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The
BIBLE
for
COURAGEOUS
Girls

BARBOUR BIBLES
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Our mission is to inspire the world with the life-changing message of the Bible.



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Girls are world-changers!

And God gave us many stories of amazing women in His Word, the Bible.

Here is the entire Bible in the easy-to-read New Life Version, along with gorgeous, full-color artwork highlighting three dozen extraordinary women of faith—from Abigail to the widow of Zarephath. Older women, younger women, teenagers, and girls all played important roles in the big story that God recorded in scripture, and you're about to meet several of them in *The Bible for Courageous Girls*.

Did you know that one Bible woman led an army into battle, while another one stopped a fight that her foolish husband had picked? Did you know that a twelve-year-old girl who died was brought back to life by Jesus, and that a woman was the first person to see Jesus after He Himself rose from the dead? Do you know the young woman whose beauty made her queen, but whose courageous faith in God saved her people from destruction? Or the teenager chosen by God to bring His own Son, Jesus, into the world? In the pages to come, you'll meet all of them—Deborah, Abigail, Jairus's daughter, Mary Magdalene, Esther, and Mary, the mother of Jesus—plus many more, including

- Anna
- Dorcas
- Elizabeth
- Hannah
- Huldah
- Jochebed
- Lois
- Martha
- Miriam
- Naaman's servant girl
- Naomi
- Noah's wife
- Peter's mother-in-law
- Priscilla
- the Proverbs 31 woman
- Rahab
- Rebekah
- Rhoda
- Ruth
- Salome
- Samson's mother
- Sarah
- Shiphrah
- the Shunammite woman
- the widow who gave two mites
- the woman at the well
- the woman who anointed Jesus' feet
- the woman who touched Jesus' coat

These women and girls are highlighted on colorful pages inserted throughout the Bible text. Each feature describes the courageous woman and tells where in the Bible you can read more, offering both chapter-and-verse references and page numbers.

You'll be empowered to understand how women have made a difference in the world. May the stories of these women of faith inspire you to become the world-changer God created *you* to be!



the NLV story

The idea of a very readable and yet accurate version of the scriptures came to us in an igloo in the frozen Canadian Arctic many years ago. A few of the primitive Eskimos with whom we were working then were just starting to learn English. Although it was twenty years later before the NEW LIFE Bible was published, the idea never left us. Instead, during those years, vocabulary and thought patterns were observed which helped set the course for a version that would eventually be used and appreciated in many parts of the world where English is used as a second language.

The secret of its readability is in the limited vocabulary. In most cases, each word uses only one meaning. Difficult biblical words found in other versions were broken down into simple, meaningful phrases. Other problems in Bible reading were researched, and the end result is a very readable and understandable version. Even educated adults who are familiar with the scriptures find themselves startled into new insights by its blunt simplicity.

Those of us who worked on this limited vocabulary NEW LIFE Version were constantly watching to keep it understandable without sacrificing accuracy. There was no thought to change God's holy Word to today's street language. In fact, in many places, the wording and beauty of older versions have been retained. Paraphrasing, or man's idea of what the Bible says, was ruled out. The careful and prayerful use of some basic words can be made to say what the original languages said, thus assuring the reader of an accurate text.

Two different times, the Bible speaks of the very words that were written by God and by Christ. Exodus 31:18 says, "When the Lord had finished speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai, He gave him the two stone writings of the Law, pieces of stone written on by the finger of God." And John 8:6 says, "Jesus got down and began to write in the dust with His finger." Both of these writings were soon destroyed. The pieces of stone with the written Law were broken in front of the children of Israel who were worshiping a false god, and it was not long before the people walked over what Jesus had written on the ground. But it pleased God to have His law and the good news of life that lasts forever written by men He chose for that special job.

Those early men of God who copied the words given by the Holy Spirit that make up the 66 different books of the Bible used different languages than are used today. From Genesis to Revelation forty different men were used over a period of 1600 years. Four hundred years of time separated the Old Testament from the New. The way of life of the people living in Old Testament times was much different from those living during New Testament times. Hebrew was the language of the Old Testament, and Greek was used in the New Testament.

Those men did not write the Bible, but were led or guided by the Holy Spirit as to what they wrote and the words to use. "Understand this first: No part of the Holy Writings was

ever made up by any man. No part of the Holy Writings came long ago because of what men wanted to write. But holy men who belonged to God spoke (wrote) what the Holy Spirit told them” (2 Peter 1:20–21).

The first copies of the holy scriptures were perfect and without error. But man is not perfect, and because of changes in languages through the many years and translation from one language to another, no version can claim that same degree of perfection.

Since about 1900, many different versions have been printed in English—and hundreds in other major languages and tribal languages around the world. In all these languages, God’s written Word is alive today. Through the years, sinful men have tried to destroy it, but this living Book can never be destroyed. “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away” (Matthew 24:35).

