

THE RESTORED CHURCH OF GOD®

CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSONS



Life Before the Flood



LEVEL 4
LESSON 2

Life Before the Flood

In Lesson 1, you learned that there were seven days in the Creation week. But we have only covered six so far. The seventh is an important day. We will learn that God put special meaning and purpose into it.

In this lesson, we will also learn about nearly one-third of man's history. In the book of Genesis, God inspired a summary account of this exciting time. The lives of the people of that era are recorded in order for us to learn valuable lessons. You will also discover what happens when people no longer follow the way of God.

We will learn more about the first people on Earth—Adam and Eve—and the chance Adam had to become king of the *entire* planet!

Remember to have a Bible nearby, and look up the scriptures we cover. (All scriptures are quoted from the New King James version.) Once you have a pen or pencil in hand, you are ready to begin.

A Day Set Apart

After God finished recreating the Earth, and also creating plants, animals and man, He rested. But God does not need to rest (Isaiah 40:28). He chose to rest (Genesis 2:2). In resting, He set an example for mankind to follow. The seventh day is called the Sabbath day, and it is a day when we rest and think about God and His way of life.

This day is so important that God sanctified it. Look up the word “sanctified” in a

dictionary and write the definition here: _____

Notice what the Bible records about the Sabbath day in Exodus 31:16-17: “Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a _____
_____...for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the _____ He _____ and was refreshed.”

Look up the word “perpetual” in a dictionary and write the definition here: _____

God considers the Sabbath to be *very* important! In fact, people are designed by God to need rest every week. If you do not keep the Sabbath, your body will wear down and get tired. But if you do, you will feel rested and refreshed.

But there is more to the Sabbath than simply resting.

A Time to Learn

God created the Sabbath as a time for you to learn about Him and the world He made. When Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden, God taught them how to live and how to worship Him. That is the same purpose

for you today. When you listen to your parents or a minister at Sabbath services, it is the same as when Adam and Eve listened to God.

By listening on the Sabbath, you will learn what is good and what is bad. You will learn how to avoid trouble and problems. You will learn how to experience happiness and love. You will learn about God's plan for mankind and His laws. This is why it is so important to pay attention in Sabbath services. Adam and Eve did not do a good job of practicing what God taught them and this created many, many problems!

Two Special Trees

In the Garden of Eden, God created two special trees to test Adam and Eve. God wanted to see if they were listening to what He taught them, and if they would practice it. Notice how the trees were described in Genesis 2:9: "And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The _____ was also in the midst of the garden, and the _____."

These two trees—the Tree of Life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—were created to symbolize that happiness comes only from following God and never deciding right from wrong yourself. God's Way was symbolized by the Tree of Life. The way of Satan was symbolized by the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Adam and Eve would soon face a choice similar to choices we have to make today. Will we follow God's way to happiness, or will we follow Satan's way to sadness? You want to make sure that you stay close to God. You should talk and listen to Him

every day. You can talk to God by praying, and listen to Him by reading and studying His Word, the Bible.

A Test for Adam and Eve

While the Bible does not say how soon Adam and Eve came in contact with Satan, it appears that he may have approached them on the day after their first Sabbath. Even though they were adults in appearance, they were still very young in experience. Satan thought that this would be the perfect time to confuse Adam and Eve and get them to follow his way!

This was a critical time for Adam. God was testing him and Eve to see if they would follow His way. If Adam had chosen to follow God, he could have become ruler of the Earth! God was preparing Adam to take the place of Satan on Earth and rule forever. This is the same purpose you and I have today. If you follow God's Way, you will one day play a role in ruling the Earth!

But Satan tries to make us follow his evil ways. And he did this with the first human beings!

In the sneakiest possible approach, he decided to visit Eve when she was alone. Notice Genesis 3:1-6: "Now the serpent [Satan] was more cunning [sneaky] than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, 'Has God indeed said, "You shall not eat of every tree of the garden"?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the _____'

_____, God has said, "You shall _____ it, nor shall you _____ it, lest you _____." Then the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it

your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, _____.’ So when the woman saw that the tree was _____, that it was _____, and a tree desirable to _____, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

Notice that Adam just followed Eve. Eve was tricked into *believing* she was doing right, but Adam *chose* to do wrong. Adam should have known better.

