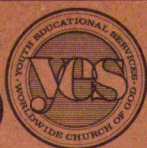
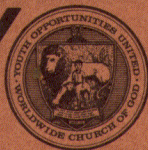


YOUTH BIBLE LESSONS



LEVEL 3

LESSON 1



Creation

CREATION

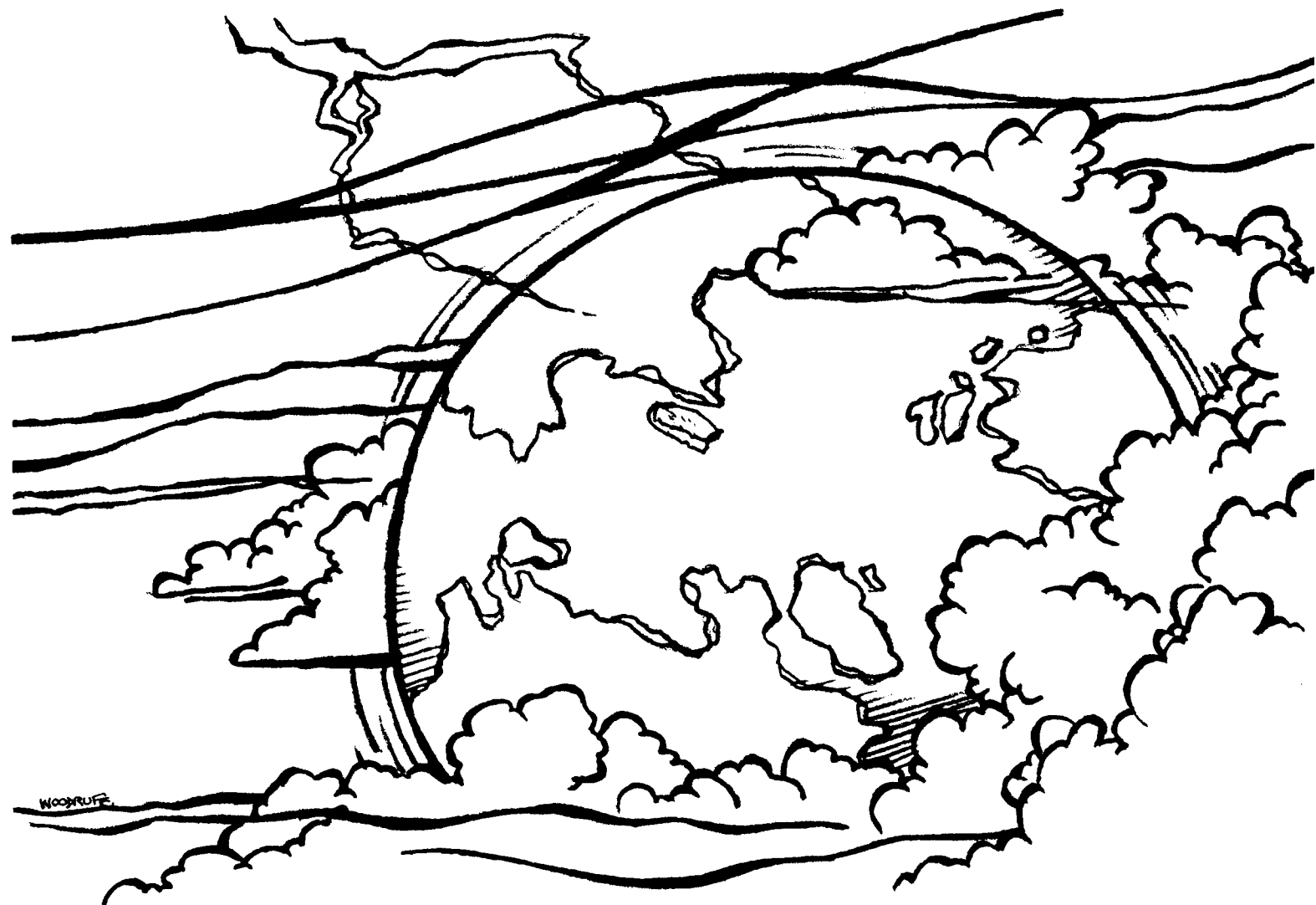
How would you like to live in a world with *no* trees or flowers, *no* birds or animals and *no* light? It would be a dark and empty world.

