

Poetry Series

Simple Simon
- poems -

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A01 Holy Bible (Genesis) - The Story Of Creation

1. The Chaos

What we see now in the cosmos,
Once upon a time it was in chaos.
At the command of the God then,
A holy order came to settle down.

The earth was then formless.
The ocean left in total darkness,
It covered everything in rage,
In the beginning of that age.

2. The First Day's command

God said, 'Let there be light.'
At once, there came light.
'Let darkness free the light.'
Thus came the day and night.

The evening passed quietly.
The morning came slowly.
The Lord's first day's wish,
Came true with no blemish.

3. The Second Day's command

God said, 'Let there be a dome.'
The Firmament had come.
All water took one place,
By Lord's merciful grace.

The evening passed quietly.
The morning came slowly.
The Lord's second day's wish,
Came true with no blemish

4. The Third Day's Command.

God said, 'By my command,

Arise there holy land.'
Under the sky came the Earth,
The sea-side took its birth.

'Let Earth produce all plants,
Those that bear grains and fruits, '
Thus came the plant kingdom,
With God's foresight- wisdom.

The evening passed quietly.
The morning came slowly.
The Lord's third day's wish,
Came true with no blemish.

5. The Fourth Day's Command

God said, 'Let Light light the sky,
Separate night from day.
Let day be ruled by Sun-light,
And Moon rule o'er the night.'

'Let light begin to show
The time, days, years to know;
And all the holy festivals
When each one truly falls? '

The earth received Sunshine.
And moonlight blessed it fine;
The Lord's fourth day's wish,
Came true with no blemish.

6. The Fifth Day's Command

God said, 'Let the water be filled
With living things, all kinds,
And air with many birds'
They came to be by His words.

Let creatures give offspring,
And so too all earthlings!
Thus the Lord's fifth day's wish,
Came true with no blemish.

7. The Sixth Day Command

God said, 'Let there appear,
Wild beasts and pets we rear, '
Thus came animals all,
Pets and wild, big and small.

God did not rest with that.
Adam and Eve, He made.
'Let them arise, ' He said,
'They resembled Lord God.'

'They'll have the power,
To rule o'er fish in water,
Besides birds of the air,
And beasts on land wherever.'

'Let there be male, female;
Their progeny to control
All lesser beings found,
On planet earth all round.'

'The grains and fruits are meant
For men, women to eat,
And grass and leafy plants,
For birds, animals, ants.'

Happy with what He made,
God gave all, food and shade;
Thus the Lord's sixth day's wish,
Came true with no blemish.

8. The Seventh Day's Command

Thus Universe began,
To function; so did man
When the seventh day came,
To glorify God's name

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A02 The Garden Of Eden

When Universe showed its face,
No plants grew, not even a trace;
Seeds did not sprout for lack of rain;
Barren was the land without grain.

Water came beneath the surface,
That became the only source.
Some soil from the ground
The Lord took in His hand!

The first man came out of it,
To breathe and live, he became fit!
See how the Lord's mercy goes!
What all man wants, God knows.

God made a garden in Eden,
In the East and placed in this man.
All trees He made, well and good,
To give man fruits as food.

In the middle of the garden,
There stood life-giving tree one,
Besides another tree that offered
Knowledge, both good and bad!

A stream flowed in Eden.
It watered the holy garden.
Beyond the limits of this Eden,
As four rivers, it began to run.

Around Havillah went River Pishon.
Around Cush flowed River Gihon.
Around Assyria ran Tigris River,
And the fourth was Euphrates River.

God placed the man then,
In the Garden of Eden
And said, 'Oh man, you're free
To eat the fruit of any tree.'

'But you SHALL NOT eat
From the tree that gives fruit
Of knowledge, good and bad,
Your instant death to avoid.'

The Lord saw then,
It's no good for man,
Who needed a companion,
On earth to live alone."

God created birds and animals,
Taking from ground some soil;
To the man, He brought them,
And asked him to name them.

The man named everyone:
Birds and animals, one by one,
But there was not a single one,
To serve him as a companion!

The Lord found a way out!
Into deep sleep, the man was put,
God took a rib from the man,
And then executed His plan.

He formed a beautiful woman,
Out of the man's rib taken;
And gave a female companion
To be with this solitary man.

So man said, 'At last, here is one,
Of my own kind, bone of my bone,
Flesh of my flesh, a woman,
Who's taken out of (me) man.'

Thus, it happens in any man's life
That he be united with his wife,
Leaving his father and mother,
To become one Soul forever.

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A03 Man And Woman

1. The Disobedience of Man

At first, naked were man, woman,
But they didn't feel ugly then.
Together as husband and wife,
Merrily, they both spent their life.

The snake approached the woman
And posed a cunning question:
'The one fruit that's forbidden
Did God say not be taken? '

"Yes, " she replied, "Except the one
In the middle of the garden,
We may die once touched or taken.
All other fruits can be eaten.'

The snake said slyly, 'That's not true;
For, Death will never visit you;
God knows, you will be like God,
Once you find what's good and bad.'

'He wants you not be wise.
So, He has spoken to you lies! '
The woman believed what it said.
Eating the fruit, she shouldn't be dead!

The tempting sight of the fruit,
Enticed her heart to go for it.
'Why not I become like God wise? '
She thought, 'Will it not be so nice? '

The forbidden fruit, the woman ate,
And gave her husband too to eat.
Its reaction came very fast
They found themselves 'wiser' at last!

They grew aware that they were naked.
In fig leaves they got quickly dressed.

The Lord came back that evening,
And found the two missing.

Behind the trees they were,
But He called the man near.
'Oh God, naked now I'm
To see you, afraid I'm'

'Adam, did you eat the fruit,
The one I forbade you to eat? '
'That you're naked now
Well, you know it how?

The man answered,
'I ate, My Lord,
The fruit was but given
To me by the woman.'

'Why did you do this? ' God asked.
Eve replied Him, 'I was tricked
By the cunning snake
Which forced me to take! '

2. God Pronounces Judgement

The Lord then told the snake,
'This curse you shall take.
Henceforth, on your belly,
You'll crawl physically.'

'Lifelong, you will eat dust.
And remain a cursed beast.
The woman will hate you,
And you will hate her too.'

'Her offspring will crush,
Your head when you rush.
You'll bite their heel.
A fatal pain they'll feel.'

He said to the woman,
'You'll suffer with labor pain

While delivering your child,
Yet, crave you'll for your husband.'

He then said to the man,
'You listened to the woman.
Why you ate the fruit,
When I told not to eat? "

'You'll work hard in the field
To eke your livelihood.
You'll have to work hard
To remove thorns and weeds."

'You'll eat wild plant.
For that you've to sweat,
And work hard in the soil,
To make it produce well.'

'You came from the soil,
You'll go back to the soil.'
Thus God gave them each
A lesson for them to teach.

Adam was that first man.
Eve was that first woman,
To all humankind a father,
And a mother, forever.

God saw them both naked.
From animal skins He made.
Clothes and covered them.
He was still merciful to them.

3. Adam and Eve Sent Out of the Garden

The Lord God said then,
'Man has become one
Like us in Heaven,
With 'Good and bad' known.'

'The fruit that gives life forever,
The man shouldn't eat ever.'

So, from the Garden of Eden,
The Lord chased them out then.

God decreed:

“The man, who came from the soil,
He’ll go back to the same soil;
His sweat will fall on the soil.
He’ll grow food-crops by toil.”

An Angel stood on guard,
With a flaming sword;
For both man and woman
Eden was shut down.

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A04 Cain And Abel

1. Mankind's First Murder!

Adam and Eve begot a son,
Whose name was Cain.
Later, their second son,
Abel was born.

Immense pleasure it gave them.
They thanked God for the same;
A farmer Cain became.
A shepherd Abel became.

Days passed; harvest was over.
Cain came up with his offer
Of part of the harvest to God,
But it was rejected by the Lord.

The first lamb born,
To a sheep in his flock,
Abel killed and offered.
It was accepted by God.

Cain took it serious.
He became furious.
He scowled in anger.
He could bear it no longer.

The Lord said, 'Oh Cain,
On your face I see only sin,
For what all you've done,
And why do you frown? '

Cain couldn't swallow the insult.
And the expectant result-
He took Abel to his field,
And on the spot he killed.

'Where's Abel? ' God asked.
'I don't know, ' Cain said.

'Am I Abel's keeper? ' he added.
Cain just lied to God.

God said, 'Abel's blood,
Is crying in your field,
And for revenge it's calling.
Now why are you lying? "

'You must face this curse-
Your land will be of no use
As it's soaked in blood,
It'll produce no food.'

'You'll be a wanderer.
Homeless you'll go forever.
You're punished for your greed,
And for your misdeed.'

'Oh Lord, it's too hard one,
For me to suffer this pain.
I'll be killed by anyone,
Who finds me alone.'

'No, " God said and willed,
Seven lives will be killed
In revenge for this act, '
God assured him on that.

With this mark on his head,
Then Cain went ahead.
Wandering, he lived in
A place, east of Eden.

2. The Descendants of Cain

Cain and his wife had a son,
A city he built for his son.
Enoch was his son's name.
The city's name was same!

Irad was Enoch's son,
Mehujael was Irad's son.

The son of Mehujael
Was the one, Methushael.

Methushael had a son,
Lamech was the one,
Who married first Adah
And the second Zillah.

Adah gave birth to Jabal
Zillah gave birth to Jubal.
Jabal grew up as a farmer.
Jubal as a harp and flute player.

Zillah gave birth to Tubal Cain,
Who made tools of bronze and iron.
Naamah was the sister of Tubal Cain.
They all were descendants of Cain.

To his wives Lamech said,
'A young man I killed,
As down he struck me
And this you'll hear me.'

'If seven lives are taken,
To pay for killing Cain,
Seventy-seven will be taken
If I'm killed by anyone.'

3. Seth and Enosh

Adam had another son
His wife told, 'One more son
The Lord God gave us again
In place of Abel, killed by Cain.'

So, she named him Seth
Enosh was the son of Seth.
The holy name of the Lord,
Then the people worshipped.

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A06 The Mankind

1. The wickedness of Mankind

In numbers, girls increased,
Among mankind that spread.
Some looked so beautiful
That men with valour fell.

They took their choicest girls;
Yet, they lived as mortals
No longer than a hundred
And twenty years in the world!

This combination of immortals
With the chosen women mortals,
It gave birth to famous men,
Heroes and giant-like men.

God saw the growing wickedness,
And man's ungodliness,
With object of creation defeated,
He regretted why man, He'd created?

He said, 'I'll wipe out all,
Including bird and animal.'
God liked just Noah among them,
A descendant of Adam.

2. God-Chosen Noah!

Noah was God's chosen man!
This way, his life-story began.
With sons, Japheth, Ham, Shem,
Noah lived happily with them.

In fellowship with God he lived,
His good conduct the Lord liked.
Everywhere violence spread.
God felt this state was very bad.

He told Noah, 'Go and build a boat.
Make it a strong one to float
O'er the flood I shall create,
All the evil lives to be wiped out.'

'A pair of male and female
Of every kind of animal
And bird, you take with you,
So they'll survive too.'

'Enough of food you must carry,
To keep you free from all worry.
Everything will be wiped out.
But not those in your boat.'

Noah did what God said;
To destination new, he led
Everyone in his boat,
In God's guided route.

(The size of the boat God told
Noah to build was 133 meters
long, 22 meters wide, 13 meters
height with a roof leaving a
space of 44 centimeters
between the roof and the sides.
The boat had three decks with
side doors made of good timber,
leak-proof.)

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A07 The Flood

To Noah said the Lord,
'Let your family be led
Into the boat. I find
You've only a clean mind.'

'What's right, you always do.
So, for the world, I need you.
Along with your family,
Take birds and animals safely.'

'Take seven pairs of clean animals,
One pair of unclean animals,
And seven pairs of clean birds
Of every beast and herd.'

'They're for reproduction;
On the earth, later once again,
I'll send rain after seven days,
That'll fall, nonstop, for forty days.'

'All the living beings will die,
When the flood water goes high, '
All the instructions which God said,
Everything exactly Noah did.'

Six hundred years old he was,
When the flood began to rise.
All his family members went,
Well before the flood, God sent.

Birds and animals, clean or not,
Entered, one by one, the boat.
Seven days later, came the rain.
The flood too came that didn't wane.

The water sources beneath,
All outlets of the earth,
Also burst open
In turn, one by one.

For forty days, rain fell on earth.
Everywhere there was death.
But there was enough depth,
For Noah's boat to berth.

Above the tallest mountain
Water rose to maintain
Its level for one hundred
And fifty days, all around.

On earth all those who breathed
One by one, they miserably died.
Only those in the boat survived
The onslaught of the Lord's deed.

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A09 God's Covenant With Noah

1. God Blessed Them

It was a total annihilation.
The world lost its population.
The Lord came with His intention
To go for its early inhabitation.

He blessed Noah and his sons,
And said, 'Have many children,
Who'll spread all over the earth,
As your descendants henceforth.'

'It's my command and wish,
That all the animals, birds and fish
Will live in fear of you,
And they'll have to obey you.'

'You can eat them as food,
But not meat soaked in blood,
As life still exists in the blood,
So, eating that meat is not good.'

'Green plants also you can eat,
Besides this sanctioned meat.
As human life is precious to me;
But killers will be punished dearly.

'As man was made like God,
Any murderer shall be killed.
Any animal that takes a human life,
Be sure, I'll take away its life.'

'I'm making my covenant
With you and your descendants.
Besides the animals and birds
From the boat those returned.'

'I promise, I'll never repeat again,
The same destructive act of mine,

As a sign of this, you'll see my bow
In the sky in the form of rainbow.'

'The rainbow will remind me
Of the assurance given by me.
This is the promise I make,
For your peaceful existence sake.

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A12 God's Call To Abram

1. Abram at Holy Places

The Lord said to Abram,
A descendant of Shem,
'A place for you I'll show.
It's better, there you go.'

'A nation there shall be,
With your descendants many,
In history of the famous men,
Your name will become one.'

Then Abram left Haran,
With Lot, his dear cousin,
Wife Sarai, beautiful one,
And his slaves, to Canaan.

After a very long march,
He reached a sacred tree Morch,
At the holy place, Shehem,
Where God appeared 'fore him.

The Lord said, 'This is the place!
Your descendants will live in peace.'
An altar for the Lord, Abram built there,
And made it holy place forever

Between Bethel in west,
And Ai in east,
A camp he set,
And an altar he built.

He stayed not at one place,
But moved from place to place,
And went towards Canaan,
A part towards southern.

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A13 Abram And Lot Separate

From Egypt Abram then moved out,
With his family and nephew Lot;
Near Bethel they did settle,
With servants and their cattle.

An altar to worship he built.
The Lord's presence there he felt.
But in that place they found
There wasn't good pasture land.

It brought daily some friction;
And this became a routine
For servants to fight
For each one's grazing right.

They then agreed to separate
By mutual consent on a date,
To leave for better place,
So that all live in peace.

Lot moved to Jordan in the east
And settled in a valley best,
While Abram stayed at Canaan
With all his men, women.

The Lord appeared before Abram
And offered some more lands to him.
So, Abram settled at Hebron
He built an altar, one more one.

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A14 Abram Rescues Lot

In the valley where Lot stayed,
To the Lord, he daily prayed,
But found there no peace,
In and around that place.

The fights among surrounding kings
Disturbed poor Lot with his things.
In a battle that was fought,
As a prisoner, he was caught.

When Abram came to hear of this,
With strong an army that was his,
The enemies Abram attacked,
And Lot from them he rescued.

But Abram was so generous
And he was also gracious;
He gave back all the properties
He'd seized, back to his enemies.

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A15 God's Covenant With Abram

Then God appeared before Abram,
And in kind words He spoke to him,
'To shield you, I'm here.
So, don't have any fear.'

But Abram answered, 'Oh, my Lord,
What for, to me, any reward?
As I've no children,
So far, not even one! '

'Some day, one of my slaves will,
Inherit my properties all.
You've been kind to me,
Bestow mercy on me.'

'Just see in the sky the stars.
That many children will be yours;
And only they'll inherit.
Not a slave can go for it.'

When the Lord said this,
Doubting the words of His,
Abram then asked for proof
To confirm his belief.

The Lord then told Abram
To bring a cow, a goat, a ram
Among birds, a dove and a pigeon.
Abram brought Him, each one.

The animals, in half, Abram cut,
But two birds he left uncut.
When vultures came to eat,
He drove them from the site.

The sun was setting down.
Abram slept there alone.
He was disturbed by fear.
He felt a kind of terror.

The Lord Spoke to Abram

'For all four hundred years,
The descendants of yours,
They'll all live as slaves.
Not here, but at a foreign place.'

'They'll suffer cruelty as slaves;
But the nation that enslaves,
Will get my punishment
For its cruel treatment.'

'You'll live upto a ripe old age.
And keep your spiritual good image.
You'll then die in peace:
Be buried in this place.'

'They'll return back here,
From wherever they're;
And along with them,
Their wealth also will come.'

The sun began to set;
And it was dark throughout;
There came a fire-pot,
With smoke from out of it.

A flaming torch then passed.
A sudden jolt it caused.
Thro' cut animal pieces,
Those scattered in all places.

The Lord made there a covenant,
With Abram for his descendants,
'I promise to give them this land.
I'm telling you this beforehand.'

'From the border of Egypt,
To the River Euphrates,
They'll own this land,
And this is my command.'

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A16 Hagar And Ishmael

Sarai, Abram's wife, had no children;
Her slave girl Hagar was an Egyptian;
Sarai offered this girl to Abram,
As a solution to this problem.

When Hagar became pregnant,
She turned very much arrogant.
She despised her mistress;
This put Sarai in distress.

When Sarai told this to Abram,
He told her to handle the same;
She treated the slave cruelly;
The girl ran away silently.

En way, the Lord's angel
Advised the slave girl,
To go back to her mistress
And continue her services.

He said, 'You'll have a son.
He'll be against everyone.
He'll be liked by none.
And always live alone.'

Born was a son to the slave girl;
Abram named him Ishmael;
Eighty-six years old he was then,
When thro' this girl, he got his son.

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A17 Circumcision, The Sign Of The Covenant

Abram was ninety-nine years old,
When God appeared to him and told,
'Obey me. I'm the Almighty God,
To do what's right, you must be bold.'

With you and your descendants,
I'll make this covenant.
As an ancestor you'll be known
In the history of nations grown.'

'You'll no longer be Abram,
From now on, you'll be Abraham,
Since you're the ancestor
Of nations in future.'

'As kings, some of them,
They'll, one day become;
I'll be your God forever,
And for them wherever.'

'The land of Canaan
Will become their own;
As I've given my promise,
You too shall give your promise.'

'Every male baby born,
And also of slaves born,
You must all circumcise
As your return promise.'

'It'll be a physical sign,
To show you're all mine,
In case of those not done,
It'll be a promise broken.'

'Your wife is no longer Sarai,
But from now on she's Sarah.
I'll bless her with a son.
She'll be mother of nations.'

But Abraham had a doubt
A child how he would beget,
At hundred years when he was
And ninety, Sarah was.

'Why not my heir be Ishmael,
The son of the slave girl? '
When he asked like this
God opposed the idea of his.

'Sarah will bear you a son;
By next year he'll be born.
As Isaac you'll name him.'
The Lord then left Abraham.

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A18 A Son Is Promised To Abraham

At the entrance of his tent,
One hot day, Abraham sat.
He saw three wise men
And towards them, he ran.

He told them, 'Sirs, do come
And visit my humble home.
Take rest under this tree;
You'll feel fit and free.'

He gave water to wash their feet.
And taking cream, milk and meat,
He served them nice food to eat.
With pleasure, they ate neat.

They told him thereafter,
'Sarah, your wife, will deliver,
By the ninth month your son,
You can count it from now on.'

Sarah doubted his word,
As they were both too old,
To beget a son, as he told;
Yet, she wished for her own to hold.

The wise man again told,
'Is there anything too hard
To do anytime for the Lord;
Sure, you'll have your own child.'

Abraham Pleads for Sodom

Then the men went to Sodom,
Abraham too went with them,
To send them off on their way,
As the destination was far away.

To himself the Lord said,
'Nothing I'll hide,

From Abraham's view-side
Whatever I'll decide.'

'I chose him for the reason
He'll command his children
And his descendants to do,
What's right and just too.'

'He'll make them obey me.
When they surrender to me,
I'll do everything for him,
Whatever I promised him.'

Then the Lord said to Abraham,
'Against Gomorrah and Sodom,
There're accusations, some new;
I'll find out whether they're true? '

Then Abraham asked the Lord,
'Will the innocents be destroyed
With the men found guilty?
Will You for them have no pity? '

'If there're innocent fifty,
Will You pardon and show pity? '
God said, 'I'll not destroy the city
If there're innocent fifty.'

Abraham asked, 'If it's forty
Will you destroy the city? '
No, I shall not do that.
For the forty's sake, I'll protect.'

He asked, 'If it's thirty?
God said, 'Still I'll spare the city.'
He asked, 'If it's twenty?
God said, 'I won't destroy the city.'

He asked, 'If there are ten? '
God said, 'No. Not even then.'
When God assured Abraham,
Happily, he went back home.

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A19 The Sinfulness Of Sodom

The two angels came,
To the place called Sodom,
On the same evening
To see every thing.

At the City gate, Lot saw them
He got up and ran to them.
And said, 'Sirs, please come home
And spend with us the night time.'

At first, they refused to come.
But he went on urging them.
Finally, they went with him
To stay, just to please him.

Lot arranged for some bread
A fine meal they were fed.
The guests enjoyed the food.
It was so nice and good.

Before they went to bed,
The men, young and old,
Of Sodom surrounded,
And at Lot, they shouted.

'Why are the men inside?
Bring them here outside.
We want to meet them.
And mate with them.'

Lot bolted the door inside.
He told them, 'I would
Rather offer my daughters
Than offer my guests.'

'They're in my house
As my honored guests,
So, I must protect them
And can't expose them.'

The two guests staying inside,
Pulled in Lot from outside.
They struck all the men
With blindness by then!