Even though God had worked directly with them, Adam and Eve both ignored the things God taught them. This is very much like people today. Your friends will not understand why you keep the Sabbath and the Feast of Tabernacles, or why you do not eat pork or keep Christmas. Like Eve, they have been tricked by Satan into believing that what they do is right. But God has given you a special blessing to know the truth. Therefore, you must listen to your parents and to God and do what they say—even if you feel tempted to do otherwise.

Test Your Memory:

- 1) How do you listen and talk to God? _____
- 2) What did Adam have a chance to become? _____
- 3) What did God say would happen if Adam and Eve ate from the forbidden tree? _____

Satan's Nature

Like a radio station, Satan can send signals into your mind. But he does not send music—he sends emotions and attitudes. When you feel jealous about what other

people have, or when you do not obey your parents, you are listening to and following Satan’s broadcast. Everyone has to be very careful not to listen to these messages!

After eating from the wrong tree, everything changed for Adam and Eve. They started listening to Satan’s messages that he put into their minds, and something in them started to change. They took on Satan’s attitudes and nature.

Notice how the Genesis 3 account continues in verse 7: “Then the _____ of both of them were _____, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.”

Adam and Eve suddenly lost their innocence. They realized that they were naked. Guilt caused them to feel ashamed, so they covered themselves. They decided for themselves that they should feel ashamed, rather than relying on God.

But soon God was looking for them in the garden: “And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife _____ from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, ‘Where are you?’” (verses 8-9).

So Adam replied, “‘I heard Your voice in the garden, and _____ because I was naked; and I hid myself.’ And [God] said, ‘Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that _____?’” (verse 10-11).

Of course, God knew what had happened. Nothing you do or think is hidden from God. He watches over you all the time. He wants to keep you safe. Because He is God, He also knows what you are feeling and thinking. In this case, God wanted to test Adam and Eve to see if they would

admit they did something wrong.

No one is perfect. We all make mistakes. But it is important that we admit when we have done something wrong and ask for forgiveness. But is this what Adam and Eve did?

The “Blame Game”

Adam and Eve had a chance to admit their mistake and ask God to forgive them. But that is not what they did.

Since Adam was the man, God sought an answer from him first. Notice what Adam said: “The woman whom You gave to be with me, _____

_____, and I ate” (verse 12). Instead of taking responsibility for his actions, Adam blamed his wife, Eve. This terribly upset God.

Then God gave Eve a chance: “The woman said, ‘The _____

_____, and I ate” (verse 13). Instead of confessing her mistake to God and asking to be forgiven, she shifted the blame to Satan.

We all must take responsibility for our own actions. You cannot blame others for the mistakes you make. If Adam and Eve would have admitted to God that they



had made a mistake, He would have forgiven them. But they did not! Instead, they played the “blame game.”

Have you ever tried to blame your brothers, sisters or friends for something you did? It is Satan who wants you to play the blame game and be dishonest. When you make a mistake, you should learn from it. If you lie or try and hide what you did, you are only going to make the problem worse and upset both your parents and God!

Test Your Memory:

1) Whose nature did Adam and Eve take on?

2) What game did Adam and Eve play? _____

3) What happened when Adam and Eve ate from the forbidden tree? _____

4) Instead of blaming others, what should Adam and Eve have done? _____

Barred From the Garden of Eden

God was very upset with Adam and Eve for not taking responsibility for what they did. He knew that they could no longer stay in the Garden of Eden. If they were allowed to stay, they would have still had access to the Tree of Life.

If Adam and Eve would have eaten from the Tree of Life, they would have lived forever. God knew that they could only be happy if they lived His Way. Instead of watching them live for eternity in unhappiness, God barred them from the Garden of Eden and from the Tree of Life.