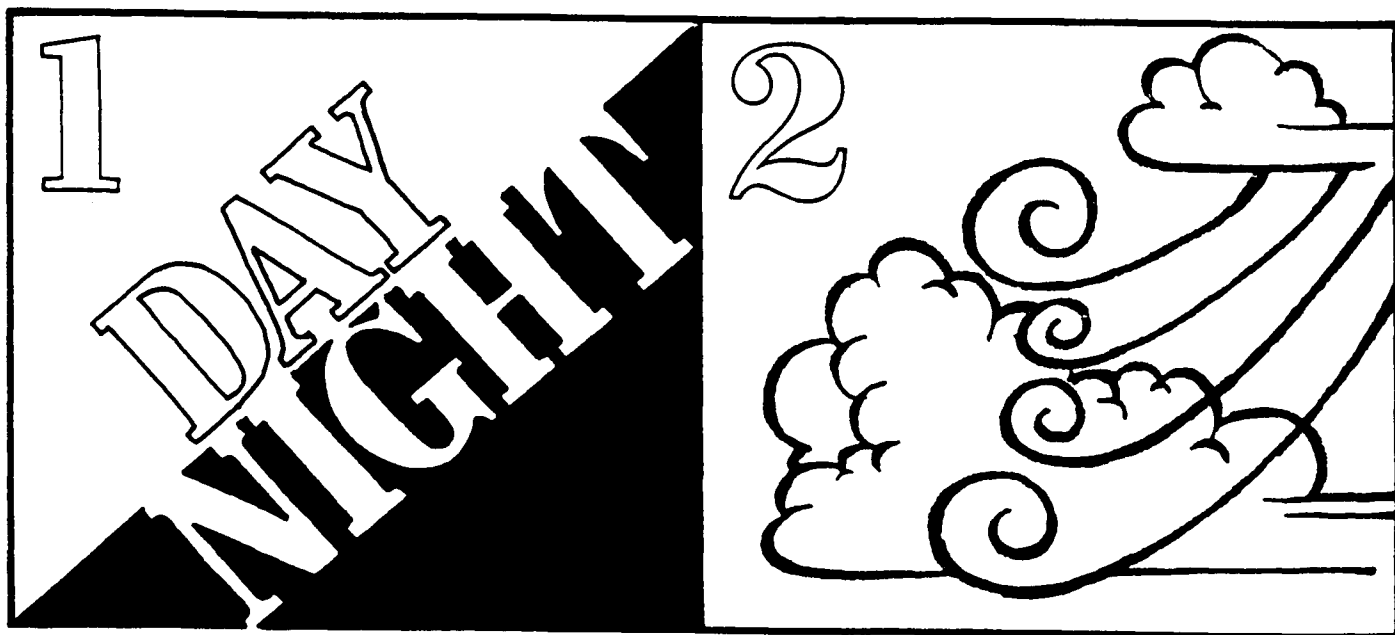
Yet that is the way the earth

looked at one time.

But God had a plan — to make people who would look — and could become — just like Him!

However, before people could be





made, God had to remake the earth into a place where man could live. For five days God worked at making earth ready for man to live on it.