Lot Leaves Sodom

The two men said to Lot,
'Whomsoever you've got,
Better not have any fear,
But get them out of here.'

'Before we destroy this place,
Go away at a fast pace,
As for the accusations terrible,
God wants us to finish those people.'

By dawn, Lot and his family,
Sneaked away rapidly.
They escaped to a nearby town,
By God's mercy and their fortune.

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

Lot reached Zoar Town,
The sun rose up by then.
God burnt the Sodom City
And Gomorrah without pity.

As Lot's wife turned to look back
God gave her a rude shock;
A pillar of salt she turned
As earlier fore-warned.

Early the next morning,
Abraham came there running.
He saw the cities still burning,
And to the sky, the smoke rising.

Lot and family ran to safety,
With the grace of the Almighty,

Who for the sake of Abraham
Far away He drove them.

The Origin of the Moabites And Ammonites

To stay long in the City Zoar,
Lot hesitated with his own fear.
So, they all moved to the hill side,
And inside a cave, they all lived.

His daughters could remain
How long without men?
They wished to have children
But how could this be done?

They gave their father drink,
And when he was fully drunk,
They slept with him, one each day
And they begot sons this way.

Moab was son of the elder.
He was the ancestor of Moabites.
Benammi was of the younger.
He was the ancestor of Ammonites.

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A20 Abraham And Abimelech

While Abraham lived in Gerar,
Abimelech, King of Gerar,
Mistook Abraham's wife for sister,
In royal custody, kept her.

God told the king in his dream,
'She's the wife of Abraham.
You had kept her with you, why?
So, for this offence, you'll die.'

The king pleaded, 'I'm innocent.
Lord, spare me from grave punishment.
Abraham told she's his sister.
But till now, I haven't touched her.'

God said, 'Send back his wife,
If you want to save your life.
You must know he's a prophet.
So, give him due respect.'

'He'll pray for you,
And from death, save you.'
The king heard God's warning,
And woke up next morning.

He sent for Abraham
And anxiously asked him,
'What have you done to me?
Why have you lied to me? '

Abraham politely answered,
'To say the truth, I was afraid.
To get my wife, they could kill me.
This thought was worrying me.'

'In one way, she's my sister,
As she's the daughter
Of our common father,
But not of my mother.'

The king gave Abraham gifts
Of Sheep, cattle and slaves,
Along with Sarah, his wife
To start in his land, a new life.

The King Told Sarah

'I'm giving your brother,
Thousand pieces of silver,
To prove your innocence,
While you were in my palace.'

'None will have children
In the palace for what was done
To Sarah, ' thus the Lord cursed.
But Abraham got it reversed.

Then God healed everyone,
So, they could have children.
God granted Abraham's prayer,
As he was good and sincere.

Simple Simon

A21 The Birth Of Isaac

As the Lord had promised,
Sarah became blessed;
To Abraham, she bore a son;
At God-said-time, he was born.

As 'Isaac', he was named;
The boy was circumcised
When he was eight days' old,
As commanded by God.

Abraham was hundred then,
When Isaac was born;
Sarah said, 'God brought me joy.
At this age, He gave me a boy.'

'I never thought a child
I would nurse in my hand;
Yet, I've borne Abraham
In his old age, a son to him.'

The child grew up well.
The day, he took a meal,
Abraham gave a feast,
That was grand and the best.

Hagar and Ishmael sent away

One day, Sarah saw Hagar's son,
At play with her own;
In annoyance, she told Abraham,
'Send away both of them'

'Hagar's son should not inherit
Your wealth, even a part of it.
Abraham felt this very bad,
As Ishmael was also his lad.

God said to Abraham then,
'Don't worry about your son

And Hagar, his mother.
Both, I'll take care.'

'Do whatever Sarah tells you.
Thro' Isaac I'll give you
The descendants I promised.
And that'll be ensured.'

'I'll also give many children,
To the slave-girl's son,
Who'll have a nation,
In his turn, as your son.'

Early the next morning,
Abraham, with sad a feeling,
Sent off Hagar and child,
With water and food.

In the wilderness, as she walked
With the child, she became tired.
The water in the bag was gone.
Under a bush, she left her son.

At a distance, she sat and cried.
Her cry, the Lord heard.
God told her, 'Don't be afraid.
And have no worry about your child.'

'Go and comfort your son.
I'll give him a great nation;
With all his descendants,
He'll become prominent.'

When Hagar opened her eyes,
She saw a well near, nice;
Her leather bag, she filled
With water, drank and walked.

Under the Lord's vision,
She lived with her son,
In the wilderness of Paran,
Not a choice of her own.

God was with her growing son;
He too was Abraham's own.
A skillful hunter, he became.
In that field, he earned a name.

Years passed. He grew up well.
A good-looking Egyptian girl,
His mother found for him.
God built a nation for him.

The Agreement between Abraham
and Abimelech

One day, King Abimelech said,
"Oh Abraham, you've faith in God.
In every action of yours
With you always He's."

"From you I need a promise.
And also this assurance,
Never will you deceive us,
Me, my children, or descendants."

"I've been always loyal to you.
I expect the same from you.
So, promise your loyalty,
Besides me, to this country."

Abraham said, "I promise,
And this is my assurance.
My well, your servants have seized
I wish, it's soon released."

Seven lambs from his flock
The fat ones Abraham took
And gave them to the king
"What for? " asked the king.

"In exchange for your goodwill
He said, "As I got back my well."
This place had become popular.

As 'Beersheba', it was called later.

Simple Simon

A22 God Commands Abraham To Offer Isaac

One day, God tested Abraham.
He called, 'Oh Abraham.'
And he answered, 'Here I'm'
An offering, God asked him.

'At Moriah, there's a mountain.
To its top, you take your son,
And offer him as sacrifice to me.
Let this be my command to thee.'

The next day morning, Abraham loaded,
Onto his donkey logs of firewood;
With two servants and his one son,
He went to the place God-chosen.

He ordered his servants to stay
With donkey, some distance away;
He walked upto the place,
Meant for the sacrifice.

With knife and firewood,
To that spot, Isaac, he led.
On the way, his son enquired,
'Where's the lamb to be offered? '

'My son, ' so Abraham replied,
'That God will provide.'
When they reached the spot,
An altar Abraham built.

O'er the altar, he loaded,
The firewood carried.
He tied his son and placed
Him on the firewood.

He raised the knife,
To take his son's life;
But an Angel came,
And said, 'Don't hurt him.'

'God knows you honour,
And obey Him forever,
By offering your only son,
Late in your life, who was born.'

The Lord showed a ram
Stuck in a bush to Abraham
Who caught hold of it.
As sacrificial offer, he burnt it.

By Abraham this place was named,
As one meaning, 'God provides'.
As a holy place, it's now famed
For its sanctity, where God resides!

Again the Lord told,
'Your descendants in the world,
Will be as many as the stars,
And sands in the seashores.'

'You offered me your son,
Despite being your only one;
I'll bless you richly
For your obedience surely.'

Simple Simon

A25 Other Descendants Of Abraham

When Sarah, his first wife, had died,
Another lady, Abraham married.
Keturah was her name.
And many sons, she bore for him.

All the assets of his own,
He left to Isaac, his son.
But gave presents to those sons,
Who were thro' other wife, born.

He sent those sons Far East,
Away from Isaac's sight,
And saw, everyone thrive,
When he was still alive.

The Death and Burial
of Abraham

One hundred years and
Seventy-five had passed.
His life at a ripe old age:
It ended at that stage.

In the cave, he was buried
With his first wife, side by side.
Isaac and Ishmael, both his sons,
Performed for him last rites.

Ishmael had twelve sons,
Who, in turn, had many sons.
As twelve tribes they grouped
Far and wide, they had spread.

When at the age of one hundred
And thirty-seven, he died.
His many descendants lived;
East of Egypt, they stayed.

The Birth of Esau and Jacob

When Isaac was forty years old,
And Rebecca he had married,
For years, she had no children;
So, she prayed to God for one.

God blessed her with twins
Who gave her severe pains,
Right from the time,
They were in womb!

She queried, 'Why this pain
I should suffer in vain? '
God said, 'They are rivals
And will form two nations.'

'One will remain stronger,
And other one weaker.
But in turn, the older
Will serve the one, younger.'

She gave birth to the twins.
They turned out to be sons.
And reddish was first son,
With hairy robe-like skin.

Esau was the first son
And Jacob, the next one.
When the two were born,
Isaac was sixty then.

Esau Sells His Rights
As the First-Born Son

The two boys grew up well.
Esau soon showed his skill,
As hunter and trained well,
Animals many, he did kill.

Isaac just loved to eat,
What Esau brought as meat;
More he liked the first son;

His selfishness was the reason.

Jacob was calm at home,
Not going out to roam,
Rebecca preferred him.
More love, she showed him.

One day, while Jacob was cooking,
(Some soup of beans, he was making)
Esau returned from his hunting,
And told Jacob, 'I am starving! '

Jacob asked, 'What do you want?
I'll give you soup: you meet my want.
Your birth-rights you forfeit to me
As you were first born before me.

In hunger Esau then asked,
'When I'm dying for some food,
My rights will do me what kind of good? '
For his vow, Jacob still insisted.

So Esau made his vow,
'I give my rights all now,
If you want, you take them;
But give me food wholesome.'

Jacob gave him bread,
With also soup as food,
Which Esau ate and left,
Not minding lost birth-right!

Simple Simon

A26 Isaac Lives At Gerar

There was a famine,
Besides the earlier one
During Abraham's time,
That came a second time.

But the Lord appeared,
Before Isaac and said,
'Do not go to Egypt;
For you, it will not suit.'

'Do not leave this land.
This was my command,
What I gave to Abraham.
In this land, I had kept him.'

'My all commands and laws,
He obeyed with no flaws;
So, My promises to him,
I'll maintain for all time.'

'Live here. I'm with you.
This terrain I give you.
And descendants aplenty,
As many as the stars in sky.'

Isaac obeyed God's command,
And stayed at Gerar's land.
Men asked about his wife there.
He told that she was his sister.

The King saw from window above,
Isaac and Rebecca in love.
He sent for Isaac and then asked,
'When she's your wife, why have you lied? '

With respect, Isaac replied,
'The truth if I had told,
I was almost afraid,
I would have been killed.'

The King reprimanded him
'You've done what harm!
You've risked your wife,
Just to save your life? '

The king warned, 'Anyone,
Whoever ill-treats this man,
And his wife, will be punished;
By death, he'll be finished.'

Seeds in his land, Isaac sowed.
The merciful Lord bestowed
A hundred times of what was sown.
So much grain had grown!

A very rich man, he became,
People were jealous of him.
Abraham's wells, they closed.
In many ways, he was teased.

The king said, 'Powerful you are
Now, more than what we are.
Better leave this country,
With your people early.'

Isaac moved to Gerar Valley,
And stayed there with his family.
He dug the closed wells once again,
As his father's dutiful son.

In the valley, about a well,
There arose a severe quarrel.
The Gerar's Shepherds claimed
That it lay in their grazing land.

Isaac named that well
And called it as 'Quarrel.'
The next one disputed,
As 'Enmity', he named.

The third one was dug up.

For that no dispute came up.
As 'Freedom', he named it.
Thus, it became God's gift.

The King Abimelech came
To meet Isaac this time.
'What for have you come? '
Isaac politely asked him.

The king replied, 'As God is with you,
I make an agreement with you.
In peace, we'll live on either side.
And without harm, we'll reside.'

Isaac honored them with a feast.
O'er the night, they took good rest.
Next day morning, a vow they took,
'In any fight to ne'er partake.'

Another new well came.
As 'Vow', he gave its name,
To honor this great occasion,
That gave a permanent solution.

Esau's Foreign wives

When Esau was forty years old,
Two Hittite girls, he had married.
Life for Rebecca, Isaac was
Miserable because of the girls

Simple Simon

A28 Isaac Sends Jacob To Laban

To Isaac, Rebecca said.
'I'm sick and tired
Of Esau's foreign wives,
Who're taking our lives.'

'If Jacob also brings
Similar Hittite girls,
From a family not so high,
Then, I may as well die.'

Isaac called Jacob and said,
'Better don't go and wed
A girl from Canaanite family
If you need a life homely.'

'At Mesopotamia pick up girls,
From the house of your uncles,
Or your grandfather, Bethuel.
Your life will then be peaceful.'

'May God bless you with a good wife,
To share the good and bad in your life.
You'll be a leader of many nations,
And they will be headed by your children.'

'May you take possession,
Of this land, in succession,
The one in which you've lived,
One given to Abraham by God.'

Jacob went to his Uncle Laban,
Son of Bethuel, the Aramean.
And Rebecca's brother,
To find out his partner.

Simple Simon

A29 Jacob Arrives At Laban's Home

Towards East, Jacob moved.
He saw a well in a field.
The well was covered
By a big stone as a lid.

Around the well, he observed,
Three flocks of sheep waited
For their shepherds to come
And give water to them.

When the shepherds came,
Jacob went and asked them,
'Where are you coming from? '
'From Haran, ' they told him.

'Do you know Laban,
The one, Nahor's son?
Jacob asked them.
'Yes, ' They told him.

The shepherds were discussing
About the time for watering;
Rachel, daughter of Laban,
Came near the well by then.

When Jacob saw Rachel
He went to the well,
Rolled the stone back,
And watered the flock.

He softly told her then,
'I'm Rebecca's son,
A relative of your father,
Sent here by my mother.'

She ran and told her father,
Who came running there,
To receive his nephew,
Who was there quite new.

Laban took his nephew home,
And well-entertained him.
With them, Jacob stayed,
Not knowing how a month had passed.

Jacob serves Laban
for Rachel and Leah

Laban had two daughters,
Leah being the elder
And Rachel the younger.
Jacob loved the younger.

To Jacob, Laban said,
'You should be paid,
When you work for me,
And it shouldn't be free.'

Jacob said, 'I'll be happy
If you allow me to marry
Rachel, the daughter of yours,
For this, I'll work seven years.'

To his demand Laban agreed.
For seven years he worked.
When wedding neared, he asked
A date and that Laban fixed.

On the wedding night
It was Leah he sent;
Not knowing the fact,
Jacob enjoyed the night.

Morning, he woke up to find
It was Leah he'd married,
Not Rachel, whom he loved,
And felt greatly deceived.

Jacob asked for the reason,
And Laban made a mention,
'Our custom didn't permit,

To let the second one wed first.'

'Let the celebrations be o'er,
I'll give Rachel, my daughter,
If you work for seven years more.'
Jacob agreed to this with pleasure.

After a week, Laban gave her.
As second wife, Jacob married her.
Then he worked for seven years.
And spent his time with cheers.

The Children Born to Jacob

Leah had more children,
While Rachel not even one.
It was God's will and intention,
That Leah had many children.

It was for the obvious reason,
Leah was a less-loved person,
To whom He gave more care
Than Rachel, her younger sister

Simple Simon

A30 Sisters Leah And Rachel

While Leah had more children born,
Poor Rachel craved for one;
Rachel, jealous of her sister,
Was burning with anger.

She told Jacob, 'Give me children
Or, I'll die for want of one.'
He said, 'I'm not God
To give you a child.'

Her slave girl she sent.
In her place the girl went
And slept with Jacob then
This way she had a son.

Rachel was happy and said,
'At last, my prayer God heard.
He has given me a son
My battle I've finally won.'

Leah had her own children
Reuben, Simeon, Levi,
Judah, Issachar, Zebulun
And a daughter Dinah.

She had two more sons
Gad and Asher, born
To her slave girl later,
To compete with her sister.

Rachel had two sons
Dan and Naphtali
By her slave girl,
And her own son, Joseph.

Jacob's Bargain with Laban

After Joseph was born,
Jacob went to Laban,

And said, 'With my children
And wives, let me return.'

Laban said, 'By divination,
And with your association,
I had the mercy of the Lord,
For which I owe your demand.'

'Name your wages for that
And I shall repay my debt.'
Jacob said, 'I'm not in need
Of any wages indeed.'

'Black lambs and speckled goats-
These are the only ones-my wants,
Rest of the animals in your flock
I'll leave them for you to take.'

Laban played a trick
By removing from his flock
Those animals marked black
Or spots white and dark.

Jacob took care of the rest,
And his own flock, he built
Black, strong and spotted
As he earlier wanted.

The strong ones joined Jacob's flock,
While the weak ones Laban took.
Thus, Jacob became very wealthy,
With his animals grown healthy.

Simple Simon

A31 Jacob Flees From Laban

Laban's sons were saying,
'Jacob took away everything
That belonged to our father.'
Jacob heard this rumour.

Laban was no longer
As friendly as earlier.
Jacob heard God's command,
'Return to your father's land.'

To his wives, he sent word
To meet him in the field,
Where his grazing flocks were,
And they two came there.

He said, 'I feel, your father
Is changed altogether,
And is not as friendly
With me as he used to be.'

'He could not harm me,
As my God is with me.
Ten times, he had cheated me.
He didn't give wages to me.'

'What beasts Laban offered
To my flock, that breed spread;
It is but God's deed,
That my flock increased.'

'God came in my dream,
And for whatever harm
Laban had done to me,
A witness He's with me.'

'He reminded me the memorial,
A stone I kept for Him at Bethel,
On which I poured holy olive oil
And His vow that was eternal.'

His wives replied, 'He sold us.
He spent the money he got for us.
The wealth belongs to us, not him.
We've nothing to get from him.

'Do whatever God told you,
And we'll follow you.'
To go back to his father's land,
Jacob got ready beforehand.

On camel's back, he put them.
And drove his flocks ahead of him.
Rachel, in the absence of Laban
Got the household Gods stolen.

Jacob took all things he owned.
He left before Laban arrived.
The River Euphrates, he crossed.
And Gilead, the hill-country, he reached.

Laban pursues Jacob

Three days later. Laban heard
That Jacob had from there fled.
For seven days, he pursued
Until he caught him at Gilead.

That night in Laban's dream.
God came and said to him,
'Be careful not to threaten;
Jacob is in my protection.'

Laban told Jacob next day,
'It's not the proper way
To deceive me badly
And go without telling me.'

'You carry off my daughters
Like women captured in wars.
I didn't kiss my grandchildren.
Nor say goodbye to each one.'

'With warm send-off on your way,
I would have sent you any day.
That was a foolish thing you did.
The truth from me you hid.'

'I've the power to harm you,
But I'll not threaten you,
God told me just last night
So, I don't want to fight.'

'You hurry off to your house,
But why steal gods from my house?
Laban checked all the places.
For his gods, but there were no traces.

Inside the camel saddle-bags,
Rachel hid the stolen gods,
And she sat on the camel.
None searched this animal.

'I've committed what crime? '
Jacob shouted and asked him.
'Why are you hunting me down?
By doing this, what is your gain? '

'With you I spent twenty years.
I labored for your flocks' increase.
By day, I suffered from heat
And from cold by the night.'

'I worked hard twenty years,
To win your two daughters,
My wages ten times you changed.
But by God's grace, I managed.'

'God saw the work I've done
The trouble you gave, He has seen.
Last night, He gave His judgment.
In His hands rests the punishment.'

The Agreement between Jacob

and Laban

Laban said, 'These girls
Are my two daughters.
Their children belong to me.
These flocks came from me.'

'In fact, everything here,
Belongs to me, the owner.
But I can't keep them with me.
So, no action lies with me.'

'An agreement, let us make.
To our mutual interest sake.
Here let us pile a stone-stack,
That'll remind us of our talk.'

'Neither me nor you'll cross
This stone-pile and pass
O'er the other side to fight
Any time for each one's right.'

'If you ill treat my daughters,
Or marry other women thereafter,
I may not see this thro' my eyes,
But remember, God is watching us.'

Then, in the name of God,
Whom his father worshipped,
Jacob vowed to keep this promise
Offering the Lord a sacrifice.'

It was like a storm,
That became calm.
Jacob gave a meal
Cooked from animal.

After they had eaten
Quiet in the mountain
They spent the night
Forgetting to fight.

Next morning, it was time
For Laban to go back home.
'Goodbye' to all, he wished,
And steps homeward, he retraced.

Simple Simon

A33 Jacob Meets Esau

Jacob saw Esau with men
So, he divided his children
'mongst Leah, Rachel, his wives
And the other two, his slaves.

All the slaves and their children
Were kept in the front portion,
Others at the rear section,
For their proper protection.

Jacob went ahead of them,
Bowing down all seven times,
As he approached his brother,
Who was coming close faster.

Esau threw his arms 'round him,
And kissed him so many times.
From their eyes tears flowed.
'Who're they? ' Esau asked.

'They're my wives and my children
Whom, to me, God has given, '
Jacob introduced each one,
Both his wives and all children.

Esau asked, 'What about
The groups that I had en way met? '
Jacob said, 'It was to gain
Your favor back, once again.'

Esau told, 'Enough I've;
Keep whatever things you've.'
Jacob said, 'Please do accept
The gifts for you, I've brought.'

Jacob went on urging him,
Until he accepted them.
Esau said then, 'Let us leave.
In advance, I'll move.'

Jacob agreed and said,
'The children are tired.
So are all the animals
And their young ones.'

'If they're driven hard,
By one day, the entire herd,
May die out of exhaustion,
They need proper attention.'

'Don't worry about me.
You may go ahead of me.
I'll follow you slowly,
And bring them all safely.'

Esau said, 'So, let me then
Leave here some of my men.
But Jacob said, 'No need
For it, please go ahead.'

Back to Edom, Esau went.
But to Sukkoth, Jacob went.
A house, he built, for himself there,
And for livestock, a shelter.

Jacob went, on his return,
Slowly to the place, Canaan.
He set up his camp very near
The City Shechem's border.

He built one more altar,
And named it after
God El, the Lord of Israel,
The one who's eternal.

Simple Simon

A34 The Rape Of Dinah

One day, a visit by Dinah,
The daughter of Jacob and Leah,
Was made to Canaan, all alone,
To see some of their women known.

Hamor, the chief of that region,
Had one, Shechem as his son,
Who fell for Dinah's beauty,
And played a game dirty.

He took her forcefully
And raped her shamelessly.
But later told his father,
'I wish to marry her.'

