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"Take Courage, I Have Overcome the World."

New
CATHOLIC
PICTURE BIBLE

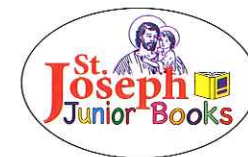
POPULAR STORIES FROM THE
OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

By

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Divine Word Missionary

Illustrated



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Foreword

THE Old Testament tells of several promises which God made to man before the coming of our Lord, especially of the promise which was made to the Children of Israel at Mount Sinai.

All through this story there runs the great promise of the Messias. Even though Israel was unfaithful, God was true to His word. We read how He restored some of the nation to Palestine and how He encouraged the Jews to prepare for the coming of the Redeemer.

In the Gospel Story of the New Testament Jesus shows Himself to you as He lived on earth—in His teaching and in His love. You can be pleasing to God only insofar as your life is lived after His teaching and example.

This PICTURE BIBLE will help you to know the goodness of God and His great love for people. It will help you to know Jesus better, that you may love Him, and follow His example more closely. The pictures in full color will make His life more real in your mind. Read the life of Jesus often, and pray to Him as you read it, for it is especially through prayer that you can obtain the grace to become like Jesus.

To Jesus Christ, the Divine Word, Who called Himself “the Way, the Truth, and the Life,” through the most pure hands of His loving Mother and ours, these pages are gratefully and affectionately dedicated.