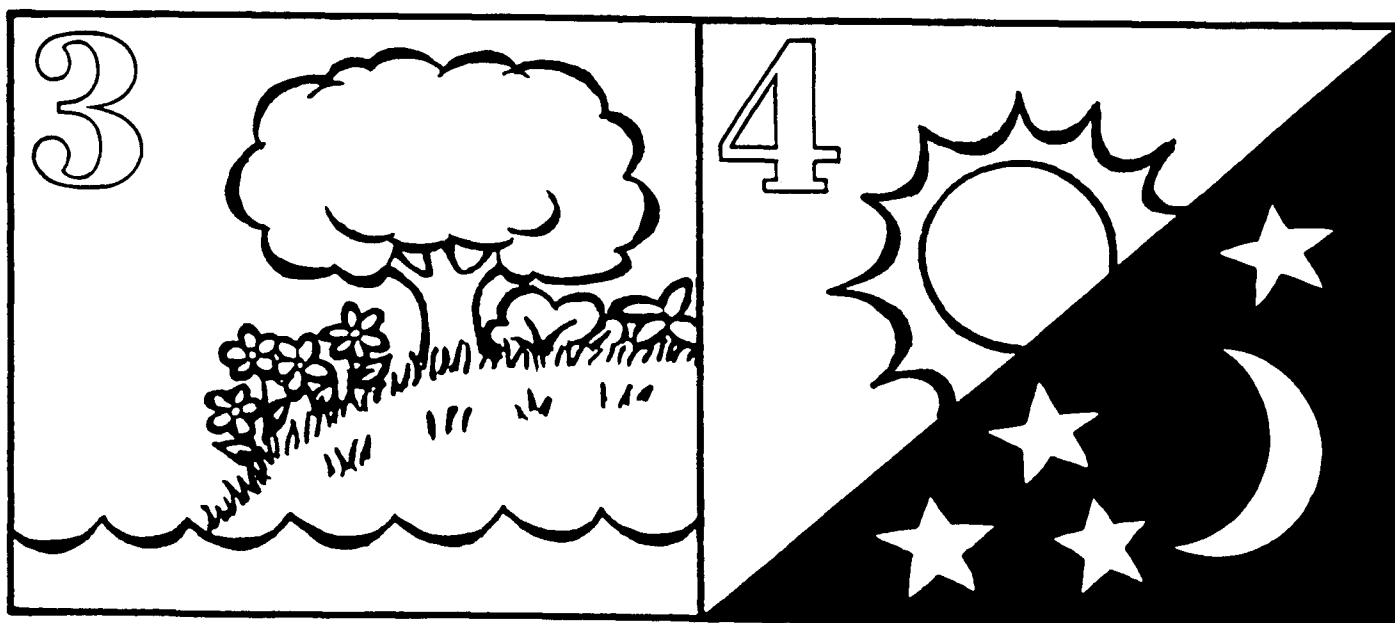
On the first day God made light, forming day and night.

On the second day God put fresh air over all the earth. This would give man air to breathe. And God made big, puffy clouds appear.

On the third day God shaped the earth so that some of it was high and

some of it was low. Water that covered the earth drained into the low places to make oceans. The higher places above the oceans formed the large pieces of land we call continents. On these continents God made trees, bushes, flowers and grass. The earth was beginning to be a beautiful place.

On the fourth day God caused the sun to shine during the day and the moon and stars to shine at night.