The Word of God contains many promises. This one tells what reading the Bible will do: “All the Holy Writings are God-given and are made alive by Him. Man is helped when he is taught God’s Word. It shows him how to be right with God. It gives the man who belongs to God everything he needs to work well for Him” (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

We dedicate this NEW LIFE Bible to Him in whose honor it has been published. May it give all who read it a greater understanding of the scriptures and a better knowledge of Jesus Christ, who came to save from the penalty and power of sin all who will put their trust in Him.

GLEASON AND KATHRYN LEDYARD

*Wherever * is seen, the words that follow are not in all the early writings of the New Testament. If part of a verse or more than one verse is missing in some of the early writings, it is marked [*].*



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The
OLD TESTAMENT

GENESIS

The Beginning

1 In the beginning God made from nothing the heavens and the earth. **2** The earth was an empty waste and darkness was over the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was moving over the top of the waters. **3** Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. **4** God saw that the light was good. He divided the light from the darkness. **5** Then God called the light day, and He called the darkness night. There was evening and there was morning, one day.

6 Then God said, "Let there be an open space between the waters. Let it divide waters from waters." **7** God made the open space, and divided the waters under the open space from the waters above the open space. And it was so. **8** Then God called the open space Heaven. There was evening and there was morning, the second day.

9 Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered into one place. Let the dry land be seen." And it was so. **10** Then God called the dry land Earth. He called the gathering of the waters Seas. And God saw that it was good. **11** Then God said, "Let plants grow from the earth, plants that have seeds. Let fruit trees grow on the earth that bring their kind of fruit with their own seeds." And it was so. **12** Plants grew out of the earth, giving their own kind of seeds. Trees grew with their fruit, and their kind of seeds. And God saw that it was good. **13** There was evening and there was morning, the third day.

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the open space of the heavens to divide day from night. Let them tell the days and years and times of the year. **15** Let them be lights in the open space of the heavens to give light on the earth." And it was so. **16** Then God made the two great lights, the brighter light to rule the day, and the smaller light to rule the night. He made the stars also. **17** God put them in the open space of the heavens to give light on the earth, **18** to rule the day and the night. He divided the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. **19** There was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

20 Then God said, "Let the waters be full of living things. Let birds fly above the earth in the open space of the heavens."

21 God made the big animals that live in the sea, and every living thing that moves through the waters by its kind, and every winged bird after its kind. And God saw

that it was good. **22** God wanted good to come to them, saying, "Give birth to many. Grow in number. Fill the waters in the seas. Let birds grow in number on the earth."

23 There was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring into being living things after their kind: Cattle and things that move upon the ground, and wild animals of the earth after their kind." And it was so. **25** Then God made the wild animals of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and every thing that moves upon the ground after its kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man like Us and let him be head over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every thing that moves on the ground."

27 And God made man in His own likeness. In the likeness of God He made him. He made both male and female. **28** And God wanted good to come to them, saying, "Give birth to many. Grow in number. Fill the earth and rule over it. Rule over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

29 Then God said, "See, I have given you every plant that gives seeds that is on the earth, and every tree that has fruit that gives seeds. They will be food for you. **30** I have given every green plant for food to every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to every thing that moves on the earth that has life." And it was so. **31** God saw all that He had made and it was very good. There was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 So the heavens and the earth were completed, and all that is in them. **2** On the seventh day God ended His work which He had done. And He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. **3** Then God honored the seventh day and made it holy, because in it He rested from all His work which He had done.

The Garden of Eden

4 This is the story of the heavens and the earth when they were made, in the day the Lord God made the earth and the heavens. **5** Now no bush of the field was yet on the earth. And no plant of the field had started to grow. For the Lord God had not sent rain upon the earth. And there was no

man to work the ground. ⁶ But a fog came from the earth and watered the whole top of the ground. ⁷ Then the Lord God made man from the dust of the ground. And He breathed into his nose the breath of life. Man became a living being. ⁸ The Lord God planted a garden to the east in Eden. He put the man there whom He had made. ⁹ And the Lord God made to grow out of the ground every tree that is pleasing to the eyes and good for food. And He made the tree of life grow in the center of the garden, and the tree of learning of good and bad.

¹⁰ Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden. And from there it divided and became four rivers. ¹¹ The name of the first is Pishon. It flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² The gold of that land is good. Bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³ The name of the second river is Gihon. It flows around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴ The name of the third river is Tigris. It flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵ Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work the ground and care for it. ¹⁶ The Lord God told the man, "You are free to eat from any tree of the garden. ¹⁷ But do not eat from the tree of learning of good and bad. For the day you eat from it you will die for sure."

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper that is right for him." ¹⁹ Out of the ground the Lord God made every animal of the field and every bird of the sky. He brought them to the man to find out what he would call them. And whatever the man called a living thing, that was its name.