When Jacob heard this news,
He felt sorry for the abuse;
He waited for his sons,
Who had gone out then.

To hide his son's mistake,
Hamor went to Jacob to talk.
By then, Jacob's sons came
And heard of this act of shame.

Hamor said, 'My son loves her.
Please let him marry her.
You can live with us happily.
And trade here too freely.'

Shechem said, 'Please do this favor.
I'll meet your wants, be whatever.
If you'll let me marry her,
I'll give rich presents for her.'

Jacob sons cunningly told,
'She can't marry a husband,
Who hasn't been circumcised.'
So, this condition they laid.

'If you circumcise all your males,
And when they all become like us,
We'll accept this intermarriage,
But not before, at this stage.'

Hamor and his son
Convinced their men
Saying, 'For everyone
There's place here to live in.'

'By this, their properties
Will, in turn, become ours,
So, let us accept this condition,
And circumcise all our men.'

Promptly, they all got it done.
The sore of circumcision
Had still not healed,
But they were all killed.

This merciless act was done
By the two of Jacob's sons.
Without causing suspicion,
They killed all those men.

This gruesome man-slaughter
They thus avenged Jacob's daughter
Who was disgraced so violently
By wicked Shechem silently.

They captured all their women
Along with their children.
Their properties, they looted.
Wherever these were sighted.

Jacob feared a reaction,
For his sons' hasty action,
But they said, 'We couldn't bear
Our sister treated like a whore

Simple Simon

A35 God Blesses Jacob At Bethel

To Bethel, the chosen place,
God made Jacob go at once,
And told him, 'Build an altar
For Me, after you settle there.'

Then Jacob told his family,
'Leave, we must early,
At Bethel, as God said,
An altar for Him, to build.'

Their ear-rings and foreign gods,
Beneath an oak, Jacob buried.
People, out of fear for them,
Did not pursue them.

Jacob reached the place Bethel.
And settled down there well;
He built an altar anew there,
And lived without any fear.

God told Jacob at Bethel:
'Your name now is Israel
Not the one you had earlier,
That was more familiar.'

Jacob raised a memorial,
At the holy place Bethel:
He poured olive-oil and wine,
O'er the sacred stone so fine.

The Death of Rachel

Jacob then left Bethel.
It was time for his Rachel
To deliver baby en way.
Midway they halted for a day.

Severe labor pains she had;
A son she finally delivered.

Alas, Rachel breathed her last,
And her body was laid to rest.

.

She named him Benoni.
Jacob called him Benjamin;
He moved to his camp at Eder,
The other side of the Tower.

The Death of Isaac

Jacob's father, Isaac died,
At the age of one hundred
And eighty long years.
He was buried by his sons.

Simple Simon

A36 Joseph And His Brothers

Jacob loved Joseph, his son,
More than his other children.
For this, there was a reason:
Late in his life, Joseph was born.

The other children born
To the two slave women,
Were too jealous of him
And teased him all the time.

About his dreams, Joseph said,
'Listen to the dream what I had.
Around my wheat sheaf in the field,
Your sheaves circled and bowed.'

They heckled, 'It is nonsense.
Are you a king to rule us? '
At first, they decided to kill
And throw him in a dry well.

Later, they decided not to kill,
But threw him in a dry well.
They then sold him to a stranger
For twenty pieces of silver.

A goat they killed,
And drained its blood;
His clothes, they soaked,
And to Jacob, they showed.

Seeing his clothes, Jacob believed,
That his son was killed
By some animals wild,
And for many days, he cried.

Simple Simon

A37 Joseph And The Chief's Wife

Joseph was taken to Egypt.
As a slave, there he was kept.
One day, he was sold
To the chief of palace guards.

He earned the chief's confidence.
Even in the master's absence,
He did household maintenance;
The boss liked him for his endurance.

The chief's wife loved him
And wished to have him.
One day, the chief went outside.
Then she called Joseph inside.

Persistently, she pleaded;
But he had not yielded,
As his loyalty to the chief
Made him spurn his wife.

He rejected her advances;
She showed her vengeance.
She told her husband a lie,
To rape her, Joseph did try.

The matter became serious.
The master became furious.
The chief threw him in prison,
For a crime, an uncommitted one!

By the Lord's mercy,
The jailor took pity
And treated him well
Inside the dark jail.

Joseph assisted the jailor,
To control every prisoner,
And made his work light,
Both during day and night.

Simple Simon

A38 Joseph Interprets The Prisoners' Dreams

One day, the king of Egypt
Got angry and kept
In jail his wine-server,
And the chief baker.

It was for an offence,
They did in the palace.
In the same cell, they slept
Where Joseph was kept.

One night they dreamt,
Not knowing what it meant.
Joseph explained its meaning
By the next day morning.

The steward said, 'A grapevine had
Three branches with grapes ripened.
In the king's cup, I squeezed them
And gave the wine cup to him.'

To the steward he said,
'You'll be released
After three days from prison
With the King's pardon.'

The baker said, 'I carried
Baskets three on my head.
The top one had pastries
For the king, eaten by birds.'

To the curious baker he said,
'In three days, you'll be released,
But your head will be severed.
And your flesh eaten by birds.'

The same thing happened
The steward again joined,
And the baker lost his head.
God kept up Joseph's word.

Simple Simon

A39 Joseph Interprets The King's Dream

The king had a peculiar dream;
None could explain it to him.
What it could really mean?
To know this, he was keen.

He said, 'Fat and sleek cows seven,
Out of the Nile River, I've seen.
These cows were of high breed
And on grass, they began to feed.'

'Seven other cows came up then.
The fat ones were eaten by the thin.
I also saw seven thin corns,
In the field swallowing full ones! '

The steward said to the king,
'I wish to tell you something
About a young Hebrew
Who can give us the clue.'

'Any dream he can interpret.
In my case, it was correct.
He was with me in the jail.
He'll tell you without fail.'

'Joseph was brought.
To the king's court,
And he said, 'It's God's will
That is going to prevail.'

'Seven cows and seven corns-
They both mean seven years.
It indicates what'll happen
For seven years, one by one.'

'Everything will be in plenty.
In this Egypt, the vast country
For the first seven years
People will live with no tears.

'The next seven years will face
Severe famine at every place,
Making lives more miserable
For the famished people.'

'The repetition of your dream
Means that the Lord is firm
To make these things happen
In the near future, this is certain.'

'Choose a man of wisdom,
Find him in your kingdom,
One fifth of crops let him save
During famine period to serve.'

Joseph is Made Governor of Egypt

The king approved Joseph's plan.
He said, 'Joseph is the fittest man,
Who has got God's spirit in him.
Also, he's a man of wisdom.'

'You'll be in charge of my country.
You'll remain next to my authority.
As Governor of Egypt, I appoint you.'
All my people will obey you.'

He took a ring from his finger.
And put it on Joseph's finger.
A gold chain on his neck, he put,
And gave his second royal chariot.

Joseph was thirty years old,
The royal service when he joined.
Zaphenath Paneah, an Egyptian name,
The king called and gave him.

Also the king gave him a wife,
With her went smooth his life.
He had two sons by her.
Blessed by God they were.

In Egypt, he widely travelled.
All surplus crops he collected
In the city's granaries, he stored,
To tackle the famine period.

Surplus grains, he sold
To other parts of the world,
As the famine was severe,
That time world over.

Simple Simon

A40 Joseph Brothers Go To Egypt To Buy Corn

To buy corn from Egypt,
His sons, Jacob sent;
Minimum food to provide
And starvation deaths to avoid.

He didn't send Benjamin,
For the main reason,
Something may happen to him,
When he went with them.

While Joseph recognized them,
They didn't recognize him.
He remembered the harm
What they did to him.

Joseph said, 'You're spies
From our enemy countries,
To find out our weakness
And inform your bosses.'

They replied, 'We're honest men,
And are Jacob's twelve sons.
The youngest is with our father.
One brother is no more.'

Joseph put them all in prison,
But to go back, he released one.
He said to him, 'Take this test
And bring here the youngest.'

On the third day, he released
All but one and said,
I'm a God-fearing man.
So, only one is in the prison.'

'The rest may take the food
For the starving people to feed.
Then bring here the youngest one,
To prove, you're innocent men.'

Joseph released all the men,
Except the one, Simeon.
Reuben said, 'We now suffer
For what we did to our brother.'

Simple Simon

A41 Joseph's Brothers Return To Canaan

Joseph ordered to load corn bags,
With their money inside the sacks,
On the back of their donkeys:
But they weren't aware of this.

On their way back,
One man opened his sack,
To feed his donkey,
And found his money.

When they went back
And opened all their sacks,
They saw their money inside-
Whatever they all had paid.

Jacob refused to send Benjamin
Just to bring back Simeon,
But Reuben pledged his sons,
And Judah, his life even.

He said, 'I can't send my son.
Now he's the only one,
As my other son is dead,
To lose this son, I can't afford.'

Simple Simon

A42 Joseph's Brothers Return To Egypt

The famine in Canaan got worse.
Jacob said, 'There's no corn with us.
So, go to Egypt and buy food.'
Judah replied, 'Our time's not good.'

'With us if you send Benjamin,
We'll go there to buy some corn.
That man will never allow us
Inside Egypt in his absence.'

But Jacob said, 'Why did you tell,
You had another brother, well? '
They answered, "We knew never,
He wanted Benjamin, our brother.'

Jacob said, 'If that's how it should be,
Then take resin, nuts, almonds, honey,
And spices, for the Governor
While going there for his favor.'

'Also, you must give him back,
Money you found in the sack.
Twice the money you take;
May be, it was a mistake.'

'Take your brother Benjamin.
Better you all quickly return.
May God cause that man
To have pity on my children.'

With Benjamin, they all went.
They gave Joseph rich presents,
He asked them about their father.
He arranged for them a dinner.

When he saw his brother Benjamin
He was about to break down.
So, to his room he hurried.
There non-stop, he cried.

Controlling himself, he came out.
And with them for dinner, he sat.
Then, food was served to them.
They ate together after a long time!

Simple Simon

A43 The Missing Cup

So, Joseph got their sacks filled,
As much as they could hold,
With corn, and placed atop money,
Out of his heartfelt sympathy.

Besides money and corn
In the sack of Benjamin,
He put his silver cup
And then sealed it up.

After sometime, he sent
Behind them his servant,
To search everyone's sack,
And bring the culprit back.

Whatever Joseph said,
The same, his servant did.
They felt really shocked,
When the cup was found.

To be his slaves, they all offered.
For Benjamin only, he agreed,
Judah pleaded for his release,
To prevent their father's demise.

Joseph then felt for his father,
And for all his brothers;
At last, he revealed to them:
'Your brother Joseph I'm.'

'It's God's will that I'm here
In advance of the famine year,
To save the surplus food-grains
And to relieve all hunger pains.'

'Go quickly, tell our dear father
That Joseph, his son is here.'
Then taking leave of him,
They started way back home.

Simple Simon

A44 Jacob And His Family Go To Egypt

Jacob's joy knew no bounds
When they told, Joseph was found.
With tears of joy, he wept;
With all, he started for Egypt.

Joseph welcomed his dear father,
And broke down into tears;
He took the king's permission,
In his land, for their admission.

'I've seen my son now.
He's alive I know.
I'm ready to die.' Jacob said,
'By the mercy of my God.'

The Famine

The famine was severe;
There wasn't food anywhere;
People of Egypt and Canaan
For survival, they bought their corn.

Joseph collected all money
And took it to the treasury.
When their money was spent,
To Joseph, they all went.

They said, 'We all pray,
We've no money to pay.
Give us food. Let us not die.'
Like this he heard their cry.

He said, 'Bring your livestock.
And in exchange, food you take.
They gave their livestock
And the year's food, they took.

They had nothing in their hands,
Except their dried up lands,

Besides their burning hunger,
In the following famine year.

All their lands too, Joseph bought,
Excepting those of the priests;
He gave seeds some to plant,
And also for them to eat.

'One-fifth of all your crop-yield,
Give to the king, ' he told.
This law of the land he made;
It was regularly then followed.

Simple Simon

A45 Jacob's Last Days

When Jacob became very old.
In Egypt, he had lived
For seventeen years,
Counting his last days.

He was one hundred
And forty-seven years old;
'Don't bury me, ' he said,
In Egypt, when I'm dead.'

'Please bury me, ' he told,
'Where my father was buried.'
To this request, Joseph agreed,
Which Jacob made in death-bed.

Jacob Blesses Ephraim and Manasseh

In his last days, Jacob was unwell.
Joseph learnt, he was seriously ill.
With his two sons, he rushed
To see his father in death-bed.

'Who're they? ' Jacob asked.
'They're my sons, 'Joseph replied,
'Manasseh, the eldest,
And Ephraim, the youngest.'

Manasseh sat at his right
And Ephraim at his left.
But he laid his hands
On Ephraim's head.'

Joseph told him, 'Bless first
Manasseh, the eldest.'
Jacob said, 'No doubt
The eldest will become great.'

'But the younger brother
Will become much greater

Than his elder brother,
And will be more popular.'

Simple Simon

A46 The Death And Burial Of Jacob

Jacob called, one by one,
And bade farewell to each son.
He said, 'I'm leaving this earth
To join my people in death'

'In the cave, Abraham and wife Sarah,
Isaac and his wife Rebecca,
And my wife Leah are laid,
There, let me rest by their side.'

Then he breathed his last.
In peace, his soul took rest.
Poor Joseph fell on his father,
And cried to find him no more.

He got the body embalmed.
For seventy days, they mourned.
From the king, he took permission,
To take his father's body to Canaan.

After he'd buried his father,
He returned with his brothers,
Who realized their fault,
And admitted their guilt.

He said, 'Don't have any fear
When I am with you here.
All of you I'll take care,
Also your children's welfare.'

The Death of Joseph

He was one hundred
And ten years old
When he died, at last,
In the land of Egypt.

He made a request
That he be laid to rest,

By his father's side,
As soon as he died.

His glorious life came to an end;
But in the history of mankind,
His golden chapter is still read:
'A noble soul, God-blessed.'

Simple Simon

B01 The Israelites Are Treated Cruelly In Egypt

Jacob's direct descendants seventy:
They had their children aplenty.
The Israelites in large number,
Posed to Egyptians, a certain danger.

A new king came to power,
And saw their growing number.
'These Israelites are a threat, '
He said, 'To our Country Egypt.'

'In case of war, they could then
With our enemies join;
To keep their strength down,
Now, we should think and plan.'

The king put slave-drivers,
To crush the Israelite laborers
Of their Spirits, with hard labor;
But still, they grew in number.

Their lives became miserable,
In the name of slavery horrible.
They had to do forced labor
Under Egyptian slave-drivers.

To the midwife cadre
The king issued an order
'Go, kill their new-born boys
But spare their girl-babies.'

But fearing God, the midwives
Never took their boys' lives.
And when he asked them why,
They told him a blatant lie.

'Unlike the Egyptian women
The hard-working Hebrew women
Delivered easily, their children
Even before, for their help, we ran.'

The king ordered again
'Throw every new-born
Hebrew boy into the Nile
But spare their baby girl.'

Simple Simon

B02 The Birth Of Moses

For Hebrews, it was a tough time,
When they became victims
Of this unabated crime,
Unleashed by soldiers on them.

From Levi tribe, a woman
Bore her husband a son.
The boy looked smart and fine
Somewhere, she kept him hidden.

Three months had passed.
No longer could she hide.
A strong basket with lid,
To keep the boy, she made.

She kept the babe in it
And placed the basket
In the tall grass near
The edge of the river.

His sister kept a vigil,
Watching this peril,
At a fair distance,
With all her patience.

The princess came there
For a bath in the river,
And saw the basket,
Where it was kept.

She told her servant
To go and get it.
There the maid went
And quickly brought it.

When the lid was opened,
She saw a weeping child.
His face, she closely read.
'A Hebrew babe, ' she said,

It was the boy's good time!
She felt sorry for him.
His sister came near
And politely asked her.

'Can I call a wet-nurse
From a Hebrew house? '
'Please do, ' said the princess,
With all her kindness.

Perhaps, it was God's will,
That the girl had kept vigil.
The boy's real mother,
She went and brought her.

The princess told the woman
'Nurse this baby like your son.
I'll pay you for your service.'
It was a blessing in disguise.

As years passed, he grew old.
The princess then took hold
Of the charge from the woman,
And adopted him as her son.

'I pulled him out of the water.
Let me call him Moses, better, '
So said the kind-hearted princess,
With her new-found happiness.

Simple Simon

B03 Moses Escapes To Midian

Years passed and Moses grew up well.
One day, he went to see his people.
He saw their pitiable condition,
That drove them in exhaustion.

He chanced to see an Egyptian,
Who killed a Hebrew slave-man;
In turn, he killed that Egyptian,
When he was coming back alone.

Next day, he saw two men,
Of his own Hebrew clan,
Fighting with each other,
One beating the other.

A man on the wrong side,
Moses seriously asked,
'A fellow Hebrew he being,
Why are you beating? '

He retorted, 'Who made you a ruler?
Are you going to finish me here,
Just as you did to an Egyptian,
Who killed earlier a Hebrew man? '

Then Moses became afraid,
And within himself said,
'Perhaps, it's no more a secret,
As people seem to know it.'

When news thus spread,
And the king had heard,
'Kill Moses, ' he said,
But Moses secretly escaped.

.
From Egypt he ran,
To the land of Midian,
And lived in a corner,
Just like a foreigner.

Jethro, the priest of Midian,
Had daughters young, seven.
They came to a well,
Their water-troughs to fill.

Their sheep and goats bleated;
To draw water, the girls started,
Some shepherds tried to shout
And drove the girls all out.

Moses, sitting near the well,
Rushed to help the girls.
He watered their animals
As a gesture of goodwill.

When they returned home,
Their father asked them,
'Why did you come
Back early home? '

They said, 'An Egyptian,
A kind hearted man,
From shepherds rescued us
And watered our animals.'

The father asked, 'Where is he?
Go, bring him here. I wish to see.
And invite him to eat with us.'
By God, Moses got a home thus.

To live with them, Moses agreed.
The girl Zipporah, he married.
One son by her, he later had,
By the mercy of the Lord.

He said, 'Here a foreigner I'm.
So I name him Gershom.'
While Moses enjoyed life this side,
What happened on the other side?

The old king of Egypt had died,

But Israelites still cried.
In slavery, they were oppressed.
Their cry went up to God.

God had made a covenant
To protect the descendants
Of Abraham, and this was
Up in His mind always

Simple Simon

B04 God Calls Moses

One day, Moses led his flock
Across desert and the rock,
And reached but a holy place,
The Sarai Mount, all by chance.

In the form of a flame,
Thereupon the Lord came,
In the middle of a bush,
But not burning the bush!

'This is strange, ' he thought,
'How can a flame red-hot
Not burn a bush a bit?
Let me go and see it.'

When he was going closer,
God said, 'Don't come nearer,
Go and take off your sandals
As this place is for Angels.'

'I'm the God of Abraham,
I promised to save him
And his descendants too;
A covenant, we entered into.'

'I see now how my people
Face misery, the most cruel,
In the land of the Nile-Egypt,
Wherefrom, I hear them cry out.'

'I want to rescue them;
So, here I've come.
Go to the King of Egypt
And lead my people out.'

'I'll give my people
A land, rich and fertile;
A better spacious one
Peacefully to live in.'

But Moses said, 'I'm
Nobody to go near him.
How can I bring them?
Will he listen to me?

God said, 'With you I'm.
Now go and talk to him.
When you bring them out,
Then, you'll have no doubt.'

'You'll, in this holy mountain,
Worship me for certain.
This will be the proof,
That'll add to your belief.'

Moses asked, 'What can I tell them,
When they ask for Your name? '
God answered, 'Tell them
The name, 'I am who I am.'

'Tell them, I'm the Lord,
And their ancestors' God,
Who heard their prayer,
And to rescue them, I'm here.'

'Tell them, I'll take them out
From the land of Egypt,
Where they're treated cruelly,
To a peaceful land permanently.'

'My people will surely listen,
As, by now, they've learnt a lesson.
Then tell the king of Egypt,
That Hebrews' God, you'd met.'

'That for a sacrifice in the desert,
You're taking them as an escort.
I know, he'll not let you go,
Unless he is forced to do so.'

'But I'll use my power,

Just to make him shiver.
Then he'll be forced to yield,
And relieve them from the field.'

'I'll make the Egyptians pay
Respect to you from this day.
But I'll not let them a go-free;
My follow-up action, they'll see.'

'You'll see all Israelite women
Take from Egyptian women,
Clothing, gold, and silver, they need
For sons and daughters and be freed.'

'The Israelites will carry away
The wealth of Egyptians, one day.
For the Egyptian's cruel treatment,
They'll suffer this punishment

Simple Simon

B05 God Gives Moses Miraculous Power

But, Moses had a doubt.
He asked God about it.
'Oh God, the Israelites may
Or may not believe what I say.'

'They may even laugh at me
If I say, You appeared to me.
Then what do I tell them,
That'll surely convince them? '

So the Lord asked,
'What's in your hand? '
'A stick, ' Moses replied.
'Throw it down, ' God said.

Moses threw the stick,
And it became a snake.
In fear, he ran away,
As it came on his way.

The Lord said again,
'Now you bend down
And pick it up by its tail.'
Moses did it without fail.

What a surprise, the snake
Now turned back into a stick.
God said, 'You do this
To convince the Israelites.'

'Now put your hand inside
Your robe and take it outside.'
Like this, when God said,
The same, Moses did.

His hand became diseased
And white spots appeared.
God told him to repeat.
Once again he did it.

This time, it became normal.
God gave him one more miracle.
'From the Nile River,
You take some water.'

'Pour it on the ground.
Water will not be found.
Instead, it'll turn into blood.
That'll terrify them pretty good.

'I'm not a good speaker.
So, don't send me there.
Send someone else.'
Moses pleaded like this

The Lord got angry
And He didn't agree
To all his lame excuses
And his evasive replies.

He said, 'Take your brother
Aaron, who's a good speaker.
I'll help you both to speak.
Also take this miracle-stick.'

