



# The Story

that matters

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All Bible  
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# The Story

that matters

**What is important in life?**

**Does this life lead to another life?**

Good answers to these questions are found in a big book called the Holy Bible. To explain the Bible's answers, we will start at the very beginning of the story.

The word *Bible* is an ancient word which means 'book'.

The word *holy* means 'one of a kind'.

When we talk about the Holy Bible, we are talking about a special, one-of-a-kind book. There are no other books like the Bible. It is holy.

The Bible talks about many gods, but it only calls one of these gods 'holy'. This God is different from all other gods. He is very special. He is one of a kind.

People have names like Bill, Suzan, Ravi and Nishika. In the same way, this special God has a name. His name is Yahweh.

Because Yahweh is such a special God, people in the past stopped using his name. Instead, they called him Lord. This is what you call someone who is important—someone who has authority. Although the Lord Yahweh is a great God, he still wants to be friends with ordinary people. He wants us to know all about him.

That is the reason God gave us the Bible. It is an important letter from Yahweh, which he wrote to all of us.

Yahweh wrote the letter many years ago. Yet, what it has to say is just as important today as when he wrote it. We all need to know what the Bible says to us.

The first pages in the Bible tell us that Yahweh was never born and he will never die. Yahweh had no beginning and has no end. This God has always existed and will always be. This is just one thing that makes him so special—one of a kind.

The Bible says that, in the beginning, there was only God. There were no plants, animals or people. There was no earth, moon or sun. There were no other gods. Nothing!

In the beginning, only the Lord Yahweh existed.

The Bible says that God made all the things we can see and all the things we cannot see.

One of the first things Yahweh did was to make angels. We cannot see angels, just as we cannot see God. Both angels and God are what we call *spirits*. They are like people, but they do not have bodies of skin and bone.

Although the angels are spirits, they are not gods. They are not the same as Yahweh. God made angels to be his special servants. They were to do whatever Yahweh asked.

All the angels watched and sang as God made the world.



The Bible says that when God created the world, he did it in an extraordinary way. When we make things, we need pencils and paper. Sometimes we use wood, nails and glue. However, the Bible says that when Yahweh made the world, he did not use any tools at all. God just spoke—and there it was!

God said, 'Let there be light'! Just like that, light appeared in the darkness.

Yahweh made everything we see merely by speaking words with his mouth. God has so much power—he can do anything! He is one of a kind! He is holy.

The Bible tells us that God made the sun, moon and stars. He placed them in the sky right where he wanted them. God could do that because he is everywhere.

It is good to know that God is everywhere. He is with you, your family and friends all at the same time. This is true no matter how far away they go or where they live.

Because Yahweh is everywhere at the same time, he even knows the thoughts we think. He knows and understands all things. We can never hide from God.



When we look at what Yahweh created, we see just how big and great the Lord God is.

The Bible says that God made the world in 6 days. Only the Lord Yahweh could do that.

He made the food we eat, the air we breathe and the water we drink. He made the rivers, seas and mountains. God made all the trees and flowers.

God made the fish that swim in the sea, as well as the birds that fly in the sky. He also made the animals we see in the forest and on the farm.

Last of all, God made people—both man and woman. The Lord loved them and looked after them.

He made a perfect garden. God filled it with all kinds of trees, flowers and tame animals. He did this especially for them. God wanted people to enjoy all that he had made.

When we look at the wonderful world God made, we can see that Yahweh is very powerful. He knows how to do everything. Only a great God could make the world we live in.



Since the Lord Yahweh made everything, he also owns everything. When you make something, you own it because you made it. It is the same way with God. Because God made everything, it all belongs to him. This is another reason why we call Yahweh, Lord. It means that he is the King and he owns all that he has made.

God created it, so he owns it.

The Bible tells us that Yahweh is good and kind.

Just look at all the beautiful things the Lord created. God could have made all flowers to be black and white, but instead he made them in pretty colours.

God could have made all food to taste awful. Instead, he made it good to eat and it smells great. He made all kinds of fruits and flowers, insects and animals, colours and sounds—just so we could enjoy them.

Yahweh did this because he cares for us.

The Bible says that God loves us.

The Bible also tells us that Yahweh likes things done in a right way.

Think how confusing it would be if the sun set one afternoon and did not rise again for 3 days. That is why God made rules. He made a rule for the sun—it was to rise in the morning and go down in the evening. It was to do that every day without changing. God made rules for everything he created, so that the world would work in the right way.

God made rules for people too. Sometimes we do not like rules. However, just stop and think for a moment what the world would be like without them. Driving your car would be dangerous if there were no stop signs. With no rules telling us what side of the road to drive on, everyone would be confused. Without rules, our lives would be very difficult.

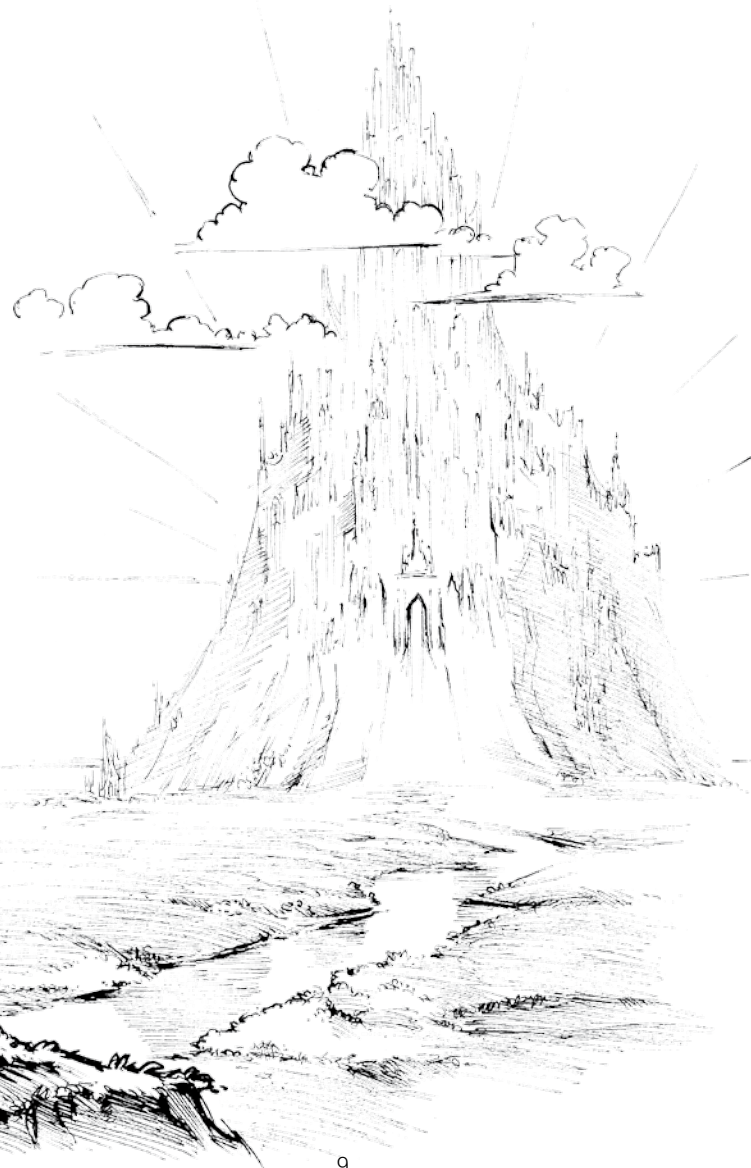
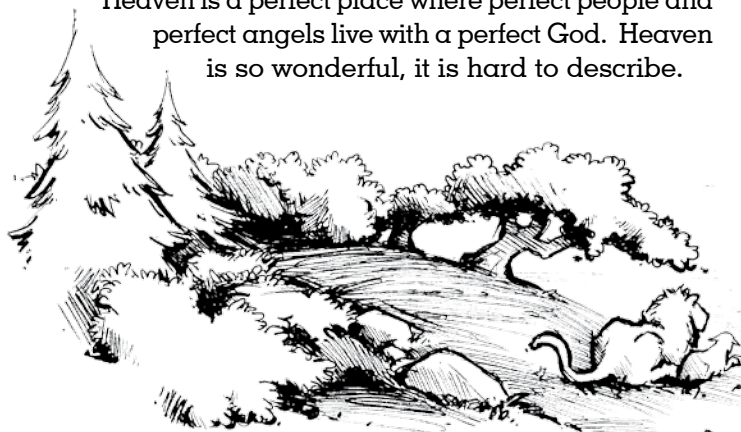
The Lord God made rules because he knows what is best for us. He knows that when we do things in a right way, we are happy and safe. This is just another way Yahweh shows his love for us.