²⁰ Adam gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every animal of the field. But there was no helper found that was right for Adam. ²¹ So the Lord God put the man to sleep as if he were dead. And while he was sleeping, He took one of the bones from his side and closed up the place with flesh. ²² The Lord God made woman from the bone which He had taken from the man. And He brought her to the man. ²³ The man said, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh. She will be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." ²⁴ For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother, and will be joined to his wife. And they will become one flesh. ²⁵ The man and his wife were both without clothes and were not ashamed.

Man Does Not Obey God

3 Now the snake was more able to fool others than any animal of the field which the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say that you should not eat from any tree in the garden?" ² Then the woman said to the snake, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden. ³ But from the tree which is in the center of the garden, God has said, 'Do not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"

⁴ The snake said to the woman, "No, you for sure will not die! ⁵ For God knows that when you eat from it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and bad." ⁶ The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and pleasing to the eyes, and could fill the desire of making one wise. So she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave some to her husband, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were without clothes. So they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves clothing.

⁸ Then they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the evening. The man and his wife hid themselves from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man. He said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And the man said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden. I was afraid because I was without clothes. So I hid myself." ¹¹ The Lord God said, "Who told you that you were without clothes? Have you eaten from the tree of which I told you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The snake fooled me, and I ate."

¹⁴ Then the Lord God said to the snake, "Because you have done this, you will be hated and will suffer more than all cattle, and more than every animal of the field. You will go on your stomach and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will make you and the woman hate each other, and your seed and her seed will hate each other. He will crush your head, and you will crush his heel."

¹⁶ To the woman He said, "I will make your pain much worse in giving birth. You will give birth to children in pain. Yet your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

¹⁷ Then He said to Adam, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and

have eaten from the tree of which I told you, 'Do not eat from it,' the ground is cursed because of you. By hard work you will eat food from it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ It will grow thorns and thistles for you. You will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ You will eat bread by the sweat of your face because of hard work, until you return to the ground, because you were taken from the ground. You are dust, and you will return to dust."

²⁰ The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

²¹ And the Lord God made clothes of skins for Adam and his wife, and dressed them.

²² Then the Lord God said, "See, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and bad. Now then, he might put out his hand to take from the tree of life also, and eat and live forever." ²³ So the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ So He drove the man out. And He placed cherubim east of the garden of Eden with a sword of fire that turned every way. They kept watch over the path to the tree of life.

Cain Kills Abel

4 The man lay with his wife Eve and she was going to have a child and she gave birth to Cain. She said, "I have given birth to a man with the help of the Lord."

² Next she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was one who worked the ground.

³ The day came when Cain brought a gift of the fruit of the ground to the Lord.

⁴ But Abel brought a gift of the first-born of his flocks and of the fat parts. The Lord showed favor to Abel and his gift. ⁵ But He had no respect for Cain and his gift. So Cain became very angry and his face became sad. ⁶ Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why are you looking down? ⁷ Will not your face be happy if you do well? If you do not do well, sin is waiting to destroy you. Its desire is to rule over you, but you must rule over it."

⁸ Cain told this to his brother Abel. And when they were in the field, Cain stood up against his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹ Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

¹⁰ The Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying

to Me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are cursed because of the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it will no longer give its strength to you. You will always travel from place to place on the earth."

¹³ Then Cain said to the Lord, "I am being punished more than I can take! ¹⁴ See, this day You have made me go away from Your face. And I will be hidden from Your face. I will run away and move from place to place. And whoever finds me will kill me."

¹⁵ So the Lord said to him, "Whoever kills Cain will be punished by Me seven times worse." And the Lord put a mark on Cain so that any one who found him would not kill him.

¹⁶ Then Cain went away from the face of the Lord, and stayed in the land of Nod, east of Eden. ¹⁷ Cain lay with his wife and she was going to have a child and she gave birth to Enoch. Cain built a city and gave it the name of Enoch, the name of his son.

¹⁸ Now Irad was born to Enoch. And Irad became the father of Mehujael. Mehujael became the father of Methushael. And Methushael became the father of Lamech.

¹⁹ Lamech took two wives for himself. The name of one was Adah. And the name of the other was Zillah. ²⁰ Adah gave birth to Jabal. He was the father of those who live in tents and have cattle. ²¹ His brother's name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and the horn. ²² Zillah gave birth to Tubal-cain who made things from brass and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

²³ And Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to my voice. Hear what I say, you wives of Lamech. For I have killed a man for hurting me, and a boy for hitting me. ²⁴ If those who hurt Cain are punished seven times worse, then those who hurt Lamech will be punished seventy-seven times worse."

²⁵ And Adam lay with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and gave him the name Seth. For she said, "God has let me have another son in the place of Abel, for Cain killed him." ²⁶ A son was born to Seth also, and he gave him the name Enosh. Then men began to call upon the name of the Lord.