When a person sins, there are bad results. For example, if you lie to your par-

ents or steal, you will face punishment. The more you try to hide your actions, the more severe your punishment will be.

Adam and Eve not only rebelled against what God told them, they also tried to shift the blame to others. In doing so, they committed multiple sins directly against God. Because He loved them, God had no choice but to punish them.

Not only did God remove Adam and Eve from the garden, He also caused Eve—and women for all time—to experience much pain during childbirth. If Eve had obeyed God, she would not have experienced such intense pain.

God declared that Adam would have to spend most of his time working the fields to feed his family. He would have to struggle to provide food for his family. His days would be spent working and struggling to survive.

God wanted Adam and Eve, and people today, to understand that if you go against His Way, you will struggle and not experience a happy and fulfilling life.

As Adam and Eve left the Garden of Eden, God put angels with a sword of fire at the entrance to keep people away from the Tree of Life. From that moment forward, mankind was never allowed back into the beautiful garden.

The world outside the garden was very different. There were many dangerous, wild animals. The weather was much more intense. Adam had to quickly prepare a place for him and his wife to live. Otherwise, they would be killed by the wild animals. As you can imagine, their new life was going to be very difficult.

Life Outside the Garden

In only a couple chapters in the book of Genesis, nearly 1,600 years of history is

recorded. It details the story of Adam and Eve and those born to them.

When they left the garden, God told them to “be fruitful and multiply.” He wanted them to build a family and begin to populate the Earth. (Isn’t it amazing to think that everyone on Earth today was born from Adam and Eve?)

Shortly after Adam and Eve left the garden, they had their first child. They had a boy, and named him Cain, which means “acquired” or “gotten.” They named him this because they felt that God had given them this child.

They soon had a second child, also a son, whom they named Abel. Over the years, these new parents tried to teach their children the best they could. But because Adam and Eve were cut off from God, they were not able to fully know how to rear their children. Their choice of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was already starting to show its effects.

Their two children grew up very differently, even choosing different jobs. Cain became a farmer, and Abel became a shepherd. Abel tried very hard to follow God’s Way and listen to his parents in all things. He wanted to live the right way and be truly happy and fulfilled. On the other hand, Cain was not as obedient. He allowed Satan’s attitudes and ideas to enter his mind.

Test Your Memory:

- 1) Why were Adam and Eve sent from the garden? _____
- 2) What did God put at the gate of the garden to protect it? _____
- 3) What were the names of Adam and Eve’s first two sons? _____
- 4) What were their sons’ jobs? _____

An Offering to God

Even though Adam and Eve were removed from the garden, they still tried to teach their children what they were taught about God’s way of life.

One aspect of this teaching was regarding special offerings. This was done to show respect to God and to thank Him for the blessings they had.

At one particular time, Cain and Abel were giving offerings to God. Abel was very careful to pick the best of his flock. He made sure that it was the very best! He then prepared the offering with great care. God saw Abel’s effort and blessed him for it.

But Cain did not put such care and concern into his offering. He took whatever he had available for his offering. And he only gave his offering because God told him to.

He did not put all his effort into it.

When your parents ask you to do chores, do you just do the minimum to get by?—or do you put great effort and care into what you do? The next time they want you to do something, ask yourself if you are going to perform the task the way Abel would or as Cain would.

God cares about our attitude and how much effort we put



into following His instructions. God did not care so much about Cain's actual physical offering. Cain had the wrong *attitude*, so God rejected his offering.

This angered Cain, and he began to feel that God was being unfair. God asked Cain, "Why are you _____? And why has your _____? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, _____ lies at the door.

_____, but you should rule over it" (Genesis 4:6-7).

God was warning Cain that he was allowing an attitude of rebellion to enter his mind. If Cain did not put out such thoughts, he would slowly give his mind over to Satan. But Cain did not put out those thoughts and a terrible thing happened.

The First Murder

Overcome by evil thoughts, Cain saw only one solution. When he and Abel were alone in the field one day, Cain killed his younger brother!