The Bible says that when God made the world, everything was perfect—there was nothing wrong with it. It was good in every way. The Lord Yahweh created a perfect world, because that is the way he is. He never does anything wrong. He is perfect.

God's home is also perfect. We call it *Heaven*. The Bible tells us that Heaven is very beautiful. It is like an enormous park with trees and a river. Right in the middle of this park is a beautiful, safe city. This city is so wonderful, God even made the streets out of gold.

In Heaven, there is no illness, pain or death. There are no weeds or poisonous plants. In Heaven nothing is ever broken or wears out. No bad or unkind people live there and everyone is always happy. Heaven is full of beautiful music. The animals are tame and friendly. You never have to sleep in Heaven, because there is no darkness or night. It is always day.

Heaven is a perfect place where perfect people and perfect angels live with a perfect God. Heaven is so wonderful, it is hard to describe.



After Yahweh finished making his perfect earth, something terrible happened. God's most important angel became unhappy.

This angel's name was Lucifer, which means the *Shining One*. God had created him to do a special job. However, Lucifer began to think he deserved something better. He did not want to be an angel any longer. He wanted to be in authority. Lucifer decided that he deserved to be God!

Since he did not want to follow God's rules, Lucifer made his own rules. He talked many other angels into fighting against Yahweh. They wanted to ruin everything, which made Heaven a very unhappy place.

The Bible uses a special word to describe Lucifer's choice to go against God. The Bible calls this *sin*. To sin means to decide not to follow God's rules. When you do this, you are telling the Lord that you think you know better than he does. Sin spoils things and it always hurts somebody.

We know this is true when we see a person carry out a crime or disobey a law. It hurts somebody. If officials catch the criminal, they punish him. He has to pay money or go to prison. That is only fair. It is not right for people to be wicked and somehow avoid punishment.

In the same way, the Bible tells us that God is always fair. He does not like it when people sin. He knows that sin always hurts someone. He punishes all sin with just the right amount of punishment. It is never too little and never too much. Yahweh always does that which is right and fair.

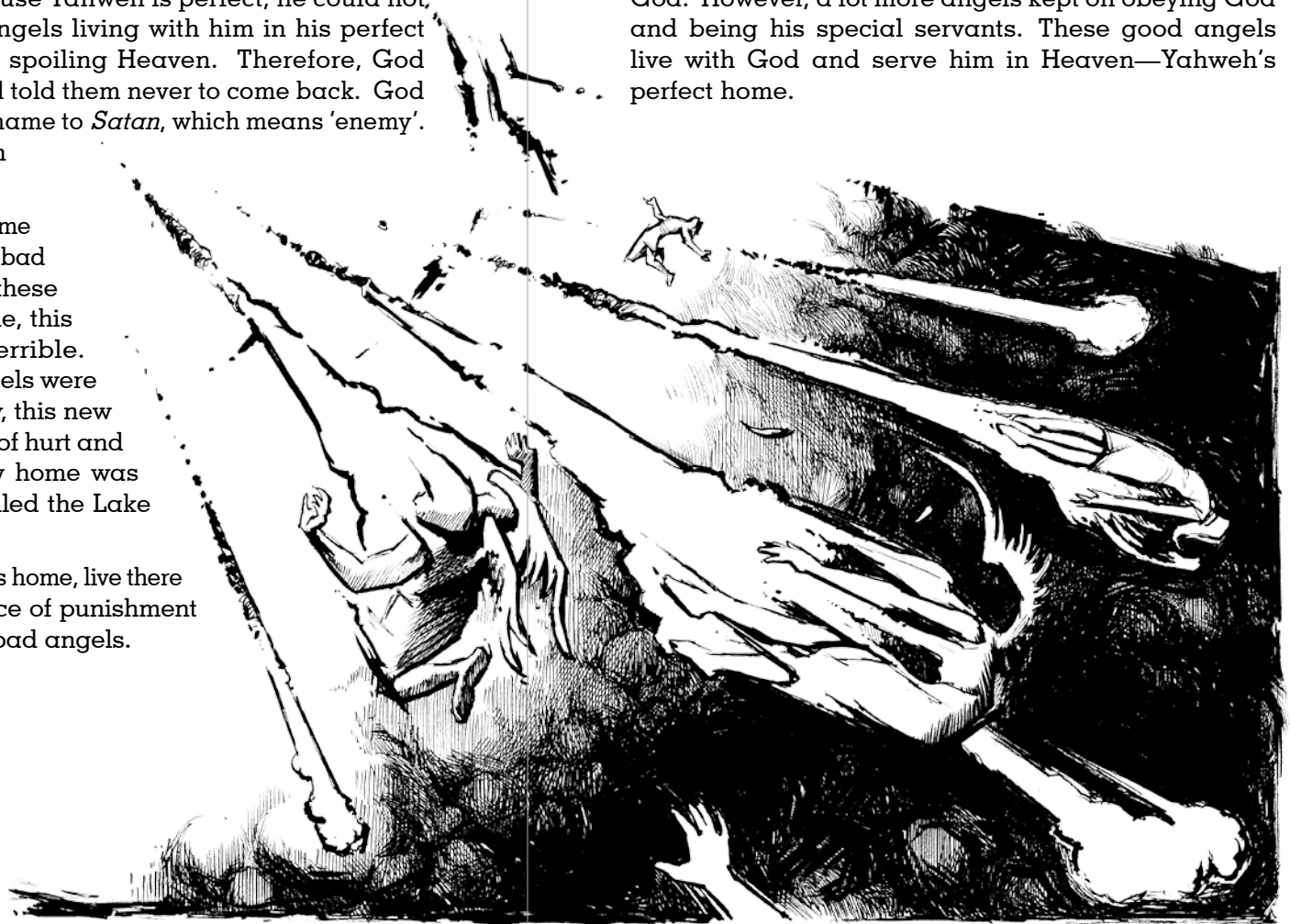


Lucifer and his angels hated God and did not want to obey him. Because Yahweh is perfect, he could not have these bad angels living with him in his perfect home. They were spoiling Heaven. Therefore, God threw them out and told them never to come back. God changed Lucifer's name to *Satan*, which means 'enemy'. Satan was now an enemy of God.

God made a new home for Satan and these bad angels. Because these angels were terrible, this new home was terrible. Because these angels were cruel and unhappy, this new home was a place of hurt and despair. This new home was an awful place called the Lake of Fire.

Those who live in this home, live there *forever*. It is a place of punishment for Satan and his bad angels.

Many angels followed Satan in choosing to *disobey* God. However, a lot more angels kept on obeying God and being his special servants. These good angels live with God and serve him in Heaven—Yahweh's perfect home.





The Bible says that in the beginning when God made the world, it was like Heaven. There were no tears, pain or fear. There were no bad or unkind people. No one stole, lied or killed. There was no sin of any kind. Best of all, nothing ever died.