The Families from Adam to Noah

5 This is the book of the children of Adam and of their children's children. When God made man, He made him in

the likeness of God.² He made them male and female, and brought good to them. And He gave them the name Man when they were made.³ When Adam had lived 130 years, he gave birth to a son in his own likeness. And he gave him the name Seth.⁴ Adam lived 800 years after he became the father of Seth. He had other sons and daughters.⁵ So Adam lived 930 years, and he died.

⁶ When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father of Enosh.⁷ Seth lived 807 years after the birth of Enosh. He had other sons and daughters.⁸ So Seth lived 912 years, and he died.

⁹ When Enosh had lived ninety years, he became the father of Kenan.¹⁰ Enosh lived 815 years after the birth of Kenan. He had other sons and daughters.¹¹ So Enosh lived 905 years, and he died.

¹² When Kenan had lived seventy years, he became the father of Mahalalel.¹³ Kenan lived 840 years after the birth of Mahalalel. He had other sons and daughters.¹⁴ So Kenan lived 910 years, and he died.

¹⁵ When Mahalalel had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Jared.¹⁶ Mahalalel lived 830 years after the birth of Jared. He had other sons and daughters.¹⁷ So Mahalalel lived 895 years, and he died.

¹⁸ When Jared had lived 162 years, he became the father of Enoch.¹⁹ Jared lived 800 years after the birth of Enoch. He had other sons and daughters.²⁰ So Jared lived 962 years, and he died.

²¹ When Enoch had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Methuselah.

²² Enoch walked with God 300 years after the birth of Methuselah. He had other sons and daughters.²³ So Enoch lived 365 years.²⁴ Enoch walked with God, and he was seen no more, for God took him.

²⁵ When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech.

²⁶ Methuselah lived 782 years after the birth of Lamech. He had other sons and daughters.²⁷ So Methuselah lived 969 years, and he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he became the father of a son.²⁹ He gave him the name Noah. He said, "This one will give us rest from our work, from the hard work of our hands because the ground was cursed by the Lord."³⁰ Lamech lived 595 years after the birth of Noah. He had other sons and daughters.³¹ So Lamech lived 777 years, and he died.

³² When Noah had lived 500 years, he

became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Sinful Man

6 When men became many in number on the earth, and daughters were born to them,² the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful. And they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.³ Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not stay in man forever, for he is flesh. But yet he will live for 120 years."⁴ Very large men were on the earth in those days, and later also, when the sons of God lived with the daughters of men, who gave birth to their children. These were the powerful men of long ago, men of much strength.

⁵ Then the Lord saw that man was very sinful on the earth. Every plan and thought of the heart of man was sinful always.

⁶ The Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth. He had sorrow in His heart.⁷ So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have made from the land, man and animals, things that move upon the earth and birds of the sky. For I am sorry that I have made them."⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

⁹ This is the story of Noah and his family. Noah was right with God. He was without blame in his time. Noah walked with God.¹⁰ And Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹ Now the earth was sinful in the eyes of God. The earth was filled with people hurting each other.¹² God looked at the earth and saw how sinful it was. For all who lived on the earth had become sinful in their ways.

¹³ Then God said to Noah, "I have decided to make an end to all the people on the earth. They are the cause of very much trouble. See, I will destroy them as I destroy the earth."¹⁴ Make a large boat of gopher wood for yourself. Build rooms in the boat. And cover it inside and out with tar.

¹⁵ This is how you are to make it: The boat is to be as long as 150 long steps, as wide as twenty-five long steps, and eight times taller than a man.¹⁶ Make a window for the boat, that goes down a cubit from the roof. Put a door in the side of the boat. And make it with first, second, and third floors.

¹⁷ See, I will bring a flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh under heaven that has the breath of life. Everything on earth will be destroyed.¹⁸ But I will make My agreement with you. You will go into the large boat, you and your sons and your

wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹ You are to bring into the large boat two of every kind of living thing of all flesh, to keep them alive with you. They will be male and female. ²⁰ Two of all the kinds of birds, and animals, and every thing that moves on the ground are to be with you to keep them alive. ²¹ And take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it. It will be food for you and for them." ²² Noah did just what God told him to do.

The Flood

7 Then the Lord said to Noah, "Go into the boat, you and all your family. For I have seen that you only are right and good at this time. ² Take with you seven of every clean animal of each sex, and one of each sex of the animals that are unclean. ³ And take with you seven of every kind of bird of the sky of each sex, to keep their kind alive over all the earth. ⁴ In seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights. I will destroy from the land every living thing that I have made." ⁵ And Noah did all that the Lord told him to do.

⁶ Noah was 600 years old when the flood of water came upon the earth. ⁷ Then Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives all went into the large boat because of the water of the flood. ⁸ Clean animals and animals that were unclean and birds and every thing that moved on the ground ⁹ went into the large boat with Noah. They went two by two, male and female, just as God had told Noah. ¹⁰ After seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth. ¹¹ In the year 600 of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, all the wells of water under the earth broke open. The windows of the heavens were opened. ¹² And the rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.