Of course, God saw what had happened in the field and He approached Cain: "Then the LORD said to Cain, '_____?' He said, '_____. Am I my _____?' (Genesis 4:9).

Not only did Cain kill his brother, but he also lied to God about what had happened. Satan must have been very happy with events on Earth so far. The only person who had followed God was now dead!

Cain sinned and God had to punish him. Like your parents, God punishes out of love. He wants to see us become better people and properly obey Him. When your parents punish you for doing something wrong, it is not because they are angry with you, but because they love you. They

want to teach you to resist the wrong way of life.

That said, God declared His punishment on Cain: "And He said, 'What have you done? The voice of your _____ cries out to Me from the ground. So now you are _____, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it shall no longer _____ to you. A _____ and a _____ you shall be on the earth.' And Cain said to the LORD, 'My _____ than I can bear! Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a _____ and a _____ on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me _____.' And the LORD said to him, 'Therefore, whoever kills Cain, _____ shall be taken on him sevenfold.' And the LORD set a _____, lest anyone finding him should kill him" (vs. 10-15).

Cain was sentenced to wander the Earth, never living in fertile lands. But even though God had to punish Cain for his sins, He still cared for him. God put a mark on Cain that would keep people from killing him.

Test Your Memory:

1) Why did God accept Abel's offerings?

2) Why did God reject Cain's offering? _____

3) What did Cain do to Abel? _____

Another Son Is Born

After Abel's death, God blessed Adam and Eve with another son. Because he replaced

Abel, they named him Seth, which means “appointed” or “put.” Seth also followed God’s Way, and fathered several generations of righteous men.

The line of Seth was more important than he could have known. God was going to use one of his descendants—1,650 years later—to save mankind from a great flood. The chart below shows the generations of Seth through the time of Noah.

Unlike the world around them, Seth and some of his descendants followed God’s Way.

Growing Evil World

With each generation, man began to rely more and more upon himself. People cared less and less about how God wanted them to live. In fact, the world had gotten so bad that God was beginning to regret having ever created people.

God had to find a solution to the growing evil on Earth. People never had any good, positive thoughts—only evil ones!

Because of this, God decided, “I will _____ whom I have created from the face of the earth, _____

_____, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am _____ that I have _____ them” (Genesis 6:7).

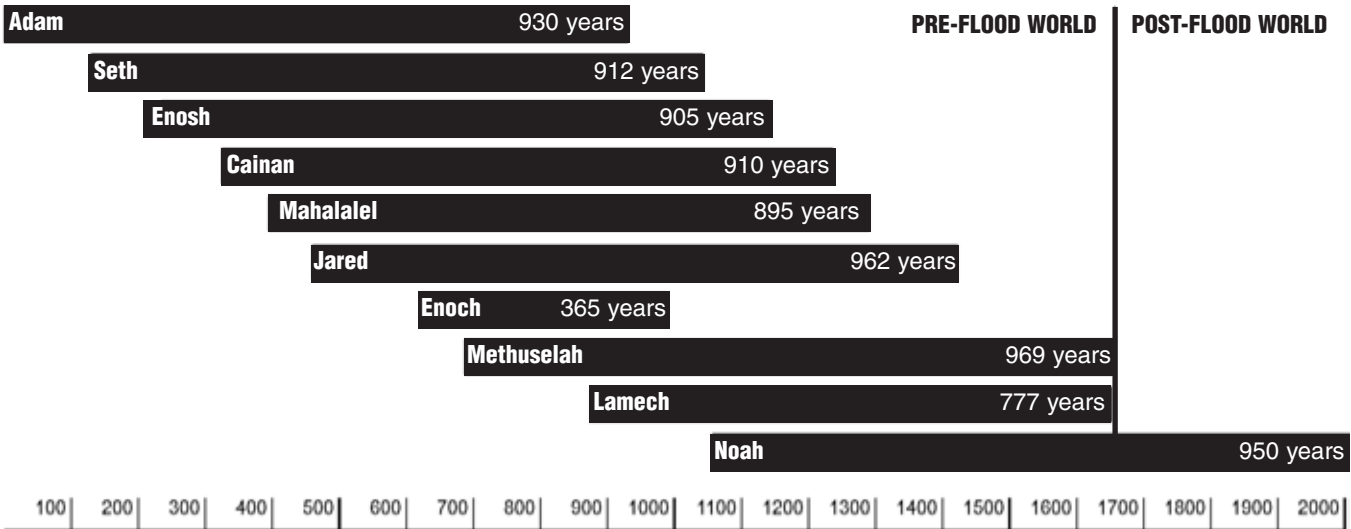
The world had gotten so evil, God had no choice but to destroy the entire world: “And behold, I Myself am _____ on the earth, to _____ from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; _____” (Genesis 6:17).

