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THE
LITTLE PICTURE BIBLE,
CONTAINING
INTERESTING STORIES
FROM THE
OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

ILLUSTRATED WITH BEAUTIFUL AND APPROPRIATE ENGRAVINGS.



Noah's sacrifice after the Deluge.



New-Haven.
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY S. BABCOCK.



LITTLE PICTURE BIBLE.



STORIES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT.

THE AFFLICTIONS OF JOB:

Job was a very good man ; he loved and served God, and did a great deal of good to his fellow-men. He was the greatest and the richest man in the country, for he had large flocks and herds and great treasures. He had also seven sons and three daughters, who were most of them grown up. One day the eldest brother made a great feast, and invited all his brothers and sisters to come and visit him. The others also did the same in their turn.

Job was pleased to see his children happy ; but he knew that where there is much feasting there is also much sin ; he feared lest any of his children should sin against the good God who had given him and them the means of so much happiness. So he arose early and prayed to God for them, and offered sacrifices in their behalf.

But there was an evil spirit who said that Job did not love God, but merely pretended to do so, on account of the good things which God had given him. This was not true ; and to convince him and all others who thought so, that this was not the case,

God gave this evil spirit liberty to go and take from Job all the blessings with which he was surrounded. And he did so. Soon after this, one of Job's servants came to him and said, The oxen were ploughing, and the asses feeding beside them; and the Sabeans fell on them, and have taken them away, and they have slain all thy servants except me. I only have escaped to tell thee.

And another servant came and told him, That the lightning had fallen on his sheep and consumed them; that the Chaldeans had taken away his camels, and that the house in which his children were had been smitten by a great wind, and they were all dead!

Then he arose. He had borne, unmoved, the losses of his sheep, his camels, his oxen, and his wealth; but the loss of his children touched his heart. And he rent his garments and fell on the ground and worshipped God. "The Lord," said he, "gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

And he would not give up serving God, though his wife was foolish enough to wish him to do so. He said, "shall we receive good at the hand of God, and not evil? Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him."

And he did so. And God made up all his losses to him. He gave him other flocks and herds,—twice as many as he had before. And he gave him also seven other sons and three daughters. And Job became again rich and happy.

Thus we see there is nothing lost by serving God. We are sure that "godliness is profitable for all things," since it has the promise of God's blessing in this life, and in that which is to come."

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS.

Jacob had twelve sons. One of them was the son of his old age,—he loved him very much,—and he made for him a coat of many colors; his name was Joseph.

And Joseph dreamed, that whilst he was in the field with his brethren, binding sheaves, his sheaf arose, and stood upright, and that all his brethren's sheaves bowed to his.

And he dreamed again,—and he thought that the sun and moon, and eleven stars bowed to him. And he told these dreams to his father and to his brethren: And his father rebuked him, and said, "Shall I, and thy mother, and thy brethren, indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee, to the earth?"

And his brethren said, "Shalt thou indeed reign and have dominion over us?" And they hated him for his dreams.

So one day when he came to them, as they were keeping their flocks in the field, they took him, and sold him for a slave, to some merchants who were going down into Egypt. And these merchants sold him to one of the king's officers in Egypt.

Whilst he was in this great man's house, he was falsely accused, and thrown into prison.

Soon after this, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, had a very remarkable dream; and no one could tell him the meaning of it. And he was very much troubled on this account.

But the chief butler of the king told him, that there was a young man in the prison, who would explain his dream to him. He said, he knew he could, because he had explained a dream which



he had when he was in prison, and that things had come to pass just as Joseph said they would.

So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and the great God told him what the dream meant; and he laid it open to the king.

And the king said to him, "See! I have set thee over all the land of Egypt." And he took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and clothed him in garments of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck. And he made him ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, bow the knee; and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt. But his father Jacob, who loved him so much, knew not what was become of him. Indeed, his brethren, when they had sold him, took his pretty coat of many colors and dipped it in blood, and then showed it to his father; and so he thought some wild beast had torn him in pieces.

After some time there was a great famine in the land where Jacob lived,—and so, as there was plenty of corn in Egypt, he sent his sons to buy some for food.

And Joseph knew them, though they did not know him. And he treated them as spies. But they said they were not,—that they were all the sons of one father,—and that they had left their brother Benjamin at home.

And he said, that he should know they were what they said, if they should bring their younger brother with them the next time they came. And he took one of them to keep him till they should do so.

Now Jacob was very unwilling to let Benjamin go; for since he had supposed that Joseph was dead, he had loved him more.