¹³ On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, all went into the large boat. ¹⁴ With them went every kind of animal, and all the cattle, and every thing that moved on the earth, and every kind of bird. ¹⁵ They went into the large boat with Noah, two of every living thing.

¹⁶ Male and female of all flesh went in as God had told Noah. Then the Lord shut him in.

¹⁷ The flood came upon the earth for forty days. The water got deeper and raised up the large boat so that it was lifted above

the earth. ¹⁸ The water was very deep upon the earth. And the boat stayed upon the top of the water. ¹⁹ The water got higher and higher upon the earth until all the high mountains under heaven were covered. ²⁰ But the water went about four times taller than a man above the tops of the mountains. ²¹ All flesh that moved on the earth was destroyed, birds and cattle and wild animals, and every man. ²² Every thing that had the breath of life and lived on dry land died. ²³ God destroyed every living thing upon the land, from man to animals, from things that moved upon the ground to birds of the sky. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the large boat. ²⁴ And the water covered the earth for 150 days.

The Flood Ends

8 But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and all the cattle that were with him in the large boat. Then God made a wind blow over the earth until the water went down. ² Also the wells of water under the earth and the windows of the heavens were shut. And it stopped raining. ³ The water kept moving away from the earth. At the end of 150 days the water was less. ⁴ And in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the large boat came to rest on Mount Ararat. ⁵ The water kept on going down until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains could be seen.

⁶ At the end of forty days, Noah opened the window of the large boat which he had made. ⁷ Then he sent out a raven, and it flew here and there until the water was dried up from the earth. ⁸ Then he sent out a dove, to see if the water was gone from the ground. ⁹ But the dove found no place to set her foot, so she returned to him in the boat. For the water was still over the earth. So Noah put out his hand and took her, and brought her into the boat with him. ¹⁰ He waited another seven days, and sent the dove from the boat again. ¹¹ The dove returned to him in the evening. In her mouth was an olive leaf that had just been picked. So Noah knew that the water had gone from the earth. ¹² Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove. But she did not return to him again.

¹³ In the year 601, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water was dried up from the earth. Then Noah took

the covering off the large boat, and looked out and saw that the earth was dry. ¹⁴ In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the ground was dry. ¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ “Go out of the boat, you and your wife and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁷ Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you, birds and animals and everything that moves on the earth. So they may give birth and become many upon the earth.” ¹⁸ So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. ¹⁹ Every animal, every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the large boat by their families.

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the Lord. He took of every clean animal and every clean bird, and gave burnt gifts in worship on the altar. ²¹ Then the Lord smelled a pleasing smell. And the Lord said to Himself, “I will never again curse the ground because of man. For the desire of man’s heart is sinful from when he is young. I will never again destroy every living thing as I have done. ²² While the earth lasts, planting time and gathering time, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not end.”

God’s Agreement with Noah

9 God made good come to Noah and his sons, and said to them, “Have many children, and cover the earth. ² Every animal of the earth, every bird of the sky, everything that moves on the ground, and all the fish of the sea will be afraid of you. They are given into your hand. ³ Every moving thing that lives will be food for you. I give all to you as I gave you the green plants. ⁴ But you must not eat meat with blood in it because that is its life. ⁵ For sure, I will take the life of every animal and every person for taking a life. I will punish every man’s brother for taking the life of man. ⁶ Whoever takes the life of a man will have his life taken. For God made man to be like Him. ⁷ As for you, have many children. Cover the earth with many people.”

⁸ Then God said to Noah and his sons, ⁹ “See, I make My agreement with you, and with your children after you, ¹⁰ and with every living thing that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every animal of the earth, of all that came out of the large boat, every living thing on earth. ¹¹ I make My agreement with you, that never again will all flesh be destroyed by the water of a

flood. There will never again be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹² Then God said, “This is something special to see for all time, because of the agreement that I am making between Me and you and every living thing that is with you: ¹³ I will set My rainbow in the cloud, and it will be something special to see because of an agreement between Me and the earth. ¹⁴ When I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember My agreement that is between Me and you and every living thing of all flesh. Never again will the water become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶ When the rainbow is in the cloud, I will look upon it to remember the agreement that will last forever between God and every living thing of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷ God said to Noah, “This is the special thing to see because of the agreement I have made between Me and all flesh upon the earth.”

Noah and His Sons

¹⁸ The sons of Noah who came out of the large boat were Shem, Ham and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan. ¹⁹ These three were the sons of Noah. And all the people of the earth came from them.