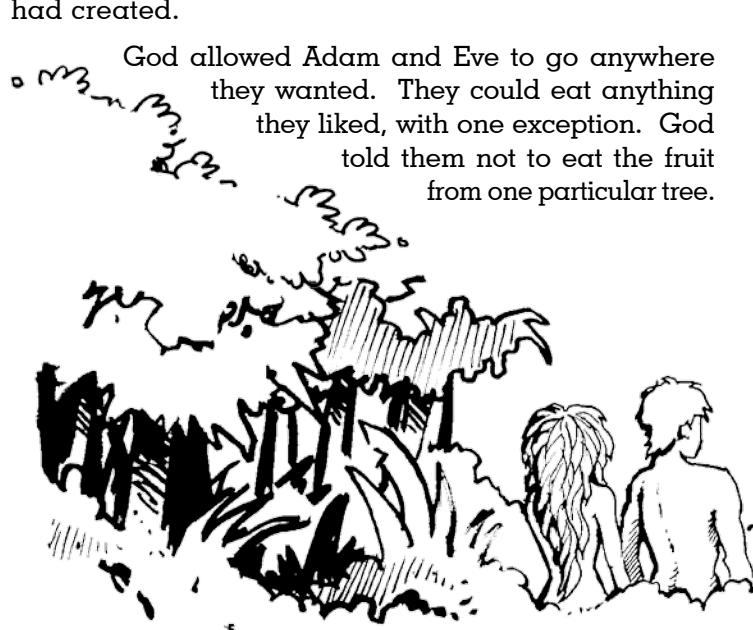
The world God made was a wonderful place to live. It was the way God wanted things to be.

It was perfect.

The people God created were also perfect. Only perfect people can live with a perfect God.

The first man was named Adam and his wife was called Eve. Yahweh placed them in the beautiful garden he had created.

God allowed Adam and Eve to go anywhere they wanted. They could eat anything they liked, with one exception. God told them not to eat the fruit from one particular tree.



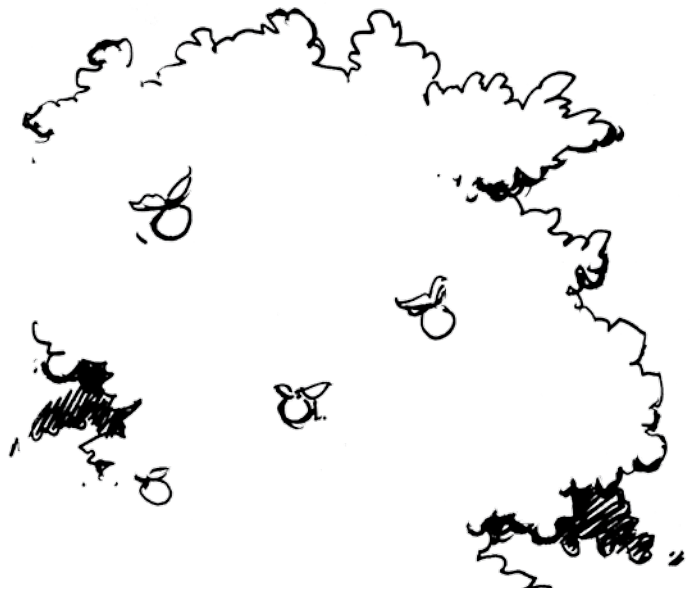
If Adam and Eve did not obey that one rule, it would be sin. If they chose to sin, they would not be able to live with Yahweh.

Following this rule was not difficult for Adam and Eve. There were plenty of fruit trees in the garden. However, by obeying God, Adam and Eve showed the Lord Yahweh that they believed him. They trusted that he knew what was best. This is what God wanted.

Yahweh was saying, 'Trust Me'.

That is how it was in the beginning—  
perfect people trusting a perfect  
God in a perfect world.





Then Satan came to the beautiful garden. He told Adam and Eve that Yahweh was hiding something good from them. Satan said that if they ate the fruit from that one tree, then they would be like God.



Was Satan telling the truth—or was he lying to them? What should Adam and Eve do? If they believed Satan, they would eat the fruit. However, if they believed God, they would not. Whom should they believe—Yahweh or Satan? Whom should they trust?



Adam and Eve began to think that being perfect people in God's perfect garden was not good enough. They wanted more. They wanted to be like Yahweh. Therefore, they did the one thing that God told them not to do—they ate the fruit.

Adam and Eve believed Satan's lie. They thought Satan knew better than God did what was good for them. They disobeyed God's one easy rule and joined with Satan against Yahweh.

This was sin.

Because of Adam and Eve's sin, the whole world changed. It was not safe and perfect like before. Just living became hard work. Weeds grew out of the ground. The animals started to kill each other. The world became a frightening place. Because of sin, the world was full of disease and despair. It became a place of death.

Adam and Eve thought that they were choosing what was best. However, their decision to disobey God ruined everything. The Bible says that death came into the world because of Adam and Eve's sin.



Death is an awful thing. When a person dies, his spirit leaves his body never to return. He will not live on earth again. That is why when we go to a funeral, we are sad. Our friend has left us and we feel all alone; death has separated us from each other.

In the same way, when Adam and Eve joined Satan's side, their sin separated them from Yahweh. The friendship was over and Adam and Eve felt all alone. That is what the Bible means when it talks about death. Sin has separated us from God.



Sin always spoils things—it ruined God's perfect world. It destroyed the special friendship Yahweh had with Adam and Eve.

However, that is not all. Because they had joined Satan, when their bodies died they would have to go and live in Satan's terrible home. Adam and Eve would have to remain forever in the Lake of Fire! This was such sad news, the Bible calls this the Second Death.

However, God did not want Adam and Eve to live with Satan. God loved Adam and Eve, but they could not live in Heaven. Only perfect people can live in Heaven. They had chosen to be sinful people by believing Satan. What would God do?

God was not without a solution! He had a plan. He told Adam and Eve just a little of his plan and what they heard was good news.

God promised to send a special man to earth. The Bible calls this man the *Saviour*. He would be able to save



Adam and Eve from the punishment for their sin. He could save them from the Second Death.

God did not tell how the Saviour would rescue Adam and Eve and make them perfect again.

However, he had promised a way. Would Adam and Eve believe God this time?

Would they trust him?

It is important to understand what the word *trust* means. Let me explain. Let me tell you a story.

One day, John's *Grandpa* took him for a walk along the river. John got too close to the edge of the river and he slipped. Into the water he went! He struggled to the surface as the current swept him away. John was so afraid. The water was freezing cold. Because his clothes were wet and heavy, he felt himself sinking.

Then Grandpa stepped into the rushing water. He was a strong man and his feet were firm on the ground.

With his long arms reaching out to John, Grandpa shouted, 'Here! Take my hand; I will save you. Just trust me!'



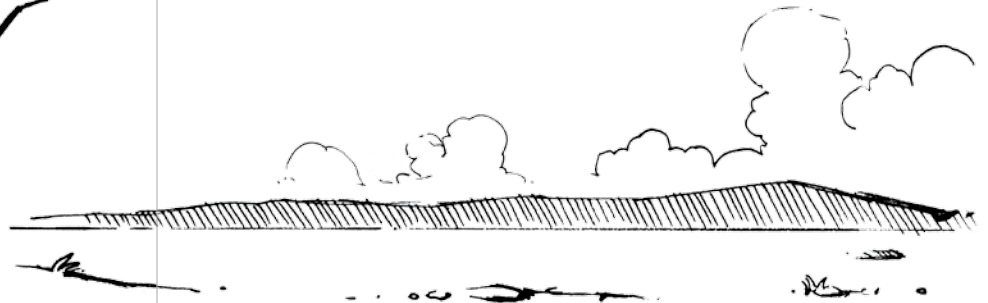
What should John do? If he believed his grandfather, then he would grasp Grandpa's hand. If he did not believe his grandfather, then John would have to struggle on his own. It was Grandpa or himself.

Whom should he trust?

John reached out and took Grandpa's hand. He believed that his grandfather would save him from drowning. John made the right decision.

This was the choice God wanted Adam and Eve to make. He wanted them to trust him, believing that he would rescue them from Satan's terrible home.

Yahweh had a rescue plan, but Adam and Eve would have to trust him.



