

**BIBLE STORIES FOR  
THE YOUNG:  
GENESIS; PP. 4-71**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649344987

Bible stories for the young: Genesis; pp. 4-71 by G. L. E.

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Cover @ 2017

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# BIBLE STORIES

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GENESIS.  
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G. L. E.

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LONDON:  
JAMES NISBET & CO., BERNERS STREET.  
1872.

the host of them, in six days ; but God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because that in it He had rested from all His work. At this time the ground was watered by a lovely mist rising up from the earth. We do not hear of rain till the deluge ; then it came for punishment. Man was formed of the dust of the earth, and God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. This is the part that must live for ever, life emanating from the Creator himself. This man was placed in a garden that God had planted in Eden, near the river Euphrates, to dress and keep it, and allowed to eat freely of all but one lovely tree in the midst of the garden, called the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and death was to be the punishment if that were touched. He was created with full power to obey (for he was not born in sin) ; so to disobey would be his own free-will. God himself brought every beast and fowl to him to be named. They were not then spiteful, or afraid of each other ; no, all creation rejoiced together. Then God kindly gave man a companion. He caused a deep sleep to fall upon

him, and took one of his ribs, and made from it a beautiful woman, and presented her to the man when he awoke; male and female created he them, and blessed them, and called their names Adam and Eve. Some time before all this happened there was a dispute in heaven; some of the angels became naughty of their own free will, and the Almighty did not check them, but allowed them to follow their own wicked devices till they were ruined. Their chief was Beelzebub (afterwards the Prince of the Devils). He said, how glorious it would be to rule heaven ourselves, to be masters, not subjects, for I hate to serve; let us try to overthrow our Creator, that we may reign supremely. To do this we must get an army, and wage a tremendous battle with all who oppose this design. If he had considered but for a moment his position as one created, defying his Creator, he could never have undertaken that outrageous affair. But no! pride confused all rational ideas, and nothing but his own plans for unlimited power exercised him; so, having got a number of angels to listen to his swelling tales of future grandeur, they ultimately waged war against the Most High,

and were at once thrown headlong into the abyss, and there, suffering intense agony, groaned bitterly, not for being so wicked, but because the whole scheme had proved a failure. Then Satan, their chief, tried to inspire them afresh with direful revenge, and said: "Did we not hear of a world that the Almighty was about creating, and of some creatures that he intended to form in his own likeness, and place there? Well, I swear eternal hate, and will never rest till I find that spot, and try to pollute his creatures, and if possible make them as naughty as we are, that they may be miserable too; for I can never endure seeing anyone happy again." So he took the form of a serpent, and went and twined around the forbidden tree, and spoke to the woman, for she seemed more simple than the man, and said: "Hath God said ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" The woman replied: "We may eat of all but of the tree in the midst of the garden; for God hath said, 'Ye shall not eat of it, neither touch it, lest ye die.'" The serpent said: "Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that if ye eat of



it you will be as gods, knowing good and evil." Then the woman looked at the fruit again, and thought it must taste very good as it looks so lovely, and then how delightful to be wise. So she was overcome by staying near temptation, and plucked the fruit, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband, and he did eat. Now misery commences; for knowledge has entered with a vengeance, and they find themselves naked, and are afraid to see God without a covering. (This is just the state we are in as sinners, and can never appear before a heart-searching God unless we be clothed with Christ's righteousness). So they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. (Just as we sometimes do when we think our good works will save us). But these would not do, for it was the work of sinners, and could not bear the scrutiny of a righteous God; they were really worse for trying to hide, instead of confessing at once, and begging for pardon. When they heard the voice of God walking in the garden, they were utterly confused. The Lord said, "Adam, where art thou?" Adam replied,

"I hid myself because I was naked." God said, "Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the forbidden tree?" And he, like a great coward, said, "The woman that thou gavest to be with me, she gave me and I did eat." (As if he were obliged to eat just what the woman gave him.) The Lord was very angry with the woman, and of course she blamed the serpent. Then the Lord cursed the serpent, and shewed him that his cunning design should not be fully accomplished, for the seed of the woman should bruise his head or kingdom. This was the first promise of the mighty Deliverer that should be born into the world, in the likeness of sinful flesh, fulfilling the law of God, and dying, the just for the unjust, that sinners might be saved from eternal death, and God's law honoured, at the same time. But the woman's sorrows were to be greatly multiplied for her disobedience, and the ground was cursed for the man's sake, so that he must labour very hard to cultivate it, and then eat the produce in sorrow, till he returned to the ground from whence he was taken; for God

said, "Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return." Then the Lord God himself made them coats of skins, and clothed them, pointing forward to the sacrifice of the mighty Deliverer, who would clothe all who felt their need of, and earnestly desired, a suitable clothing to appear before God at the Judgment Seat, with his spotless righteousness—

"No time can change its glorious hue,  
The robe of Christ is ever new."

This sad history closes with Adam and Eve being driven out of their pretty home by God. Cherubins viewed the sad change too; but the tree was guarded by a flaming sword, which turned every way to keep it in safety, for man could never be trusted again. He had forfeited his inheritance, and the sentence of death was passed upon all his race in him their head. So, as in the first Adam all, all is lost, and death will take possession sooner or later; even so in the great Deliverer shall all (who feel their lost estate and fly to him for refuge) be made alive, "The first man was of the earth earthy, the second man is the Lord from heaven." All