²⁰ Then Noah became a farmer and planted a grape-field. ²¹ And he drank of the wine, and drank too much, and lay without covering himself in his tent. ²² Then Ham, the father of Canaan, saw that his father was without clothes. And he told his two brothers outside. ²³ But Shem and Japheth took a coat and laid it upon their shoulders and walked in with their backs toward their father and covered him. Their faces were turned away, so that they did not see their father without clothes. ²⁴ When Noah awoke from his wine, he knew what his youngest son had done to him. ²⁵ So he said, “May Canaan be cursed! He will be a servant of servants to his brothers.” ²⁶ He also said, “Honor and thanks be to the Lord, the God of Shem. Let Canaan be his servant. ²⁷ May God make Japheth great. Let him live in the tents of Shem. And let Canaan be his servants.”

²⁸ Noah lived 350 years after the flood. ²⁹ So Noah lived 950 years, and he died.

The Families after Noah’s Sons

10 These are the families of Shem, Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and of their families. Sons were born to them after the flood.

² The sons of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. ³ The sons of Gomer were Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁴ The sons of Japheth were Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. ⁵ From these the people who live beside the sea spread out into their lands, each one by his language, family, and nation.

⁶ The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. ⁷ The sons of Cush were Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The sons of Raamah were Sheba and Dedan. ⁸ Cush became the father of Nimrod, who was the first on earth to become a powerful man. ⁹ He was a powerful animal-killer in the eyes of the Lord. So it is said, "Like Nimrod, a powerful animal-killer in the eyes of the Lord." ¹⁰ The beginning of his nation was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. ¹¹ He went into Assyria from the land, and built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah ¹² and Resen between Nineveh and Calah. That is the great city. ¹³ Mizraim became the father of Ludim, Ananim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, ¹⁴ Pathrusim, Casluhim (from which came the Philistines), and Caphtorim.

¹⁵ Canaan became the father of Sidon, his first-born, and Heth, ¹⁶ and the Jebusite, the Amorite, the Girgashite, ¹⁷ the Hivite, the Arkite, the Sinite, ¹⁸ the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite. Later the Canaanite families spread out. ¹⁹ So the land of the Canaanite was from Sidon toward Gerar as far as Gaza, then toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim as far as Lasha. ²⁰ These are the sons of Ham, by their families, languages, lands and nations.

²¹ Children were born to Shem, the father of all the children of Eber, and the older brother of Japheth. ²² The sons of Shem were Elam, Asshur, Arpachshad, Lud, and Aram. ²³ The sons of Aram were Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash. ²⁴ Arpachshad became the father of Shelah. Shelah became the father of Eber. ²⁵ Eber had two sons. The name of one was Peleg, for the earth was divided in his day. The name of his brother was Joktan. ²⁶ Joktan became the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, ²⁷ Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, ²⁸ Obal, Abimael, Sheba, ²⁹ Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab. All these were the sons of Joktan. ³⁰ The land where they lived was from Mesha toward Sephar to the hill country of the east. ³¹ These are

the sons of Shem, by their families, languages, lands and nations.

³² These are the families of the sons of Noah. From these family groups, nations were spread over the earth after the flood.

The Tower at Babel

11 Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. ² And as men traveled in the east, they found a valley in the land of Shinar and made their home there. ³ They said to one another, "Come, let us make blocks and burn them until they are hard." They used blocks for stone, and tar to hold them together. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build a city for ourselves, with a tower that touches the heavens. Let us make a name for ourselves, or else we may be sent everywhere over the whole earth."

⁵ Then the Lord came down to see the city and the tower that the sons of men had built. ⁶ And the Lord said, "See, they are one people, and they all have the same language. This is only the beginning of what they will do. Now all they plan to do will be possible for them. ⁷ Come, let Us go down and mix up their language so they will not understand what each other says."⁸ So the Lord sent them everywhere over the whole earth. And they stopped building the city. ⁹ So the name of the city was Babel, because there the Lord mixed up the language of the whole earth. The Lord sent the people everywhere over the whole earth.

The Families after Shem

¹⁰ These are the children of Shem. When Shem had lived 100 years, he became the father of Arpachshad, two years after the flood. ¹¹ Shem lived 500 years after the birth of Arpachshad. He had other sons and daughters.

¹² When Arpachshad had lived thirty-five years, he became the father of Shelah. ¹³ Arpachshad lived 403 years after the birth of Shelah. He had other sons and daughters.

¹⁴ When Shelah had lived thirty years, he became the father of Eber. ¹⁵ Shelah lived 403 years after the birth of Eber. He had other sons and daughters.

¹⁶ When Eber had lived thirty-four years, he became the father of Peleg. ¹⁷ Eber lived 430 years after the birth of Peleg. He had other sons and daughters.

¹⁸ When Peleg had lived thirty years, he became the father of Reu. ¹⁹ Peleg lived

209 years after the birth of Reu. He had other sons and daughters.

²⁰ When Reu had lived thirty-two years, he became the father of Serug. ²¹ Reu lived 207 years after the birth of Serug. He had other sons and daughters.

²² When Serug had lived thirty years, he became the father of Nahor. ²³ Serug lived 200 years after the birth of Nahor. He had other sons and daughters.