But at last, as they were much in want, he consented;—and he said, “Go into Egypt again, and carry a present to the man,—a little balm, and a little honey; spices and myrrh; nuts and almonds. Take also your brother; and God Almighty give you mercy before the man, that he may send away your other brother and Benjamin. If I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved.”

And so they went, and they bowed themselves before Joseph to the earth. And he said, “Is your father well?—the old man of whom ye spake—is he yet alive?” And fixing his eyes on Benjamin, he said, “Is this your younger brother, of whom ye spake to me?” And he said to him, “God be gracious to thee, my son!”

And he made himself known to his brethren. And he said, “I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. Be ye not grieved or angry with



yourselves, that ye sold me hither ; for God did send me before you to preserve life. And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept ; and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them. " You shall tell my father," said he, " of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen ; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither."

And they went back into the land of Canaan, where their father lived ; and they told him that Joseph was yet alive, and governor over all the land of Egypt. And they repeated all the words which Joseph had said to them.

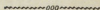
But Jacob's heart fainted within him ; he thought that it was too good news to be true,—and he believed them not.

When, however, he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him down to Egypt, his spirit revived. And he said, " It is enough : Jo-

seph, my son, is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die!"

And so he did; and all his family, amounting to seventy persons, went with him.

And Joseph heard that he was coming, and he made ready his chariot, and went to meet him, and he fell on his neck, and he wept on his neck a good while. And Jacob said, "Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, and thou art yet alive!"



THE PASSAGE OF THE RED SEA.

When the children of Israel, who were the descendants of Jacob, fled from the persecutions of Pharaoh—a king of Egypt, who reigned many years after Pharaoh the friend of Joseph—God pointed out the way for them to go, by a cloud which always went before them, and which at night was so bright as to shine like a pillar of fire. But Pharaoh, being told that they had taken the difficult way over the mountains, and repenting that he had let so many hardy laborers leave his kingdom, pursued them with a large army, and in three days reached their camp, which was pitched near the Red Sea.

Pharaoh thought he might now easily compel them to return, as his army was behind them and the Red Sea before them, so that there was no way for them to escape. The Israelites being thus encompassed, as it were, began to be sore afraid; and, instead of placing their reliance upon God, murmured against Moses, their leader, whom God



had sent to deliver them from their bondage to Pharaoh. They said to him, "were there no graves in Egypt, that thou hast brought us to die in the wilderness?"

But Moses bade them be of good cheer. "God will fight for you," said he, "and by his blessing ye shall soon see no more Egyptians." The cloud then moved behind the camp of the Israelites, so that it was concealed from the Egyptians; and Moses touched the Red Sea with his staff, and a violent east wind parted its waters, which were piled up like walls on both sides, leaving a dry passage through the Sea. Here the Israelites crossed over, and early in the morning they had all arrived in safety on the other side.

Let us never forget, that if God be our God, we must be safe and happy in all circumstances. Let us pray him for Jesus' sake to become our friend. No one ever sought this favor in vain.



DESTRUCTION OF PHARAOH AND HIS ARMY.

In the morning, when the Egyptians perceived that the Israelites had escaped from them, and that there was a passage through the Red Sea, by which they had all gone in safety to the opposite side, they resolved to pursue them. They thought that they, too, as well as the children of Israel, could march safely through the waters.

And so king Pharaoh, with his great army, his chariots and horsemen, went down into the passage which the Lord had made in the sea. But when they had gone in a great way, and were all in its deep bed, the Lord caused the waters to return and close upon them, and the whole host of the Egyptians perished! Pharaoh and his officers and soldiers, his chariots and horses, all sank like lead in the mighty waters!

The Israelites beheld with awe and astonishment

the destruction of their enemies; and they sang a song of thanksgiving to God for their wonderful deliverance.



BREAD FROM HEAVEN.

Soon after the Israelites had passed through the Red Sea, and while they were yet journeying to the land of Canaan, they were in great danger of starvation. The provisions which they had brought with them from the land of Egypt, were all consumed, and there was no bread or other food to be found in the wilderness. And the people knew not what to do. They were so rash as to wish that they had died in Egypt. And they again murmured against Moses for bringing them out of the land of Egypt.

But God said, "I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather it every day. And they shall gather twice as much on the sixth day of the week, that they may rest on the sabbath day."

