamines, and honeysuckles, and many other beautiful plants, grew

up by the side of it, and spread themselves all over it, making the roof so thick, that the rain could not come through. And the floor and seats were of grass, sprinkled all over with violets.

Now perhaps some of you are saying how happy Adam and Eve must have been! Yes, they were very happy. They had many more things to make them happy, beside this pleasant garden. God had made them very good. They were not wicked at all. They were not proud. They were never angry. They did not wish for what did not belong to them. If they had seen any other beings, happier or greater than they were, they would not have envied them. They had none of those cross, wicked tempers, that make people unhappy. They loved God. They loved one

another. They loved the holy angels, and they did not hate any body. Yes, indeed, they were very happy. The way to be happy, is to have pleasant, kind feelings, and to love God, and obey him.

There was something else that made Adam and Eve happy. Perhaps you have not thought of it. Try to think what it could be. You know you do not like to be alone all the time. You wish to see your friends, and to be near them, and talk to them. Adam and Eve liked company too; and I suppose they found it very pleasant to converse together. There were many things which they could talk about; for though they had lived but a little while, they had learned a great deal of God, and his works. But this was not all. I suppose the angels used to come to Paradise.

visit Adam and Eve, and to converse with them about God and heaven. Adam and Eve were glad to talk with the angels, and to be taught by them, because the angels were very good, and they knew more than a man and woman could be expected to know.

This was not all the society that Adam and Eve had. For the great God himself used to converse with them. Were not Adam and Eve much honoured, in having the company of the glorious God? We read in one place in the Bible, that God spoke to Adam and Eve; and then in another place in the Bible, we read that God spoke to them, and they did not seem to be surprised; so I suppose they were used to hear God speak. It may be, that the time when God used to meet them, was in the evening, when Adam and Eve had

finished their pleasant work in the garden, and eaten their supper of fruits. They were then ready to kneel down at the entrance of their arbour, and to thank God for his goodness, and to ask him to continue to be good to them. Perhaps God then answered them, and gave them his blessing. And they could lie down and sleep very sweetly, thinking that God had blessed them.

In the morning they would thank God, and pray to him again, before they began their work. You think it strange, perhaps, that Adam and Eve worked in Paradise. But God had told them, that they must be industrious, and take good care of the garden of Eden. They did not work hard and long, so as to become very tired. This was not necessary. But

they could twine the grape vines around the trees, and make them grow in the right place. And they could tie up the rose bushes and carnations; and they could gather the ripe fruit, and break off the useless branches from the trees. All the plants that they cultivated, would put them in mind of the power and skill of their Creator. And they could study the plants, and learn their uses. They could learn in what things they were like each other, and in what things they were different from each other, and divide them into classes. Adam and Eve liked to do all these things much better than to be idle. They could not have been happy, even in Paradise, if they had had nothing to do. Every body ought to be busy about something. Even little children

should be industrious. God has so made us, that we like to be active; and if we are not doing something useful, we shall be in great danger of doing what is wrong.

CHAPTER V.

What Adam and Eve did.

WHEN God put Adam and Eve into the garden of Eden, he told them that they might eat as much fruit as they liked, from all the trees in the garden, except from one. God had planted one tree in the middle of the garden, which was called the tree of knowledge. He told Adam and Eve, that they must not eat any fruit from this tree. God placed this tree there, to try whether Adam and Eve would be obedient. You know that they had every kind of fruit which they wanted, without taking any from this tree. So, you see, that if they disobeyed God, and ate any of the fruit from this tree, they would become very wicked.

At first, Adam and Eve thought that they would never disobey God. They did not wish to do any thing which God had forbidden them to do. But afterwards they sinned against God, and ate some of the fruit from the tree of knowledge. I will tell you how they came to do this.