Moses Returns to Egypt

Moses went back to Midian,
Where God told him again,
'The time for you is good:
As all your enemies are dead.'

'So, you can go to Egypt.
Meet the Israelites first.
Then talk to the king;
Tell him everything.'

At the holy mountain,
Moses met his brother, Aaron,
They both went to Egypt,
And Israelite leaders, they met.

Moses performed miracles,
In front of those people,
Who started believing him
That God sent him to them.

They believed his word
That he had seen the Lord,
And he came to pull them out
Of bondage from Egypt

Simple Simon

B06 Moses And Aaron Visit Egypt

Moses and Aaron met
The King of Egypt,
And the words of God,
One by one, they told.

'The Lord of Israel said,
Let my people be freed,
To honor Me in the desert,
With a feast to celebrate.'

The king asked, 'Who's the Lord?
I've not seen your God.
Why should I listen to Him?
I'll not release them.'

Moses and Aaron said,
'The Hebrews' God
Revealed Himself to us
Just to free all the slaves.'

'In the desert, we've to offer
To the Lord, in His honor,
Sacrifices; or else, He'll kill us
With terrible diseases.'

The king said, 'You're grown
In strength more than
That of the Egyptians,
Worsening the situation.'

'Their work will suffer,
And I'll allow this never.
Let them work hard,
And not think of God.'

'Straw will not be given
To make bricks, even for one.
Let them find straw elsewhere,
But make the same number.'

He commanded the Egyptian,
Slave-drivers and Foremen,
To make them work harder,
And keep supervision closer.

No straw was given
And Israelites were beaten.
The king refused to listen
To the appeal of the foremen.

They met Moses and Aaron,
And said, 'What have you done?
You've made the king hate us.
They've now an excuse to kill us.'

Simple Simon

B07 Moses Complains To The Lord

When Hebrew-slaves complained,
Towards the Lord, Moses turned,
And said, 'Oh Lord, this trouble,
Why do you give your people? '

'Why did you send me here? '
How can I see them suffer?
After I spoke to the king,
There is more suffering.'

God said, 'Now, You'll see,
How I'll bring them free
And I'll not take rest,
Until he drives them out.'

'The king will not listen,
As I made him stubborn.
To bring my people out
I'll severely punish Egypt.'

'Let Aaron throw his stick
And show him the snake-trick,
As a proof of My command
To comply with My demand.'

When Aaron did the trick,
The king took it as magic,
And he got the same done
By his court-magician.

But then Aaron's stick
Swallowed their snakes.
The king didn't still listen.
As God made him stubborn.

Disaster Strikes Egypt

God said to Moses then,
'You'll now listen,

Go to the obstinate king,
Early in the morning.'

'He'll be at the River Nile.
Let him know, when you tell,
That I want all my people
Released for the festival.'

'Tell Aaron to take his stick.
And this time do another trick.
Let him hold it o'er canals
And rivers and pools.'

'The water will become blood
And everything will smell bad.'
Whatever the Lord said,
The same they went and did.

The water turned into blood.
The river's fish all died.
The same, court-magicians did.
So, the king stuck up to his stand.

Simple Simon

B08 Disaster Follows

God told Moses again,
'Tell your brother Aaron,
To hold his stick over
Canals, pools and Nile River.'

What God said, Aaron did.
Out of the water jumped
Countless frogs everywhere
Onto the land, nook and corner.

Same trick magicians did.
Their frogs too joined the crowd,
Like a frog-army massive
That held Egypt captive.

The king called Moses and said,
'I wish, you pray to your God.
From this land, let the frogs go.
Then, I'll let your people go.'

Moses prayed so to God;
All frogs in the land died,
With widespread foul smell,
Excepting those in the Nile.

When all the frogs were gone,
The king became stubborn.
He wasn't willing to listen.
The situation did worsen.

As God said, Aaron struck
On the ground his stick;
This time, all the dusts,
In Egypt turned into gnats.

This trick, the magicians failed;
The Hebrew God, they hailed.
But the king refused even then,
As God made him stubborn.

God sent much flies to swarm,
That brought all the more harm
To all the kinds of lives,
Stung by these flies.

God then sent disease
That caused animals' demise,
And painful boils thereafter,
That caused terror everywhere.

He sent next hailstorm;
With thunder, it came;
Followed by locusts,
And then by darkness.

'With My raised hand
I could have in this land
Killed all your people;
But I gave you chances ample.'

'To show you My power,
I allowed you to live here,
As this will spread My fame
In the world with My name.'

Despite God's warning,
The king was refusing
Every time to liberate,
And the Hebrews to go out.

Moses Announces the
Death of the First-Born.

God said, 'Moses, I'll send
One drastic punishment to bend
The king down to his knees,
And he'll come to his senses.'

'Every first-born son
From the King's son
To the slave's son:

All will die soon.'

It was a terrible midnight,
With all suspense and fright.
It was a horrible sight,
In the land of Egypt.

Death of the first-born,
Was so total and sudden,
That gave the king, a rude shock,
And made his country, a wreck.

He called Moses and Aaron
And said, 'Get out soon.
With all your wealth,
And cause no more death.'

Gold and silver, whatever
The Egyptians held as treasure,
The Israelites carried away
On their liberation-day.

The Israelites Leave Egypt

The Israelites won their freedom
From slavery in the kingdom,
And they set out on foot,
With food and their loot.

From Rameses to Sukkoth,
It was a walk mammoth,
Of six hundred thousand men
Barring women and children

430 years was a long wait
For them to come out.
But, it was all God's mercy
That freed them from slavery.

Simple Simon

B09 Crossing The Red Sea

When the king of Egypt,
Let the Israelites go,
God led them not straight
But a roundabout route thro'.

There was a short-cut road;
Yet, a circular way, God preferred,
As in the event of any fight,
They couldn't return to Egypt.

To keep them safe and alert,
He led them thro' the desert,
Trekking o'er the sand,
Towards the Red Sea end.

They were armed for battle,
Ready to fight tooth and nail.
They were very bold this time,
As the Lord was with them.

Joseph's body was in Egypt.
To fulfill his last request,
That his body be taken out,
Moses, with him, brought it.

During the day, as cloud,
God, in front, He led.
Likewise, He went as light,
And led them at night.

Thus, they travelled night and day,
Thro' the God-chosen pathway.
They reached the desert end,
And at Etham, they camped.

What was the picture in Egypt?
The king went in regret
For losing all the slaves,
Who served him for many years.

He took his armed forces
And pursued the Israelites.
He was nearing the camp-site,
With his army ready to fight.

To Moses, the Israelites said,
'Your advice, should we've heard?
Look, what you've done?
Didn't we tell this'll happen? '

'We preferred Egypt's graves,
And remain there as slaves,
Than die here in the desert,
And be thrown in wind and dust.'

Moses assured and said,
'Listen, don't be afraid.
Now, God is on our side.
See the miracle of the Lord.'

To Moses God said,
'Let the people go forward.
Take your stick and lift it.
O'er the sea, you hold it.'

What God said, Moses did.
The sea-water got divided.
They walked on dry ground
Thro' the path, newly found.

Till the last man had crossed,
And other side, they reached,
The sea-ground was open
And God's miracle was on.

With a wave of his stick,
Moses reversed the trick,
When the sea-water closed,
All the enemies were trapped.

The power of the Lord,

The Israelites then realized.
They developed faith in God
And in Moses, the servant of God.

At last, the Egyptians,
Learnt a bitter lesson,
And they had virtually seen,
What God's power had been

Simple Simon

B10 Water And Food

It took three days almost,
To cross the Shur Desert.
No drinking water there
Was found just anywhere.

To Marah, a place, they came.
They faced a different problem.
The water was bitter to taste.
Their search became a waste.

When Moses prayed to the Lord,
God showed a piece of wood,
He threw it in the water,
And then, it turned sweeter.

There the Lord gave them
Laws to live by, for all time.
Saying, 'You'll not be punished
If my laws are fully followed.'

They complained, 'In Egypt,
We ate good bread and meat.
Here, we've nothing to eat,
In the middle of this desert.'

When Moses prayed again,
God sent them bread, like rain,
From the sky, all week-days
Excepting Seventh days.

For, every Seventh day
Was His Sabbath day.
He gave them extra breads
On sixth day, twice their needs.

The desert they all crossed;
At Rephidim, they camped.
For water, there was much demand.
They waited on God's command.

God said to Moses, 'Strike the rock
At Sinai Mount, with your stick.'
When Moses did the same;
Out from the rock, sweet water came!

Simple Simon

B11 The Ten Commandments

It was an unprecedented exodus
Of people moving, all en masse
Towards their newer unknown homes,
Whatever God would provide them.

Till then, they were just only slaves.
With God by them, they were all braves!
There was the need for stringent laws,
To lead God-fearing lives sans flaws.

The burden of their governance
Could not be thrust on mere Moses.
There must be extra assistance
To him, to deal with every case.

One day, for this very purpose,
The Lord called beloved Moses,
Along with his freed people
At Sinai Mount, to assemble.

There was great thunder and lightning,
That looked very much frightening,
And shook the people up and down,
Before they reached the mountain.

God asked just Moses and Aaron,
To come up, leaving others down,
And said, 'I am the Lord, your God.
Just by My mercy, you were saved.'

God gave then Moses His Ten Commandments:

- 1.. I am the Lord, your God.
- 2 You shall not have false gods before me.
3. Remember to keep holy, the Sabbath Day.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.

8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

He gave Rules and Regulations/ laws regarding:

1. The treatment of slaves.
2. About violent acts.
3. The responsibility of owners.
4. About repayment.
5. Moral and religious laws.
6. Justice and fairness.
7. The festivals to celebrate
8. Method of worship.

From A to Z, all things, He told.
For their conduct He gave His code.
A covenant He made and sealed.
To protect people, He promised.

God gave Moses two stone-tablets
With engraved codes of good conducts,
The rules and laws of Promised Land,
By all to be strictly followed.

God said, 'I'll reveal my love
To those who give me their love.
And strictly obey all my laws,
For thousands of generations.'

'I'll also give severe punishment
To those, who give me only hate
And do not follow all my laws,
But keep committing only flaws'

A book of laws, first of its kind,
The God of Mercy gave this world.
Every word came from His mouth,
To take care of mankind on earth.

Simple Simon

B14 Last Days Of Moses

The slaves of Egyptian kingdom,
When they got sudden freedom,
Their routines went out of order,
Just like a fish out of water.

It was a solid mass of exodus,
That moved from place to place.
Under the leadership of Moses,
Chosen by God for this purpose.

In each step, God guided Moses.
In turn, he led the poor masses.
What was humanly impossible,
God, by his mercy, made it possible.

With all his endurance,
And God-given patience,
He tackled every obstacle
And managed all the people.

Moses said to the people,
Who had their roots in Israel,
'You've seen God's miracle,
And know He's powerful.'

'From God's blessing and curse,
You may choose only one, -
And between good and evil,
Choose one, whatever you'll.'

'In the matter of life and death
I call heaven and earth,
To witness your choice:
Left to me, life is my choice.'

'You love your God,
And obey the Lord.
Be faithful to Him,
And always worship Him.'

'Remember God's promise
That He'll be with you always,
In the land of His choice,
To keep you all in peace.'

'I'm now a hundred
And twenty years' old.
My time has come to leave.
This, I hope, you'll believe.'

Then God said to Moses,
'As the time passes,
A few days more you've
In this land to live.'

'Joshua, the son of Nun,
Will be the next one
To be your successor,
And he'll take all care.'

To Joshua, God then spoke,
'The charge you'll take
From Moses and you'll lead
The people. Go ahead.'

'As my true servant,
You be confident.
I'll be with you. Be sure,
And will lead you forever.'

The Death of Moses

From the plains of Moab,
To the Mount Nebo,
Moses went up to see
Their lands upto the sea.

God said, 'This is the land,
Earlier what I promised,
Now I can let you see it,
But you'll not reach it.'

With this, Mose's end came.
He was at the height of fame,
And was acclaimed as one,
A prophet, who' as second to none

God buried His servant Moses,
Of his tomb, with no traces
In the Moab valley anywhere,
But his fame spread everywhere.

Simple Simon

C01 God Commands Joshua To Conquer Canaan

It was a memorable event,
That Moses, God's servant,
Was buried by the Lord-
A privilege, none had!

God called Joshua then,
The beloved son of Nun,
To lead those weary people,
Who stayed in the camp-circle.

To Joshua, the Lord said,
'My servant Moses is dead.
My people, you must lead.
Your words, they should heed.'

'You cross the River Jordan,
And enter the land, the one
That I promised to you all,
The liberated people of Israel.'

'This is from the desert in south,
To the Lebanon Mountain in north,
And from the River Euphrates in east,
To the Mediterranean sea in west.'

'As I protected Moses,
I'll be with you always.
Success will be yours.
You'll be prosperous.'

'Read without a flaw,
My Holy Book of Law
In your daily prayer,
As a practice regular.'

I command you 'Be determined.
Never, at any time, get discouraged.
I promise, I'll go with you
To whatever place, old or new.'

Joshua's Orders to the People

Joshua called all the leaders.
And gave them clear orders,
'It's the Lord's command,
That we occupy our land.'

'Before three days pass,
The river, we should cross.
It'll not be so simple,
To move all our people.'

'Get ready with food.
From here, they should
Move in an orderly manner
To the other side of the river.'

'Send first our soldiers there.
And leave your families here.
When safety is ensured,
The rest can then be moved.'

'It's the Lord's Hand,
That gave us this land.
We should remember this.
And obey the laws of His'

The people well understood,
What all Joshua said.
They, in turn, assured,
'We'll obey the laws of God.'

'Also we'll obey you always,
Just as we obeyed Moses.
Your authority, whoever defies,
Will face death as its price."

Simple Simon

C02 Crossing Of River Jordan

So, Joshua didn't take any risk,
Because it was a mammoth task,
To move each person, everyone,
Safely to the land of Canaan.

He sent two intelligent spies,
To explore with their own eyes,
And find out what was going on
In their new land of Canaan.

They came back soon and told,
'The people there are afraid.
Sure, by the Lord's mercy
Our take-over will be easy.'

Joshua gave them clear direction,
How to cross the River Jordan.
'First, let the priests go ahead
With the Covenant Box of the Lord.'

'Then, let the camp break,
And careful steps, the people take
To follow the revered priests
Who'll go by godsend routes.'

'The Lord will perform
Miracles in any form.
So, don't have any fear,
While crossing the river.'

The priests did as he said.
Into the river, when they stepped.
The water gave a pathway,
That was God's chosen way.

Until the people all had crossed over,
The Covenant Box gave them cover,
In the midst of the Jordan River,
Just as God had done the same earlier.

After they had crossed,
To Joshua, the Lord said,
'Choose your twelve men
From each tribe, anyone.'

'Let them pick up a stone,
Amidst dry ground of Jordan,
And to the place, take it
Where they camp tonight.'

'These stones will remind,
When, later on, people find,
What had happened here
When you crossed the river.'

They did what the Lord said.
Then the dry pathway closed.
The people praised the Lord,
And Joshua, servant of God.

The news of the miracle spread
In the land, far and wide.
And the kings, who heard,
Of God's power, feared.

The people of Israel
By then, reached Gilgal,
A place near Jericho plain,
Not minding their strain.

God gave instructions again,
To have circumcision done
To those men and children
Who were born later on.

A man with a sword,
So suddenly appeared
When Joshua went near
The Jericho City border.

'Say, are you one of us,

Or one of our enemies? '
Joshua politely asked the man,
Who replied, "Of the two, I'm none.'

'As God's army commander
Now I've come to you here.'
Joshua was happy to meet
And fell down at his feet

Simple Simon

C03 The Fall Of Jericho

As Jericho's gates were shut,
To keep the Israelites out.
None could leave or enter
The guarded city's border.

Joshua knew not what to do?
Then, God gave him a clue.
'Soon, you'll take it over,
And it'll be yours forever.'

'Listen, you march around,
With your soldiers behind,
For six days, once a day,
From where you all stay.'

'Let seven priests,
With their trumpets,
Go in front of this
Holy Covenant Box.'

'On the seventh day,
Follow the same way,
But then, go seven rounds,
With priests' trumpet sounds.'

'Finally, let them sound a long note,
A signal for all of you to shout,
In one voice, that'll vibrate,
And push the city walls out.'

'Easy will be your work.
The open city, you can take.
Into the city, you can walk.
Thus, you fulfill your task.'

Every God's command,
Joshua kept in his mind.
He obeyed what God said.
At the end, success it paid.

They killed without pity,
Every life in the city.
Then the city, they burnt.
Inside when they went.

But Joshua spared the lives
Of Rahab and her relatives,
As she helped two spies,
Who stayed in her house.

Joshua issued a warning,
'If anyone there is trying
To build the city again
It'll be considered a sin.'

'God's curse they'll get
By doing this sinful act,
Hear, this is God's curse
And all of you note this.'

'Whoever lays the foundation,
Will lose his eldest son.
Whoever builds the gates,
Will lose his youngest.'

So, God kept up His word.
And He did what all He said.
Joshua's fame spread far and wide,
By the grace of the Lord.

Simple Simon

C04 Achan's Sinful Action

It was God's command,
That in Jericho's land,
No one shall lay hand
On things to be destroyed.

A man by name Achan,
From Judah tribe, was one,
A disgruntled greedy leader,
Who disobeyed the Lord's order.

So, Israelites faced defeat
And they had to retreat,
From their attack this time,
As God was not with them,

The Lord became so furious
With the Israelites for this,
That He told Joshua, 'Listen,
The promise has been broken.'

'Some of your men
Have stealthily taken
Things to be destroyed;
Thus, they've betrayed!

'So, Israelites cannot win
As a result of this sin.
I'll not stay with you,
Unless what I say, you do.'

'Now, call all the people.
And find out who stole
The condemned articles
And other sinful materials.'

'At once, burn them
Who had brought shame
On Israel by their action.
For the rest, it's a caution.'

What God said, Joshua did.
From the people, he picked,
Finally Achan, the culprit,
Who, in turn, confessed it.

Achan said, 'Against the Lord,
It's true, I've sinned.
A Babylonian cloak,
A beautiful one, I took.'

'A few pieces of silver,
And a small gold bar,
I buried them all in a heap
Inside my tent, down deep.'

Joshua had them brought,
And he was quite upset,
O'er Achan's breach of trust,
As God's will, it went against.

Achan was stoned to death,
Although he admitted the truth,
As he committed a fraud,
In disobedience to the Lord,

With him, the family of his,
And the stolen properties,
They burnt them on the spot
To the ground, the whole lot.

A pile of stones all huge, they laid,
Over the place, where he had died.
This part continues to be called,
A 'Trouble valley' of the world.

Simple Simon

C05 Attack On Ai

It was the Lord's intention,
That Israelites do learn,
At any cost, a good lesson
To maintain strict discipline.

With Joshua, God was pleased, .
As he always followed,
Whatever be His command,
That was placed in his hand.

God assured Joshua and told.
'I'll be with you, be bold.
Let your attack be a surprise one,
And the kingdom of Ai, you'll win.'

'Now, you shall not burn,
But you're free to own,
Whatever goods you win,
And livestock that remain.'

Out of his army, a part,
West of City Ai, he kept,
And the rest, he took
With him to attack.

When strategically he retreated,
The enemies from behind chased,
Leaving the whole city open,
Not knowing his war-plan.

As it was a simple walk-in,
To take the city left open,
His soldiers from the west,
Took its possession just.

The enemies ran helter-skelter,
Against pressures, front and rear,
Thus Ai, his army took over,
With all tumult and uproar.

After hanging the king,
Joshua took everything.
He burnt the city to ruins.
In this shape, it still remains.

Simple Simon

C06 The Gibeonites Deceive Joshua

Joshua built on Mount Ebal,
An altar for God of Israel.
Burnt sacrifices, he offered.
The Book of Law, he read.

His victories became well-known,
To the kings, west of Jordan,
They all joined as one,
In order to fight and to win.

But people of Gibeon,
Had their own cunning plan,
Israelites' sympathy to earn,
And their favour to win.

They told Joshua, 'We heard
You've the mercy of God.
We're from a distant place,
Here, to seek the Lord's grace.'

'You can see our food
Isn't so fresh and good,
Our dresses are torn shabbily
And sandals worn out badly.'

'We came all the way
To this place today,
With you to make a treaty
And live here in amity.'

Joshua saw their hardship.
He accepted their friendship.
But soon, he came to know,
They staged a false show.

For them, he lost his pity,
But having made a treaty,
He allowed them to live
But made them his slaves.

He assigned them duties
As arduous wood-cutters
And potable water-carriers
For the rest of their lives

Simple Simon

C07 Joshua's Last Days

The King of Jerusalem
Saw Joshua's war-stratagem,
That defeated two kings,
And burnt their belongings.

A big city like Gibbon,
Despite its fighters known,
How easily it was taken
By Joshua's men!

They joined Joshua in peace,
Not using their least force,
Which this king didn't like,
And made out a plan to attack.

Four friendly kings, he called,
And a pact with them, he held
To seize the City Gibbon,
With a combined forces, and win.

Gibbon's people sent word
To Joshua, who then rushed,
And chased the enemies out,
After a ruthless fight.

Also, God sent hailstorm,
That killed many of them.
They ran for their lives,
Against the striking force

That day, the sun stood still.
Also, the moon moved not until
Joshua's force won the battle,
When God fought for Israel.

The five kings secretly escaped
And inside a cave they hid.
Joshua brought them outside
And got them all hanged.

Then, their bodies were thrown
In the same cave, they had hidden.
The cave was sealed again,
At the entrance, with large stones.

Joshua took city after city;
He gained victory after victory.
So, God gave them the land,
That he had solemnly promised.

By then, Joshua was very old.
He called the people and told,
'Now, God gave you all the lands.
So, you must obey His commands.'

He gave them God's law book,
Which they reverently took,
And promised him to abide
By the rules framed as guide.

At the age of one hundred
And ten, Joshua died.
In his land on the hillside,
To rest, he was laid.

His words, people respected
And they served the Lord,
Under his chosen leaders,
Who kept up God's orders.