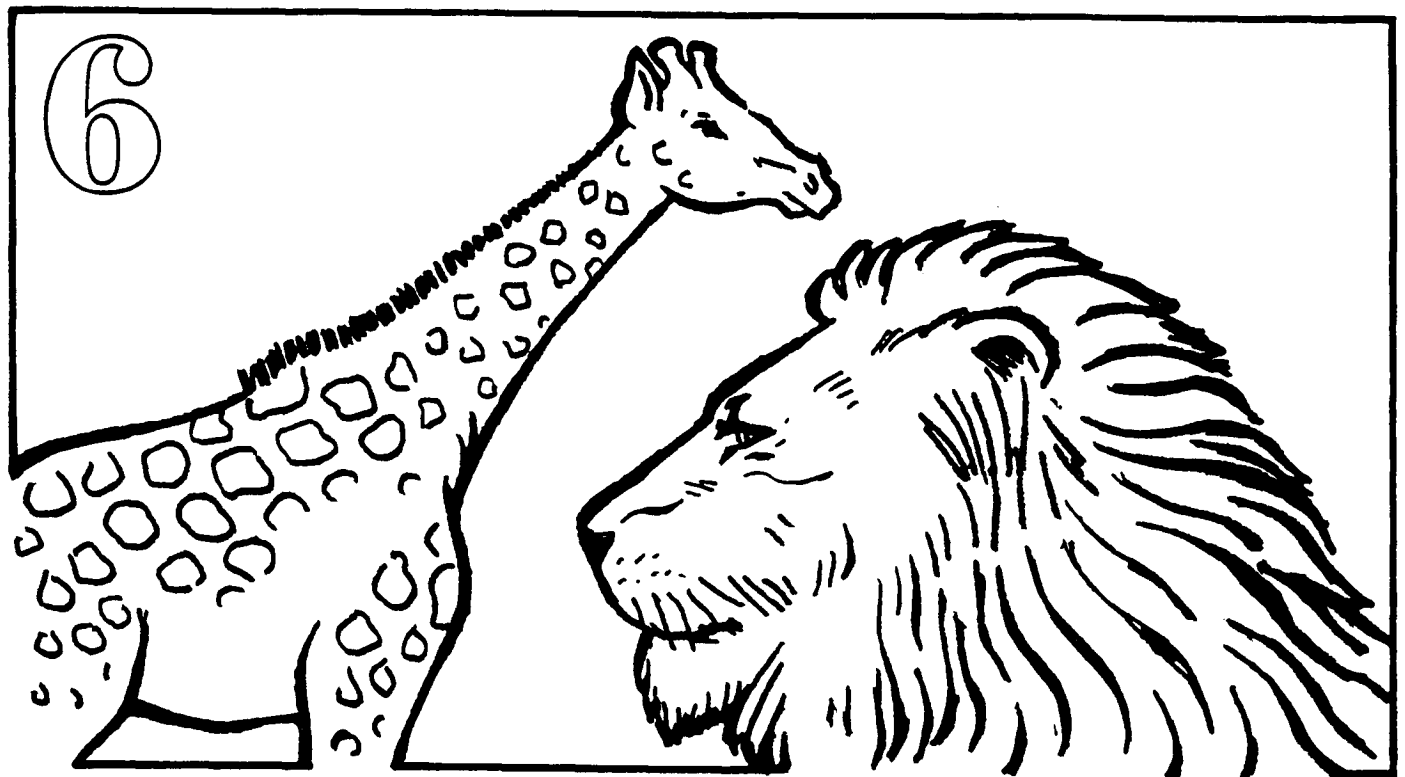


On the fifth day God made the water animals — whales, fish, eels and many others. He also made the many kinds of birds.

Then came the sixth day. The earth was now a beautiful place for man. But wait — before God made

the most important earth being, He needed to make land animals. Some of these animals were elephants, lions, giraffes, worms and insects.

Finally, everything was ready for the most important part of God's plan — making a human being.



ADAM AND EVE

Have you ever made something out of clay? Remember how you molded and shaped that lump of clay until it looked just like a dog or a lion, perhaps? In very much the same way, God made the first man. He made man to look like Himself. God used the dust of the ground for His clay.

