Genesis - Commentaries by Favell Lee Bevan Mortimer

Peep of Day, Lesson 12: The Son of God

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Gen. 3:14-24

I AM sure you are very sorry to hear that Adam and Eve were turned out of the garden? It was not so pleasant outside the garden. Many, many weeds and thistles now grew outside; but in the garden there were only pretty flowers and sweet fruits.

Adam was forced to dig the ground till he was hot and tired, for he could not always find fruit on the trees. Now Adam felt pain in his body sometimes. His hair became gray, and at last he was quite old. Eve was very often sick and weak, and tears ran down her cheeks.

Poor Adam and Eve! If they had obeyed God they would have been happy forever.

Adam and Eve knew that they must die at last. God gave them some little children, and Adam and Eve knew that their children must die too. God had told them that their bodies were made of dust, and that they must turn to dust again.

But there was something more sad still. They were now wicked. They did not love to praise God, as they once had done, but they liked doing many bad things.1 They were now like Satan. So Satan hoped that, when their bodies would be put into the ground, their spirits would be with him, for Satan knew that wicked people cannot live with God in heaven.2

And they would have gone to hell, and all their children too, if God had not taken pity on them. God, who is very kind, had found a way to save them.

God had said to His Son, a long, long while before then, ‘Adam and Eve and all their children must go to hell for their wickedness, unless Thou wilt die. 3My beloved Son, I will send Thee. Thou shalt have a body. Thou shalt go and live in the world and Thou shalt obey Me. And Thou shalt take the place of very many men and women and children and die instead of them.’ 4

The Son said to His Father, ‘I will come.’ He would do all that the Father wanted Him to do. He said, ‘It is My delight to obey Thee.’ 5 So the Son promised to come into this world to die.

How kind it was of the Father to send His dear Son, whom He loved so very much! 6How kind it was of the Son to come from His throne of light and His bright angels, and to take a body and to die! 7

You know that we are some of Adam’s children’s children. It was for such people that Jesus came to die. We are wicked, and we should go to hell, if Jesus had not promised to die for such people.8 We ought to love the Father and the Son, because They had pity on sinners.

Let us praise God with the angels, 9and say, ‘We thank Thee, O Father, for Thy tender love in giving Thine only Son.’

‘We thank Thee, O Son, for Thy tender love in coming down to bleed and die.’

The Father waited a long while before He sent His Son down to be a man. All the time the Son waited in heaven, He thought of what He promised to do. 10But He would not go and be a man till His Father was pleased to send Him.11

Questions

Were Adam and Eve happy after they had eaten the fruit?

Why not?

Who took pity on them?

What did God wish His Son to do for Adam?

What did God’s Son say to His Father, when He told Him to be a man so that He could die?

Are we some of Adam’s children?

If Jesus did not die, where would Adam and Eve and all their children go when they died?

Did Jesus come down into the world as soon as Adam became wicked?

Did He wait a long while, or a little while?

God sent a Savior

A verse from the Bible for you to learn:

The Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. 1 John 4:14.

Peep of Day, Lesson 10: Adam And Eve

Gen. 1:26-2:25

Now I shall tell you of the last thing God made. God took some of the dust of the ground, and made the body of a man. Then He breathed on it and gave it a soul, so that the man could understand about God. This first man whom God made was called Adam. Adam was good; he did nothing bad.1 Adam loved God very much.

God put him in a very pretty garden, full of trees covered with fruit. This garden was called the Garden of Eden. God showed Adam all the beasts and birds, and let Adam give them whatever names he wanted. He said to Adam, ‘I give you all the fishes and insects and birds and beasts. You are their master.’ So Adam was king over all things on the earth.

God said to Adam, ‘You may eat of the fruit that grows on the trees in the garden.’ Still God did not let him be idle, but told him to take care of the garden. You see how very kind God was to Adam.

But Adam had no friend to be with him; for the beasts and birds could not talk to Adam. Then God said He would make a woman to be a friend to Adam. So God made Adam fall fast asleep. God took a piece of bone and flesh out of his side, and made it into a woman. When Adam woke, he saw her. He knew that she was made of his flesh and bones, and he loved her very much. Her name was ‘woman,’ and afterward her name was Eve.