²⁴ When Nahor had lived twenty-nine years, he became the father of Terah. ²⁵ Nahor lived 119 years after the birth of Terah. He had other sons and daughters.

²⁶ When Terah had lived seventy years, he became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran.

²⁷ Now these are the children of Terah. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot. ²⁸ Haran died with his father Terah beside him in the land of his birth, Ur of the Chaldeans. ²⁹ Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai. The name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran. Haran was the father of Milcah and Iscah. ³⁰ But Sarai could not give birth. She had no child. ³¹ Terah took his son Abram, and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram and they went together from Ur of the Chaldeans to the land of Canaan. But when they went as far as Haran, they made their home there. ³² Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Haran.

God Calls Abram

12 Now the Lord said to Abram, "Leave your country, your family and your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make you a great nation. I will bring good to you. I will make your name great, so you will be honored. ³ I will bring good to those who are good to you. And I will curse those who curse you. Good will come to all the families of the earth because of you."

⁴ So Abram left as the Lord told him to do, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. ⁵ Abram took his wife Sarai, and his brother's son Lot, and all the things they had gathered, and the people who joined them in Haran. And they left to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan. ⁶ Abram passed through the land as far as the oak of Moreh at Shechem. The Canaanite people were

living in the land at that time. ⁷ Then the Lord showed Himself to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your children and to your children's children." So Abram built an altar there to the Lord Who had shown Himself to him. ⁸ Then he went from there to the mountain east of Bethel. He put up his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. ⁹ Then Abram traveled on, still going toward the Negev.

¹⁰ Now there was no food in the land. So Abram went south to Egypt to stay there, because it was very hard to live in the land with no food. ¹¹ When he was about to go into Egypt, Abram said to his wife Sarai, "I know that you are a beautiful woman. ¹² When the men of Egypt see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' And they will kill me, but they will let you live. ¹³ Say that you are my sister. Then it may go well with me because of you. And because of you they will not kill me."

¹⁴ When Abram came into Egypt, the men of Egypt saw that the woman was very beautiful. ¹⁵ Pharaoh's rulers saw her and told Pharaoh of her beauty. So the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. ¹⁶ And Pharaoh acted well toward Abram because of Sarai. He gave Abram sheep, cattle, male and female donkeys, and camels, and men and women servants. ¹⁷ But the Lord sent much sickness upon Pharaoh and his house because of Abram's wife Sarai. ¹⁸ Then Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? ¹⁹ Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go." ²⁰ And Pharaoh told his men what to do with Abram. They led him away with his wife and all that belonged to him.

Abram and Lot Go Different Ways

13 So Abram left Egypt and went to the Negev, with his wife and all that belonged to him. And Lot went with him. ² Now Abram was very rich in cattle, silver and gold. ³ He traveled from the Negev as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, ⁴ where he had made an altar. And there Abram called on the name of the Lord. ⁵ Now Lot, who went with Abram, had flocks and cattle and tents of his own. ⁶ There was not enough land to feed all the animals while they lived

together. They owned so many things that they were not able to stay together.⁷ There was fighting between those who cared for Abram's animals and those who cared for Lot's animals. The Canaanite and the Perizzite were living in the land at that time.⁸ So Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no fighting between you and me or between the men who take care of our animals, for we are brothers.⁹ Is not the whole land in front of you? Let each of us go a different way. If you go to the left, then I will go to the right. Or if you go to the right, then I will go to the left."

¹⁰ Lot looked and saw that the Jordan valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt as you go to Zoar. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)¹¹ So Lot chose all the Jordan valley for himself. And as Lot traveled east, they went apart from each other.¹² Abram made his home in the land of Canaan. Lot made his home in the cities of the valley and moved his tents as far as Sodom,¹³ whose men were sinful, sinning against the Lord.

¹⁴ The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had left him, "Raise your eyes and look from where you are to the north and south and east and west.¹⁵ For I will give all the land that you see to you and to your children and to your children's children forever.¹⁶ I will make your family after you like the dust of the earth. So if anyone could number the dust of the earth, then he could number your children's children.¹⁷ Rise up and walk far and wide upon the land. For I will give it to you."¹⁸ Then Abram moved his tent and came to live among the oaks of Mamre in Hebron. There he built an altar to the Lord.

Abram Keeps Lot from Being Killed

14 It was in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim,² that they made war against Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar).³ All these joined together in the valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea).⁴ They had been ruled by Chedorlaomer for twelve years. But in the thirteenth year they went against him.⁵ Then in the fourteenth year, Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him came and won a war against the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham,

the Emim in Shavehkiariathaim,⁶ and the Horites in their Mount Seir as far as Elparan near the desert.⁷ Then they turned around and came to Enmishpat (that is, Kadesh). There they won a war against all the country of the Amalekites and the Amorites who lived in Hazazon-tamar.⁸ Then the kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim and Bela (that is, Zoar) went out and joined in war against them in the valley of Siddim.⁹ They fought against Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar, four kings against five.¹⁰ Now the Siddim valley was full of deep holes with tar. The kings of Sodom and Gomorrah turned and ran, and some fell there. But the others ran away into the hill country.¹¹ Then those who won the war took all that belonged to Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their food, and left.¹² They also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who lived in Sodom, and all that belonged to him, and left.