Simple Simon

D01 Rulers After Joshua

Their Master Joshua died,
People of Israel then cried,
'Who'll take up the lead?
They thus asked the Lord.'

'The tribe of Judah will lead, '
Like this, when the Lord said,
The men of Judah took o'er.
They turned leaders thereafter.

The men of Judah fought.
Jerusalem then they got.
Their fight went on and on,
Until their lands, they' ad won.

With local tribes, they lived,
A peace treaty, they made.
Their gods, they too worshipped.
The covenant got breached.

Until old leaders lived,
Their God, they had obeyed.
When these leaders had died,
Their Lord, they disobeyed.

New generations came
In chaos all became.
God tested them each time.
Chances too, He gave them.

Their lives weren't so easy,
Earlier, it was rosy..
In wars, they faced defeat;
And miserably did retreat

Simple Simon

D02 The Life Of Samson

In the tribe of Dan,
A son was born,
To father Manoah
And mother Zorah.

After years of prayer
God gave a child to her.
A strong giant-like son,
Who was named Samson.

The Lord advised her,
'Never cut his hair.
He's born to rescue Israel
From the Philistine people.'

The power of the Lord
Made him strong and bold.
As a God-chosen child,
He came to this world.

As years rolled,
He became old,
And reached an age,
For his early marriage.

He saw a Philistine girl.
For her beauty, he fell.
But his parents advised,
To go for a better bride.

They told, 'Select one
From our own clan,
Instead of Heathen-born,
A Philistine woman! '

He insisted, 'I like her,
And want to marry her.
One day, we'll go and see.
Fix her in marriage for me.'

So, with both his parents
To Timnah, soon he went.
On the way, he heard,
A lion that roared.

The power of the Lord,
Made him strong and bold.
He tore the lion apart
Like a young goat!

The talk was in his favor
When they all met her,
And a few days later,
He went to marry her.

On the way, the dead lion,
He saw, was torn open,
And a swarm of bees
Flying o'er the carcass.

They came for the honey,
That was in the lion's body,
The honey was so sweet,
That he ate some of it.

His parents also ate some,
Not knowing wherefrom
Such a sweet honey came.
A good sign, it became.

Everything went on well.
They selected this girl.
As their usual custom,
A feast Samson gave them.

Thirty young Philistine-men
Were staying with Samson,
As his close companions
During marriage function.

In the function's middle,

He asked them a riddle,
'Out of eater, it came to eat.
Out of one strong, it was so sweet.'

A week's time was given
To solve the riddle then.
They broke their head,
But couldn't succeed.

Simple Simon

D03 The Unsolved Riddle

Three days had passed.
One by one, they guessed,
But no answer was found.
The riddle remained unsolved.

To Samson's wife, they went,
To find what it really meant?
They said, 'From your husband
The clue for this, you must find.'

'If you fail to help us,
We'll burn your house,
And your entire family.'
They told her firmly.

She asked Samson, 'Tell me,
If you really love me,
What the riddle means,
And what the answer is? '

Samson, every time, replied,
'This, I haven't revealed,
Till now, to anyone,
Nor, my parents even.'

Seventh day, she cried,
And with tears she tried.
At last, Samson told her
In secret, the riddle's answer.

'Is there anything
More worth telling,
Than honey, the sweetest,
And lion, the strongest? '

She passed on this
To all her friends,
Who gave Samson
This answer, in turn.

Then Samson knew well
His wife made them tell
What he told her
In bed room earlier.

'You found it from my cow
And told me the answer now.'
Like this, Samson replied,
To cheat him, when they tried.

The power of the Lord,
On his shoulders descended.
Those thirty men he called.
All of them, he killed.

Samson went to meet
His wife, later, one night,
But her father stopped him
Before he entered her room.

He told Samson, 'It's too late.
Perhaps, you hate her, I thought,
And gave her to your friend.
You can have her sister instead.'

It was an insult to Samson,
His prestige was in question.
For him, that was a chance,
On them, to reap vengeance.

He caught foxes, three hundred,
The tails of each pair he tied.
He set fire to the knot
And drove them all out.

The foxes went around,
And burnt their corn field.
The Philistines found then
The man behind was Samson.

They learnt the root cause,

And burnt his wife's house,
While throwing her in fire
For the immoral act of her.

Samson acted in retaliation,
And killed all those men.
He went away in dejection,
And stayed in a cave then.

Simple Simon

D05 Samson And Delilah

At Gaza, Philistines went to kill,
When Samson was with a girl;
But he escaped to a hill.
Unseen by those people.

After this, the brave Samson,
Fell in love with a woman.
Delilah was her sweet name.
In his life, she played a cruel game.

Five Philistine kings went,
And sought her consent
To find out the hidden truth
Of Samson's unique strength.

Each one promised to give her,
Eleven hundred pieces of silver,
As a reward for the information
After its successful completion.

So, she asked Samson,
'What's the real reason
Behind your unusual strength
Of your body so mammoth? '

'If one wants to tie you
Tell me, how can he so do? '
She caressed him lovingly
And asked him this nicely.

Samson said, 'With fine
New wet bowstrings seven
If I am tied by anyone,
My body, it'll weaken.'

She tried what he said,
But it didn't succeed.
She felt then cheated
And became annoyed.

He told her this and that,
Which, in turn, didn't act,
And she became so upset
That he couldn't resist it.

He finally told the secret,
'My hair was never cut
From the day of my birth
There lies my strength.'

'I'm dedicated to God,
As a Nazirite to the Lord.
When my hair is cut
My strength will be out.'

She kept him in her lap,
And lulled him to sleep.
She got his hair all cut,
Which in a bundle, she put.

When he woke up,
From his deep sleep,
He felt so tired and weak
He couldn't fight back.

As a prisoner, he was caught.
His eyes were plucked out.
He was chained, neck to foot,
And to hard work, he was put.

When hair was lost,
His strength, he lost.
When strength was lost
His vision too he lost.

All on account of one woman,
Who, for some silver, sold Samson,
For a noble cause, he fought,
But by his foes he was caught!

Simple Simon

D06 Last Days Of Samson

A giant-hero, Samson,
Worked hard in prison;
Because of a woman,
Who betrayed this man!

Slowly his hair grew up again.
His strength, he did regain.
Days he spent with patience,
Awaiting a good chance.

Philistine kings were glad.
And they went almost mad
To bring out a celebration
On this victorious occasion.

They said, 'Our God, Dagon,
Got us victory o'er Samson.
We'll call him to entertain us,
He'll make us enjoy thus.'

As Samson was made blind,
A boy led him by hand.
He was then made to stand
Between two pillars, at one end.

But Samson prayed, 'O Sovereign Lord,
They pulled my eyes out blind.
Please give me strength again.
I want to teach them all a lesson.'

Between two pillars where he stood,
With all his force he pushed.
'O Let me die, ' he shouted,
"With them who gloated.'

The entire edifice fell down,
Killing those very men and women,
Who waited with sadistic pleasure
Out of this, in a large measure.

Poor Samson too was found
Crushed to death, on the ground,
Deep under dust and debris.
Sadly, his life ended thus.

A hero, who had made history,
Thus died in great tragedy.
Buried near his father,
His name all people remember.

Simple Simon

E02 The Priest's Sons And Samuel

The priest's sons lived uselessly,
And spent their time aimlessly.
All kinds of sin, they did.
To God, no respect, they paid.

They grabbed part of meat
Before people offered it,
As sacrifice to the Lord,
Thus breaking God's Code.

The priest advised, 'My sons,
Don't commit such sins? '
But they didn't care to listen
To their father or anyone.

The Lord was displeased
With what all they did.
Many chances He gave
But they didn't improve.

The boy, Samuel, at this stage,
With the growing of age,
Became gentle and pious
And received people's praise.

He always served the Lord,
Wearing a linen apron sacred,
That was given by his mother,
When she visited God every year.

One night, he woke up
From his deep sleep,
When God called him
And said this to him.

'One day, I'll punish,
And Eli's sons will perish
For all their misdeeds,
As they're like weeds.'

The priest heard this,
But he was helpless,
As his useless sons,
Continued to do sins.

God was with Samuel.
The people of Israel
Treated him like a prophet,
And gave him due respect

Simple Simon

E03 The Lord's Covenant Box

Israelites faced the brunt
Right in the battle front
When Philistines suddenly
Attacked them violently.

Thousands of Israelites perished.
By God, thus they were punished,
As the new generation had fallen
From the virtuous path then.

Having paid this costly price,
Their leaders thought it rather wise,
'Let us bring to the site
The Covenant Box and fight.'

The box was then brought.
Once more, they all fought.
This time also, they failed.
Many of them were killed.

The priest's two sons too died,
When to escape, they tried.
Philistines took possession
Of the box, as priceless one.

This news, the priest heard.
He too fell down and died.
The Lord became so violent,
As He couldn't remain silent.

He punished Philistines, in turn,
For He was kept as one
Among their various gods,
All of whom were frauds!

When diseases widely spread,
Philistines were totally afraid,
The Covenant Box, they returned,
Back to Israelites, with gifts of gold.

Under the rule of Samuel,
Lived the people of Israel,
As long as he lived,
With the mercy of God

Simple Simon

E04 Saul Rules Israel

Samuel made his two sons,
Judges for the reason,
They were quite young to hold,
And to lead, he was bit old.

But they went on the wrong path
And earned the people's wrath.
They were not honest,
And were more corrupt.

So, Israelites were craving
To be ruled by a new king.
Samuel, they were asking,
To chose one as their king.

He placed their demand
At the Lord's command.
God said, 'They've lost
Faith in you and Me, at last.'

'Their wish, you can fulfill.
Later, they shouldn't feel.
When a new king turns bad,
And makes them rather sad.'

Despite God's warning,
They sought a new king.
Samuel was in search
Of a good king so much.

There was a man called Saul,
Who was handsome and tall;
As a king, he was chosen.
From the tribe of Benjamin.

God then gave His consent,
And told Samuel to appoint
Saul to rule the people
As the king of Israel.

During the reign of Saul,
He had to fight against all.
So, he built strong armies
To defeat all his enemies.

Saul disobeyed the Lord,
And this displeased God.
God complained to Samuel
On the behavior of Saul.

With the help of God
Every success he had;
But, as his own achievement,
He felt and built a monument.

He took good sheep
From enemies, to keep,
And destroyed the rest,
Which were not the best.

Samuel shouted at Saul,
'You didn't burn them all.
Why have you disobeyed
The command of the Lord? '

Saul replied, 'I kept some
As sacrificial offer to Him.
I did it with a good intention,
Never thought it as a grave sin.'

'This is not a sacrifice,
But an act of disobedience-
Samuel told, 'God says,
Your deeds are like this.'

'God wants you no more,
As King of Israel, therefore.
For this serious act of sin,
Lifelong, you must atone.'

Then, Jesse's youngest son,

David was the one chosen
By God, in place of Saul,
As the next King of Israel.

Simple Simon

E05 Saul And David

It was under God's direction,
Samuel anointed Jesse's son
The youngest and eighth one.
David, as king-in-succession.

The Lord's spirit left Saul.
Tormented by spirits evil
Problems, a lot, Saul faced.
And felt much disgraced.

He called David, his harp to play,
And in his palace, let him stay.
The harp's music drove out,
From Saul, the evil spirit.

In David's company,
King Saul felt happy,
But had to face Philistines,
The Israelites' enemies.

Philistines on one side,
And Israelites on opposite side,
Used every force and might,
In their constant fight.

A Philistine named Goliath,
From the City of Gath,
Who was hefty and tall,
Came daily to the battle

Bronze-shield and armor
Gave his body, a full cover.
A bronze-javelin slung o'er
His broad left shoulder.

On the Philistine side,
He stood with his pride,
And challenged anyone, Israelite,
To meet him in single combat.

When David offered to go
And revealed this to Saul so.
The latter doubted his prowess
And the chances of his success.

'In forests, when I keep
A watch o'er my sheep,
Lions came to attack
Suddenly my flock.'

'I killed lions and bears,
So, to fight, I've no fears.
By God's grace, I'll win
And kill this devilish man.'

Saul unwillingly then sent,
Young David to the war-front,
But the boy went ahead,
Gazing at the giant's head.

Right in the battle-ground,
With no sword to defend,
In his pouch, he carried,
A few sharp stones and marched.

He aimed at Goliath's forehead
A stone that went ahead,
Just pierced his head.
At once, he fell dead.

Philistines ran away in fear,
As David created a terror,
To Saul, he became closer
In the palace, thereafter.

Simple Simon

E06 Saul Was Jealous Of David

David, with no weapon,
But just a single stone
Killed Goliath, the giant,
Right in the battle-front.

On the victory day celebration,
The women of every town,
Sang, 'Saul killed only thousands,
But David tens of thousands.'

This embarrassed King Saul,
Who felt, his honor did fall,
And from then, deep in his heart,
For David, he nurtured a hate.

Two or three times, Saul tried
To kill the innocent David,
When he was playing harp.
But David had narrow escape.

Saul sent David to fight
As by chance, he might
In the battle-field,
Get, one day, killed.

But, every time, the Lord,
Went with brave David,
Who emerged victorious.
This made Saul more furious.

King Saul's son Jonathan,
Had a friendly connection
With David, being a good man,
Who did no harm to anyone.

The king despised Jonathan,
Despite being his own son,
And once tried to kill him even,
Naming him a disloyal person.

Saul tried another method
To kill the poor David.
To easily solve the matter,
He gave him his daughter.

As a trap, Saul used her
Any time, to hand him o'er
To Philistines, his enemies,
Who waited for a chance.

He had another escape,
Again from this trap,
With his wife's help.
Saul's anger still went up.

Saul even massacred
The priest, who saved
The fleeing poor David,
When he was chased.

Though David was brave,
He hid himself in a cave
In an attempt to save
Himself from Saul's hatred -wave.

He waited for that time,
When many warriors came
A small army to form
In order to help him.

Saul sent his spies,
Who brought the news,
That David hid in a cave,
His life just to save.

He tried his best to trace,
David's secret hiding-place,
But destiny played otherwise,
For which, Saul paid the price.

Somehow, Saul was caught

By David in a daring attempt.
David asked, 'Oh Master,
Behind me, why you're after? '

'To you, what harm did I do?
I was always loyal to you.
My men told me to kill you.
But the same, I'll never do.'

'I know, you're God's man,
And to rule us, you're chosen.
Your throat I've not cut,
But only your robe, a bit.'

'God knows, who's right.
So, let there be no fight.
Forget your hatred for me.
I'll now let you go free.'

Saul cried and said,
'Oh My son, David,
To you, wrong only I did,
But to me, good you did.'

'The Lord will bless you
For what you now do.
The king of Israel you'll be,
People will be happy and free.'

'My descendants you'll spare;
Protect them and take care.
So, they'll keep my name
In their memory, all the time.'

David promised so to Saul
In the better interest of all.
Saul went back to his palace,
And David to his hiding-place.

Simple Simon

E07 David Married Abigail

The great Samuel had died.
At Ramah, he was buried.
David was still homeless,
Wandering in wilderness.

There was a rich man
Of the Caleb clan,
Who was well known
In the Maon Town.

His name was Nabal,
And his wife's name, Abigail.
He had rich lands near Carmel.
Which gave him returns well.

One day, David sent,
And his servant went
With a message to Nabal,
To entertain them all.

Nabal said, 'Who's David?
Of him, I've never heard.
I can't waste my bread
On these slaves unheard.'

Despite such insulting words,
They didn't wield their swords,
But still stood as guards
And protected his fields.

A servant of Nabal
Went and told Abigail,
'What Master had done,
It's no good for anyone.'

Abigail felt for David.
She took donkeys' load
Of wine and bread,
And to his place hurried.

Before David, she knelt.
For her, David also felt.
The offer of her food
With grace, he accepted.

For Nabal, she pleaded.
And to her, David assured,
'No harm will be done,
By me nor by my men.'

When she came back,
Nabal was fully drunk.
Later, he never awoke,
As he died of a stroke.

David pitied her
And sent word to her
'You can marry me
And stay with me.'

She thought it proper,
And accepted his offer.
She became his wife,
And shared his life.

Simple Simon

E08 The Last Days Of Saul

Saul once again tried,
To kill his foe, David,
But miserably he failed,
As God protected David.

David went to Philistine side,
In search of a place to hide,
To be away from Saul's sight
And avoid any further fight.

At Philistia, he took shelter,
In the Town Ziklag later.
His friend and king's son,
Achish, gave him this town.

But David felt uncomfortable
As he was not acceptable
To the Philistines still,
Being one from Israel.

Thus he counted his days
Between King Saul's chase
And the Philistines' rejection
For his close association.

He faced all opposition
Under the Lord's protection.
He was waiting for a chance.
To free himself from this.

War broke once again,
When Philistine men
Killed many Israelites
In their severe fights.

Saul couldn't resist,
The enemies' fight,
So, he killed himself
Even before it went off.

Thus King Saul met his end..
His ways, he failed to mend
God warned him many times
Yet, he did several crimes.

Simple Simon

E09 David Became King

The death of Saul's did throw,
David in deep sorrow;
He began to lament
At the king's bereavement.

At the bottom of his heart,
David had always kept
His devotion and respect
For Saul in every aspect.

He said, 'Saul was the one,
Whom God had chosen
As king of Israel
And rule its people.'

Also, the death of Saul's son,
And his friend, Jonathan
Threw him deep down
In the sorrowful ocean.

Israelites came to David
And submissively they said,
'You fought every battle
Even during Saul's rule.'

'It's the Lord's promise
A king, you shall be to rule us.'
So, he fulfilled God's command
As well as Israelite's demand.

Many battles David fought.
Victory after victory he got.
The Covenant Box, he brought
To Jerusalem center at last.

One mistake David did.
It wasn't liked by God.
Widow Bathsheba, he married.
In a cunning way, this he did.

David fell for the beauty
Of Bathsheba, the lady
Of Uriah, the Hittite
One day, when he met.

To the battle front,
Uriah, he had sent,
And got him killed there
In an unfair manner.

On account of this sin,
David lost his son,
For which he regretted
And later on repented.

Next, Bathsheba bore him a son.
They named him Solomon,
Who rose up to fame
Later, for his wisdom.

Simple Simon

E10 David's Daughter Tamar

David had a daughter.
Her name was Tamar.
Amnon, her half-brother,
Fell in love with her.

Absalom, her own brother,
Always took care of her.
Once Amnon played a trick,
As if he had fallen sick.

When his father David
Saw him in his sick bed,
Amnon requested his father,
For help, to send her.

To nurse him, she came,
By then, mad be became.
He caught and raped her,
Despite protests from her.

This Absalom came to know.
His feelings, he didn't show,
But waited for a fair chance
To reap his vengeance.

Later, he invited Amnon,
And got him killed then,
On a special occasion
In a sheep-shearing function.

Absalom ran away in fear.
It was sad news to hear.
David was left to mourn
The death of his dear son.

Once, against David,
Absalom rebelled.
And in the fight, got killed.
For his death, David cried.

David saw many successes,
But there was no peace
In his personal life as a king,
As God's laws, he was breaking.

Simple Simon

E11 King David In His Old Age

King David became old.
His body remained cold,
Though it was covered
With blankets ten-fold.

So, his men found a girl,
Very young and beautiful,
To nurse him in his bed.
Thus, his last days he led.

Adonijah, his eldest son,
Started claiming his throne,
While the priest Nathan,
Was in favour of Solomon.

To Bathsheba, Nathan said,
'Go at once to King David.
Remind him of the promise,
Once solemnly made, of his.'

'That Solomon, his wise son,
Would succeed his throne.
I'm sure, he'll do justice,
And keep up his promise.'

Bathsheba went to David,
And what the priest had said.
She told the king politely,
And consider it seriously.

He declared solemnly then
'It's true, I had chosen
As the next king, Solomon,
And so it shall be done.'

In his death-bed, he called
His son Solomon and told,
'Obey the Lord's Laws,
As written by Moses.'

Thus, he advised
And then, he died.
He was buried
In the City of David.

Simple Simon

F01 Solomon Rules Israel

With all patience and wisdom,
Solomon ruled his kingdom.
The instructions of David,
Always, he had followed.

With the King of Egypt,
A good alliance, he kept,
By marrying his daughter.
At David City, he kept her.

So much he loved
Each day of the Lord;
He wanted to build
A temple for God.

When the Lord appeared,
In his dream, he prayed,
'You made me a king
At my father's asking.'

'With justice I should rule,
Israel and its people
So, give me more wisdom,
To rule this kingdom.'

God smiled and told,
'It's long life and gold,
What others would ask for;
Why wisdom only you wish for? '

'A long life on this earth,
With wisdom and wealth,
All these, I shall grant
More than what you want.'

Thus, God spoke in his dream,
He then went to Jerusalem.
Before the Covenant Box, he stood,
And burnt-sacrifice, he offered.

People were happy and gay.
Whatever taxes, they did pay.
They had always plenty of food.
No wonder, they were loyal and good.

He appointed Governors,
At different state centers,
Who supplied him barley
And animal fodder regularly.

His well-planned administration
Received people's admiration;
He encouraged green plantation,
Besides animal and bird protection.

Many proverbs, songs, he composed.
Strict discipline, he enforced.
Severe punishment, he imposed
On offenders, caught red handed.

About his wisdom heard,
Kings all over the world
Heartily, they all praised
And to his words bowed.

Simple Simon

F02 Solomon Solved Difficult Cases

Every case was quite different;
Yet, Solomon gave apt judgment.
People wondered at his skill;
Thus, he earned their goodwill.

One day, two women brought,
A case, in which both fought,
To obtain the legal right,
O'er a living child-in-dispute.

One of them said, 'Both of us,
Live in the same house.
At first, I delivered a son;
Two days later, she had one.'

One night, in her sleep,
Which was quite deep,
She rolled o'er her son
And crushed him down'

'I was sleeping then.
She took my son
And put her dead
Child in my bed.'

'For feed, he never cried,
When, next morning, I tried.
I found him not my child,
But the one who had died.'

The other woman said,
'Her son only died.
This child is mine
And not her son'

The king ordered his guard,
'Cut the boy with a sword.
Give one half to each mother,
As their equal rightful share.'

