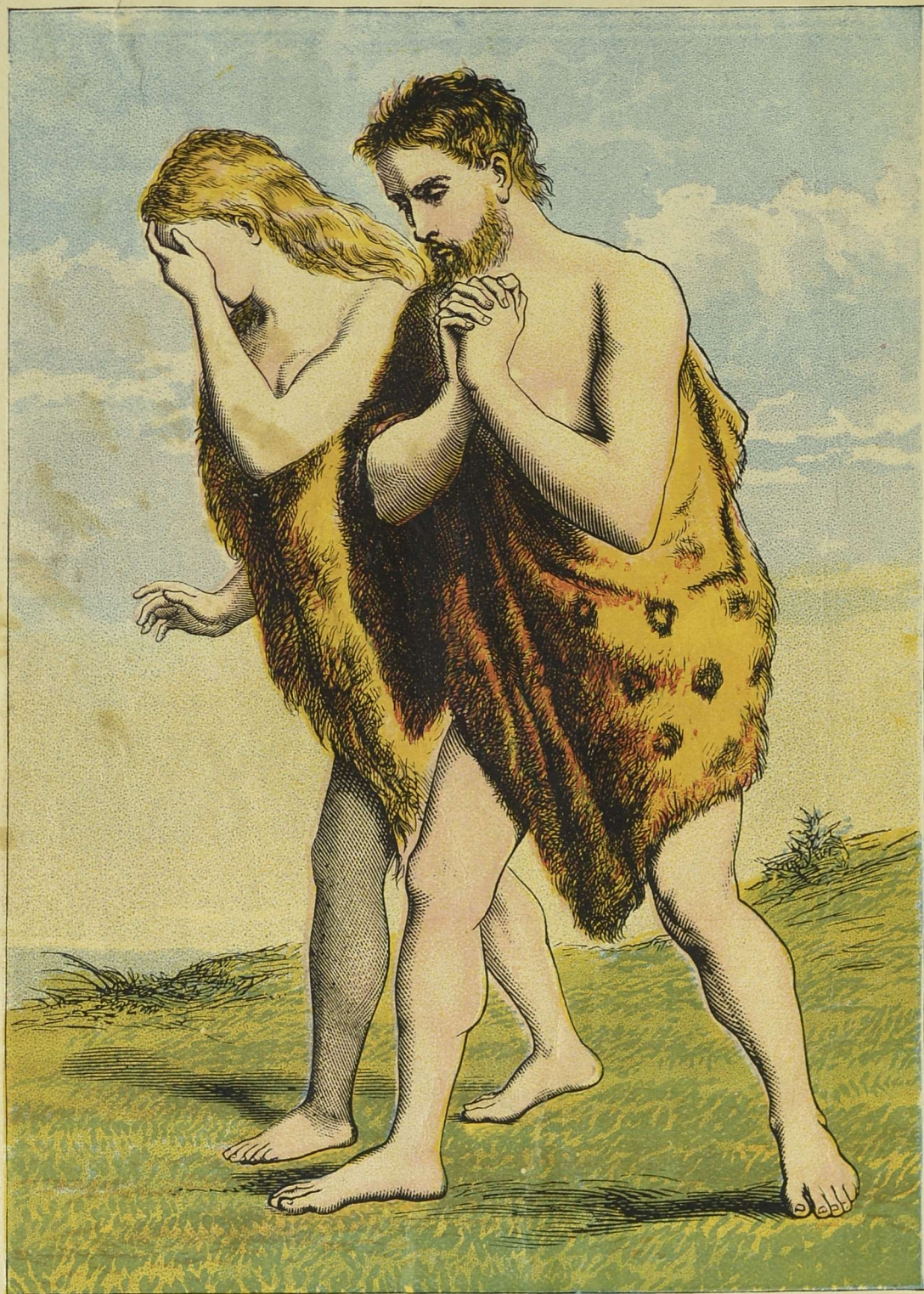


PICTURES FROM THE BEST BOOK

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I. ADAM AND EVE

God placed them in a garden fair,
Where many fruits were found ;
And, all without their toil and care,
With blessings they were crown'd.
One tree alone did God withhold,
And charged them not to eat ;
For disobedience, they were told,
Sad punishment would meet.
Yet when the serpent tempted Eve
Upon that tree to look,
Too soon did he her heart deceive—
The fatal fruit she took.
Thus Eve her Maker disobey'd,
And Adam did the same ;
See, now, to meet their God afraid,
How wretched they became !

II. JOSEPH SOLD BY HIS BRETHREN.

Joseph a lovely pattern show'd
Of piety in youth ;
Early he sought the heavenly road,
And chose the path of truth.
His elder brethren turn'd aside
To paths of sin and shame ;
But Joseph did with God abide,
And fear'd and loved his name.



With envy and with hatred moved,
They sold him for a slave ;
But God, his great Deliverer, proved
His arm was strong to save.

So, if we learn the Lord to fear,
Where'er our lot is cast,
Though we shall meet with trials here,
All will be well at last.

III. DAVID AND THE GIANT.

David the bear and lion slew,
That took his lambs away ;
The giant, fierce Goliath, too,
God gave him power to slay ;
With nothing but a sling and stone,
He fought and conquer'd him alone.

Like David, we have many foes ;
But, trusting in the Lord,
Satan and sin we must oppose,
And he will help afford :
The weakest shall like David be,
Who puts his trust, O Lord, in thee.

IV. DANIEL AT PRAYER.

Daniel a lofty station held,
Yet had a lowly mind ;
His foes with wicked eyes beheld
How much in wisdom he excel'd,
And sought some fault to find





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An artful plan at length they tried,
His ruin to procure;
But firm did Daniel's faith abide;
He would not his religion hide,
His safety to secure.

Though of his danger quite aware,
And what his doom would be,
Yet to his usual place of prayer
Three times a day he went, and there
To God he bow'd the knee.

Then to the lions he was cast;
But God, whom Daniel served,
Had closed the lions' mouths so fast,
That in the den the night he pass'd,
From every fear preserved.

V. THE STONING OF STEPHEN.

See good Stephen stoned to death,
Calling on the name Divine;
"Jesus!" said his dying breath,
"O receive this soul of mine!"

Kneeling down, aloud he cried,
"Lord, do thou their sin forgive!"
Thus, like Jesus, Stephen died,
Praying that his foes might live.

Heavenly Father, teach us thus
To forgive and pray for those
Who despise or injure us;
Teach us thus to love our foes.



VI. TIMOTHY READING THE SCRIPTURES.

Oh that I, like Timothy,
Might the Holy Scriptures know
From mine early infancy,
Till for God I older grow,
Made unto salvation wise,
Ready for the glorious prize.
Jesus, my Redeemer, Lord,
Full of truth and full of grace,
Make me know and love thy word;
Teach me in my youthful days,
Wonders in thy word to see,
Wise through faith which is in thee.

JESUS ONCE A CHILD.

And was my Saviour once a child,
A little child like me?
And was he humble, meek and mild,
As little ones should be?
Oh! why did not the Son of God
Come as an angel bright?
And why not leave his fair abode
To come with power and might?
And did my Saviour freely give
His life for sinful men?
What! did he die that we might live?
Oh, how he loved us then!
Accept, O ever blessed Lord,
An infant's humble praise;
Teach me to love thy holy word,
And serve thee all my days.



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