The Lord Yahweh did not tell Adam and Eve everything about his plan, or everything about the Saviour. However, he had made a promise. If people would trust God, then when they died, God would make them perfect. Perfect people can live with God in Heaven. All they needed to do was to trust God and believe his promise. It was that simple.

However, there was still one big problem. God could not make Adam and Eve perfect and let them go to Heaven without doing something about their sin. Adam and Eve had joined Satan's side and had become sinful. God could not pretend that this had never happened. To refuse to notice their sin would not be right or fair. God must punish all wrong.

So, how could God punish Adam and Eve's sin without punishing them?

This is an important question. You see, we are all like Adam and Eve. We have sin that needs punishment. Since we all sin, we need to know how God can punish sin without punishing people.

To help us understand, God explained a little bit more of his plan.

Because people did not understand how bad sin was, God asked them to do something that would help them understand. This would show them how he would punish sin without punishing people.

Yahweh told them to select an animal—a *lamb*. It must be a male lamb and it could not have anything wrong with it. It could not be sick or have any injuries. It had to be perfect.

God explained that they were to bring the lamb to an altar, a special place of death. The one bringing the lamb was to put his hand on the lamb's head. In doing this, God said it would be like placing all the man's sin on the lamb.

Now something sad had to happen.



Do you remember how death came into the world because of sin? Well, because the man had placed his sin on the lamb, the lamb had to die. This helped people understand that the man's sin had put the lamb to death.

God asked people to do this so that they could understand his plan. This is how he would punish sin without punishing people. The lamb suffered the punishment instead of the man.

The man did what God said because he trusted Yahweh. He believed that the lamb suffered his punishment.



When the time came for the man to die, God would make him perfect so he could live in Heaven.

This was God's plan. It was just one way he showed us how much he loved us.



However, some people did not believe God's plan. They said there were other gods who were more important than Yahweh. They thought these gods had better plans.

What these people did not understand was that these gods were really Satan's bad angels. They were only pretending to be like Yahweh to deceive them. They were lying and not telling the truth.

It was not right that people should consider bad angels as more important than Yahweh. There is only one true God and people should listen to him. Only Yahweh tells the truth.

Even so, people were quite sure that Yahweh's plan could not be right. The idea of trusting God to make one perfect—that was too simple. They thought they needed to do something more, so they came up with their own plan. They made their own rules.

They said that if people did more good things than bad things, then God would be happy. If people were kind, then they would be good enough to live in a place like Heaven.

Do you know what? These people did not understand how good they would have to be to live with God in his perfect Heaven.

Therefore, Yahweh explained some things.





He said that if people stole something, no matter how little, then they were not good enough for Heaven.

Yahweh told them that if they loved money more than they loved him, then they were not perfect.

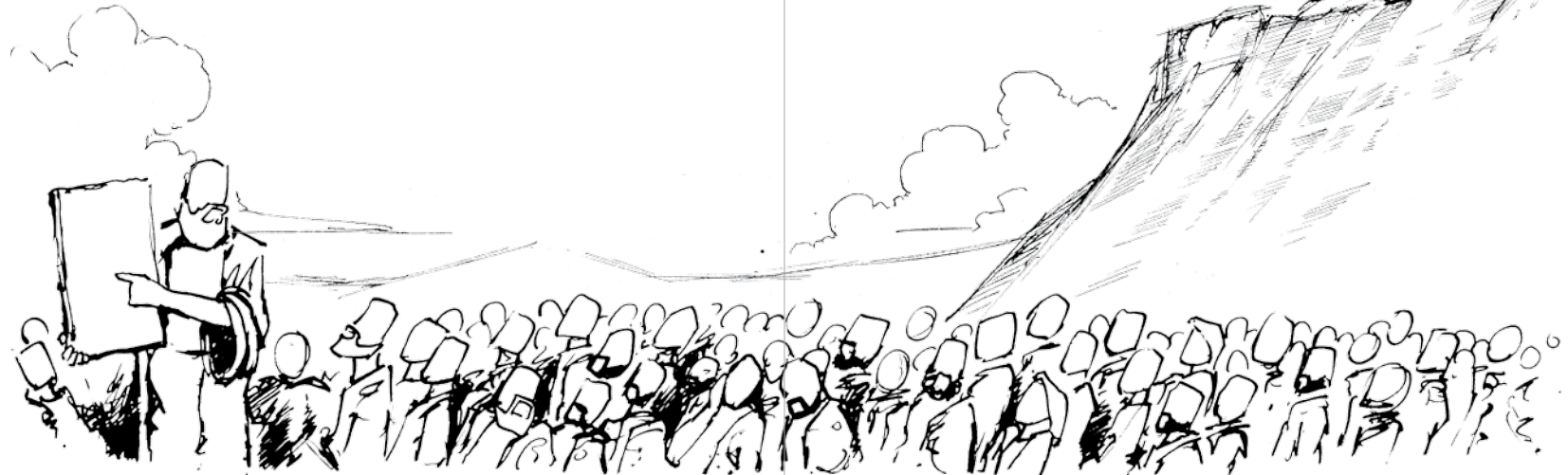
He said that if they did not control their anger, that was sin.

If they ever told a lie, even just a little lie, then they were not perfect. It was a sin to tell lies.

The Lord said that being unkind or not using God's name in an honourable way was sin.

Not showing respect to their mother or father, even just once, meant they were not perfect.

Only perfect people can live with a perfect God.



In total, God gave the people 10 rules called the 10 *Commandments*. The Lord wrote them on 2 flat stones. No one could add their own rules nor could they rub one out. God's rules never change.

The Lord gave the 2 stones to a man by the name of Moses. Moses was to show all the people what Yahweh had written.

Everyone needed to understand that, even if they tried very hard, they could never obey God's 10 rules entirely. They could never be good enough to live with God. They were sinful people. They could not save themselves from the punishment their sin deserved.

They needed a Saviour—they needed a lamb.

For many years, the people waited with hope for the Saviour's arrival.

At last, the day came. The Saviour arrived on earth! What was so surprising was that the Saviour was Yahweh himself. That is right—God came to earth. That is astonishing!

To be the Saviour, Yahweh became a man. This does not mean that he stopped being God. However, the Lord knew that the only way to save us was to become like us. For this reason he entered the world as a baby, just like any other child arrives on earth.

Yahweh was born into an ordinary family. His mother's name was Mary and her husband's name was Joseph. Although the family was ordinary, the baby was not. He was holy—one of a kind!

The baby was God himself.

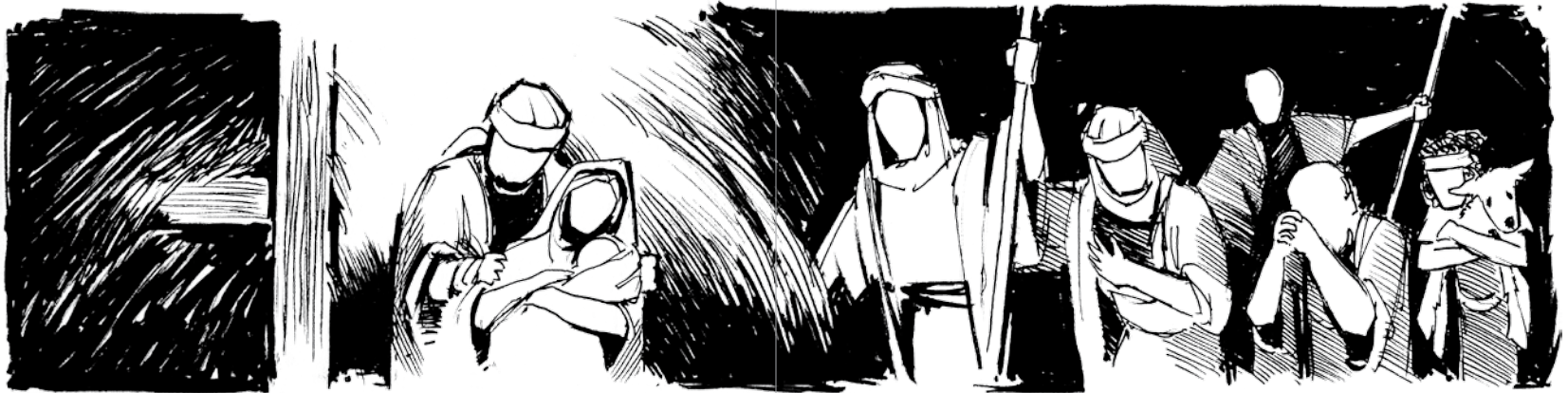
Yahweh was not born in a hospital. He was born in a stable—a place where sheep and lambs are kept warm.