The real mother then wept.
With love what she had kept,
She told the king, 'Don't cut him,
Alive, let her take him.'

King Solomon then said,
'Don't cut the child.
She's the real mother.
So, give the boy to her.'

Similar wise decisions made
Solomon great in the world.
Well-praised a king, he was.
His wisdom was its main cause.

Simple Simon

F03 Solomon Built Temple And Palace

God lived in a tent simple,
As there was no big temple,
Either for the Lord to stay,
Or the Israelites to pray.

Even though four hundred
And eighty years had passed
After they had left Egypt,
God stayed just in a tent.

During the fourth year,
After Solomon took o'er,
He began the temple-work,
That wasn't an easy task.

Seven long years, it took,
To give it a finished look,
With an artistic interior,
And a gold-covered altar.

An inner chamber was built,
Where the Covenant Box was kept.
An exquisite prayer hall
Added grandeur to the temple.

The Lord said to Solomon,
'My love now you've won.
I'll stay in this temple,
And protect your people.'

'But my laws, you must obey,
In this temple, if I've to stay.
As I promised your father,
I'll be with you forever.'

At a central vantage place,
Solomon built his palace.
Thirteen years, it took
To complete this work.

The entire construction
Was beyond description;
He made it with pleasure.
It turned out to be a treasure.

Simple Simon

F05 The Queen Of Sheba

The queen of Sheba heard
Of Solomon's fame wide-spread.
She went all the way,
To Jerusalem one day.

With her she brought,
Her attendants to escort,
Camels loaded with spices,
Gold and jewels, priceless.

Question after question,
She asked King Solomon,
Just to know there-from,
How deep was his wisdom.

Solomon had a ready answer
For every question put by her.
At the end of this test,
She found him the wisest.

With all wonder and awe,
His grand palace, she saw.
At his table, the food
Served was too good.

Sacrifices in the temple,
The loyalty of his people,
She saw them all in excellence
And had a wonderful experience.

Stunned by his wealth,
She weighed his worth,
By his unparalleled skill,
And the power of his will.

She told him, 'About you,
All that I heard is true
From what I see now here,
And not just my guess mere.

'I'm proud to say, your queens
Are the most privileged persons,
To have you as their king
And hear your wise sayings.'

'God made you a king how?
I can quite well say this now.
'Cause of your born wisdom,
You're fit to rule this kingdom.'

He was much pleased with her
And gave customary gifts to her.
Never before had she seen this kind,
And went back with an open mind.

Simple Simon

F06 The Death Of Solomon

Does anyone remain the same,
When he's at the height of fame?
No, his ego and pride, then start
Loading up his head-weight.

The same thing did happen
In the case of King Solomon.
He became unfaithful to God.
Other gods, he worshiped.

Almost seven hundred,
Princesses he married,
Besides three hundred
Extra women, he loved.

God warned him twice,
But he ignored His advice.
The Lord disliked his ways,
But waited for many days.

This kind of degradation,
Led to his moral deprivation.
Yet, God didn't punish him.
For David's sake, He left him.

Many turned against him,
As God wasn't with him,
He couldn't kill them,
But could only chase them.

The Lord taught a lesson,
In this way to Solomon,
Who was getting old
And was losing his hold.

One day, Solomon died.
At David City, he was buried.
With this, his chapter closed.
His son, Rehoboam succeeded.

In the history of mankind,
His name and deeds find
An everlasting prominent place.
There's no doubt about this.

Simple Simon

F07 The Justice Of God

Good seeds, when we sow,
Unwanted weeds too grow.
We pull out the weeds,
And allow the good seeds.

To this kind of rule one,
God is no exception.
When He sows seeds of men,
He destroys weeds of men.

This has been evident,
From every past event
Of the Old Testament,
Ever held as paramount.

From the days of Adam,
God gave man wisdom;
But man used it seldom,
And misused his freedom.

How can one blame the Lord,
When one is unfaithful to God?
But still God has been kind,
And liberal to the mankind.

If man chose good,
His life brightly stood.
If his ways were bad,
His end became sad.

This golden lesson,
We come to learn,
From the stories told,
So far, new or old.

Though weakness for women,
Was present in King Solomon,
Yet, his love for the Lord
In many ways, he proved.

His proverbs are universal,
And his songs, sung by people.
They reveal his inner spirit
And his personal merit.

After Solomon, events go routine,
The fights going on in-between
Israelite Kings and their enemies:
The success and defeat of armies.

Simple Simon

J01 The Birth Of Jesus Christ

Many events came to pass,
After Solomon, the Wise,
When King after King came,
Unlike his fame and name.

Not pleased with some,
God had to expel them.
The constant fighting force,
At a distance kept the peace.

The suffering mass did pray;
They waited for that day,
When God heard their prayer
And sent them a Savior.

It came as good news,
Not just for the Jews,
But for the whole world,
Which made them bold.

Before Mary had married,
A child she had carried,
As a virgin, by the Holy Spirit,
Who considered her merit.

She was engaged then
To Joseph, a pious man,
Who did what was right,
To the best of his might.

To break this engagement,
Free from any sentiment,
He thought how to do it,
Without affecting her a bit.

One night, in Joseph's dream,
The Lord's Angel came,
And told, 'Don't be afraid.
It's the will of God.'

'By the Holy Spirit,
Mary's chosen by merit,
To have a blessed son,
Who'll shine like the sun.'

'You'll name him, 'Jesus'.
He'll deliver the masses.
He'll come to guide them,
And from their sins, save them.'

'You'll take Mary as your wife.
A lovely partner in your life,
And you'll be her husband,
To fulfill the Holy Command.'

Every thing came true,
As a word from the blue,
The promised son was born
To Mary, one fine morn.

During King Herod's time,
In the town of Bethlehem,
This holy child came.
Jesus became his name.

Simple Simon

102 Visitors For Baby Jesus

From Nazareth in Galilee,
To Bethlehem in Judea,
The birth place of David,
Joseph went and settled.

It was there he saw Mary,
And wished then to marry,
But the child she carried
Kept him much worried.

At the divine intervention,
He made no mention,
But married her to fulfill
The Holy Spirit's will.

When the time came for her
The sweet baby to deliver,
She gave birth to a son,
With a look very divine.

In a manger, she laid him,
Finding no room for them
In the small inn to stay.
Jesus was born this way.

Strange things did happen,
To mark this holy occasion.
Angels came from Heaven,
And sang in praise of God then.

Some strangers asked why
A star moved on the sky
From the East to Jerusalem,
That surprised all of them.

When the shepherds saw,
The starlit sky with awe,
They heard the good news
Of the birth of Baby Jesus.

An Angel revealed to them
'It's in this town Bethlehem
Now the holy child is born
As Mother Mary's first son.'

They went there in a crowd.
They were happy and proud
To see the beautiful child,
A Messiah sent by God.

This boy's arrival, day one,
Opened a New Era Christian,
Marking a fresh chapter in the Bible-
Hope and Salvation for suffering people.

Simple Simon

J03 The Escape To Egypt

'In the sky, we saw a star,
That was travelling afar.
It moved from the East
To Jerusalem, quite fast.

'While we followed it,
It moved to a place, alit:
As a truly Godsend guide,
It stood above this God-child.'

This was one big talk of men,
Everywhere inside the town.
The news like forest-fire spread,
And reached ears of King Herod.

But in his disturbed mind,
He was so eager to find,
Where this boy could be
For him to go and just see.

But the Lord's Angel came,
One day to Joseph in dream,
And said, 'Here you don't stay.
To Egypt, at once, you go away.'

'For any day, Herod will
Make an attempt to kill
Your precious new-born son,
With his trusted evil-men.'

So, Joseph, that very night,
For Egypt, moved out,
With his wife Mary and son,
Before the morning sun.

The King gave orders,
And sent his soldiers
To kill all the young boys,
Who were below two years.

In and around Bethlehem,
There were scenes of mayhem.
Many mothers loudly cried
As their sons were massacred.

God's will always prevailed,
Not that what Herod had willed.
In Egyptian soil, they stayed,
Until King Herod had died.

Thus, the Lord was very kind,
To save His son for mankind,
A purpose He'd for this child.
How could he be earlier killed?

Simple Simon

J04 The Return From Egypt

Years passed after Herod died.
An Angel of God appeared
To Joseph in a dream
And broke this news to him.

'The enemies, ' the Angel said,
'Of the child are dead.
So, back to Israel you go.'
As directed, Joseph did so.

But he had his own great fear,
Why at all to stay so near,
King Archelaus, Herod's son,
Who succeeded the throne?

He chose the province,
Of Galilee, a safe place;
At Nazareth, he stayed,
As directed by God.

Thus a Nazarene Jesus became.
He was called by this name.
When it was time for Baptism,
To Preacher John, he came.

John knew who truly he was,
His birth and its real cause,
He hesitated, told Jesus,
For a moment, like this:

'You've to baptize me
Yet, you've come to me.'
Jesus replied, 'Let it be so.
The Lord's way, we shall go.'

John smiled, finally agreed;
By him, Jesus was baptized.
When He came out of water,
Heaven opened thereafter.

Like a dove, the Holy Spirit
Alighted upon him straight.
A voice was heard from heaven,
'This is my own dear son.'

Thus Jesus came to be known,
As God's son only begotten,
Who came to redeem everyone,
Upon this earth, from every sin.

Simple Simon

J05 The Temptation Test

The Spirit led Jesus to a desert
For the Devil's 'Temptation' test.
For days, as no food was taken,
To extreme hunger, he was driven.

'This hard stone you take,
Out of it, bread you make;
If you're really God's son,
You'll have this miracle done.'

The Devil spoke like this,
And tried to tempt Jesus,
To find how he withstood
His hunger, with no food.

Jesus, in turn, gave an answer,
Quoting the Holy Scripture,
'Man lives not by merely bread,
But by the Lord's every word.'

The Devil then took him,
To the temple at Jerusalem,
And asked him to jump
From the temple's roof-top.

The Devil said, 'God sends,
Angles to hold their hands
To safely receive you unhurt,
Not even with one stone-hit.'

For this also Jesus said,
'Do not put the Lord,
To this kind of silly test,
That bears no good fruit.'

To the highest mountain,
The Devil took him then,
And showed the wide world
Of kingdoms, all around.

'If you kneel down,
And worship me alone,
I'll see that you own
What all you've seen.'

Then Jesus said, 'Go away,
You Satan, from my way;
Worship only the Lord
And serve only Thy God.'

The Devil, at last, left Jesus,
Who was then helped by Angels
And he earned their praises
For his God-mindedness.

Simple Simon

J06 The Early Days Of Jesus

As a young boy, Jesus went,
To the temple and spent
His time with preachers,
More so, with Jewish teachers.

He was always in the forefront,
With his answers intelligent.
People found him brilliant.
They admired his talent.

In one of the incidents,
He went with his parents,
To the Passover Festival
Held in Jerusalem Temple.

Back home, his mother
Finding him not there,
At last found him still
Sitting in the temple.

His mother asked, 'My son,
This, why have you done? '
You were not to be seen.
To find you, we were keen.'

He replied, 'Oh Mother,
In the house of my Father,
You can find me here,
Don't look elsewhere.'

What he really meant
Then, they knew not;
He claimed to be the son
Of the Father in heaven.

Yet, he loved them,
And respected them.
As a son at home,
He did obey them.

His maturity of mind,
All people could find
He was just twelve years old
When this had happened.

His spiritual contact first
With John, the Baptist,
Kindled his inner spirit
That gave a thrust to it.

.
He just heard by then,
That John was in prison.
He left the place Nazareth
To pursue his spiritual path.

His preaching work
Near Galilee Lake,
In Capernaum Town,
With a message, it began.

'From your sins, turn away.
Go yourself the Lord's way,
For, the kingdom of heaven
You'll find near, once you turn.'

The Holy Spirit's power
Flowed on him wherever
His holy message spread
And this, the people heard.

In the synagogues, his speech,
All the people, it did reach,
And it received their praises.
He became their 'Dear Jesus.'

Simple Simon

J07 A Prophet In His Own Soil?

On the day of Sabbath,
In the Town of Nazareth,
To a synagogue, Jesus went,
And gave a sermon pleasant.

He read from the Scripture,
That showed this picture,
'The Spirit of the Lord
Is upon me, it's so said.'

'He has chosen me here,
For the sake of the poor,
To liberate the captives,
To set free all the slaves, '

'To give sight to the blind,
To say such a word kind,
That the Lord will come
To save the people in time.'

'You all heard the message
What's said in this passage
That, in fact, has come true,
Believe me, every one of you.'

His unique, impressive speech,
Their hearts, it did touch.
They found it so marvelous,
That they became speechless.

Jesus said, 'You may say,
To me, as well, this day,
As a test for myself,
'Doctor, heal thyself!' '

'Ask not this question
Why in my hometown
I didn't do the same,
What I did in Capernaum.'

'No prophet is welcomed
In his own native land.
Israel was kept at a distance
In Prophet Elijah's presence.'

'It was a famine period
When widows here suffered,
But for a widow in Sidon,
The best care was taken.'

'The skin-disease in Israel,
None tried here to heal,
But more pains were taken
To cure one, a Syrian.'

When they heard like this,
They took his word amiss,
And showed him their anger
As they felt it led to danger.

They took him to a cliff,
And tried to throw him off,
But he escaped unhurt,
And then walked out.

Moral

A sweet lie is liked;
A blunt truth is disliked.
This is what both reveal,
As this is how, many feel.

Simple Simon

J08 Jesus Teaches, Preaches And Heals

The news about Jesus spread.
His sermons people heard.
Around him, a crowd good,
To hear him always stood.

He taught them as a teacher.
He told them as a preacher,
'For you, there's a reward,
Kept in the Kingdom of God.'

'The heaven is there
For the spiritually poor.
This Lord's Kingdom
Surely belongs to them.'

'God will comfort,
If you really regret.
To receive His mercy
Humble you shall be.'

'Satisfy what all He requires
He'll fulfill all your desires.
If you show others mercy,
He'll show you clemency.'

'Be pure in your heart.
He'll then play His part.
God, if you want to please
You shall work for peace'

'If someone insults you,
Or persecutes you,
Or talks ill of you,
Remember God is with you.'

'Do not at all worry
But be ever happy
For heaven awaits you
With a reward for you.'

Poor people, Jesus cared,
Sick ones, he cured,
Evil spirits, out he drove,
His divine power to prove

Every word he said,
And every action he did,
A place it did find,
Deep in their mind.

The Holy Spirit's power
Was with him forever,
And he travelled farther
Around nook and corner.

Simple Simon

J10 The Teachings Of Jesus (I)

Jesus taught sermons in scores,
On mount, boats and shores,
To set right the growing disorder
And bring in a new religious order.

ABOUT SALT AND LIGHT

'You're of a special kind
Like salt, to all mankind.
If salt should lose its saltiness,
It then becomes worthless.'

'You're just like the light
That keeps the world so bright.
A city built atop a hill
Cannot remain hidden still.'

'A lamp, that is lit,
Under a basket, is not kept,
But mounted on a lamp-stand.
This all can understand.'

'All good things you do,
Will shine and bring you
A reward from heaven
That's for sure and certain.'

ABOUT THE LAW

The Law that Moses brought,
And what Prophets had taught,
Shall continue to remain:
Be sure, it'll not be undone.'

'One who follows the same,
The Lord will note his name,
The Kingdom of heaven;
He'll reach; it's certain.'

ABOUT ANGER

'Anger will blind a person,
Denying him heaven,
And lead him to hell;
This much I wish to tell.'

'Don't try to fool anyone,
That'll let you face a trial then.
Better settle outside your dispute,
Than fight it in a court.'

ABOUT ADULTERY

'Besides the crime 'adultery',
He'll be judged guilty
Even for looking at a woman
With a desire, her to own.'

'If your right eye sins,
Remove it at once.
Losing one part is better,
Than being a hell-getter.'

ABOUT DIVORCE

'No husband should divorce
His wife for any silly cause,
Except for her unfaithfulness,
That is deemed madness.'

ABOUT VOWS

'Any promise you make,
Never attempt to break
Don't swear by heaven,
For it is God's throne.'

(To be continued)

Simple Simon

J11 The Teachings Of Jesus (2)

'If someone slaps you
On your cheek right,
Let him slap you
On your cheek left.'

'An eye for an eye
You need not go by;
A tooth for a tooth
Indeed, it's not worth.'

'If one goes to court
To have your shirt,
Wisely avoid it:
Give him your coat.'

ABOUT LOVE FOR ENEMIES

'An enemy is not born.
But he is made as one.
Even if he tries to offend,
Treat him as your friend.'

'For our Father in heaven
Allows the sun to shine;
As well as the rain,
Good or bad, on everyone.'

ABOUT CHARITY

'Any charity by the right hand,
Let it be unknown to the left hand.
Do not make it a big show
That everyone should know.'

ABOUT PRAYER

'In public, do not pray
On the road, or the way,
But pray in your own room,

With all reverence to Him.'

'Do not tell all your woes
For, your needs all, God knows.
Let your prayer be simple
And in fewer words, be humble.'

THE DAILY PRAYER

'Our Father in heaven;
Hallowed be your Name.
May your kingdom come;
Give us the food we need.
Forgive us for our sins
As we forgive wrong-doers.
Bring us not to the test.'

(To be continued)

Simple Simon

J14 Jesus, The Healer

Not one incident, but several,
Brought the ailing people,
To Jesus, the miracle Healer,
Who came as their Savior.

A man had skin disease,
That bothered him for years.
Jesus just touched him.
Normal, his skin became.

Once an appeal fervent,
About his sick servant,
A Roman Officer made.
The sick man was cured.

Peter's sick mother-in-law,
In her house, Jesus saw.
When Jesus ordered,
The fever disappeared.

A paralyzed man came.
Normal, he became,
When Jesus told him,
'Get up and go home.'

'Why not take pity on us?
For, we believe you, Jesus, '
When two blind men said,
By a touch, their sight, he restored.

Possessed by a demon,
There came a dumb man.
When Jesus drove it out,
He spoke on the spot.

A woman, who was sick,
One day, touched his cloak.
At once, she became well.
Under his divine spell.

Once, a storm blew out,
When Jesus got into a boat,
But he ordered the storm
To stop, and it went calm.

Some enemies of Jesus,
None other than Pharisees,
Were feeling more jealous
Of all his actions, miraculous.

'He is not a God's son,
But possessed by a demon,
That gives him this power, '
They told people, however

Simple Simon

J15 The Followers Of Jesus

When Jesus saw a big crowd,
That came a lake beside,
His disciples, he ordered
To go to the other side.

A Lawyer in the crowd
Near Jesus came and said,
'Let me go with you.
Please take me too.'

Jesus said, 'While bird has nest,
Man has no place to rest.
While foxes stay in holes,
No roof for men, poor souls! '

Another man, a disciple said,
'Sir, my father is dead.
You give me some time.
Let me go and bury him.'

'Follow me, ' Jesus said,
Let the dead, bury its dead.
His command, the man obeyed
And then, quietly followed.

Among those tax-men few,
One by name Mathew,
Left his official work-spot,
When Jesus called him out.

Once to Mathew's house,
For dinner, came Jesus.
Some men, outcast people,
Joined Jesus at the table.

Some Pharisees, who saw this,
Openly queried Jesus,
'With such outcast men,
Why do you prefer to join? '

Jesus replied, 'Only a sick man
Needs a doctor; not the one
Who remains always healthy;
None is, therefore, unworthy.'

'So the Scriptures say;
I prefer, come what may,
A heart full of kindness,
Than animal sacrifices.'

'I've come to call outcasts,
Not men of high respects,
To uplift, is my concern,
All those downtrodden men.'

Jesus had twelve disciples,
To lead the world as apostles,
And he gave them authority,
To heal the sick in priority.

[Twelve Apostles were:
Simon (Peter) , Andrew, James,
John, Philip, Bartholomew,
Thomas, Mathew, James,
Thaddeus, Simon (Patriot)
Judas Iscariot].

Simple Simon

J16 The Twelve Disciples

'Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me.
Whoever welcomes me,
Welcomes the One, who sent me,
This is the truth, believe me.'

Jesus began like this,
While giving his advice
To his disciples twelve,
On how they ought to serve?

'Go and preach to the people-
The lost sheep of Israel,
Who live in misery there,
Saying, the Kingdom is near.'

'Heal whosoever is sick,
The dead alive, bring back,
Wherever demons are,
Drive them away afar.'

'Do not carry gold, silver,
Nor a single copper,
Nor even an extra shirt,
Shoes, stick, when you go out.'

'It's God, who leads,
So, keep within your needs.
Go to those homes only,
Which welcome you warmly.'

'When they receive you,
Say, 'Peace be with you! '
Peace will ever remain
In such friendly domain.'

'I'm sending you out,
With none to protect,
Like sheep before wolves
Alone, all by yourselves.'

'You must be cautious
Like dreadful snakes;
But as doves, be gentle,
When you meet people.'

'Watch, you could face arrest.
You'll be taken to court.
They may even whip you.
Be bold, as God is with you.'

'Say what you want to say.
Mock at you, they may.
Only thro' your mouth,
God will speak the truth.'

'No pupil is greater
Than his learned teacher.
No slave is greater
Than his beloved master.'

'A pupil or a slave,
If he wants to thrive
Hard, he should strive
Like bees in bee-hive.'

'This body, one may kill,
But, surely not its soul,
Yet, God can destroy both.
So, fear God for His wrath.'

'If anyone accepts me,
He belongs to me.
Before my Father in heaven
I'll plead mercy for his sin.'

'Whoever tries to gain,
His life, he'll lose in vain.
For my sake, whoever dies,
Heaven they'll gain, as its price.'

Like this. Jesus instructed them,

In words most clear and firm.
He quoted several examples
To convince all his disciples.

Simple Simon

J17 Jesus, As A Preacher

Every method, Jesus used,
When people stood confused.
Some listeners, he commanded.
Others, he reprimanded.

He quoted many examples,
And told a lot of parables.
He used many words simple
To convince those people.

'Why do you use the parable,
When you talk to all people? '
The disciples asked Jesus.
To know, they were curious.

