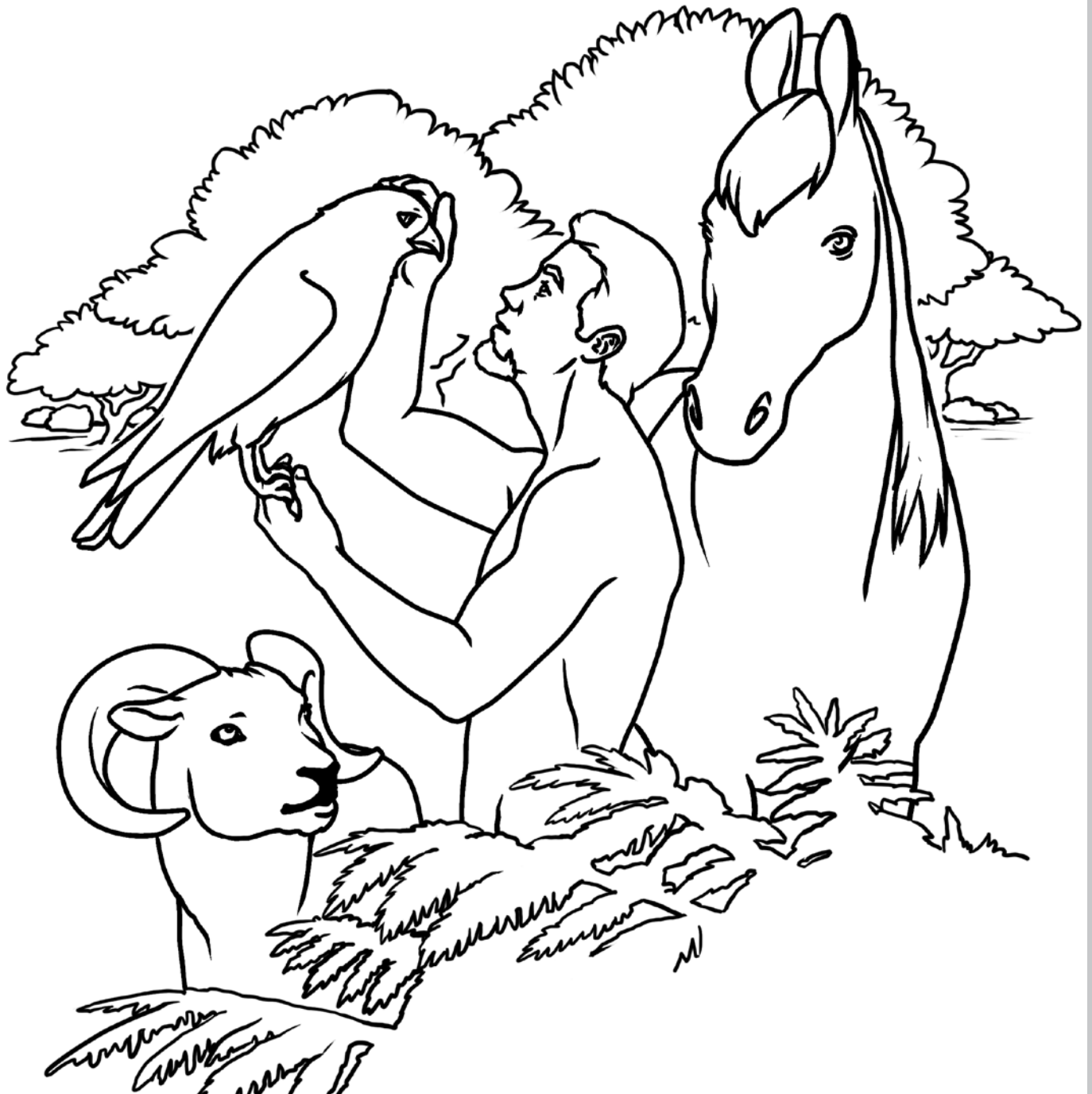




Imperial Academy Bible Lessons



Creation

Creation

Close your eyes. Imagine an entire planet that is cold, dark and lifeless. This frozen, dark, dead world was planet Earth!