In the evening, the wind blowing from the Red Sea, brought with it large flocks of quails, which fell exhausted into the camp of the Israelites. Many of the people ate of them so immoderately, that they died. On the following morning, the ground was covered with white grains; and these when pounded fine, furnished a sort of flour, which mixed with water, tasted like a sweet cake. This was called MANNA, and it fell every day, except the sabbath, for the sustenance of the Israelites, till they



had reaped the first crop in Canaan. If they kept any of it after the day on which it was gathered, it was not good for any thing. But, although none of the manna fell on the seventh day, yet a double portion fell on the sixth day. And God so ordered it, that the double portion which they gathered on the sixth day, was good on the seventh."

And to keep up the remembrance of God's great goodness, a measure of the manna was laid up in the ark of the covenant, in which many precious things were preserved.

WATER FROM A ROCK.

In the same year in which God sent them the manna from heaven, the Israelites were in danger of perishing for the want of water. They could



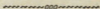
find no springs in the wilderness, and the men and women and children, and the cattle, were in great danger of dying with thirst.

In their despair, the Israelites again murmured against Moses. And Moses went and prayed unto the Lord. We should always pray to him, and especially when we are in trouble. God heard the prayer of Moses, and said unto him, "Take with thee the rod wherewith thou didst smite the river; and go to the rock in Horeb, and I will stand before thee there. And thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink."

And Moses took the rod and went, with Aaron and the seventy elders, to the rock, as God had commanded him. He smote the rock twice, and streams of pure and wholesome water gushed forth from it in great abundance. The men, women and

children, and their cattle, all drank and were satisfied.

How refreshing must this water have been! Who could have expected a river of water from a flinty rock? They never again suffered for the want of water, for this stream followed them through the wilderness, till they arrived in the promised land,—the land of Canaan.



SOLOMON AND THE QUEEN OF SHEBA.

Solomon was one of the kings of Israel, and was a very rich and a very wise man. He built a splendid temple for the worship of God, which was so large, and so richly adorned with gold and silver, and precious stones, and all manner of beautiful things, that the sun never shone upon its equal.

There was no king in the world like Solomon, for riches or wisdom; every one who went from his kingdom into another country, told of king Solomon's wisdom, wealth, and splendor. God blessed him in such a manner, that his fame extended to the most distant countries.

The queen of Sheba heard of the glory of Solomon, and she determined to go and visit him, and see for herself if all she had heard was true.

And she went to Jerusalem, the city in which he lived, and took with her a great many servants, and camels laden with spices, and gold, and silver, and precious stones, for a present to him.



And the queen of Sheba stood before king Solomon, as he sat upon his throne, and asked him a great many hard questions, to try his wisdom ; but he answered them all.

And she said to him, " It was a true report which I heard in my own land, of thy sayings and thy wisdom. But I did not believe it, till I came and saw things as they really are ; and behold, the half was not told me. Thy wisdom and thy prosperity are far above any thing which I had heard.

Happy are thy subjects ! and happy are these thy servants, who stand before thee and hear thy wisdom. Blessed be the Lord thy God, who delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel ; because the Lord loved Israel forever ; therefore he made thee king, to do justice and judgment "

JONAH AND THE WHALE.

God sent a message to Jonah to bid him go and cry against a very great city called Nineveh, because its wickedness had come up before God, and called down his displeasure.

But Jonah was so obstinate that he would not obey the word of the Lord, at that time. Indeed, he thought that he would run away from the service of the Lord altogether, and from his holy presence; and so, as there was a ship going just in a contrary way to Nineveh, he took a passage in it.

But the Lord sent a messenger after him to arrest him, and to bring him back again to the path of duty. This messenger was a great wind; for every wind that blows does as the Lord bids it. So there was a mighty tempest in the sea; and the vessel seemed as if it would be dashed in pieces.

The poor sailors were very much afraid; they thought this dreadful storm had come upon them on account of the sin of some one on board of the vessel,—and, indeed, there would have been no trouble in the world, if there had been no sin,—and so they cast lots, to see who it was that had sinned against God. And God so ordered it, that the lot fell upon Jonah. God can find out the sinner, and bring him to the light, wherever he may hide himself!

And they asked Jonah, what he was, whence he had come, and whither he was going? And Jonah said, I am a Hebrew,—and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land. And he told them how wicked he had been, to disobey God's plain command, and to try to flee

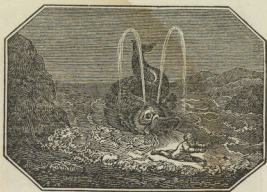


from his presence. And he said, he knew the storm had come on them on his account, and that it would not cease until they had cast him into the sea.

And they tried hard to bring the ship to land, but they could not. Indeed, the sea grew more and more tempestuous; so, that they might not all perish, they were obliged, though they were very loth, to cast Jonah into the mighty deep. And immediately the sea became calm.