Jesus said, 'You're fortunate
To know all the secrets
Of the kingdom of heaven,
To you, what I've given.'

'They look, but do not see.
They listen, but like a tree,
Do not hear or understand
In a crowd, when they stand.'

PARABLE OF SEEDS AND WEEDS

'Listen, and then learn
The message, what I mean,
Thro' the parable of Seeds
Which grew up with weeds.'

'A man sowed good seeds.
In between grew, bad weeds.
At the time of harvest,
He pulled the weeds and burnt.'

'He reaped all the corns
And stored them in barns.

To heaven, goes a good man.
But to hell, goes the bad one.'

'When seeds were thrown,
Some seeds fell on stone.
They never grew up,
But soon dried up.'

'In bushes, some seeds fell,
But they didn't grow well,
As they got choked and died,
As they couldn't grow inside.'

'Some landed in good soil.
Later, they bore fruits well.
People also reacted like this
When he said such stories.'

To impress all the people
He told them a parable
Like this, whenever he sat
With the crowd, he met.

While many were convinced,
No interest some men evinced,
But criticized all his actions,
Calling his parables, mere fictions.

Simple Simon

J18 The Kingdom Of Heaven

Parable of the Hidden Treasure

"A man had immense pleasure
When he found out a treasure,
That was in someone's land,
Hidden deep under the sand."

"He sold what all he had.
And bought that land
He was happy, in the end,
At the treasure, he found."

"Like this, a man can gain
The kingdom of heaven,
If he takes more pain,
For the same, to attain."

Parable of the Pearl

"To buy fine pearls
A man goes and sells,
Unmindful of any loss,
Whatever things, he has."

"The kingdom of heaven,
Like this, anyone can gain,
This path, when he chooses,
In its pursuit, then he goes."

Parable of the Net

"Some fishermen threw their net,
And all kinds of fish, they caught.
When they came later ashore,
They claimed each one's share."

"While good fish, they kept
The bad ones, they threw out.
Like this, angels will push out

Evil people, when they select.”

Short appear these parables,
But such simple examples
Sat in the minds of people,
Who appreciated Jesus well.

“Such a divine wisdom
He received wherefrom?
How he does each miracle?
He cured how many people? ”

“Isn’t he Mother Mary’s son?
Is he really Godsend one?
James, Joseph, Simon, Judas
Aren’t they his brothers? ”

“Do his sisters live here?
How he talks with no fear?
Is it a magic or divine power?
How he became so popular? ”

In every village and town,
This kind of talk went on.
Many morally accepted him.
But some totally rejected him.

Jesus came with a mission.
So, he had no aversion.
He never hated anyone,
But he loved everyone.

Simple Simon

J19 The Death Of John, The Baptist

Jesus became so popular,
That Herod, the then ruler,
Suspected Jesus to be John,
Who came back alive again.

Herod did dislike John,
And sent him to prison,
For the simple reason,
John condemned his action.

The wife of his brother,
Herod had married, rather
It led to an action improper,
That was done by a ruler.

Herod wanted to kill John,
But was afraid of its reaction
From the Jewish people then
So, he kept John in prison.

On the birthday of Herod,
When his daughter danced,
He was very much pleased.
What she wanted, he asked?

At her mother's hint,
She was upon bent
To ask for a present,
One that was unpleasant.

She expressed her wish,
For John's head on a dish,
That Herod couldn't refuse,
Having given his promise.

Alas, Herod had John
Beheaded in the prison.
With John's head on a dish
He satisfied her sadistic wish,

John's body was taken
By his disciples then
With due honor, they carried,
And it was neatly buried.

This news, when they told Jesus,
He retired to a lonely place,
But behind him followed,
A restless large crowd.

He took pity on them.
Near him, they all came.
Those who were ill,
He healed them all.

It was late, getting dark,
But they didn't go back.
Jesus told his disciples,
To feed those people."

"With five loaves of bread
And two fish, how to feed? "
His disciples stood puzzled.
Yet, Jesus gave them food.

He looked up to heaven.
And broke one by one
All those five loaves
And he gave the pieces.

More bread was available,
To satisfy all the people,
And twelve basket full
Remained there still.

Not counting the women
And their little children,
About five thousand men,
Ate bread, leaving none!

Simple Simon

J20 Jesus Walks On Water

After the people went away,
Jesus chose another way,
With his disciples to cross
The lake and go across.

He climbed up a hill to stay,
And alone went there to pray.
By evening, for him to go back,
No boat was ready in the lake.

The waves tossed the boat.
The wind blew against it.
Early in the next morning,
On water, Jesus was walking

The disciples were afraid.
"It's a ghost, " they said.
"It's I, Don't be afraid, "
Like this, Jesus replied.

Peter then spoke, "Lord,
Let me walk to your side,
On the water, if it's you,
And what I see is true."

"Come, " this one word
Jesus blessed and said.
It was a surprise to Peter,
When he walked on water.

But the force of the wind,
Caused a fear in his mind,
That upset his balance
And he faced a crisis.

"Save me Lord, " he cried.
To float on water he tried.
At once, Jesus pulled Peter
And saved him from water.

“Why did you doubt me?
Have you no faith on me? ”
Jesus smiled and said
His mistake, Peter realized.

The wind also died down
When they both stepped in
A boat that carried them
Without any more problem.

“Truly you’re Son of God, ”
Thus the disciples praised,
Thereafter they all realized,
Jesus was sent by the Lord.

Simple Simon

J21 The Teaching Of The Ancestors

“Why do your disciples
Have no good principles?
Why do they disobey the words
Handed down by our ancestors? ”

“Their dirty hands, why not they
Before eating, wash in a proper way? ”
Some Pharisees asked Jesus.
He gave them reply like this.

“God’s command, you disobey.
Your own teaching, you’ve why?
God said, respect your father
And also your mother.”

“Whoever curses his father
Or may be, his mother,
To live here, it’s no worth,
And he’ll be put to death.”

“But you teach a person,
Everything is God’s own,
There’s no need to honor
Even his helpless father.”

“This way you disregard
The command of the Lord.
You hypocrites, how true
What Isaiah told about you.”

“These people, God says,
Honor me with their words.
When their heart is not for me
They need not worship me.”

“They teach rules self-made
As though it’s God’s word.”
Thus Jesus spoke to them
And coolly silenced them.

Simple Simon

J22 Blind Leading The Blind

To the crowd, Jesus said,
"It's not what goes inside
One's mouth that makes him
Ritually clean every time."

"Rather, what comes out
Of his mouth counts it,
To make him unclean,
And this is what's seen."

His disciples then said,
"Pharisees have misunderstood
And were hurt by your word
Though it's for their good."

Jesus replied, "Every plant
That God didn't plant
They're actually meant,
One day, to be pulled out."

"Don't worry about them.
Blind they're, all of them.
It's like, one blind
Leads another blind."

"Mutually they go, but will
One day, into a ditch fall."
Peter immediately asked for
What Jesus really stood for?

Jesus had to explain,
The same once again,
To clear Peter's doubt
What he really meant.

"Anything that goes
Into one's mouth lands
Into his stomach, in turn,
Out it's to be thrown."

“But anything that goes
Out of his mouth comes
From his heart ritually unclean,
That makes him an evil person.”

“Then he commits adultery,
And other things like robbery,
Telling lies, slandering others,
Thus he has unclean ideas.”

Simple Simon

J25 The Transfiguration

Jesus went to a high mountain,
With Peter, James and John,
Where they all stayed alone,
To avoid public intervention.

A change came over Jesus,
When they looked at his face,
That was shining like sun.
His white clothes dazzled then.

They saw Elijah and Moses
There, talking with Jesus.
It was a pleasant surprise
To all the three disciples.

Peter said, "We've seen
This wonderful rare scene,
'Cause of you, we're here
And kept under your care."

"I'll make, if you permit,
For each one of you, a tent,
One for Elijah, one for Moses,
And one for my Master Jesus."

When they were talking,
A cloud that was shining
Came over them suddenly
And a voice spoke clearly.

"This is my own dear Son,
To whom you must listen.
I'm well pleased with him."
Terrified they all became.

Jesus came to them,
And touched them,
"Get up," he said,
"Don't be afraid."

Everything became clear.
And none appeared there
Except Jesus, their Master,
Who was their caretaker.

When they came down,
Jesus told, "To no one
You'll tell this vision,
What you've now seen."

"This you don't mention
Until the Son of Man
Has been raised from death
And you witness this truth."

.

Simple Simon

J26 Jesus Heals A Boy.

A man brought his son,
Possessed by a demon,
And to Jesus, he prayed
"Have mercy on me Lord."

"My son is an epileptic.
He's very much sick.
Often he falls in the fire,
Or sometime into water."

"Your disciples didn't cure,
When I brought him here,
So, please heal my son,
And free him from demon."

"Bring him here, " Jesus said.
"Come out, " when he ordered.
A scream from the spirit
Drove the boy into a fit.

Like a corpse, he looked.
"He's dead, " everyone said.
Jesus helped him to rise.
He stood up, as a surprise.

At last, the spirit left him
And back it never came.
It was one more miracle
To the crowd of people.

The disciples asked Jesus,
"Why we couldn't chase,
And drive the demon out,
When we all ordered it.

"Enough faith you've not
That failed to drive it out.
With all faith, if you order,
You can move this hill there."

"You must know this truth.
That if you've full faith,
You can then do anything
Good, that's worth saying."

Simple Simon

J27 Payment Of Temple Tax

Jesus with his disciples came
To the City Capernaum.
The collector of temple-tax
Asked Peter for the tax.

“Does your teacher pay
The temple-tax any day? ”
Like this, the collector asked
“Of course, ” Peter replied.

When Peter went home,
Jesus first spoke to him,
“What’s your opinion?
Let me know, Simon? ”

“Who pay taxes to the kings?
The citizens or the foreigners?
“The foreigners, ” said Peter.
Jesus said, “Doesn’t matter.”

“Let us not offend them.
We’ll pay tax to them.
Now go to the lake.
The first fish, you take.”

“Its mouth, you open.
You’ll find a coin,
That’s just sufficient
For the tax payment.”

In this another miracle-play,
Jesus showed the right way.
Even against injustice done
With justice, Jesus had won.

WHO IS GREAT?

When they asked for the one
Who’s great in the heaven,

Jesus showed them a child,
Who was innocent and mild.

He said, "One who's humble,
Like this child, surely he'll
Rank as the greatest one,
In the Kingdom of heaven."

Simple Simon

J29 The Parables 2

A man said to Jesus
"My father had left us
All his properties here
With my elder brother."

"If you tell my brother,
He'll listen to you, Teacher,
To divide the properties
Equally between us."

Jesus said, "My friend,
How have you've decided,
I'm the judge to do this
And thought of none else? "

"Watch out and guard
Yourselves against greed,
You must bear in mind
Always to avoid this kind."

"It's not what one owns,
In comfort, life it keeps,
No matter, how rich he's,
Better, you know this."

Jesus told this story

"Once, a rich man had,
A big land undivided,
That gave good harvest
Every season, the best."

"He had only small barns,
Insufficient to keep corns,
So, he wanted in their places
To build large-size ones.

"He thought, "I'm lucky.
I'll take my life easy.

Eat, drink and enjoy
Always, night and day.””

“But God told him
Then in his dream,
“You fool, you’ll die now
You’ll enjoy things how? ”

“This is how it is.
Such kind of riches
Are not really seen
By God in heaven.”

Simple Simon

J30 The Parables 3

Jesus noticed how some guests
Were choosing best seats,
So, he told them a parable,
How one should be simple?

“For a wedding feast
When someone invites
Never take any seat
Kept for main guest.”

“Your host may request
You to take another seat
When that special guest
Arrives to take his seat.”

“When you sit in a seat
Of all the ones, the lowest,
There’s a chance, your host
May offer one, the highest.”

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“When you give a lunch
Don’t invite all the rich,
Who’ll pay you back
What they had took.”

“If you invite the poor,
He can’t pay you here,
But the Lord will repay
You on the chosen day.”

JESUS TOLD THIS STORY

“Once a rich man sent
And his servant went
To invite as guests
His people for a feast.”

“One friend said, “Sorry,
I’m now very busy.

My lands, I've to visit.
I can't come to the feast."

"Another said, "I can't.
My apologies, please accept.
Five pairs of oxen, I bought.
Which I'm now taking out."

"Another one said, "I'm just
Married and I can't
Come to the feast
As I'm going out."

"When servant told like this
The master became furious.
Next, he invited the people
Poor, blind, lame, cripple."

"His house became full
And those poor people
Blessed the host well
And ate stomach-full."

Simple Simon

J32 The Parables 5

"I'm going out, Father,
Give me my property-share,
For I wish to seek my fortune
Abroad, " said his second son.

His property, he sold
For a value in gold,
And took his journey
Into a far away country

All his gold had been spent.
He was thrown in wants,
With his riotous living
And no support coming.

His search for job went in vain
As a servant, he fed swine.
The swine's husk food, he ate,
In repentance, he cursed his fate.

He recalled those days bygone,
When his servants, one by one,
Stood before him with folded hands
And obeyed all his commands.

Realizing his sin against heaven,
He wished to go back again
As a servant, not as a son,
And seek his father's pardon,

As he went out in quarrel,
He now lost his rights moral
So, he went to the farmhouse
To be a servant of that house.

Seeing his homecoming,
His father went running.
He hugged him tightly
And kissed him fondly.

"I've sinned against Heaven,
I'm unworthy to be your son.
Forgive my sin, " cried the son,
"As a servant please take me in."

His words, father ignored
And orders then he issued
"Give my son the best robes,
A gold ring and new shoes."

For him, he held a grand feast,
And a calf cooked, the one fattest,
Everyone enjoyed the treat,
And said that was the one finest.

"A dead son came alive again.
He was lost and found again."
Like this, he welcomed his son,
Whose love again he had won.

When the elder son came,
His servant then told him
Everything that happened,
On which, he became displeased.

In anger, he stood outside,
And refused to come inside.
He said, "I'm a loyal son, yet a feast,
Similar one, I never had in the past."

"My son, with me you stayed long,
All that's mine, to you they belong.
My dead son has come now.
My lost son is found now."

"You join us in this grand meet
You give him this welcome-treat,
Let us forgive and forget
What he did, as he knew not."

Simple Simon

J33 The Parables 6

(1) The Widow and the Judge

A judge in certain town,
Neither respected men,
Nor even feared God,
Thinking himself a Lord.

A widow in that town,
Came to the Judge often,
And for her rights pleaded,
But the judge never heeded.

One day the judge thought,
"For men, I've no respect,
Also God, I don't fear
Yet, I'll try to help her."

"With her every visit
She'll wear me out,
Her rights, if I don't get,
So, no more I can wait."

"Will not the Lord listen
And quickly favor His men.
Day and night, when
They cry and mourn? "

"But then, it's a question,
Will the Son of Man
Find any more faith
On Judges on earth? "

(2) Pharisee and Tax Collector

A Pharisee prayed in temple
"I lead a life very simple.
I'm not greedy or dishonest.
Two days in a week, I fast."

"I'm not an adulterer,
Or like that Tax Collector,
Who's praying o'er there.
My income with you, I share."

Behind him, the Tax Collector
Said like this in his prayer,
"God, have pity on me,
A sinner I'm, pardon me."

Jesus told this parable,
To the crowd of people,
For them to find
This moral behind.

One, who feels great,
Will be humbled at last.
One, who feels humble,
He'll be honorable.

Simple Simon

J34 The Parables 7

A top-rank-gentleman,
Left his home-town.
Soon a ruler, he became
Of a remote kingdom.

Before leaving, he called
His ten servants and told,
"I'm giving you, each one,
As a support, one gold coin."

"See what you can earn
With this one gold coin"
After disbursing the same
He left for the kingdom.

"The king came back,
As people didn't like
His rule in the kingdom
For his lack of wisdom.

"On his return he called
The ten servants and asked
What business they did?
How much they earned? "

One said, "I earned ten
With the one gold coin."
The master said, "Well done.
You're in charge of cities ten."

The second one said, "Five coins
I earned with your one coin."
Five cities his master gave him
And he took charge of the same.

The Third one said then,
"Sir, here is your coin.
Safely I kept it hidden
As you're a hard man."

“What’s not yours.
You take as yours.
What you didn’t sow
You reap and show.”

The master wasn’t happy
With his evasive reply.
He ordered the first man
To take this one coin.

He said, “More is given
To an enterprising person
Who has with him something,
And to a lazy man, nothing.”

Simple Simon

J35 The Parables 8

THE TENANTS IN THE VINEYARD

In a remote village corner,
There was a landowner.
He planted a vineyard,
With a fence to guard.

With an idea to collect
His share of the harvest,
The vineyard, he let out,
And on a long trip went.

Back when he came,
It was well in time,
To harvest the grapes,
While in good shapes.

He sent his servants
To get from tenants
That part of his share,
But they were unfair.

His servants, they bet
And threw them out.
Next time, he sent some,
But they did the same.

At last, he sent his son,
Who was mercilessly slain
By them for the reason,
The land, they could own.

"How he would have reacted
With them, who had cheated?
When Jesus asked the people
They gave this answer simple.

"He would have them killed
And let out the vineyard,

Later on, to any other tenant
Found sincere and honest."

Jesus said, "God's Kingdom
Will be taken away anytime
From you and given to the people,
Who produce fruits ample.

The priests and the Pharisees,
Who heard these parables,
Wanted then to arrest Jesus
But were afraid of the crowds.

Simple Simon

J36 The Parables 9

On the Kingdom of heaven,
Jesus told parables not one,
But countless in number,
For the people to remember.

Once ten girls went out
A bridegroom to meet,
With their oil lamps ten,
But he wasn't at home then.

While five wise girls
Took extra oil in cans
The rest foolish five
Didn't bother to have.

All the ten girls slept,
As it was getting late
For the bridegroom
To come back home.

It was already midnight,
When the cry rang out,
"Here is the bridegroom
Come and meet him."

The ten girls woke up,
From their deep sleep.
The lamps were dull,
For want of more oil.

Then the foolish girls
Asked the wise girls
"Our lamps may fail,
So, give us some oil."

The wise ones said,
"Sorry, we're afraid,
We may find it short,
Your needs, if we meet."

The foolish went out
For some oil to get,
While by that time,
The bridegroom came.

The feast that was grand,
All the wise girls joined.
As the door was closed
The foolish were barred.

“Always be on your guard, ”
Like this, Jesus concluded,
When does the heaven open
Its gate is never known.”

Simple Simon

J37 The Parable 10

“Only a thief or a robber
Stealthily tries to enter
The sheepfold gate
By jumping over it.”

“But a shepherd enters,
Thro’ the gate proper,
As the gatekeeper
Knows him better.”

“When he makes a noise,
The sheep know his voice.
When he leads carefully,
They follow him blindly.”

“If someone else calls them,
They’ll run away from him,
For they know, who is a stranger,
And who is their own master? ”

What for, like this, Jesus told,
To understand, people failed.
Jesus, therefore, explained
Again the purpose behind.

“I’m a good shepherd.
My sheep, I can guard.
I’ll even die to keep
Safe all my sheep.”

“If you hire a man,
Far away he’ll run,
On seeing a wolf,
Just to save his life, ”

“My word, I’ll keep,
And die for my sheep.
Of others, not in the flock,
I must bring them back.”

"I'll give up my life
And take back my life
At my own free will.
This God knows well."

"As God loves me,
He commands me
To take up this task.
So, I do this work."

The views stood divided.
In the crowd, some said,
"It's the talk of a demon.
Not that of a sane man."

Others said, "It's not demon,
But the Holy Spirit of heaven
Who makes Jesus to talk
And also guides his work."

J37 The Parable 10

The Shepherd

"Only a thief or a robber
Stealthily tries to enter
The sheepfold gate
By jumping over it."

"But a shepherd enters,
Thro' the gate proper,
As the gatekeeper
Knows him better."

"When he makes a noise,
The sheep know his voice.
When he leads carefully,
They follow him blindly."

"If someone else calls them,

They'll run away from him,
For they know, who is a stranger,
And who is their own master? "

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Just to save his life, "

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And die for my sheep.
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But the Holy Spirit of heaven
Who makes Jesus to talk

And also guides his work.”

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Simple Simon

J38 The Woman Caught In Adultery

When Jesus was in the temple
Teaching a crowd of people,
Some lawyers and Pharisees
Brought there an adulteress.

"Teacher, " they said to Jesus,
"An adulterous woman she's
Our law book of Moses,
Kill her, it clearly says."

"It's death by stone,
For such a woman,
What do you say now?
You dispose this how? "

They wanted to trap him
And then accuse him,
But Jesus told them
"Yes, do the same."

"But, he must be the one,
Who had done no sin,
To throw the first stone,
On this one condition."

When they heard this,
They made no fuss,
And left the place
Without any trace.

Jesus was left alone,
Beside the crying woman.
He asked, "They've gone.
To stone you, there's none."

"I do not condemn you
And I've to tell you,
Go, but never again
Commit such a sin."

"By the true standards,
One should be judged.
Not by external standards
One should be judged."

It wasn't a mere question,
That the said law was broken
But it was for the one reason,
'Who was without sin? '

On the level of compassion
If one repents for the sin
When God can condone
Why not the God's Son?

Simple Simon

J39 Jesus Was Rejected

It was winter, when people
Congregated in the temple
At Jerusalem, on the occasion
Of the Festival of Dedication.

In the Solomon's Porch side
There was a huge crowd,
Where Jesus was walking
And people were watching.

They asked openly Jesus,
"In suspense don't keep us.
Are you Messiah, the one
Sent by God as His son? "

Jesus said, "I made it clear,
Time and again, earlier,
You believed me never
But doubted me forever."

"Under my Father's authority,
Not on my own, I do my duty,
But doubts only you keep,
As you're not my sheep."

"My sheep listen to me
And they follow me
As my voice, they know
And with me, they go."

"They shall never die,
As eternally they live by
The word of the Father,
Who sent them to my care."

"None can snatch them,
And take away anytime
From my strong hold,
As they're in my fold."

"The Father and I are one."
When he said this word 'one, '
In the crowd, all the men,
Started picking up stones.