You know the Bible tells us about many bright angels, that lived with God, in heaven. Well, a long time ago, before God made this world, some of these angels became wicked, and refused to love God. Instead of being kind, and affectionate, and obedient, as they were before, they became proud, and angry, and wished to do all the evil they could. After they were so changed, it was not best that they should stay in heaven. They would not have been fit company for the holy angels. They would have

tried to injure them. They would have tried to tempt them to do wrong. They had offended God, and it was necessary that they should be punished. So God cast them out of heaven into hell. I do not know how many of these wicked angels there were, but I am afraid there were a great many. The chief one among them was called Satan. When they were good, he was the highest angel among them, and now they had become bad, he was their leader in every kind of mischief.

Satan knew that God had made this beautiful world. And he knew how holy and happy Adam and Eve were. You need not think it strange that he should know this, for both good and bad spirits have many ways of knowing things that we do not understand.

Satan was very angry at God for

making Adam and Eve. He hated God, and he hated and envied every body who was happy. And he determined that he would try to make Adam and Eve as miserable as he was himself. Satan knew that he could not hurt Adam and Eve, so long as they continued to love and obey God. He knew God would take care of them if they were good. He thought he would try to persuade Adam and Eve to do something that was wrong, and then God would be angry with them, and they would be very unhappy.

God had forbidden Adam and Eve to eat of the tree of knowledge, and had told them that if they did eat of it they must die. Satan knew that if he could persuade them to eat only once of the fruit of this tree, that it would make God angry with them,

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and that God would punish them for their sins. Satan was so wicked as to wish to bring all this trouble upon Adam and Eve, and upon their children.

This evil spirit was very cunning in all that he did. For he thought, that, if he found Adam and Eve together, he could not so easily tempt them to do wrong, because they could then advise each other. He waited till he saw Eve alone near the forbidden tree, while Adam was in another part of the garden. He then made himself look just like a serpent, so that Eve might not know that he was an evil spirit, and went to Eve and asked her if God had said that she must not eat of all the trees in the garden. She told him that God had said they might eat the fruit from all the trees in the garden, except from

the one that was in the middle of the garden. She told him that God had said they must not eat of the fruit of this tree, and that if they did they must die. Satan was so wicked as to contradict what God had said. He told Eve that she and Adam certainly would not die, if they did eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge. This was the same as to say, that God had told them a lie. Eve ought not to have stayed near the serpent a moment longer, after he had said such a dreadful thing about God. But Eve now began to have some sinful thoughts, and she waited a moment to hear what the serpent was going to say. And Satan told her that God knew that if they ate of the fruit of that tree, they would have so much wisdom and knowledge that they would be like God. Eve began to believe

what he told her, and she turned around to look at the tree. She thought it had never looked so beautiful before. It was covered with fruit, which was red and yellow, and quite ripe. The longer she looked at it, the more she wished to taste of the fruit. She began to be ambitious, and to wish to be great, and to know every thing like God. She was so foolish as to think that she should be wiser and happier, for doing what God had forbidden her to do. She forgot how much fine fruit there was in the garden, that God was willing she should eat. She forgot how good God had been to her, and how ungrateful it would be to disobey him. She forgot that he had threatened to punish her if she ate any of that fruit. She forgot that Adam was at a distance, and that she had not talked to him about

it. She forgot every thing she ought to have remembered. She ought to have gone away from the tree, and thought about something else. But instead of doing so, she kept thinking and thinking about it, and looking at it, till at last she took some of the fruit and ate it.

As soon as Eve had eaten as much as she wished of the forbidden fruit, she took some of it in her hand, and went to find Adam. When she saw him, she told him what she had done, and gave him the fruit. One would think that Adam would have been wiser than to eat any of it, but he acted as wickedly as Eve did, and ate what she gave him.

Now what did Adam and Eve gain by this sinful act? They expected to know a great deal more, after they had eaten the fruit of the tree of

knowledge. And they did know more. They knew what it was to be guilty, and unhappy. They knew what it was to have God angry with them. They knew what it was to be afraid that God would punish them. They knew what it was to have unkind, wicked feelings. But what good did such knowledge as this do them ?