And the Lord bade a great fish follow the vessel; and it did so, till Jonah was thrown overboard, and then the fish swallowed him up!

But the Lord preserved the life of his disobedient prophet, even in the belly of the fish. He can keep his creatures alive any where; and we could not live a moment in any place without him. For three days and three nights was Jonah imprisoned



in the belly of the fish. He was in great distress ; he knew not what God was about to do with him, and his soul fainted within him when he reflected upon his disobedience.

At last he remembered how good and gracious God is, and he repented of his sin, and prayed to the Lord to have mercy upon him, and deliver him from his dreadful situation.

And the Lord did so. He heard his prayer from out of the depths of the sea, and graciously answered it. And he spake to the fish, and the fish went to the shore and threw out Jonah safely on the dry land !

God always hears and answers the prayers of the penitent sinner, wherever he may be. Let us, then, put our whole trust in him ; and in all our troubles and distress, look up to him and ask him to stretch out his arm and save us.



SLAYING THE INFANTS OF BETHLEHEM.

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STORIES FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT.



THE WISE MEN AND THE STAR.

About four thousand years after the world was made, JESUS CHRIST, the SAVIOR of mankind, was born in the city of Bethlehem, of Judea, a country far from here, where lived the Jews who had been taught by the words of God himself, that he would send his Son to save them and all the rest of the world from their sins.

Just before his birth, the parents of the Savior went to Bethlehem, which was a long way from the town where they dwelt, and as the city was at that time full of people, there was no room in any of the houses for the parents of the Savior, and they had to take up their abode in a stable. Here, in a manger, the Redeemer was born!

And in the fields near Bethlehem there were some shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night. And the angel of the Lord came to them, and a bright light shone round them, and they were in great fear. And the angel said to them, Fear not, for I bring you news of great joy, and which shall bring joy to all the world. For unto you is born this day a Savior, which is CHRIST the Lord. Then the shepherds saw with the angel who spoke to them, a host of angels who sung words of praise to God and good-will to men.

There were some wise men, who dwelt a long way off, in the East, and they saw a bright star in



the sky ; a star they had not seen till that time ; and this star moved in the sky, and they went in the way in which the star led them ; and it went on till it came to Bethlehem, and stood over where the young child was. And when they were come unto the place, they saw the young child, and fell down on their knees, and gave gifts to it of gold ; and after this many good men and women saw the child, and knew him to be the CHRIST which should come to save the world.



SLAYING OF THE INFANTS OF BETHLEHEM.

Herod, who was then king, was afraid CHRIST would take his throne from him, and he resolved, therefore, to destroy him while he was yet but a babe.

He did so because he foolishly supposed that the Savior would take away his crown, and be king in his place. But the kingdom that CHRIST came to establish was not of this world. He did not seek after the riches and honors of this world. Oh! no. He had no crown here but a crown of thorns. Herod could not kill the LORD JESUS, though he wished to do so.

But Joseph, the father of the child, was told by an angel to take the child and his mother and go down to Egypt, lest Herod should kill him. And they went, and staid there till Herod died.

But the wicked king did not know that they were gone, and he determined that the child should not escape. So he gave orders to kill all the children in Bethlehem who were not two years old. This cruel order was obeyed, and all the poor little children were slain; but JESUS was safe in the land of Egypt.



CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS CHRIST

When the Savior had grown up to manhood, he began to do a great deal of good in the world. He healed the sick, the lame, and the blind, and raised the dead to life. He also told the Jews of all their wickedness; and for this reason they hated him and resolved to kill him.

CHRIST had twelve disciples, and one of them, named Judas, was hired by the Jews to betray him. When JESUS sat down to eat the Feast of the Pass-over with his disciples, he told them that one of their number would betray him. This, said he,



is the last supper that we shall eat together. He then went out to the Mount of Olives to pray. While he was there, some armed men came to take him. Then Judas went up and kissed him. This was the sign by which he was to let them know which was JESUS.

The soldiers then seized JESUS and took him before Pontius Pilate, then governor of Judea. But Pilate could find no wrong in him. However, the Jews insisted that he should be put to death; and they mocked and scoffed him, and spit upon him.

Finally, Pilate yielded to their wishes, and the Savior was led out to be crucified. When nailed upon the cross, he prayed for all his enemies, and then died. Two thieves were also crucified with him; one on his right hand, the other on his left.

Thus died our divine Savior. He died to save us from punishment for our sins, and to secure our eternal happiness. Thanks be to thee, gracious Redeemer, forever and ever!