THE ANGELS

Let's go back in time. Before God created Earth, He created many, many angels. These were wonderful spirit beings who served God. They were there when God created the Earth, and they shouted for joy when they saw the new creation! God put some of the angels on Earth to help make it more beautiful.

But something went wrong!

One of the greatest angels began to change his thinking; he began to think a lot about himself. He began to think he was so beautiful and smart that he could rule the universe better than God. This angel's name was Lucifer.

Lucifer rebelled against God and convinced many other angels to rebel too. These evil angels fought a *war* against God! But God defeated them and cast them back down to Earth. God changed Lucifer's name to *Satan*, which means "enemy."

By the time the war was over, Satan and the evil angels had mostly destroyed the beautiful planets, moons and stars God had created. Earth became dark, cold and dead.

THE RE-CREATION

About 6,000 years ago, God turned His attention to Earth. He had decided to prepare this planet for something very special!

God was about to *renew planet Earth*, not as a home for angels—but as a home for a *new* kind of being. This type of being would *look like God*! This being could be born into God's Family! This special creation is called a human being—and *you* are a human being!

God chose to prepare the Earth for human beings in seven days (one week).

SEVEN DAYS OF CREATION

On the first day, God moved over the surface of the water and said, "Let there be light." Then light appeared on Earth once again. God divided the light from the darkness. He called the light *day* and the darkness *night*.

On the second day, God melted and purified the frozen and murky water. As the water warmed, steam and vapor rose into the sky, turning into great billowing clouds. God filled the sky with air for human beings to breathe.

On the third day, God raised vast pieces of land up from beneath the water. These became islands and continents. The water flowed down off the land and formed seas and oceans. Then God created plants and trees on the land. He also made plants inside the lakes, seas and oceans.

On the fourth day, God created a way for human beings to keep track of time. He caused the movement of the sun to show what a day is and what a year is. He caused the movement of the moon to

show what a month is. And He caused the movement of the stars to teach us more about how time passes. But still there were no human beings on Earth.

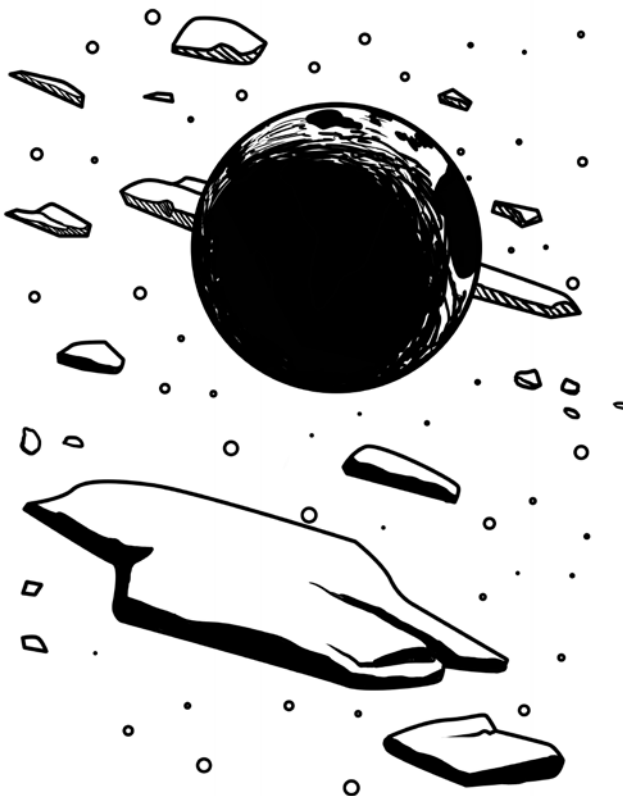
On the fifth day, God made all the birds: eagles, ostriches, hummingbirds, kiwis and many others. God also made the creatures that swim in water: goldfish, puffer fish, dolphins, whales and many others.