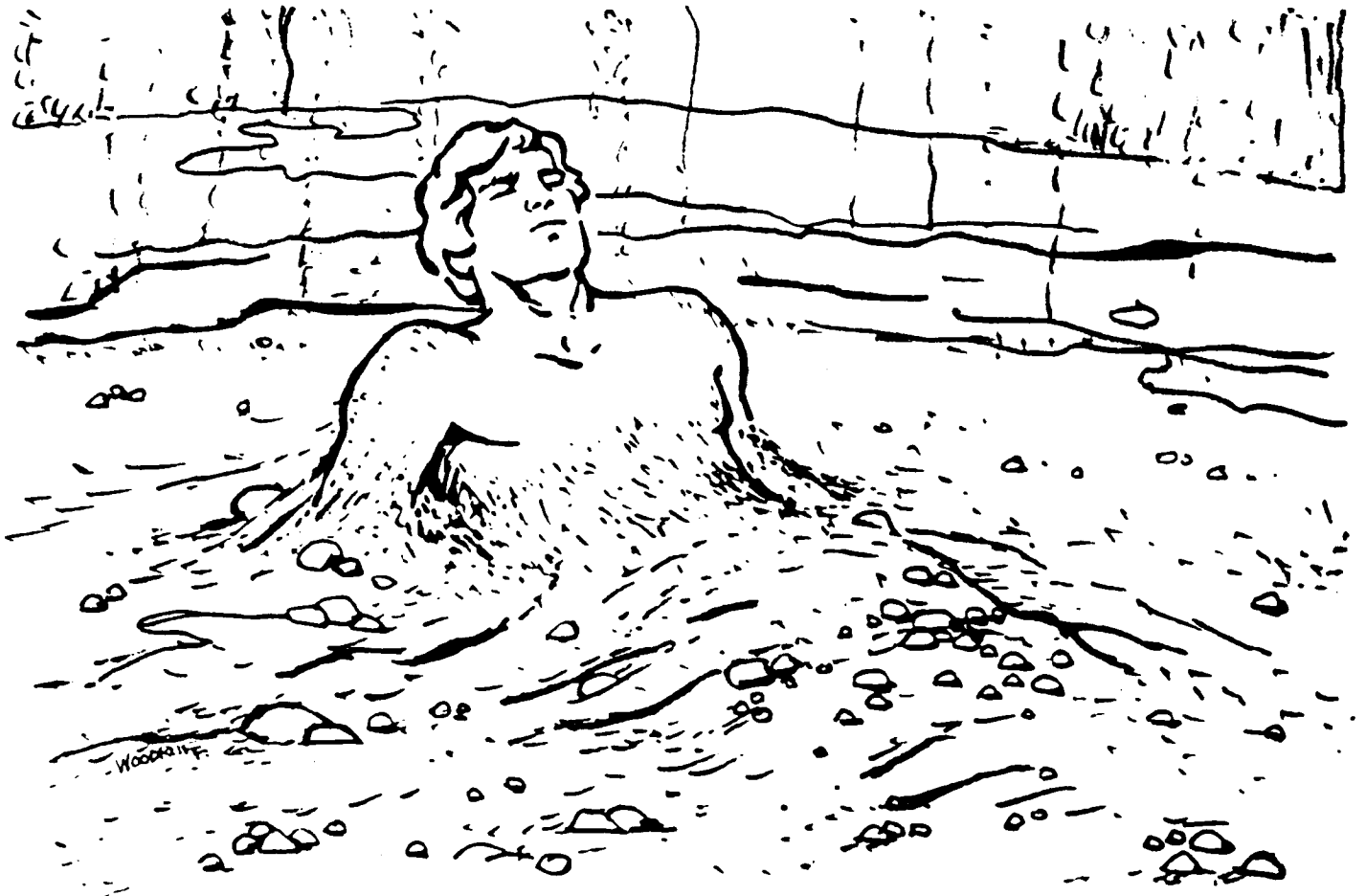
God then breathed air into the man, giving him life — the very first man to live on earth.

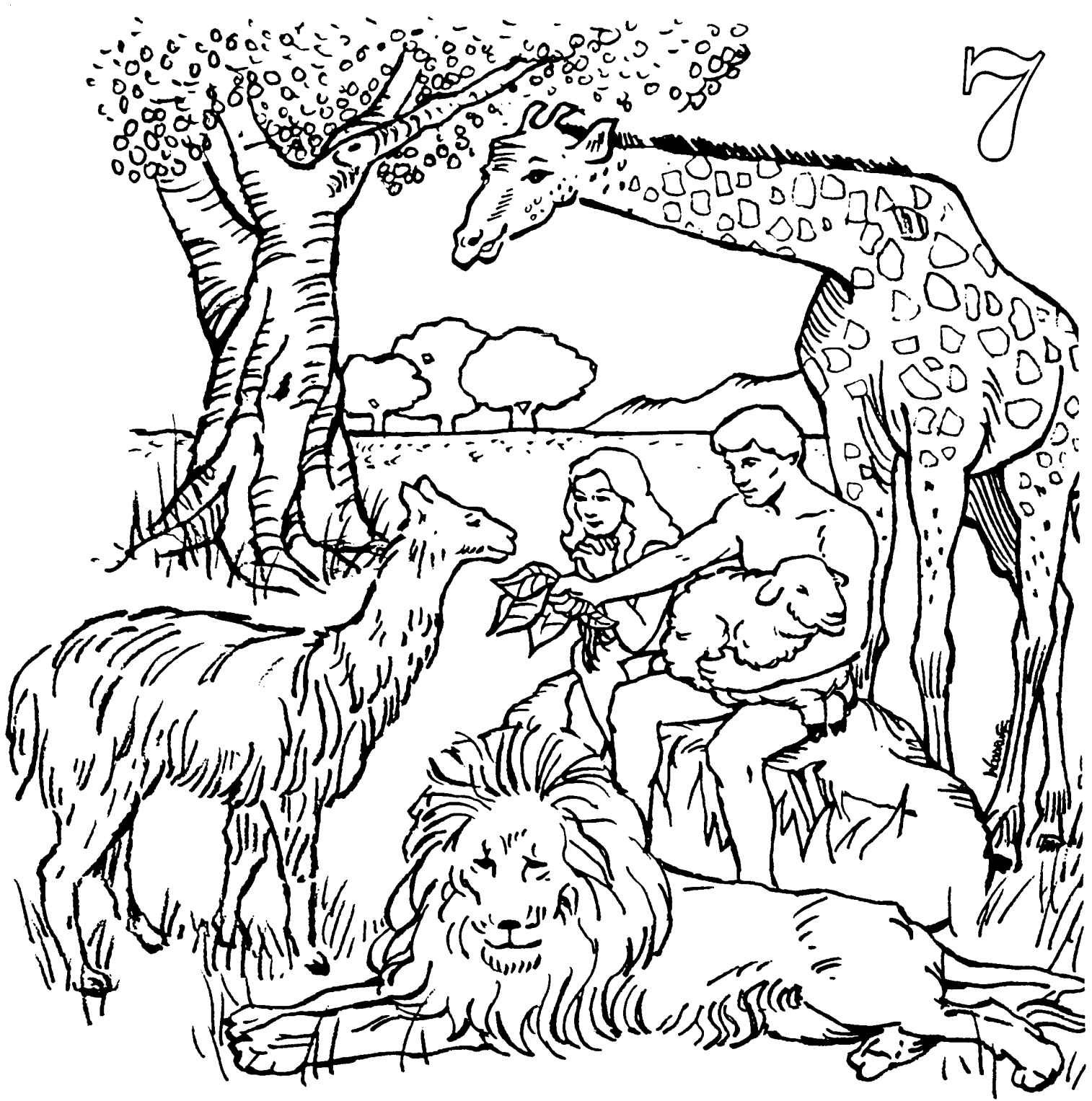
God called this man Adam and placed him in a part of the earth called Eden. God knew that Adam