His first visitors were shepherds—men who take care of lambs and keep them safe.

When God came to earth, his name was Jesus. Jesus means *Yahweh is the one who saves*.

Jesus was the Saviour whom God had promised to Adam and Eve many years ago. He came to save us from the punishment our sin deserves.

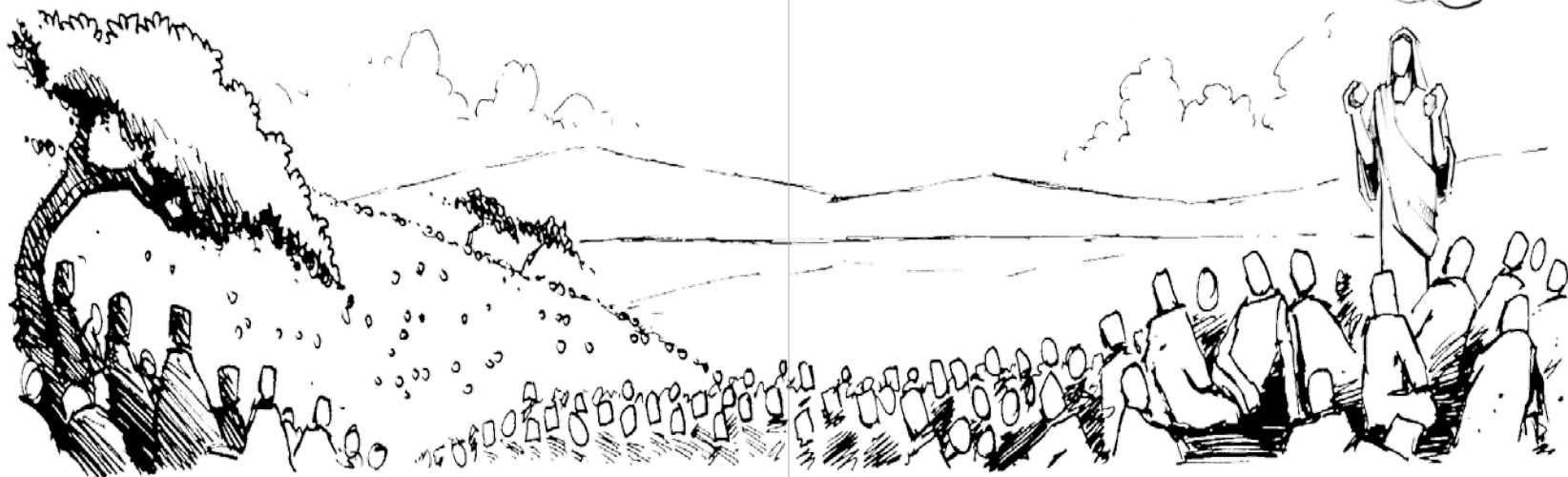
This is one big reason why it is so important to know the story of the Bible. It is because we all need a Saviour. But the story is not finished.

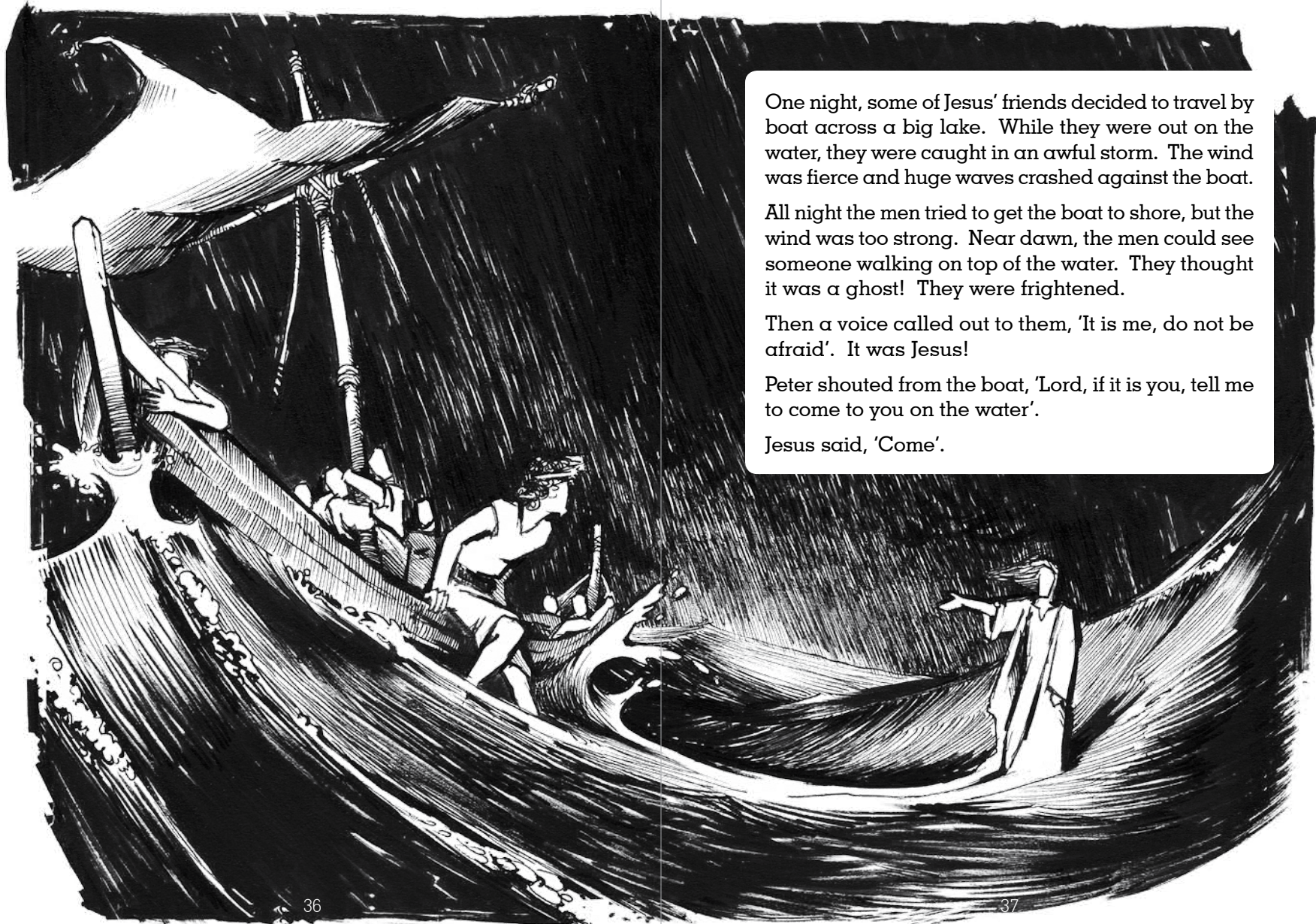


After Jesus became an adult, he began to do many extraordinary things. He made blind men see and cured those who could not walk. He healed many who were sick—some with terrible diseases like *leprosy*. Jesus even had power over death. He made people who had died alive again.

On one occasion, he fed a huge, hungry crowd. There were thousands of people and Jesus had only 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. However, as men helped Jesus pass out the food, the bread and fish kept increasing! Everyone had enough to eat. When they were finished, they even gathered 12 baskets of extra bread.

All could see that Jesus loved people. Jesus did these things so everyone would know he was God.