On the sixth day, God created land animals: dogs, leopards, bears, elephants and many others. God also made creeping animals, like tiny insects. And now God was ready for His most important creation! He took some dirt and molded it into a male human being. God called this man *Adam*. He breathed into his nostrils, and Adam became a living person!

Adam was very different from all the other creatures God had made. He looked like God! He could also talk with God. God gave Adam work to do: name the animals. As he named them, Adam noticed that the male animals had female animals to go with them. But there was no female human being—yet! God was about to give Adam an amazing blessing on top of all his other blessings!

God put Adam into a deep sleep. From one of Adam's ribs, God created a woman! When Adam woke up, God presented him with his own wife. Adam named her Eve, which means *mother of all*.

On the seventh day, God rested. By resting, He created something else that



The Earth and universe are ruined after Satan and the demons' rebellion.



The Garden of Eden was an ideal setting for Adam and Eve to learn.

was new: the Sabbath. The Sabbath is a period of time that God has made holy so that human beings can rest, remember God's creation, worship Him, and learn how to be born into His Family.

THE GARDEN OF EDEN

On the first Sabbath, God started teaching Adam and Eve about His plan for them. After the Sabbath, Adam and Eve worked hard taking care of their home, the Garden of Eden. They were very happy during this time as God continued to teach them about His way of life.

God planted two special trees in the Garden of Eden: the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The tree of life represented God's way of give. God told Adam and Eve that they could live forever in happiness if they ate from this tree. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil represented Satan's way of get, or selfishness. God told Adam and Eve that if they ate from this tree, they would die.

SATAN TEMPTS EVE

God had renewed the Earth for Adam and Eve. But Satan and his evil angels were still on Earth too. They wanted to turn Adam and Eve against God. After God had taught Adam and Eve about His way of life, He let Satan test them.

One day, Eve was walking alone in the garden and saw a snake. Snakes did not bite, so she wasn't afraid. But this serpent spoke to her! Eve probably

didn't know it, but *Satan* was speaking to her through the serpent.

Eve should have walked away—especially when she heard what type of attitude the serpent had. But she did not.

The serpent told Eve that God was lying. It said that if she ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, she would *not* die like God said she would. Instead, she would become as wise as God. She could decide what was good and evil for herself.

Eve believed the serpent. She disobeyed God and ate a piece of fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Then she took some fruit and gave it to Adam. Adam knew the serpent was lying, but he didn't want to tell Eve she had done wrong, so he ate the fruit too.

Suddenly, Adam and Eve became ashamed of the fact that they were naked, so they hid themselves. But God knew where they were. He asked them if they had eaten from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam said yes—and that it was Eve's fault. Eve said it was the serpent's fault. Instead of saying they were sorry and trying to change, they blamed someone else. They were already falling into a bad attitude.

God was sad about what Adam and Eve did, but He let them make their own choice. God also lets *you* make your own choices. Like Adam and Eve, you can choose to live God's way of obedience and giving, or you can choose to live Satan's way of disobedience and selfishness.

Because Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, He sent them out of the Garden of Eden. He stationed a righteous angel with a flaming sword at the garden's entrance to keep them from getting back in and from eating from the tree of life.

But when God sent Adam and Eve away, He gave them hope. He told them

that someday a Savior would come. This Savior would have to *die* for their sins. Without this Savior, they could never repent, never eat from the tree of life and never have eternal life. To remind them of how much they needed this Savior and how much they needed to repent, God told Adam and Eve to kill a lamb and burn it on an altar at certain times of the year.



After eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil,
Adam and Eve are driven out of the garden.

CAIN AND ABEL

Soon, Adam and Eve had two sons. They named the firstborn Cain and the other Abel. When Cain and Abel were older, the time came to offer a sacrifice. Abel brought his best lamb to give to God. But

Cain didn't want to give up his best lamb, so he brought some vegetables instead. God was upset by Cain's disobedience.