You have heard of all the things God made. They were all beautiful, and all the living things were happy. There was no pain and no crying and no sin in all the world.

God had been six days in making the world. And when He had finished it, He rested on the seventh day. He made no more things.

The angels saw the world that God had made. They were pleased; they sang a sweet song of praise to God. 2Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was pleased, for He loved Adam and Eve.3

How do I know about the world being made? Because it is written in the Bible, which is God’s own book.

Let us count over all the things that God made.

1. Light.

2. Air.

3. Clouds.

4. Sea.

5. Dry land.

6. Things that grow out of the earth.

7. Sun, moon and stars.

8. Living creatures.

Questions

What was the last thing that God made?

How did God make Adam?

Where did God put Adam?

What did God give him?

Why did God make Eve?

How did He make her?

How many days did God take to make the world?

Tell me the names of all the things God made.

How beautiful the world was at first!

A verse from the Bible for you to learn:

“And God saw everything that He had made, and, behold, it was very good.” Gen. 1:31.

Peep of Day, Lesson 9: The World, Part 3

Genesis 1:20-25

GOD had made many things; but none of these things was alive. At last He made some living things. He spoke, and the water was filled with fish, more than could be counted.

Some were very small, and some were very large. 1Have you heard about the huge whales? It is a fish as long as a church. Fish are cold; they have no feet; and they cannot sing or speak. God made some creatures more beautiful than fish. They fly about in the air. The birds perched on the trees and sang among the branches.2

Birds have wings, and are covered with feathers of all colors. The robin has a red breast, the goldfinch has some yellow feathers, and the jay some blue ones. But the peacock is the most beautiful of birds; 3it has a little tuft on its head and a long train that sweeps behind; sometimes it spreads out its feathers, and they look like a large fan. The thrush, the blackbird and the linnet can sing sweetly, but there is one bird that can sing more sweetly still. It is the nightingale. At night, when all the other birds have left off singing, the nightingale may be heard in the woods.

Some birds swim on the water, such as geese and ducks and the beautiful swans with their long necks and feathers white like the snow. Some birds are very tall. The ostrich is as tall as a man. It cannot fly like other birds, but it can run very fast indeed.

The eagle builds its nest in a very high place. 4Its wings are very strong, and it can fly as high as the clouds. 5The gentlest of the birds is the dove. It cannot sing, but it sits alone and moans softly, as if it was sad. 6I cannot tell you the names of all the birds, but you can think of the names of some other kinds.

There is another sort of living creature, called insects. God made them come out of the earth, not out of the water like fishes. Insects such as ants are small, and creep on the earth. Some insects, such as bees and butterflies, can also fly. The bee sucks the juice of flowers, and makes wax and honey. How beautiful are the wings of a butterfly! They are covered with little feathers, too small to be seen. All the insects were good and pretty when God made them.

At last God made the animals. They were made from the earth when God spoke. Animals walk on the earth; most of them have four legs. You know the names of many sorts of animals. Sheep and cows, dogs and cats, are animals. But there are many other sorts: the squirrel that jumps from branch to branch, the rabbit that lives in a hole under the ground, and the goat that climbs the high hills; the stag with his beautiful horns, the lion with his yellow hair, and the tiger whose skin is marked with stripes. The elephant is the largest of the beasts, the lion is the strongest, the dog is the most sensible, the stag is the most beautiful, but the lamb is the gentlest. The dove is the gentlest of the birds, and the lamb is the gentlest of the animals.

Now God had filled the world with living creatures, and they were all good: even lions and tigers were good and harmless. I have told you of four sorts of living creatures:

1. Fishes.

2. Birds.

3. Insects.

3. Animals.

All these creatures have bodies, but they do not have souls like you. They can move and breathe. God feeds them every day and keeps them alive.7 The Lord is good to them all.

Questions

How many sorts of living things did God make?

Tell me the names of some kinds of fish.

Tell me the names of some birds.

Tell me the names of some insects.

Tell me the names of some animals.

God is kind to birds and beasts.

A verse from the Bible for you to learn:

He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry. Psa. 147:9.