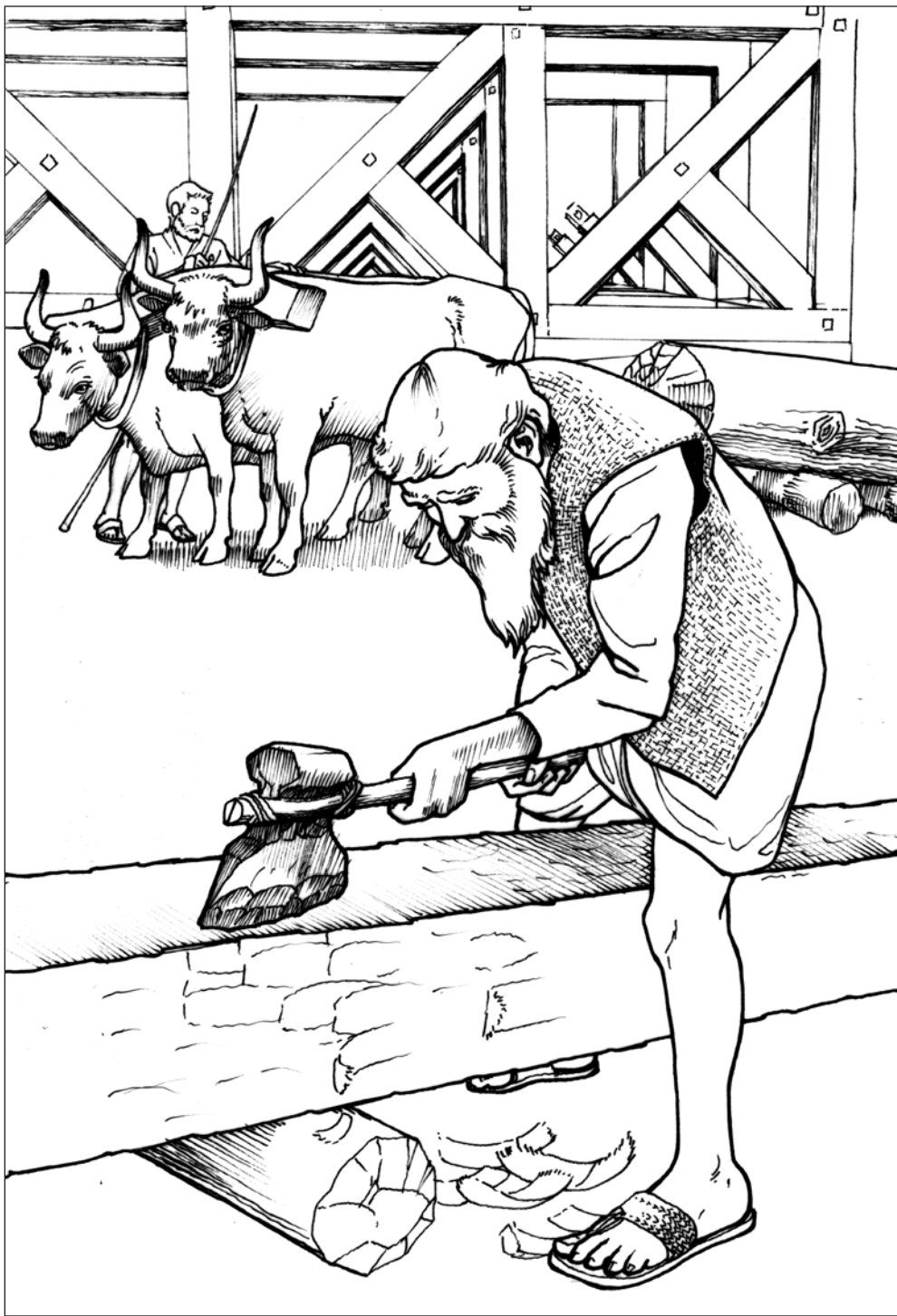
God had a plan. He never does anything without a purpose. He knew that if He flooded the entire Earth, human beings would not survive. He also knew that all the amazing creatures that He had made would not survive, and He wanted to preserve them.