¹³ Then one who had run for his life came and told Abram the Hebrew. Abram was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and Aner, who were friends of Abram.¹⁴ When Abram heard that one of his family had been taken away, he led 318 men who had been born in his house and whom he had taught to fight. They went after them as far as Dan.¹⁵ Abram divided his army against them by night, he and his servants. They won the war against them, and followed them as far as Hobah, north of Damascus.¹⁶ Then Abram returned with all the things they had taken. He also returned with his brother's son Lot and all that belonged to him, and the women and the people.

¹⁷ After Abram returned from destroying Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's valley).¹⁸ Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was a religious leader of God Most High.¹⁹ And Melchizedek honored Abram and said, "May good come to Abram from God Most High, Maker of heaven and earth.²⁰ Honor and thanks be to God Most High, Who has given into your hand those who fought against you." Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of all he had taken.²¹ And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the people, but take the riches and food for yourself."²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom,

"I have promised the Lord God Most High, Maker of heaven and earth, ²³ that I will not take a piece of string or piece of leather or anything that is yours. Or else you might say, 'I have made Abram rich.' ²⁴ I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol and Mamre take their share."

God's Agreement with Abram

15 After these things, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a special dream, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your safe place. Your reward will be very great." ² Then Abram said, "O Lord God, what will You give me? For I have no child. And the one who is to receive what belongs to me is Eliezer of Damascus." ³ Abram said, "Because You have not given me a child, one born in my house will be given all I have." ⁴ Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This man will not be given what is yours. But he who will come from your own body will be given what is yours." ⁵ He took him outside and said, "Now look up into the heavens and add up the stars, if you are able to number them." Then He said to him, "Your children and your children's children will be as many as the stars." ⁶ Then Abram believed in the Lord, and that made him right with God.

⁷ God said to him, "I am the Lord Who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land for your own." ⁸ And Abram said, "O Lord God, how may I know that it will be mine?" ⁹ So the Lord said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old cow, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtle-dove and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ Then Abram brought all these to Him, and cut them in two. And he laid each half beside the other. But he did not cut the birds. ¹¹ When the meat-eating birds came down upon the dead animals, Abram made them go away.

¹² When the sun was going down, Abram went into a sleep as if he were dead. And much fear and darkness came upon him. ¹³ God said to Abram, "Know for sure that your children and those born after them will be strangers in a land that is not theirs. There they will be servants and suffer for 400 years. ¹⁴ But I will punish the nation they will serve. And later they will come out with many riches. ¹⁵ You will live many years, die in peace and be buried. ¹⁶ Then your great great-grandchildren will return

here. For the sins of the Amorite are not yet finished."

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was very dark, a fire pot of smoke and a burning fire passed between these parts of animals. ¹⁸ The Lord made an agreement with Abram on that day. He said, "I have given this land to your children and to their children's children, from the river of Egypt as far as the big Euphrates River, ¹⁹ the land of the Kenite, the Kenizzite, the Kadmonite, ²⁰ the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Rephaim, ²¹ the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Gergashite and the Jebusite."

Hagar and Ishmael

16 Now Abram's wife Sarai had not given birth to any children. She had a woman servant from Egypt whose name was Hagar. ² So Sarai said to Abram, "Now see, the Lord has kept me from having children. Go in to the woman who serves me. It may be that I will get children through her." Abram listened to what Sarai said. ³ So Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, who served her, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife. That was after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan. ⁴ He went in to Hagar, and she was going to have a child. And when she saw that she was going to have a child, she began to hate Sarai. ⁵ Then Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be upon you. I gave the woman who served me into your arms. But when she saw that she was going to have a child, she began to hate me. May the Lord judge who is guilty or not between you and me." ⁶ But Abram said to Sarai, "See, the woman who serves you is in your power. Do what you want with her." So Sarai made it hard for Hagar. And Hagar ran away from her.

⁷ The angel of the Lord found Hagar by a well of water in the desert on the way to Shur. ⁸ He said, "Hagar, you who serve Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" And she said, "I am running away from Sarai, the one I serve." ⁹ Then the angel of the Lord said to her, "Return to your boss. Put yourself under her power." ¹⁰ The angel of the Lord said to her, "I will give you so many people in your family through the years that they will be too many to number." ¹¹ The angel of the Lord also said to her, "See, you are going to have a child. And you will give birth to a son. You will give him the name Ishmael, because the Lord has heard how you have suffered. ¹² He will be a wild