Peep of Day, Lesson 8: The World, Part 2

Gen. 1:1-19

WHEN God made the dry land, there was nothing on it. It was bare.

So God spoke, and things grew out of the ground. Trees came out of it; they were covered with green leaves of different shapes. Some were called oak trees, and some were called elm trees, and some were called beech trees. Some trees bore nice fruit, such as plum trees, apple trees, orange trees and fig trees.

Vegetables grew out of the earth. Potatoes and beans, cabbages and lettuces, are called vegetables. Corn came out of the earth. Some corn is called wheat, and some corn is called barley, and some is called oats. The ears of corn bend down when they are ripe; then they look yellow like gold.

God made the soft green grass to spring up, and flowers to grow among the grass—flowers of all colors, and of the sweetest smell. The yellow buttercup, the white lily, the blue violet—and the rose, the most beautiful of all flowers.

I have told you of five sorts of things that grow out of the earth:

1. Trees.

2. Vegetables.

3. Corn.

4. Grass.

5. Flowers.

The world looked very beautiful when it was covered with grass and trees. But only God and the angels saw its beauty.

Afterward God placed the sun in the sky. He made it shine all day long and go from one end of the world to the other.1

God made the moon to shine at night, and He covered the sky with stars.

You never saw anything as bright as the sun. It is very large indeed, only it looks small, because it is a very long way off. It cannot fall, for God holds it up. 2God makes it move across the sky. The moon does not shine as brightly as the sun, for God lets it be dark at night, so that we may rest, and sleep soundly.3

Who can count the stars?

No one but God. 4He knows their names and their number, too. 5When we look at the moon and stars, let us think how great God is! Yet He cares for the little birds, and loves little children. 6

Questions

How many different sorts of things grow out of the ground?

Tell me the names of some trees.

Tell me the names of some vegetables.

Tell me the names of some flowers.

What bright things did God put in the sky?

How many stars are there?

God is wise:

A verse from the Bible for you to learn:

“He telleth the number of the stars; He calleth them all by their names.” Psa. 147:4.

Peep of Day, Lesson 7: The World, Part 1

Gen. 1:1-10.

THIS large place we live in is called the world. It is very beautiful. If we look up, we see the blue sky; if we look down, we see the green grass. The sky is like a curtain spread over our heads, the grass like a carpet under our feet, and the bright sun is like a very bright light. It was very kind of God to make such a beautiful world, and to let us live in it.

God was in heaven, and all His bright angels around Him, when He began to make the world.1 God’s Son was with Him, for God always had a Son, 2just like Himself.3

His Son’s name is Jesus Christ. He is as good and great as God His Father. The Father and the Son are God. They always lived together, and They love each other perfectly. 4The Father and the Son are one God, and They made the world.5 How did God make the world?

By speaking. First of all, God made the light. God said, ‘let there be light,’ and there was light. No one but God can make things by speaking. God made things out of nothing. He only spoke, and the light came. 6

Then God made the air. You cannot see the air, but you can feel it. The air is everywhere. You can sometimes hear the noise it makes, for you hear the wind blow, and the wind is air.

Next God put some water up very high. The clouds are full of water; and sometimes the water comes down, and we call it rain.

God made a large, deep place and filled it with water. God spoke to the water, and it rushed into the deep place. God called this water the sea. 7

The sea is very large, and it is always moving up and down, and tossing itself about. But it cannot get out of the large, deep place in which God has put it; for God said, ‘Stay there.’ 8 When the wind blows hard, the sea makes a loud noise, and roars.

God made some dry land for us to walk upon. We call it ground. We could not walk on the sea or build houses on the sea; but the ground is hard and firm and dry.

Now I have told you of five things that God made:

1. The light.

2. The air.

3. The clouds.

4. The sea.

5. The dry land.

Let us praise God for making such a large and beautiful world.

Questions

What is this place that we live in called?

Who was always in heaven with God?

Is Jesus Christ the same as God?

How did God make this world?

What was the first thing that God made?

What can you feel but cannot see?

What is the water in the sky called?

What is the name of the large deep place full of water?

What do we walk on?

What are the first five things that God made?

How light was made:

A verse from the Bible for you to learn:

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Gen. 1:3.

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