One night, some of Jesus' friends decided to travel by boat across a big lake. While they were out on the water, they were caught in an awful storm. The wind was fierce and huge waves crashed against the boat.

All night the men tried to get the boat to shore, but the wind was too strong. Near dawn, the men could see someone walking on top of the water. They thought it was a ghost! They were frightened.

Then a voice called out to them, 'It is me, do not be afraid'. It was Jesus!

Peter shouted from the boat, 'Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you on the water'.

Jesus said, 'Come'.

Peter got out of the boat. He began to walk to Jesus on top of the water.

However, when Peter looked at the wind and waves, he became afraid and began to sink. What should he do? He could struggle on his own, or he could call out to Jesus to save him. Whom should he trust?

Peter knew that he could not save himself; Jesus was the only one who could rescue him. He cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter. Peter made the right choice.

In the same way that Peter could not save himself from drowning, we cannot save ourselves from sin's punishment. We need a Saviour.

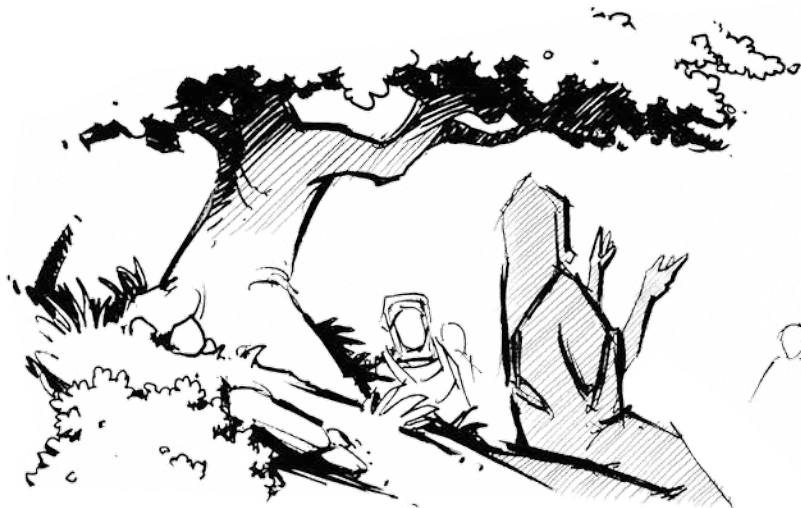
The Bible says that Jesus is our Saviour. We need to trust him.

While on earth, Jesus lived like any other man. He worked as a carpenter and visited with friends. He ate, slept and travelled to many places. However, Jesus was also different from you and me. Jesus never did anything wrong.

All the time he lived on earth, even as a little boy, he never did one bad thing. Jesus was the only man who ever lived a perfect life. He was one of a kind.

Because Jesus lived a perfect life, he had no sin that needed punishment. He did not need to die. People only die because of sin and Jesus did not sin.

Although Jesus did not have to die, he told people that one day men would kill him. They would beat him, striking him many, many times with a whip. Then they would hammer huge nails through his hands and his feet to hang him on a wooden cross. Jesus would die. After being dead for 3 days, he would come back alive.



Those who heard him say this did not believe it. They told him not to talk that way, but what Jesus said was true. He told his friends the rest of God's plan; he told them good news.

It was all about God's promise—it was all about the lamb.

Do you remember the lamb?

Another name for Jesus was the Lamb of God.

Do you remember how the lamb had to be a male lamb?

Well, Jesus was a man.

The lamb also had to be perfect.

Jesus was perfect—he was without sin.



God told the man that he had to bring the lamb to an altar, a special place of death.

While on earth, Jesus allowed men to bring him to a cross, a special place of death.

Do you remember how the one bringing the lamb put his hand on the lamb's head? This showed that he placed his sin on the lamb.

The Bible says that as Jesus hung on the cross, he took all our sin on himself. He took the sin of everyone—from the best of people to the worst of men and women.

Jesus heard all the nasty words that people had ever said. He knew all the terrible things that people had ever done. He could see all the anger that people had ever shown. He felt all the hurt that people had ever caused. The perfect Jesus took all the awful effects of sin upon himself. He felt it all, he knew it all and he took it all. It must have been terrible.



Yes, it all had to do with a lamb.

Jesus was the Lamb—our Lamb.

Now think back to the rest of the story. Do you remember what happened to the lamb? Because God must punish sin and the punishment is death, the lamb had to die.

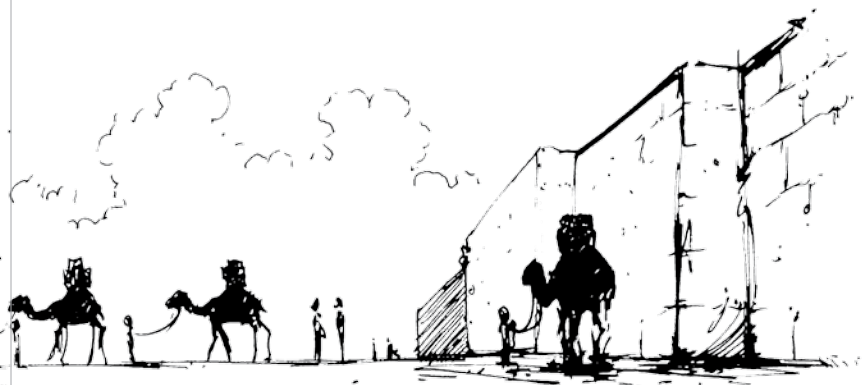
It was the same way with Jesus.

Because Jesus had taken all our sin onto himself, he must suffer the punishment. Jesus had to die.

The Bible says that Jesus died for us. He took all the punishment our sin deserved, so that we would never need to suffer the Second Death.

Jesus was the final Lamb; man did not need to bring any more lambs to an altar. Jesus had done it all.

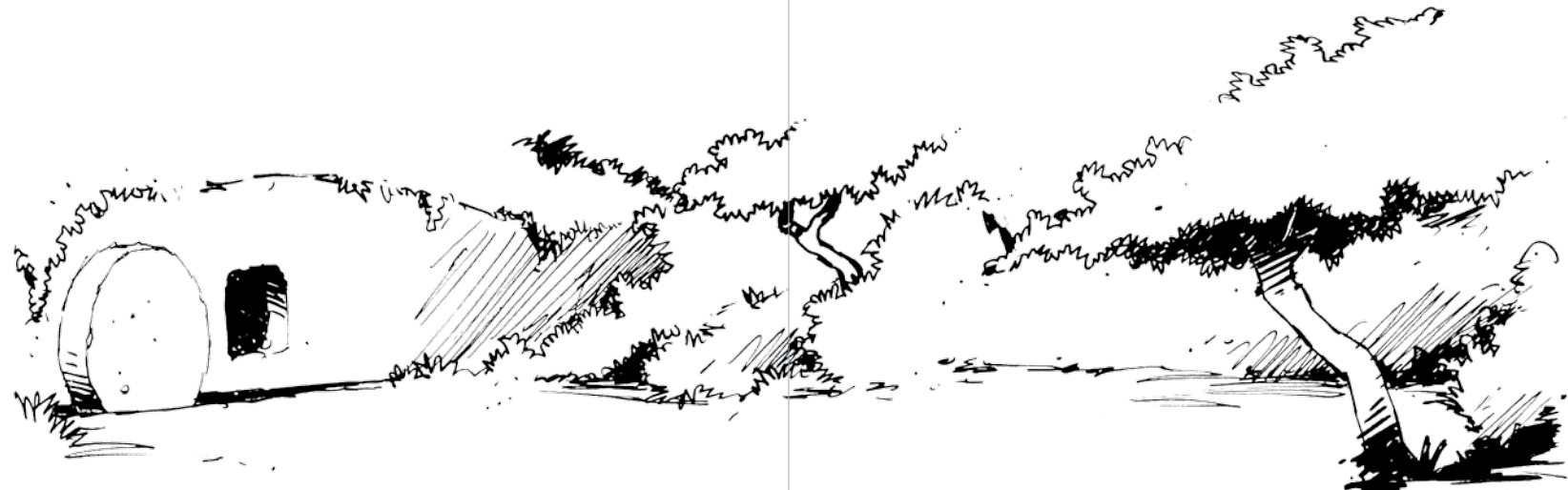
The Lord Yahweh had kept his promise.