F. Lawrence S.V.D.

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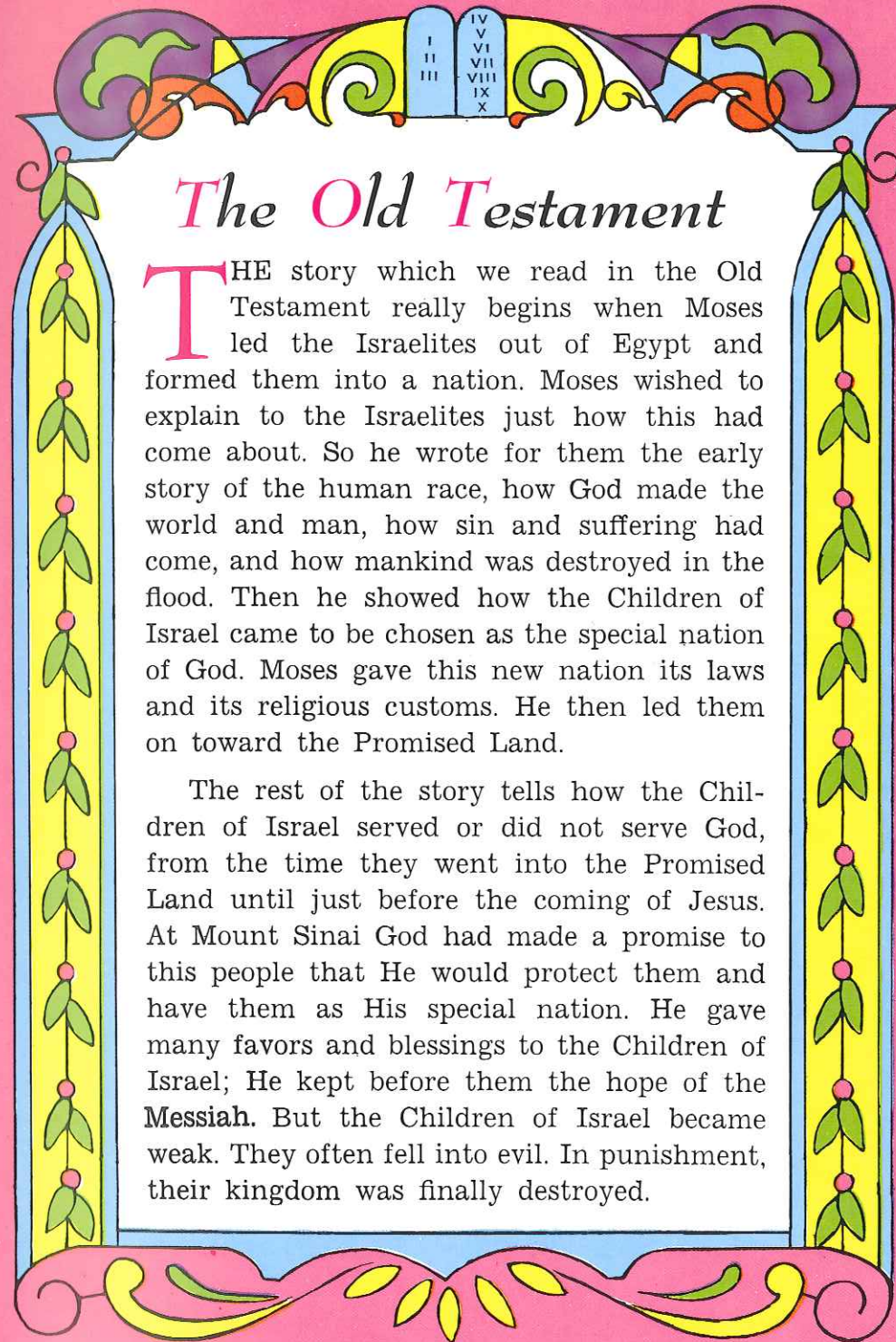
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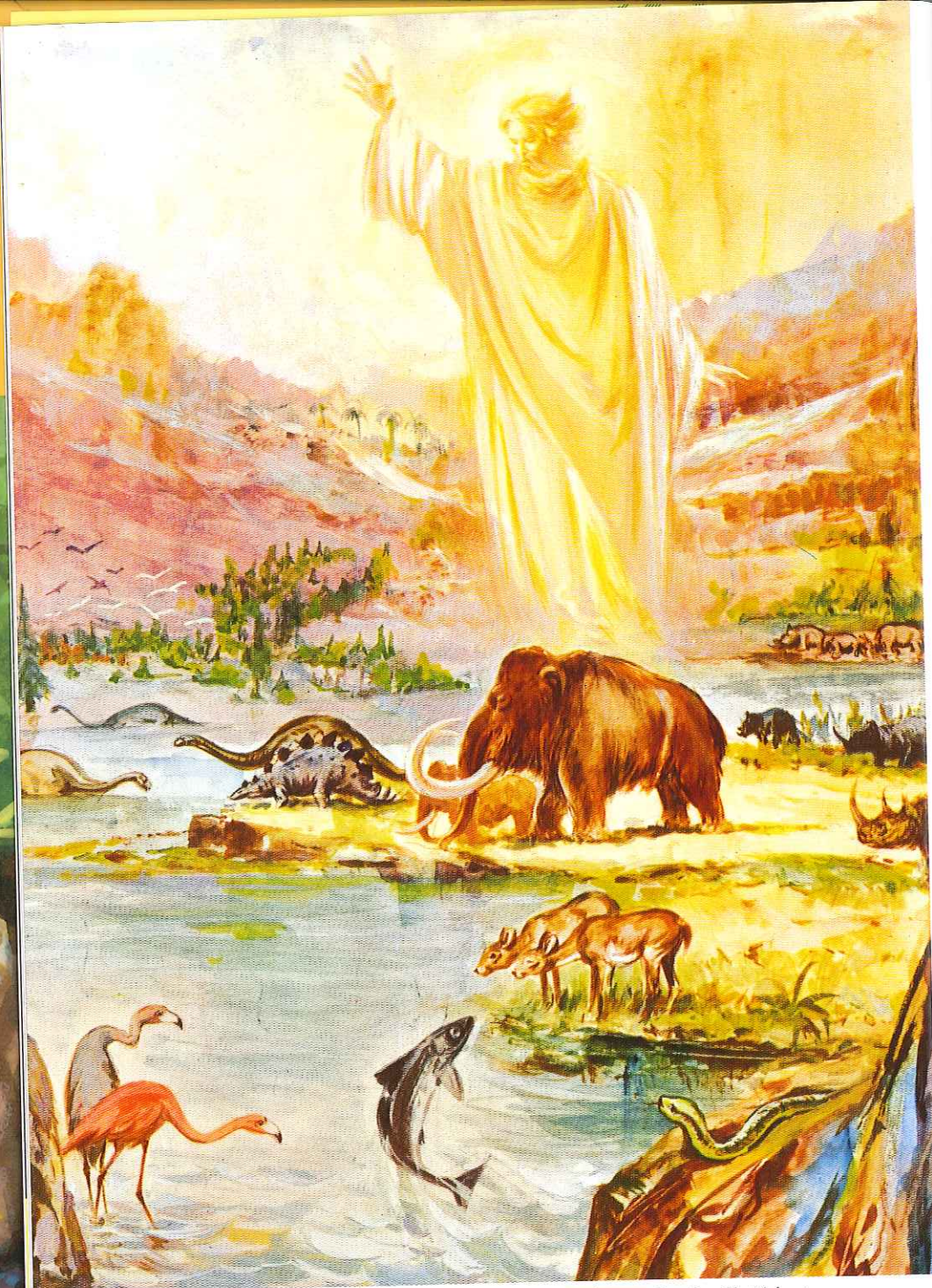
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The Old Testament

THE story which we read in the Old Testament really begins when Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt and formed them into a nation. Moses wished to explain to the Israelites just how this had come about. So he wrote for them the early story of the human race, how God made the world and man, how sin and suffering had come, and how mankind was destroyed in the flood. Then he showed how the Children of Israel came to be chosen as the special nation of God. Moses gave this new nation its laws and its religious customs. He then led them on toward the Promised Land.