would like living in the Garden of Eden with all of its beauty. But God also knew that Adam would become lonely if he were the only person. Can you imagine how you would feel if you were the only person on earth?

So, while Adam slept, God took one of Adam's ribs and, with His great power, made a woman from it. God gave her to Adam for a wife and Adam named her Eve.

God finished all of these things in just six days of work. Everything looked complete, but God wasn't finished. One more thing was needed for man.





On the seventh day God made the Sabbath. This day was not made by working but by resting. God made this day special and tells us that we are always to keep this day holy —

by resting and by worshiping Him. Adam and Eve rested on the Sabbath. They were also able to talk to God as they walked through the beautiful Garden.



The home of Adam and Eve was Eden, with its colorful flowers, its fruit and shade trees, and its clear, blue streams. There were many animals, birds and fish to enjoy and take care of. God also showed Adam and Eve how to take care of the Garden.

God taught Adam and Eve rules for good living. As long as they obeyed the rules, they would stay

happy and healthy. God put two special trees in the garden. He told Adam and Eve that they could eat the fruit of the Tree of Life but not the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. If they ate of the Tree of Life they could live forever. But God told them, "If you eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, you will die." God warned them to protect them from what would happen if they

happen if they disobeyed.

For a little while, Adam and Eve obeyed God's laws and they were very happy. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, trouble began. Let's see how it happened.

Long before the earth existed God had created spirit beings, called angels. Some of the angels served God in heaven where His throne is. One of those angels was called Lucifer. But, after a while, Lucifer started to think he was greater than God. He tried to get many of the angels to join with him to fight God. But God is much more powerful than

an angel — or all of the angels together! He has always been the most powerful being alive. He took away much of Lucifer's job and changed his name to Satan, which means "enemy."

Satan wanted very much to find a way to turn Adam and Eve against their God so that Satan would become their master. And he found a way!

One day as Eve took a walk, she saw a serpent. Even though serpents were friendly at this time, this one was different — it spoke to her! Eve did not know it, but it was Satan



speaking through the serpent. "Did God say you would die if you ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?" asked the serpent.

"Yes, He did," answered Eve, "and we don't want to die."

"But you won't die," lied the serpent. "If you eat of that tree, you will be wise — you will know as much as God."