But God saw hope for mankind in the heart of one man. He saw that He could start over with the family of that man.

Noah and the Ark

Amazingly, there was only one man on the entire planet who still respected and lived God’s Way. Even though the entire world was following Satan and thinking only evil





thoughts, Noah loved, trusted and “walked with” God.

God talked directly to Noah and told him of His plan to flood the Earth. He also instructed him to build a huge boat—called an ark. This enormous ship would be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and have three

floors. The entire boat was made from a special type of wood—called gopher wood—which would be covered in tar to keep the ark waterproof.

Next, God explained to Noah that once the ark was completed, he would have to load every type of animal onto it. He would take a male and female of every kind so they could reproduce once the Flood had subsided.

God had Noah load more than just one pair of some animals onto the ark. God created some animals to be eaten, while others should *not* be eaten. Animals that we should eat are called “clean,” while ones that we should not eat are called “unclean.” If we only eat the animals God tells us to eat, they will keep us

healthy. This is why God told Noah to bring seven pairs of clean animals onto the ark. This would ensure that Noah and his family would have plenty to eat.

Noah had three sons. Two were married to women of different races. God used them to preserve all the races.

Noah spent the next 120 years building the ark and warning mankind of what was about to happen. Although people could see him building the ark, they mocked and ridiculed him. In the same way people today ignore God when things are going well. But those who honor God will do what He says *all the time*.

Noah eventually finished the ark and loaded all the food, animals and supplies into it. God then closed the door of the ark. All the people outside the ark continued to make fun of Noah and his family. They insulted them, teasing them about their large boat, built on dry land, with no body of water nearby.

But the people's attitudes began to change when the first drops of water started to fall...

Test Your Memory:

- 1) What was the name of Adam and Eve's third son? _____
- 2) Who built the ark? _____
- 3) How big was the ark? _____

- 4) How many "unclean" animals did Noah bring on the ark? _____.



BIBLE MEMORY: Books of the New Testament

WORD PUZZLE

Directions: Following the examples already completed, unscramble the words below. Then, rearrange the words and fill in the blanks to find out what happened to Adam and Eve.

W H E N _ _ _ _ _ E V E _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ T H E _ _ _ _ _ O F _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ G O O D A N D
 _ _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ _ , _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ .

WORD BANK

~~E H W N~~ W H E N

O K T O _ _ _ _ _

F O _ _ _ _ _

~~V E E~~ E V E

L V E I _ _ _ _ _

U E R A T N _ _ _ _ _

M A D A _ _ _ _ _

D N A _ _ _ _ _

N O _ _ _ _ _

T E A _ _ _ _ _

~~T A A S~~ A N D

N D A _ _ _ _ _

~~F O~~ T H E

H E T _ _ _ _ _

~~R E E T~~ G O O D

~~O D G~~ _ _ _ _ _

F O _ _ _ _ _

H E T _ _ _ _ _

Y H T E _ _ _ _ _

O G E K N L W E D

_ _ _ _ _