"For which one good deed
Among those, before you, I did,
You want to throw stones at me?
Before stoning, will you tell me? "

When Jesus asked like this,
They replied, "It's because
Of your words of blasphemy,
And your senseless audacity."

"You're only a man, not God,
But you make yourself God."
Jesus understood their mood
And told them words good.

"In you Law, it's written,
That God exists in all men.
When this is the truth
Why have you no faith? "

"The Father Himself chose me.
To this world, He sent me.
All are Gods, your scripture say.
Then blasphemy it's, how you say? "

"If you don't believe me
Believe my deeds you see.
The Father is in me, as I act,
And I'm in Him, it's a fact."

When he finished saying this,
His body, they tried to seize,
But he managed to slip out.
And from their hold, he left.

Crossing the River Jordan,

He went to the place of John,
Where he stayed then,
And taught all visiting men.

Simple Simon

J40 The Death Of Lazarus

A man named Lazarus,
A dear friend of Jesus,
Lived in Bethany Town,
And for days, was bedridden.

Mary, a pious woman
Lived in the same Town,
With Martha, her sister,
Separately, but was near

Once, when Jesus came,
This Mary poured perfume
On his feet and wiped them
With her hair, thus honored him.

About Lazarus, her sick brother,
To Jesus, she wrote a letter
"Lord, your friend is ill.
You bless him well."

When Jesus received it,
He passed a comment,
"His illness will not lead
To death, but glory to God."

"This will glorify, in turn,
One day, the Lord's Son.
Jesus didn't leave early
But extended his stay.

After two days he started
But his disciples warned
To avoid going back
And facing any risk.

Jesus said, "He has fallen asleep,
I must go and wake him up."
Jesus meant. Lazarus had died.
The other way, they understood.

They said, 'When he's ill,
It's good that he sleeps well.'
Jesus revealed the truth
Then about Lazarus' death.

They too started with Jesus
Saying, 'Teacher, allow us
To come with you there.
To die, we've no fear.'

Simple Simon

J41 The Resurrection

Jesus found, when he arrived,
That Lazarus had been buried.
Four days had gone by then.
His body was in bad condition.

Martha met Jesus first,
And before him, she wept.
Later, her sister Mary joined
And for her brother she cried.

It touched Jesus' heart.
With them, he also wept.
People around were moved.
In sympathy, they too cried.

They said, "See how
Jesus shows his love! "
When he gave sight to blind
Why not life to his friend?

"Where've you buried him? "
Jesus then asked them.
"Come and see Lord,
With tears, they said.

All the way, they led Jesus,
To the tomb of Lazarus.
His body was laid
In a cave deep inside.

"Take away the stone, "
Jesus ordered them then.
To remove when they tried,
Martha interfered and said,

"Lord, the body will
Give very bad smell
If you remove the stone
As four days had gone."

Jesus replied, "Don't worry.
You'll see God's glory,
On this memorable day,
Once you believe, what I say."

They took away the stone.
Jesus looked up the heaven.
"What's going to happen? "
Everyone asked this question.

"I thank you Father; you listen
To my every word or action
To let people know, you sent me,
So, they'll start believing me."

After saying this Jesus called out
In a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."
He came out with his hands and feet,
In grave clothes, wrapped tight.

"Untie him, let him go, "
Jesus loudly said so.
"Never one like this happened, "
Said all the people around.

Simple Simon

J42 The Plot Against Jesus

Many people believed Jesus,
When the dead Lazarus,
Four days after, came alive,
From the burial-cave.

But those, who were jealous,
They complained against Jesus.
So, Chief Priests and Pharisees,
Met the Council to discuss.

"If we let him go in this way,
All will believe him one day,
Then Romans will take action
And try to destroy our nation."

"Our temple, they'll pull down.
It's better to kill this one man,
Than destroying one nation
How fast this can be done? "

This, when the High Priest said,
For a chance, they all waited,
To arrest Jesus next time,
During his visit to Jerusalem.

He happened to be the Priest,
Of that year, the one highest,
Who said, "Jesus will die
For the Jews, as I foresee."

"His death will bring,
Under one compact wing,
All the scattered people,
To come and settle."

From that day on
They made a plan
To kill Jesus when
And where he was seen

So, secretly Jesus went,
To a place in the desert,
Named Ephraim town,
With a plan of his own.

For the Passover Festival,
It was time for the people,
To perform the ritual
Of purification, as usual.

For Jesus, they searched
In the crowd that gathered.
They ordered his arrest
When found, at any cost.

Simple Simon

J43 Anointment At Bethany

Six days prior to the Passover
When men were busy all over,
Jesus went to Bethany Town
Where Lazarus lived in.

They gave a dinner for Jesus.
At the table joined Lazarus.
While Martha served dinner
Mary anointed her Master.

She poured the perfume
On his feet, wiped them
With her hair, that some
Smell spread in the room.

One of his disciples Judas
Commented and told Jesus,
"On perfume, why waste money,
That can help the poor many? "

Judas Iscariot, a cunning man,
Among his disciples was the one,
Who was earmarked to betray
His Master on a future day.

Jesus told Judas then
"You leave her alone!
Let her keep this oil
For the day of my burial, "

"Poor people always
With you, they'll be,
But with you always,
Perhaps, I'll not be."

When outside people heard,
At Bethany, where Jesus stayed,
They all went in crowd
To see how Lazarus lived?

The Chief Priests decided,
Let Lazarus also be killed,
Whose resurrection forced
Many to join Jesus' side.

They lost their fair senses,
Because of this Lazarus,
For fear the Jews may reject
Totally the Chief Priests sect.

Simple Simon

J44 Triumphant Entry Into Jerusalem

The next day, a large crowd,
That came to the festival heard,
Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,
To participate in it at any time.

They took palm-tree-branches
As a token of their respects
And love for a Godsend leader
Who had come as their teacher.

They shouted, "God bless him.
He comes in the Lord's name.
God bless the King of Israel.
A Savior of the poor people."

On a donkey, Jesus rode,
Like what the scripture said,
"City of Zion, Don't be afraid,
In a donkey, your king will ride."

His disciples also failed,
Why it was, to understand,
They only knew, he was raised
To glory, as the scriptures said.

The second life to Lazarus,
Added more fame to Jesus,
And brought enormous crowd,
Wherever he went and toured.

Pharisees could do nothing,
The large crowd, on seeing,
They told, "We've failed.
By his side, see the world."

Some Greeks in Jerusalem
Went eagerly to see him,
When he addressed them,
"The hour has now come."

"The Son of Man to get
His glory, at the earliest.
I'm telling the truth,
Upon my word have faith."

"A grain of wheat does remain
No more than a single grain,
Unless it's dropped
And dies in the ground."

"This way, when it dies,
It produces many grains.
In the loss there's a gain
This is the truth plain."

"His life, whoever loves,
The same surely he loses."
His life, whoever does hate,
Eternally he keeps it."

"Whoever wants to serve me,
They're welcome to follow me.
My servant will be with me
Where I'm, as he believes me."

"Yes, My Father will honor
Anyone, who serves me here."
An assurance of this kind,
Never before, they all heard.

Simple Simon

J45 Jesus Speaks About His Death

"My heart is troubling me now.
Let this hour wait, I can say how?
Father, the purpose I came here,
At this hour, is it not to suffer? "

"Bring glory to Thy name,
Father, for the reason same
To this world I came
Let 'Glory' be thy name."

Thus, when Jesus spoke,
A voice from sky that broke,
Said, "Glory, I've brought.
Once again I'll bring it."

The crowd heard the voice.
It was a thunder's noise
Some thought for a while.
Others took it as an angel."

Jesus told them, "Not for me
This voice spoke to me,
For you, it spoke the truth,
So, you'll get more faith."

"To judge this world,
Time has come, as I told,
The present rule will end
Up above when I'm lifted."

"Then I'll draw everyone
To my side, one by one."
By these words, what he meant
Was his death, at any moment.

The crowd asked, "Who's this
Son of Man, a Messiah he is,
Who'll not die, but live forever,
Tells so our Law and Scripture."

Jesus replied, "A little longer
The light will be with you here.
It will show you your way
Till darkness comes in its way."

"You believe in the light
That leads your life bright.
For you may not know,
In darkness, where you go."

Such powerful words he said,
And the miracles all he did,
Yet, there were disbelievers
Who did not recognize Jesus.

Some Pharisees and Jews,
Though believed in Jesus,
Openly they didn't say it
For fear of the High Priest.

Simple Simon

J46 Judgment By Jesus Words

In a loud voice Jesus spoke,
The people's interest to evoke,
"Whoever believes me,
Believes Him also, who sent me."

"Like this, whoever sees me,
Also sees Him, who sent me.
As a light, I've come here.
So, in darkness, you'll not fear."

"If my words, you don't obey,
I'll not judge you, any day.
I came to save this world
And not judge its kind."

"Whoever rejects me
And does not accept me
Or the message of mine
God only will judge him then."

"The words I've spoken
They're not really mine,
But He, who has sent me
To speak so, commands me."

"It's His authority that speaks.
It's His will that commands.
It's His word that prevails.
On the last day, He only judges."

Every word Jesus spoke
Was meant to awake
Their self-confidence,
And their sub-conscience.

But how far did it work?
Or how far did it provoke?
The later events only told,
How it changed the world?

Unmindful of his own life,
His concern for every life,
It revealed his selflessness,
And his high spirit of sacrifice.

Simple Simon

J47 Washing The Feet

The eve of the Festival
Of Passover didn't go well.
Jesus knew that the hour
To quit this world was near.

His men in the world,
He had always loved,
And to the very end,
His love they earned.

Jesus with his disciples
Sat at the supper table.
The Devil came on Judas,
Who was to betray Jesus.

Jesus knew that the Father
Gave him complete power.
He knew, he came from God
And was going back to God.

He rose from the table.
With water and towel,
He washed, one by one,
His disciples' feet clean

In his turn, Peter said,
"Don't wash mine, Lord."
Jesus said, "You'll better
Know its purpose later, "

"If I don't wash your feet
My disciple, you're not.
Peter said, "Then Lord,
Also wash my hand and head."

Jesus replied, "Anyone,
A bath, when he had taken,
He's completely clean,
While unclean his feet remain."

"All of you are clean,
All, except the one."
Jesus already knew well
The betrayer among all.

After washing their feet,
Back he sat in his seat.
"As I washed your feet, "
He said, "This you repeat."

"Wash one another's feet
This example I've set.
On the hope, you'll do,
What I've done to you."

"No slave is greater
Than his master,
No messenger is greater
Than the Father."

"Now, this truth you know.
In practice, you must show.
How happy you'll be then,
Not among you the one."

"The man, who shared
And taken my food,
Now turned against me
Later, this you'll see."

"When it does happen
You'll know then,
I Am, who I Am,
As the one sent by Him."

That he was the Son of God
Sent here by the Lord,
Jesus had revealed this,
Not one, but at many places

Simple Simon

J48 The Supper Of The Lord

After washing their feet,
Jesus took up his seat
And said, "You'll all see,
One of you'll betray me."

"Who could it be that one?
Lord, Am I that man? "
Each one asked their Master,
Who gave them an answer.

"Some bread I'll dip
In the sauce of my cup
And I'll give it to him
And you'll know him."

So, he took a piece,
And gave it to Judas,
Who took it silently,
And went out quickly.

It was dark night,
When Judas left.
Jesus continued to tell
His final words well.

"My children, carefully hear,
Don't look for me here.
As my last hour is near,
You'll see me never."

"As I love you forever,
You must love each other.
My true disciples, if you're
You'll do this for me ever."

"Where're you going, Lord, "
In a distress tone, Simon asked.
"Now you can't follow me,
But later you'll follow me."

Like this, when Jesus said,
"For you I'll die, " he replied.
Jesus said, "Are you really
To die with me ready"

"Before the cock crows,
You'll be saying thrice,
That you don't know me,
Which I'm going to see."

Simple Simon

J49 Jesus Prays

It wasn't a pleasant night
Jesus with a heavy heart,
Went to Gethsemane, a place,
That gave his mind no peace.

His disciples followed him
To stay behind, he told them.
He took only three men,
Peter, James and John.

He told them, "Sit here,
Let me say my prayer.
Keep a watch till then."
He went ahead alone.

"Father, why prolong
This kind of suffering?
Yet, it's not what I want,
But is what You want."

Soon, when he returned,
He was surprised to find
His three disciples asleep.
A watch, they failed to keep

He said to Peter, "Simon,
Can't you be awake even,
For my sake, for one hour
Till I finish my prayer? "

"The spirit is willing,
But the flesh is unwilling.
Let me say a word of caution.
Don't fall into temptation."

He went once more,
To another corner,
Again for his prayer,
Addressing the Father.

When he returned back,
They didn't keep awake,
But were in deep sleep
And he woke them up.

When, for the third time,
After prayer, he came,
Seriously he told them
"The hour has come."

"Look, the Son of Man,
In the hands of sinful men
Is now being handed over;
The betrayer has come here."

Simple Simon

J50 The Arrest Of Jesus

Jesus didn't finish his talk.
His disciple, Judas came back.
This time, he wasn't alone.
With him, came armed men.

A signal, the traitor had given,
"The man, I kiss, is the one,
You're searching for to arrest.
Take him under proper escort."

Judas went up to Jesus,
And gave him a kiss.
The waiting soldiers came.
At once, they arrested him.

With his sword, Peter
Cut off a slave's ear.
Jesus chided his hasty action
And put the ear in its position.

The soldiers took Jesus,
To the High Priest's house.
Peter went behind slowly.
The crowd followed closely.

Near a fire place, Peter sat.
A girl looked at him straight.
"He was with Jesus, " she said.
"I don't know him, " Peter denied.

Again a man noticed Peter
He said, "One of them, you're."
"Man, I'm not." Peter said.
Second time, he denied.

After an hour, another man
Insisted, "No doubt, this man
Was with Jesus, as a Galilean."
Peter denied once again.

Immediately after the third,
From roof top, a cock crowed.
Jesus gave him a meaningful smile.
Peter wept bitterly for a while.

Simple Simon

J51 Caiaphas, The High Priest

The High Priest questioned Jesus,
About his teachings and disciples.
Jesus said, "I've always spoken,
Every time, publicly to everyone."

"I do all my teachings well
In the synagogues and temple
Where all the people congregate
And I do nothing in secret."

"Why then, you question me?
Those people, who heard me
You'll have to question
What I told them in person."

When Jesus said like this,
A guard slapped his face,
And said, "Before the High Priest
How dare you talk like that? "

Jesus replied, "If I'm wrong,
Tell everyone, what was wrong?
If I'm right in what I've said,
It's wrong, what you did."

Jesus is Brought Before Pilate

Early in the morning,
For further questioning,
The soldiers took Jesus
To the Governor's palace.

They didn't go inside.
So, Pilate came outside
And asked, "What for
You brought him here? "

We wouldn't have brought him
If he had not done any crime.

When they told Pilate like this,
He asked them to try themselves.

They replied, "We cannot
Give death punishment
So, we've come here
For a punishment severe."

Pilate took Jesus inside.
"Are you the king, " he asked,
"Of the Jews, what they say? "
For this, what do you say? "

Jesus asked, "Did anyone
Tell you I'm the one
Or, you yourself ask
To take me into task? "

Pilate replied, "I'm not a Jew.
Your people only talk about you.
Jesus said, "My kingdom doesn't,
In any way, in this world exist."

Pilate asked, "Are you a king? "
Jesus said, "You say, I'm a king.
To speak the truth, I came.
I tell everyone the same."

Simple Simon

J52 Jesus Is Sentenced To Death

Pilate went back outside,
And to the people said,
"I can't find any reason
To condemn this man."

"To set free prisoners,
Your custom prevails,
During Passover time.
Give him his freedom."

"No, Not him, " shouted
The people in the crowd,
"We want Barabbas,
And not this Jesus."

Pilate was forced to take,
Then Jesus to task.
He handed over Jesus
To the waiting soldiers.

They first whipped Jesus.
With sharp thorny branches
A rough crown they made
And put it on his head.

They forced him to wear
A robe in purple color.
They slapped him,
And mocked at him.

They ridiculed him, saying
"Long live the King
Of Jews, as a prisoner
Before you, he's here."

Pilate addressed the crowd
"No reason I can find
To condemn the man
Let me release this man."

But the Chief Priests,
And the temple guards,
Shouted, "Crucify him,
At once, crucify him."

"Then you take him,
As you like, crucify him,
I can't condemn him."
Pilate said to them.

The crowd shouted back,
"We've a law book,
That says he ought to die
For the crime of blasphemy."

"He says, he's son of God.
Don't you take his word
As a blasphemous statement
That goes against our sentiment? "

This, when Pilate heard,
He was even more afraid.
He went back to the palace
And again asked Jesus.

"Where do you come from? "
From Jesus no answer came.
Pilate said, "I can release you.
If you tell me, it's good for you."

Jesus replied, "You can do
Or undo, as God gave you
The authority o'er me.
So, to act anyway, you're free."

"The man, who committed sin,
Is not you, but the one
Who handed o'er me to you,
What I'm saying is true."

When Pilate heard this,

He tried to free Jesus,
But the crowd demanded
"Jesus should be crucified."

They said, "A rebel he is,
As a king, when he claims.
It's against the Emperor
Who's the one superior."

Pilate heard their argument.
And saw their excitement.
On the Stone of Pavement,
He sat to give his judgment.

It was then almost noon.
They waited for his decision.
Pilate said, "Here's your king.
Should I crucify your king? "

The Chief Priests said then,
"There's no other option.
The only king we've is
The Emperor of ours."

Pilate handed over Jesus
To be crucified by the soldiers.
So, they took charge of Jesus,
Who was led out with a cross.

Simple Simon

J53 Jesus Is Crucified

Once the decision was taken,
The next step was its execution.
There was a mixed reaction.
O'er the final decision.

While some men rejoiced,
Many poor people cried.
The soldiers did him harm,
Still his face was calm.

Blood from his wound
Was dripping on the ground.
The thorns pricked his face,
Oozing blood, seen in trace.

The weight of the cross
Kept his body to toss
Sometime he carried it
Other time he pulled it.

While he was marching,
His tongue was parching
Simon carried the cross
That gave some relief to Jesus.

Crowd began to swell,
As they reached Skull
The last destination,
For the final execution.

They crucified Jesus
With two criminals,
One on his right,
Another, on his left.

"Father, they do not know
What they do; so show
Mercy on them
And forgive them."

So prayed Jesus,
While on the cross.
It showed his kindness
Even to the enemies.

They divided his clothes
Among themselves.
The Jewish leaders
Jeered at Jesus.

Jokingly they said,
"Others he had saved
If God has chosen him
Will He now save him? "

"King of the Jews"
They wrote like this
Above his head
And then mocked.

The Death of Jesus

There was a gloomy atmosphere.
Darkness covered everywhere.
The sun stopped shining.
The final hour came for parting.

Aloud Jesus cried out
"Father, I place my spirit
In Your hands, " he said
These last words, and died.

An army officer praising God,
Said, "He was really good."
This way, Jesus life had gone
But his great era, 'AD' had begun.

Simple Simon

J55 Jesus Appears To His Disciples

It was late Sunday evening.
While others were resting,
All the disciples gathered
And secretly they stayed.

As the Jewish authorities
Were making enquiries
They were afraid to go out
Openly in the day light.

Jesus appeared before them.
It gave them courage some.
"Peace be with you, " he said.
He breathed o'er their head.

"If you forgive people's sin
They are, in turn, forgiven.
If you do not forgive them,
Then, I'll not forgive them."

"As the Father sent me here
So I send you all here.
Receive the Holy Spirit.
And the power behind it."

He opened their minds
So they could understand
What was pre-written
On the Scriptural lines

"Repentance of sins
Forgiveness of sins
You preach all nations
On these two messages."

Every letter and word
In spirit they all heard
And they were too glad
Having seen their Lord.

He departed thereafter
Back to his Father
And up he was taken
Straight to the Heaven.

Conclusion

If what all Jesus had done,
Were to be written down,
Will the entire world,
All those book hold?

His life story is such a vast one
That whatever so far written
It's like measuring with a spoon
All the waters of the ocean."

The End of this Bible series,
But the love and kindness
Of Jesus Christ never ends
As long as this world exists.

(1) Book Ref: Good News Bible -
Today's English Version

(2) My sincere thanks go to
Poetess Sandra Fowler
And Dr. John Celes for
their critical supervision
over my work all these days.

(3) This book is dedicated
To the Son of God, who
gave up his life for us
to live as His loveable
Children.

(4) Your Simple Simon
presents this book

for your reading
pleasure.

(5) 'Let Peace Be With You! ! '

---Amen! ! ! -----

Simple Simon

The End Of The Flood

1. Noah and the Flood

It was a thing of pride,
That God on Noah's side,
Had not forgotten him,
And other lives with him.

He caused a wind to blow.
Its power began to show.
It pushed the water down
And had the clouds all flown.

The mountain tops appeared.
The water disappeared.
When forty days had gone,
A window slid open one morn!

To probe he sent a raven,
Which did not return,
But it kept on flying,
As the water was still drying.

Then, he sent a dove,
That came back somehow.
There was no place to land.
It came to Noah's hand.

After a week, he sent a dove.
It returned with a branch olive.
He was glad to know by then,
That down the water had gone.

After seven days were over,
He sent a dove to hover,
But it never came back to him.
It settled somewhere this time.

From the boat's door Noah found,
The earth was dry all around.

God commanded him to go out
And from the boat, he came out.

His family members disembarked.
The animals and birds followed.
Thus, a fresh lease of lives they got.
Famous became Noah's boat.

2. Noah Offers a Sacrifice

An altar, Noah built unto the Lord.
He burnt a sacrifice to God,
One clean animal and bird
From each variety he had.

Well-satisfied with his offer,
God said, 'Like this, never
Will I allow earth to suffer,
Because of man's error.'

'Evil won't leave man's mind.
Never will I allow this kind
Of mass life destruction
Followed by mass re-creation.'

'There will be a time for planting
And another time for harvesting.
There will always be cold and heat,
Summer and winter, day and night.'

Simple Simon