CHAPTER VI.

What God said to Adam and Eve.

SOON after they had eaten the fruit, they began to be very sorry. The sun was just going down behind the mountains of Paradise. The little birds had done singing and had gone to their nests. The beasts had lain down to sleep. This cool pleasant hour was the time when Adam and Eve used to thank God and pray to him. Before this, they had always been glad to have it come, because God then met them, and talked with them. But now they were afraid to meet God. They soon heard the voice of God in the garden, and they started, and looked pale because they

were afraid. They ran, and tried to hide themselves among the trees of the garden. Ah! Adam and Eve, how changed you are. Once you were so happy to meet God, and now you are trying to hide from him!

But they could not hide from God. He sees every thing. He saw them eat the forbidden fruit. When they first wished to eat it, he saw what was in their hearts. And now he had come to judge them. The Lord God called Adam, and said unto him, where art thou? Adam and Eve were obliged to come out of their hiding place; but they came trembling, because they were afraid and ashamed God asked them if they had eaten of the fruit of the tree of knowledge God knew that they had eaten of it; but he asked them, because he wished to make them confess their sin. They

could not deny that they had disobeyed God; yet instead of owning that they were guilty, and asking forgiveness of God, they began to make excuses. Adam said that he had eaten the fruit, but the woman was to blame, because she gave it to him. Eve said that the serpent deceived her, and persuaded her to eat it.

Then God said that Satan must be punished, for tempting Adam and Eve to commit sin. God said that one of the descendants of Adam and Eve, who would be born many years afterwards, and live on the earth, would punish Satan, and bruise the head of Satan under his feet. Satan thought when he tempted Adam and Eve to sin, that he should get them, and all their descendants into his power. He thought that God would give them all up to him, and that when they

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died, their souls would be sent to live in the dark world where he was, and be as miserable as himself.

But God now told of a person who would disappoint these wicked hopes of Satan. This person was the *Lord Jesus Christ*, who came into the world a long time afterwards, and ~~had~~^{lived} that people who have sinned against God, may be pardoned, if they are sorry for their sins, and trust in him. He gives them his Holy Spirit to change their hearts, and to make them good. He takes them away from Satan, so that Satan cannot hurt them, and when they die, they go to live with God in heaven. God told Adam and Eve of this soon after they had sinned, so that they might love and trust in Christ, if they chose. I hope they did so. If they did, their souls did not go to live with Satan when they

died. They went to live with God, and Jesus Christ, and the holy angels in heaven.

Then God spake to Adam and Eve, and told them how he should punish them for their sin. He told them that the finest fruits and flowers would no longer grow out of the earth of themselves. But brambles, and weeds, and things that were not good to eat, would grow up all over the earth. He said they must not have any bread to eat, except what they worked hard to get. Adam must dig up the ground, and plant corn, and pull up weeds. He would have to toil so much that he would be very tired every day, and the sweat would stand in large drops all over his face. God told them that they would be often sick, and have much trouble and care,

and that after some years they would certainly die and be laid in the grave, and turn to dust. God then made Adam and Eve coats out of the skins of beasts that had been killed.

These beasts were not killed for Adam and Eve to eat, because God had not given them permission to eat meat. They ate nothing but vegetables. I suppose that Adam and Eve killed these animals, and burnt their flesh upon an altar, which was called sacrificing them to God. God taught Adam and Eve to sacrifice animals to him, that they might not forget that Jesus Christ was coming into the world to die for sinners. Adam and Eve taught this to their children and all the people in the world who wished to please God, used to worship him in this way, till Jesus Christ

came into the world. After Jesus Christ came into the world, it was not necessary to offer sacrifices any more.

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CHAPTER VII.

About the distress of Adam and Eve.