Cain became angry at God for rejecting his sacrifice. He grew jealous of Abel. God told Cain that if he did his best in the



Cain became jealous when God accepted Abel's sacrifice and not his.

future, He would accept his sacrifices. But instead, Cain's jealousy toward Abel turned into hatred. Eventually, Cain murdered his own brother!

When God asked Cain where Abel was, he lied and told God he didn't know. But God knew what Cain had done. God sent him away from the rest of his family. But Cain never apologized for or repented of killing Abel. Cain's family and his children became very evil.

Adam lived for 930 years and had many other children. By the time he died, the world was full of people. These children of Adam ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They did what they thought was best, not what God said was best. Because of this, they were selfish and hateful and became liars, thieves and murderers.

NOAH

When God looked down and saw all the misery and evil in the world, He decided to end it. He chose to send a great flood to drown everyone. (Thousands of years later, God would resurrect these people and teach them His way of life.)

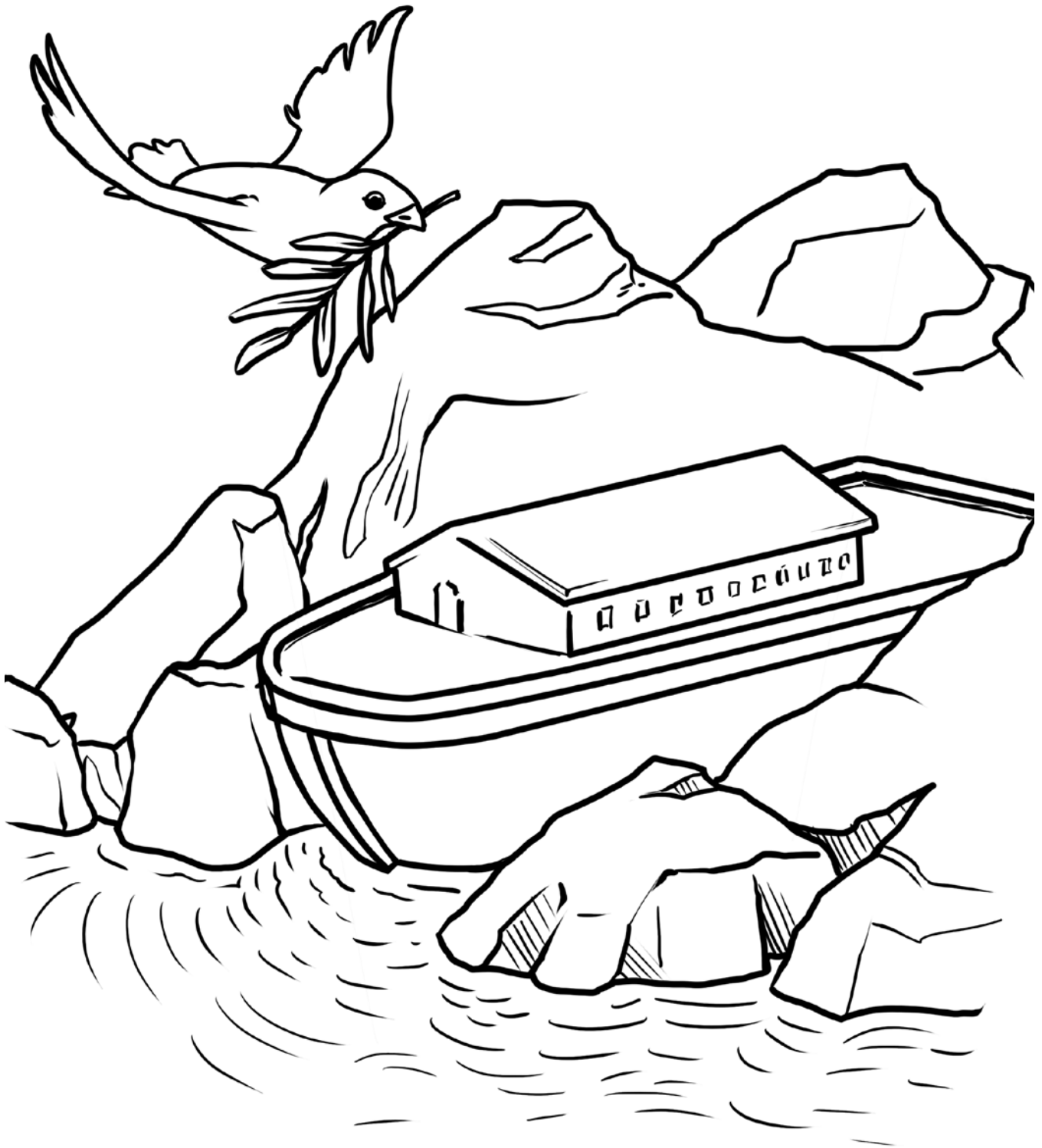
But God found one man who was still trying to follow His laws. His name was Noah. God told Noah about the coming flood and instructed him to build a giant ship, called an ark. Noah obeyed. For about 120 years, he warned the evil people around him that they would die in the Flood if they did not repent. But they refused to change and obey God.

