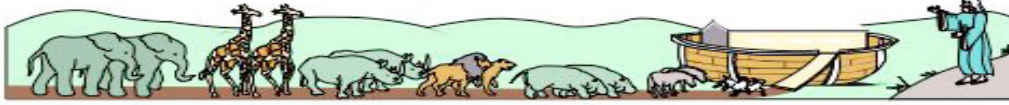


SIDE A

AND THE STORY GOES ON



"And destruction came on every living thing moving on the earth, birds and cattle and beasts and everything which went on the earth, and every man. Everything on the dry land, in which was the breath of life, came to its end." Genesis 7:21, 22

One Hundred and fifty days the water was upon the Earth until eventually the Ark came to rest upon the top of the Mountains of Ararat. Noah and His family then left the Ark. What is interesting here is the chain of events including this one taking place right after we were kicked out of the Garden of Eden for disobeying God. First, right after the fall Cain Kills Abel out of envy and jealousy. Right after this we find the whole of mankind excluding Noah living in continual evil and wickedness bringing the flood and the end of the human race except for Noah. God's plan after the Flood is that we re-populate the earth but again man resists seeking to stay together and attempting to collectively build a tower and establish a singular place of residence against Gods will. This is the notorious Tower of Babel resulting in God striking us with a diversity of languages forcing us to split up and separate diversely inhabiting the Earth.

After the Flood the Sons of Noah populated the Earth "And the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth; and Ham is the father of Canaan. These three were the sons of Noah and from them all the earth was peopled." Genesis 9:18, 19. The majority of the population ended up doing only God knows what with the exception of Abraham finding favor with God and so begins the roots of Gods' chosen ones finding favor with God and a special relationship with God, an agreement is made that these will be Gods people through simple promises that God makes "Covenants" they are called. But the story continues, man finds it difficult to stay focused easily seeking to follow his own end and desires.

Gods' chosen ones are ruled exclusively by God but they don't like it, they want be ruled by a King and so God gives them one, the first King, King Saul. It is through this heritage that eventually comes King Jesus, God's only Son, God entering human history as a man restoring again that special relationship that through faith we are His and He is ours. This is Grace that we have found Gods Love and forgiveness come to us who have wandered and gone astray.

The grace that found Noah "But Noah had grace in the eyes of God." Genesis 6:8. Finds us. And here is the reality and essence of Gods' love for us, "But it was our pain he took, and our diseases were put on him: while to us he seemed as one diseased, on whom God's punishment had come. But it was for our sins he was wounded, and for our evil doings he was crushed: he took the punishment by which we have peace, and by his wounds we are made well. We all went wandering like sheep; going every one of us after his desire; and the Lord put on him the punishment of us all." Isaiah 53:4-6.

THE FLIP SIDE

O' PORCUPINE

MeWithoutYou

WITHOUT A QUEEN THE LOCUST SWARM TURNED THE GROUND TO BLACK
DESCENDING LIKE A SHADOWY TOWER ON A FISH'S BACK
AND SCATTERED THE STICKS WHO CRAWLED LIKE SNAKES IN THE SAND
AS THE RED CLAY TOOK THE FORM OF A LIZARD WHO RUSHED LIKE A MOTH TO THE FLAME
OF MY OPEN HAND

[WHILE, IN MY LITTLE WORLD...] A SPECKLED BIRD HUMBLLY INSPIRED RAN ACROSS THE
ROAD WHEN IT COULD HAVE FLOWN

AND IT MADE ME SMILE AT THE WATER'S EDGE, BABYLON WE LAID DOWN AND SLEPT
AS THE RIVER WEPT

FOR YOU, O'ZION! THE STONES CRY OUT, BELLS SHAKE THE SKY ALL CREATION
GROANS... SHHHH!!!

<HONESTLY, BE QUIET A WHILE- PARTICULARLY OUTSIDE> LISTEN TO IT! MASSES OF MEN
IN FARMER POVERTY;

NOT MUCH FOR MONKS BUT WE PRETEND TO BE SHARE A SILENT MEAL AND A POT OF
CHAMOMILE

GYPSIES LIKE US SHOULD BE STAMPED IN SOLIDARITY I HOLD YOU IN MY FOND BUT
DISTANT MEMORY

WHILE FOR THE MOTHER HEN TO GATHER ME WHO REGRETFULLY WROTE,
"YOU HAVE A DECENT EAR FOR NOTES BUT YOU CAN'T YET APPRECIATE HARMONY."

O'PORCUPINE PERCHED LOW IN THE TREE YOUR EYES TO MINE: "YOU'D BE WELL INCLINED NOT
TO MESS WITH ME."

AT THE GARDEN'S EDGE BENEATH A SPEECHLESS SKY AS HIS FRIENDS ALL SLEPT
JESUS WEPT- AND NO WONDER AND NOW YOU SAY

YOU WANNA BE SET FREE??

AND WANNA SET ME FREE???

WELL I'M TOLD THAT CAN YOU ONLY COME FROM A UNION WITH THE ONE WHO NEVER DIES