If the story ended with Jesus dead on the cross, it would be very sad.

However, the Bible tells us more. It says that after Jesus died, his friends took his body down from the cross. They put him in a special grave called a tomb. A tomb is like a cave—a small room cut in solid rock. Slowly, they rolled a big stone across the door. Then sadly, they turned and went home.

The next day, the men who had killed Jesus told soldiers to guard the tomb. They knew Jesus had said that he would rise from the dead after 3 days. They did not want anyone taking Jesus' body away and pretending he was alive. They wanted to make sure his body stayed dead in the tomb.



In spite of this, neither the soldiers nor the big stone could stop God. Nothing could stop God's plan. As Jesus had said, after 3 days, he rose from the dead! Jesus was alive!

An angel rolled back the stone so everyone could see that Jesus was not in the grave. Upon seeing the angel, the guards were so afraid they shook and became like dead men.

Later, when some women came to the tomb, the guards were gone. Only an angel remained to tell them what had happened. These women were the first to see Jesus alive from the dead.



For 40 days, Jesus met with his friends and large groups of people. Everyone was excited. He was talking, eating and travelling with them again. It was wonderful!

Jesus was alive!

People could hardly believe it. No one had ever done this before. No one had died and then brought himself back from the dead!

Jesus was showing them that because he was God, he was stronger than death. People did not need to be afraid of dying and going to the Lake of Fire. They did not need to be afraid of the Second Death. Jesus was strong enough to bring them back alive.

However, he would not bring them back to live on earth—a place that has been spoiled by sin.



Rather, he would take them to Heaven—a place that is perfect and full of happiness.

Jesus was promising to do this for all those who would trust him. It was that simple.

All people needed to do was believe that Jesus was their Lamb—that he took the punishment for their sin. They needed to trust Jesus, believing that what he said was true. Then, when they finished living here on earth, Jesus would make them perfect so they could live in Heaven.

This was true for all people from every nation, whether man, woman, boy or girl. Anyone who trusted Jesus could live forever in Heaven.

The people listened with excitement. This was news everyone needed to hear. They talked for long hours with Jesus about the plan. Then, after 40 days, Jesus said goodbye and returned to Heaven. That is where he lives now, in his perfect home.

Someday Jesus will return to this earth. But until then, Yahweh wants us to know that nothing is more important in life than to trust in Jesus as our Saviour.

Jesus said he is God Yahweh. Do you believe him?

Jesus said he died in your place for your sin. Do you believe that is true?

Jesus said he came back to life. Do you believe him?

If you believe Jesus—if you take God at his word—then he says you will live forever with him in Heaven. That is good news! That is what the Bible is all about. It is the story that matters.



## Do you understand God's letter?

Yahweh's letter—the Holy Bible—is so important, you need to make sure you clearly understand it. Take some time to answer the following questions. They will help you discover how well you understand God's plan. If you get some of the questions wrong, read this book again until the answers are clear in your mind.

1. Why was God only able to create a perfect world?
2. The Bible uses a special word to describe Lucifer's choice to disobey God. What is that word?
3. Why is it wrong for someone to do bad things and not suffer punishment?
4. What is the name of the home that Yahweh created for Satan and the bad angels?
5. The Bible uses a word to describe Adam and Eve's choice to disobey God. What is that word?
6. What came into the world because of sin?
7. Because of their sin, Adam and Eve were not perfect. Therefore, when they died they would have to live with Satan in the Lake of Fire. What does the Bible call this sort of death?
8. God promised he would send a special man to rescue all people from the Second Death. What does the Bible call this man?
9. Why does God need to make people perfect in order for them to live in Heaven?
10. Could God pretend that Adam and Eve's sin had never happened?

11. God showed people how he would punish sin without punishing them. What sort of animal did God tell them to bring?
12. What happened to the man's sin when he put his hand on the head of the lamb?
13. For whom did the lamb die?
14. Since the lamb had not done anything wrong, why did it suffer punishment?
15. If people trust Yahweh, when they die they go to Heaven. How does God change them so they are able to live in his perfect home?
16. If we do good things all our lives, will we be good enough to live in Heaven?
17. Who left Heaven to become the Saviour?
18. Since Jesus was without sin, did he have to die?
19. The Bible says that Jesus was like the lambs that people brought to the altar. What name does the Bible give to Jesus that reminds us of those lambs?
20. The Bible says the lamb took the sin of the people. Whose sin did Jesus take on himself?
21. The lamb died instead of the man. For whom did Jesus die?
22. What do people need to do so that Jesus can take them to live in Heaven?

**What you have read in this book is only a small part of what the Bible says about God's plan. The Bible is full of stories telling us how God can accept us.**

See answers on page 54

## Do you believe God's letter?

If you have answered all the questions right, it means you understand God's plan. To understand God's letter is very good, however, that is not enough. You need to make a decision. You see, it is one thing to understand the Bible; it is another thing to believe it.

Try answering these questions. They will help you to know if you believe God's letter.

1. When Yahweh came to live on the earth, did he stop being God?
2. Who is Jesus? Do you believe Jesus is Yahweh?
3. God is perfect. Are you perfect? Do you believe you are good enough for Heaven, or do you believe you are a sinner?
4. Do you believe that God will punish all sin?
5. Who took the punishment for your sin?
6. Do you believe that Jesus is your Lamb?
7. After Jesus died, he rose from the dead and now lives in Heaven. Do you believe that is true?

Did you give the right answers to these questions? Do you believe your answers to be true? If so, then the Bible says Jesus has paid the punishment for your sin. He is your Saviour. You will never have to be afraid of the Second Death or the Lake of Fire.

When you believe the Bible is true, it means you trust Yahweh. Because you trust him, God says you are his friend. He promises never to leave you. He will always be with you, no matter where you go or what you do.

When you finish living here on earth, God says he will make you perfect for Heaven. You will live with him forever. This is great news! It is something you can know for sure because God said it and God does not tell lies.

Perhaps this book has answered many questions for you. The Bible is full of this sort of information. In it you find the answers for how you should live your life every day. It would be good to get a Bible and start by reading the section called 'The Gospel of John'. Take some time to read the Bible each day.

There is one more important thing to say. When someone does something special for you, you thank him. The Bible says that you can talk to the Lord just like one friend talks to another. The Bible calls this prayer.

Here are some words to say 'thank you' to Jesus for what he did for you. You can pray and thank him in your own words. Remember God is everywhere—he is listening.

Dear Jesus, I know you are God and you created all things. You are perfect; I am a sinner. You are the only one who can save me. I believe you died on the cross and took the punishment for my sin. I trust you as my Saviour. Thank you for loving me so much. I know you will keep your promise to take me to Heaven to be with you.

Yes, Jesus is a wonderful Saviour.

See answers on page 54

## Answers: Do you understand God's letter?

1. He is perfect (page 8).
2. Sin (page 10)
3. It is not fair (or right). All wrong needs punishment (page 10).
4. The Lake of Fire (page 12)
5. Sin (page 18)
6. Death (page 18)
7. The Second Death (page 20)
8. A Saviour (page 20)
9. Only perfect people can live with a perfect God (page 24).
10. No (page 24)
11. A lamb (page 24)
12. The lamb took the man's sin (page 25).
13. For the man (page 26)
14. It had taken the man's sin (page 26).
15. He makes them perfect (page 27).
16. No (page 31)
17. God, Yahweh, Jesus—all the same (page 32)
18. No (page 40)
19. The Bible calls Jesus 'the Lamb of God' (page 41).
20. Our sin (page 42)
21. For us (page 43)
22. Trust him or believe him (page 47).

