

Contents

Introduction 6

The Garden of Eden 7

Noah's ark 8

Abraham and Jacob 10

Joseph 12

Joseph in Egypt 14

Moses 16



The Exodus 18

Joshua 20

Samson and Delilah 22

Samuel 24

David and Goliath 26

Solomon 28

In exile 30

Index 32

Noah's ark

IN THE years after Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden, God saw that men and women had grown increasingly wicked. Only one man, Noah, lived a good life. So God decided to send a great flood and destroy all living things on the Earth. God would save Noah along with his family. God told him to build an ark, a huge wooden boat with many compartments, and stock it with plenty of food. Noah and his family would live on the ark with one pair of each animal species when the rains came. These rains would flood the Earth. Only the people and animals afloat on the ark would survive.



FOR FORTY days and forty nights, it rained. The flood waters rose. All living things were drowned, save Noah and the inhabitants of the ark. Eventually, the rain stopped. Noah sent a dove to find land. When the dove came back with an olive branch, he knew that it would soon be safe to leave the ark. God told Noah to repopulate the Earth. Noah gave thanks to God. A rainbow appeared across the sky. It was a symbol of God's promise never to destroy the Earth again.

The Exodus

IN HIS ANGER Pharaoh ordered the Israelites to leave Egypt immediately. But he soon regretted the loss of his prized slaves and sent his army to bring them back. The Israelites reached the Red Sea when Pharaoh's chariots caught up with them. The Israelites were trapped. God told Moses to stretch out his hand over the sea. He did so and the waters parted. They walked to safety.



THE EGYPTIAN chariots tried to follow but, as they reached the sea bed, Moses stretched out his hand once more and the waters came crashing down. The Egyptians were drowned and the Israelites continued on their journey into the desert.



WHEN their food ran out, the Israelites complained to Moses. The next morning the ground was covered with flakes called manna that tasted of honey. Moses struck a rock and water began to flow out. God told Moses that the Israelites must have faith and take only enough food for one day. He would provide more each day.

THE Israelites reached Mount Sinai. They made camp while Moses climbed to the top. God gave him Ten Commandments, laws that the Israelites were to obey. Moses carved them on two stone tablets. When Moses returned to the camp he saw the people worshipping a statue of a golden calf. They said it was the god that led them out of Egypt. Moses was horrified. In his anger, he smashed the tablets and destroyed the calf. But God instructed Moses to cut two new tablets.