Eve listened and took some of the fruit. She bit into it and found it tasted good. So she gave it to Adam and he ate some too.

Then they felt sad. They knew they had disobeyed God. And by not obeying Him, Adam and Eve sinned. They were ashamed and tried to hide. But God knew where they were.

"Have you disobeyed Me and eaten of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil?" asked God.

"Eve gave it to me," said Adam, putting the blame on his wife.

God was very unhappy that they had not obeyed Him. But God *let* them decide — whether to choose His way of love, which brings happiness, or Satan's way of hate, which causes unhappiness.

Then, because Adam and Eve had sinned, God made them leave Eden. God had to punish them for disobeying, just as a parent must punish his child for disobeying.

Also, because of their sin, God

caused the dirt of the ground to become hard and to have many weeds. This made it harder for Adam to grow food.

CAIN AND ABEL

After some time Adam and Eve had a baby boy. They named him Cain. Later they had a second son, who was named Abel.

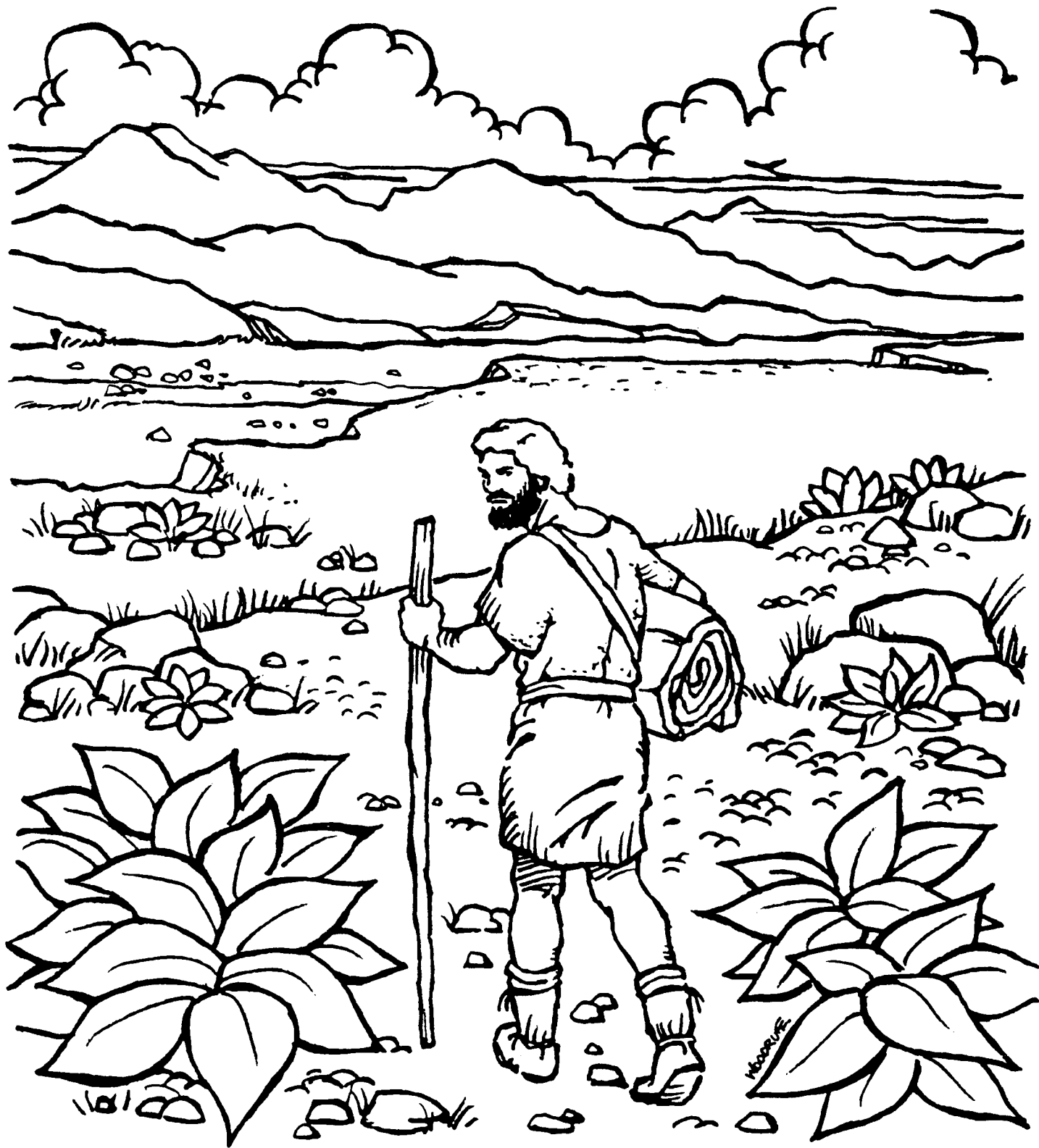
God told Adam and Eve that they should, at certain times, kill a lamb and burn it on an altar. This was to remind them of their sins, for which they were to ask God to forgive them. They were also to teach Cain and Abel to make sacrifices too.