God helped Noah and his family put all kinds of animals into the ark to save them from the Flood: seven pairs of every animal that was clean to eat and one pair of every animal that was unclean. Noah and his family joined the animals inside the ark. Then God sealed the door shut!

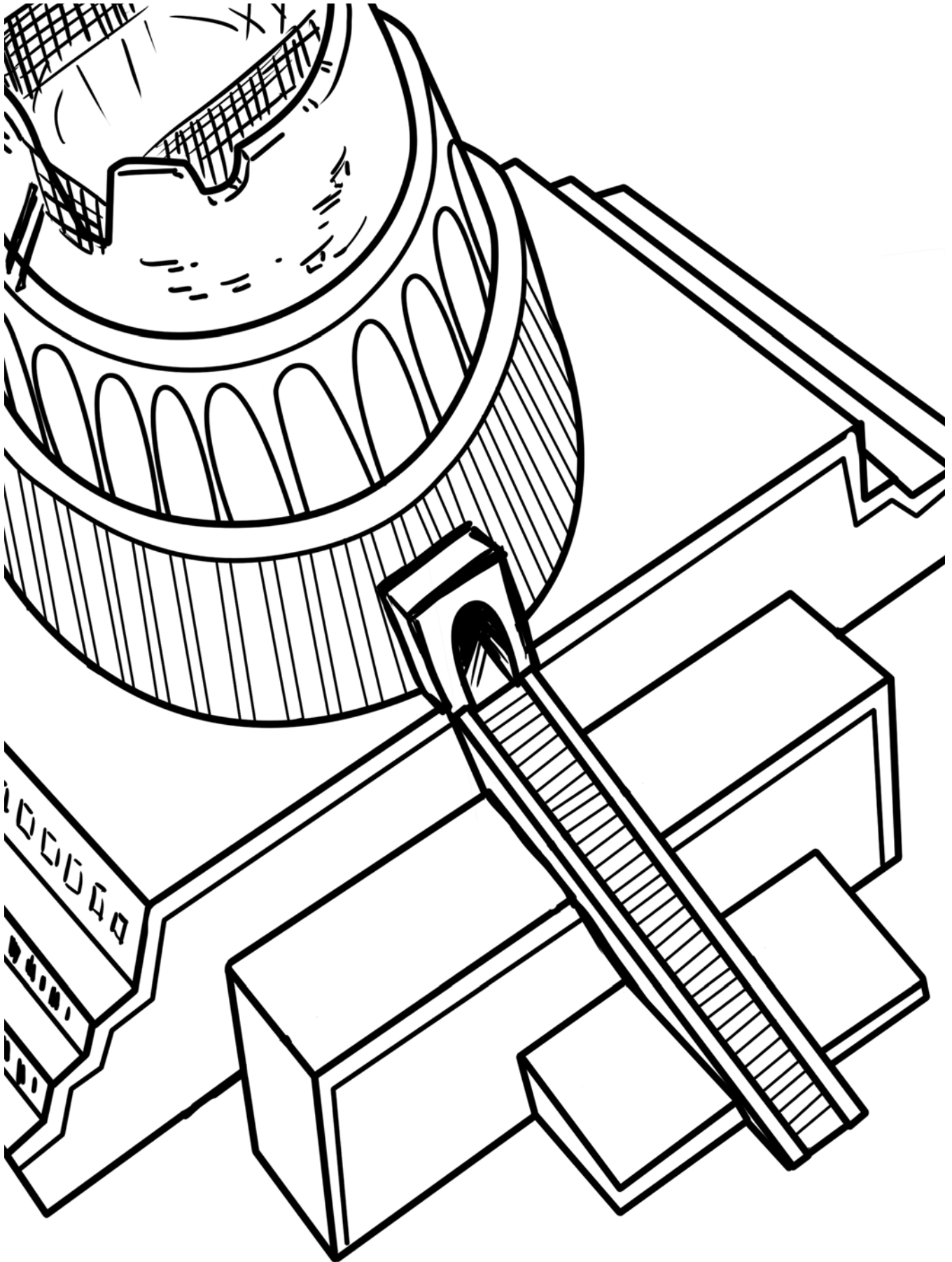
Days passed with no sign of rain. The evil people outside laughed: *Noah and his family were stuck with thousands of animals inside a useless boat*, they said. But after one week, the sky grew dark. Rain began to fall, and water began to shoot out of the ground! People became terrified as water began rising