The rest of the story tells how the Children of Israel served or did not serve God, from the time they went into the Promised Land until just before the coming of Jesus. At Mount Sinai God had made a promise to this people that He would protect them and have them as His special nation. He gave many favors and blessings to the Children of Israel; He kept before them the hope of the **Messiah**. But the Children of Israel became weak. They often fell into evil. In punishment, their kingdom was finally destroyed.



God is the Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things.

1. THE STORY OF THE CREATION

GOD is eternal. He had no beginning, and He will have no end. God made the angels. They are spirits like the soul of man.

Lucifer was one of the most glorious and most beautiful of the angels. His name means “Bearer of Light.” He became very proud and even wanted to be as great as God Himself. He cried out against God, “I will not serve!” With him were other angels who also refused to obey God.

But the Archangel Michael cried out, “Who is like God?” Other good angels joined him in a great battle against Lucifer and his bad angels, and drove the bad ones into a place of eternal punishment. We call Lucifer “Satan,” and his bad angels “devils.”

To have a fitting place for man to live, God made the universe.

On the **first** day God made earth out of nothing. Then God said, “Let light be made,” and at once light appeared. God separated light from darkness and called them day and night.

On the **second** day God made the blue sky and called it heaven.

On the **third** day God said, “Let the waters under heaven be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear. Let this dry land bring forth grass and trees and plants of every kind.”

On the **fourth** day God made the sun, the moon, and the stars.

On the **fifth** day God made the fishes and other creatures that were to live in the water. He also made birds and other creatures that were to fly in the sky.

On the **sixth** day God made all the animals that were to live on the ground. Then God said, “I shall make man in My image. I shall make man to rule over all the things that I have created.” God formed man out of the dust of the earth. Then He breathed into him a soul that will never die.

On the **seventh** day God rested from His work. He blessed that day and made it holy.

2. THE VISITATION

WHEN the angel had gone away, Mary at once made a four-day journey to the home of her cousin Elizabeth, eighty miles away in the south country. When Elizabeth saw Mary, she was filled with the Holy Spirit who let her know about the wonderful thing God had done to Mary. She cried out with joy, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And how have I deserved to have the Mother of my Lord visit me?"

Then Mary was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to praise God, saying, "My soul praises the Lord and I rejoice in God, my Savior. Because He has looked upon the lowliness of His handmaid. For behold, from now on all generations shall call me blessed; because He who is mighty has done great things for me!"

Mary stayed with her cousin for nearly three months, until the birth of Elizabeth's son.

Nine months before an angel from God had appeared to Zechariah and told him that his wife, Elizabeth, would have a son who was to be called John. He was to convert many people and prepare them for the coming of the Savior. But Zechariah doubted these words, and from that moment he could not speak or hear. So now the relatives and friends asked him, by signs, what name he wished to be given to the child. He motioned for something to write upon; and when they brought it, he wrote, "John is his name."

Then all at once Zechariah could speak and hear again. He praised God, saying, "You, O child, shall be called a prophet of the Most High, to go before the Lord and to make ready His ways."

When John grew up, he went out into the desert to the south, and there he stayed until the time came for him to preach to the people, for this child became the great prophet, John the Baptist.



Mary visits Elizabeth who greets her with joy.



Jesus places His arms about the little children and blesses them.

38. JESUS AND LITTLE CHILDREN

ONE day, Jesus was instructing the people, and mothers began bringing their little children to Him. They wanted Him to place His holy hands on them and to pray for them.

When the disciples saw the mothers coming with the children, they were upset. They did not think Jesus should be disturbed in this way. So they began to turn the mothers and children aside.

The mothers and children were disappointed. They had come with such great hopes. Now they could not even speak to the Master.

At this point, Jesus caught sight of the mothers and children, and of the disciples turning them away. He became indignant and rebuked the disciples for their action.

Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, for of such is the kingdom of God. I assure you that whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a little child shall not take part in it."

Jesus then put His arms about the children and began to bless them.

From this we learn many important lessons. No matter how old we may be, we should have clean hearts full of simple trust and faith in God, like the children that Jesus told us to imitate. We should also have special care for children and love them as Jesus loved them.