## Answers: Do you believe God's letter?

1. No, he did not stop being God.
2. Jesus is God. Yes, Jesus is Yahweh.
3. I am a sinner.
4. Yes
5. God, Jesus
6. Yes
7. Yes, I believe it is true.

## Bible Verses

The sentences below are from the KJV Bible.

### Pages 2 and 3

**Isaiah 45:5** I am the LORD... there is no God beside me.

**Jeremiah 10:6** Forasmuch as there is none like unto thee, O LORD; thou art great, and thy name is great in might.

**Isaiah 40:26,28** Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number... for that he is strong in power; not one faileth... the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

**Psalms 145:3** Great is the LORD... and his greatness is unsearchable.

**John 4:24** God is a Spirit.

**Hebrews 1:14** Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

**Psalms 103: 20,21** Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

### Pages 4 and 5

**Hebrews 11:3** Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

**Genesis 1:3** And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

**Jeremiah 32:17** Ah LORD God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee.

**Genesis 1:16** 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.

**Jeremiah 23:24** Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD.

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

**Exodus 20:11** For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is.

**Genesis 1:21** And God created... every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, ... and every winged fowl after his kind.

**Genesis 1:25** And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind.

**Genesis 2:7** And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground.

### Pages 6 and 7

**Isaiah 44:24** Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself.

**Psalm 24:1** The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

**1 Timothy 6:17** ... the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy.

**Genesis 1:31** And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.

### Pages 8 and 9

**Deuteronomy 32:4** He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

**Psalm 89:14** Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

**Revelation 21:27** And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

**Revelation 21:3** God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

**Revelation 21:10-12, 25** ... that great city, the holy Jerusalem ... Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious ... And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates ... the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

**Revelation 21:21** The street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

**Revelation 22:1** And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal.

**Revelation 22:5** And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light.

**Revelation 21:4** God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain.

**Revelation 21:5** And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.

### Pages 10 and 11

**1 John 3:4** Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

**Isaiah 14:12-14** How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground ... For thou hast said in thine heart ... I will be like the most High.

**Proverbs 6:16-17** These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

**Ecclesiastes 12:14** For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

### Pages 12 and 13

**Ezekiel 28:16-17** Thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee ... Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground.

**Revelation 20:10** And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire ... and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

**Matthew 25:41** Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.

### Pages 14 and 15

**Genesis 1:27** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

**Genesis 2:15** And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden.

**Genesis 2:9** And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

**Genesis 2:16-17** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

### Pages 16 and 17

**Genesis 3:1, 4-5** Now the serpent ... said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? ... Ye shall not surely die ... in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

### Pages 18 and 19

**Genesis 3:6** And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food ... and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

**Genesis 3:19** In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

**Romans 8:22** For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

**Romans 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

**Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our LORD.

**Isaiah 59:2** But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

**Colossians 1:21** And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled.

### Pages 20 and 21

**Revelation 21:8** But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which

burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

**Isaiah 54:8** With everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy Redeemer.

**Isaiah 43:11** I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour.

### Pages 22 and 23

**Hebrews 11:1** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

**Hebrews 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please him.

**Psalms 27:1** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**Psalms 118:8** It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.

**Psalms 115:11** Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD.

### Pages 24 and 25

**Romans 3:23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

**2 Samuel 14:14** For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth God respect any person: yet doth he devise means, that his banished be not expelled from him.

**Leviticus 5:17-18** And if a soul sin, and commit any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD; though he wist it not, yet is he guilty, and shall

bear his iniquity. And he shall bring a ram without blemish out of the flock.

**Leviticus 1:4** And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.

**Leviticus 5:18** And it shall be forgiven him.

### Pages 26 and 27

**Proverbs 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

### Pages 28 and 29

**Exodus 20:23** Ye shall not make with me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold.

**Exodus 20:3-5** Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them.

**1 Corinthians 10:21** Ye cannot drink the cup of the LORD, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

**2 Corinthians 11:14** Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

**Romans 1:25** Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

**James 2:10** For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

**Romans 3:20** Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

**Hebrews 4:13** Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

### Pages 30 and 31

**Exodus 20:12-16** Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

**Exodus 24:12** And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

### Pages 32 and 33

**Psalms 130:5** I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.

**Isaiah 9:6** For unto us a child is born... his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

**Luke 2:7** And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger.

**Luke 2:8-12** And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock

by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

**Matthew 1:25** ... and he called his name JESUS.

### Pages 34 and 35

**Matthew 4:23-24** And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments... and he healed them.

**Matthew 14:14-21** And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick. And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying, This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves victuals. But Jesus said unto them, They need not depart; give ye them to eat. And they say unto him, We have here but five loaves, and two fishes... he blessed, and brake, and

gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.

#### **Pages 36 and 37**

**Matthew 14:24-26, 28-29** But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

#### **Pages 38 and 39**

**Matthew 14:30-31** But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

#### **Pages 40 and 41**

**1 Peter 2:22** Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.

**Hebrews 7:26-27** For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners ... Who needeth not daily... to offer up sacrifice.

**Matthew 16:21** From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

**John 1:29** The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

#### **Pages 42 and 43**

**1 Peter 1:19** But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

**1 Corinthians 5:7** For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**Romans 3:25** Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

#### **Pages 44 and 45**

**John 19:41-42** Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus.

**Matthew 27:62, 65-66** Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate ... Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure

as ye can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

**Matthew 28:2-4** And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

**Mark 16:6** And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.

#### **Pages 46 and 47**

**Acts 1:3** To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**John 14:1-4** Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

#### **Pages 48 and 49**

**Acts 1:9-11** And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

**1 John 5:11-13** And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

**John 21:25** And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.



## Glossary

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**Altar:** the special platform where they burned animals that people offered to God

**Angel:** spirits created to serve God

**Commandment:** a command that God gave; the 10 important commands or rules that God gave to Moses on the mountain of Sinai

**Bible:** The word means book in the Latin or Greek language

**Creation:** the act of God in making the world and everything there is; everything that God has made

**Cross:** two pieces of wood fixed together. The Romans punished people by fixing them to a cross to die. Jesus died this way.

**Deceive:** to speak what is not true to another person, to lie

**Disobey:** not obey

**Forever:** always, never ending

**Ghost:** a spirit

**Gospel:** The good news that Jesus came to save us; the four sections in the Bible that tell about the life of Jesus—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

**Grandpa:** another word for grandfather

**Heaven:** the place where God is; the place of happiness and peace where God lives and rules

**Holy:** one-of-a-kind, set apart

**Lamb:** a young sheep

**Leprosy:** a very bad illness. It is an illness of the skin and bones. Other people would not talk to people who had leprosy. They called them dirty. People with leprosy could not live inside a town. They lived outside the town away from other people.

**Lord:** a title for God, or Jesus, to show that he is the owner of all things

**Punishment:** the trouble and hurt that comes to a person as a result of their sin

**Satan:** the name for the worst of the bad spirits that are against God. He has other names: Lucifer (the Shining One) and the Devil. He is the enemy of God.

**Saviour:** Jesus, the one who saves us; the one who rescues

**Sin:** to do wrong, bad or evil things; to disobey God; to not follow the rules; the bad things people do

**Spirit:** the part of us that lives when our body dies; a being, such as an angel, that is always alive, even without a body. There are good spirits, like God's Spirit and his angels. There are also bad spirits, like Satan and his angels.

**Trust:** to believe something is true; to believe in someone

**Yahweh:** God's name in the Hebrew language; sometimes called Jehovah

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ISBN 978-1-927429-64-8

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201705-507-0000

# What is THIS BOOK ALL ABOUT?

The purpose of this book is to explain the most important story in the Holy Bible. It has been called the greatest story ever told. But this book is more than just a story. It tells us the Bible's answers to life, death, and life after death. It helps us understand what the Bible is all about!

The main story of this book is written in EasyEnglish, which means all ages can benefit from it.

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All Bible quotations are in classical English (KJV).

ISBN 978-1-927429-64-8



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