Now Adam and Eve were in great distress. For God told them that they must not stay in Paradise any longer. This made them very sorry. They could not bear to think of leaving this delightful spot where they had been so happy. But they knew that they ought not to complain, for they had deserved a much worse punishment. When God sent them from Paradise, they went away very sorrowful, and often looked back. Ah! poor Adam and Eve, I do not wonder you look back. I do not wonder the tears are on your cheeks. You will never find such a pleasant home again. But these quiet groves

and fields, where the angels walk, and where God comes, are too good for people that have been wicked. They went out of the garden through an opening in the hills, on the eastern side of the garden. Then they looked back and saw some bright angels, standing at the place where they came out. And near the angels there was a flaming sword in the air, which waved from side to side, and looked very terrible. Then Adam and Eve knew that they could never go back again.

I do not know what Adam and Eve did then. But I believe that they were sorry for their disobedience to God. I believe that they trusted in Jesus Christ, who was coming to save sinners. I think that they must have knelt down upon the grass and confessed their sin and that they thanked

God for letting them live longer, and prayed to God to take care of them. I hope that they then tried to be as patient and cheerful as they could. I hope that they did not spend their time in wishing that they could get back to Paradise again. This would have been very foolish, for it would have done no good. It would have been very wicked to wish to do what God had forbidden. This they had already learned. They had no time to lose in complaining. They had a great deal to do to make themselves comfortable. The weather was no longer mild and pleasant, as it was before they sinned; it was sometimes quite cold, and then again it would be very hot, so they were almost scorched by the sun. Sometimes there would be violent storms of wind and rain, and the thunder and lightning would

be terrible. You see that Adam would have to provide a shelter for himself, which it would be very difficult to do, when he had no iron tools to work with. I do not know how he contrived to do it. And he was obliged to plant corn, that Eve might make it into cakes, for they had no longer the fruits of Paradise to eat.

The animals were greatly changed. They used to be obedient to Adam, but now some of them had become great enemies to him. The lion and tiger, and many other beasts began to be wild and cruel, and wished to tear in pieces all the poor little helpless animals that they could find. If Adam and Eve had not kept out of their way, they would have torn them in pieces. These terrible creatures now began to hide themselves in the bushes, by the side of the rivers, and

when a harmless deer or sheep came to drink, they would seize upon him, and kill him instantly. Even those animals that remained gentle, did not like Adam and Eve, half so well as they did before. They were afraid of them now. Many of the most timid of the beasts and birds, fled away into the forests, and were not willing to come near Adam and Eve. Others remained to have Adam and Eve take care of them, because they knew that they could not very well take care of themselves.

All these changes show how much God is displeased with sin. Many people seem to think that it is a very little thing to disobey God. But you learn from the story of Adam and Eve, that God does not think so. And God knows much better than we do, how much evil is done by sinning

against him. If it was a trifling thing to commit sin, do you think that God would have threatened Adam and Eve, with such an awful punishment for disobedience, as death to their bodies, and everlasting death to their souls? And when God wished to deliver them and their descendants from a part of this punishment, would it have been necessary for Jesus Christ to do so much, and to suffer so much before they could be saved, if sin was a trifling thing? If it was a little thing to sin against God, would God have so changed every thing in this world, after Adam and Eve had disobeyed him? When you think about it, I am sure that you will say, it is a dreadful thing to sin against God. I hope that you will remember this when you are tempted to tell a lie, or to disobey your parents, or to neglect prayer, or

to do any thing that God has forbidden. But you have already done what was wrong, and you have displeased God. You cannot go to heaven, unless God forgives you, and gives you a new heart. What must you do? You must be truly sorry that you have offended so good a God. You must go into your chamber, and kneel down and confess to God, that you have been very wicked, and ask him to pardon you, and make you good, for the sake of his Son. And you must not trust in any thing, or any body to save you, except in Jesus Christ. For if he had not died for sinners you could not have been forgiven.

Now, do not go away from your chamber, and think that you have done enough, and forget what you have been saying. Do not be satisfied

till you know that you love God, and that you are trying all the while to obey him. Then God will love you and he will make you happy in this world; and when you go out of this world, you will be happy with God, and with all good people in heaven.