No one else on Earth believed the warning God delivered through Noah.



A dove returns to the ark with an olive branch, a sign of dry land.



People construct the tower of Babel in an act of defiance against God.

everywhere. The rain fell for 40 days, and every person on Earth drowned—except for Noah and his family.

For many months, the water gradually drained away. Then one day, there was a great crunching sound as Noah's huge ark settled on Mount Ararat.

When God let Noah, his family and all the animals out of the ark, Noah took some of the clean animals and offered them as a sacrifice to God. God accepted Noah's sacrifice and promised that He would never flood the whole Earth again. As a sign of His promise, God put a rainbow in the sky. So whenever you see a rainbow, remember God's promise!

THE TOWER OF BABEL

Years passed, and Noah's sons and their wives had many children. The land was again filled with people. God told the people to spread out across the Earth. But they disobeyed God, just like Adam and Eve and the people before the Flood.

One of Noah's great-grandsons became a king in a place called Shinar. His name was Nimrod, and he was against God. People started obeying him instead of God.

The people did not believe God's promise that He would never send another flood. They decided to build something they thought would allow them to disobey God and avoid His punishment: a tower higher than any flood could reach.

Nimrod told the people to stay in one place and to build this tower in Shinar.

God saw what the people were trying to do, and He knew how to stop them.

At that time, people everywhere spoke the same language. But at the tower, God caused family groups to speak different languages. People could not understand each other; they started to argue and fight. The tower became called the tower of Babel, which means *confusion*.

After God confused the languages, work on the tower stopped. People began to talk only to those who could speak the same language. They began to separate from people who spoke different languages, and they spread out across the Earth as God intended.

Now God would use another plan to teach the world about His way of life. We will learn about it in the next lesson.

BIBLE MEMORY Books of the Old Testament

Genesis	1 Samuel	Esther	Lamentations	Micah
Exodus	2 Samuel	Job	Ezekiel	Nahum
Leviticus	1 Kings	Psalms	Daniel	Habakkuk
Numbers	2 Kings	Proverbs	Hosea	Zephaniah
Deuteronomy	1 Chronicles	Ecclesiastes	Joel	Haggai
Joshua	2 Chronicles	Song of Songs	Amos	Zechariah
Judges	Ezra	Isaiah	Obadiah	Malachi
Ruth	Nehemiah	Jeremiah	Jonah	

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