As Cain and Abel grew up they worked hard. Cain became a farmer and grew fruit, vegetables and grain. Abel was a shepherd who raised sheep.

One day Cain and Abel brought their sacrifices to an altar. Abel chose his best lamb. Cain had a few animals, too, but he didn't want to give up even one. He didn't want to obey God. *He* decided that some of his fruit and vegetables would do just as well as an animal offering.

But God did not accept Cain's sacrifice. Cain became angry that God would not accept his offering but did accept his brother's sacrifice. He became so angry he killed Abel. Then Cain tried to hide, but God's voice came to him, saying,





"Where is Abel, your brother?" Cain lied and said he didn't know where Abel was. But God knew that Cain had killed him.

God punished Cain for his sin by sending him away from home. Also,

God made it harder for Cain to grow food.

Adam and Eve had more children. Those children grew up and had children. After many years God's earth was filled with people.

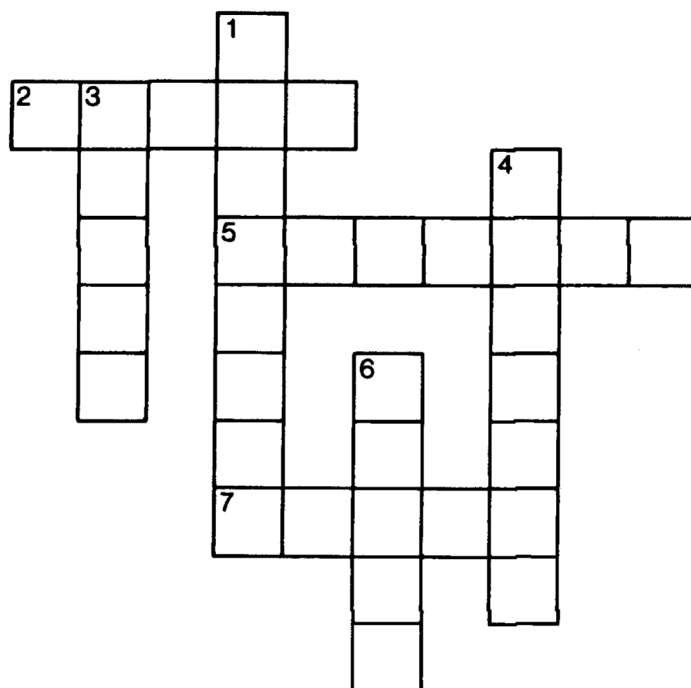
EDITOR IN CHIEF: **Herbert W. Armstrong**

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BIBLE MEMORY

On the first day God made DAY and NIGHT.
On the second day God made the AIR WE BREATHE.
On the third day God made LAND, SEAS, PLANTS and TREES.
On the fourth day God caused the SUN, MOON and STARS to become visible.
On the fifth day God made BIRDS and SEA ANIMALS.
On the sixth day God made LAND ANIMALS and MAN.
On the seventh day God made the SABBATH.

"IN THE BEGINNING" CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

2. On the fourth day, God caused the sun, moon and _____ to become visible.
5. On the sixth day, God made the land _____.
7. On the first day, God divided the day from the _____.

DOWN

1. The _____ lasted seven days.
3. On the third day, God made the plants and _____.
4. On the seventh day, God made the _____ by resting.
6. On the first day, God said, "Let there be _____ . . ."