CREATION.

- 1 God made the sky so bright and blue,
God made the grass so green ;
God made the flowers that smell so sweet,
In pretty colours seen.

- 2 God made the sun that shines so bright
And gladdens all I see ;
It comes to give us heat and light—
How thankful should I be !

- 3 God made the little bird to fly,
How sweetly has she sung !
And though she soars so very high,
She wont forget her young.

- 4 God made the cow to give nice milk,
The horse for us to use ;
I'll treat them kindly for his sake,
Nor dare his gifts abuse.

OBEDIENCE

- 1 O that it were my chief delight,
To do the things I ought!
Then let me try with all my might,
To mind what I am taught.
- 2 When I am bid, I'll freely bring
Whatever I have got;
And never touch a pretty thing,
If mother tells me not.
- 3 When she permits me, I may tell
About my little toys;
But if she's busy, or unwell,
I must not make a noise.
- 4 And when I learn my hymns to say
And work, and read and spell,
I will not think about my play,
But try and do it well.

WHAT IS IT FOR A CHILD TO KNOW THE
SCRIPTURES?

“Mother,” said Samuel,—as he walked in the garden with his mother, “I was reading, yesterday, what St. Paul wrote to Timothy, in his second epistle, the third chapter and fifteenth verse; and I wish to ask you to explain it to me:—Paul says to Timothy, “*From a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures.*” I am possessed of a beautiful Bible, which my dear father gave me as a present, last Christmas holidays, bound in red morocco, and I read it on Sundays and at other times. Is *this* to know the Scriptures, mother? Do I know the Scriptures as *I ought, and as Timothy did?*”

“My dear child,” replied the mother “you may *possess a Bible, and yet not know the Holy Scriptures.*

“You may hear them *read by others, at home, at school, or at a place of worship, and yet not know them.*

“You may *read them yourself, and remember many verses, many histories, many truths and many chapters and yet not know them*

“To know the Scriptures as Timothy knew them, you must understand the important truths they contain about yourself as a lost sinner, unable to deliver yourself from sin, and guilt, and misery; and about Christ as the only Saviour.

“To know the Holy Scriptures, you must *believe them, and love them, and reverence them*, and earnestly seek to do what they recommend.

“But this you can only do, by the teaching and grace of God the Holy Spirit, through the strength of Christ; and, young as you are, you must *pray to God to teach you*. If you will read, when you get home, the twenty-fifth Psalm, you will find God has promised to teach and guide the meek and humble. You must always fear God; for the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and a good understanding have all they that keep his commandments. *This is to know the Holy Scriptures, as Timothy knew them.*”

“Thank you, my dear mother,” said Samuel, “I shall think upon what you have told me and I hope I shall be like Timothy.”

A HYMN FOR SABBATH MORNING

- 1 I love the Sabbath morn to come,
For then I rise and quit my home ;
Hasten to school with cheerful air,
To meet my dearest teachers there.
- 2 There I'm instructed how to pray,
That God would bless me day by day
Safely protect and guide me still,
And help me to obey his will.
- 3 'Tis there I sing a Saviour's love,
That brought him from his throne above
Caused him to suffer, bleed and die,
For sinful creatures, such as I
- 4 From the instructions I obtain,
May I a lasting blessing gain :
In early life seek Jesus' face,
And gain the blessings of his grace.

HYMN FOR A CHILD.

- 1 Lord, teach a little child to pray,
Thy grace betimes impart;
And grant thy Holy Spirit may
Renew and change my heart.
- 2 Jesus can all my sins forgive,
And wash away their stain;
And fit my soul with him to live,
And in his kingdom reign.
- 3 To him let little children come,
For he hath said they may;
His bosom then shall be their home,
Their tears he'll wipe away.
- 4 For all who early seek his face,
Shall surely taste his love;
Jesus shall guide them by his grace,
To dwell with him above.