TELL HIS WONDERS
Book 1

JEHOVAH’S MIGHTY ACTS

Bible Stories by
Nathan J. Langerak
Illustrated by
Michael Welply

REFORMED FREE PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
Jenison, Michigan
To the children Jehovah has given
to my wife and me

I have no greater joy than to hear
that my children walk in truth.

3 John 1:4
CONTENTS

Chapter 1  THE CREATION OF THE WORLD  
 Ż  Genesis 1–2  

Chapter 2  GOD’S FRIENDS  
 Ż  Genesis 2  

Chapter 3  OUT OF THE GARDEN  
 Ż  Genesis 3  

Chapter 4  GOOD NEWS FOR ADAM AND EVE  
 Ż  Genesis 3  

Chapter 5  GOD TAKES ENOCH TO HEAVEN  
 Ż  Genesis 4–5, Hebrews 11, Jude 1  

Chapter 6  THE WORLDWIDE FLOOD  
 Ż  Genesis 6–9, 1 Peter 3, Hebrews 11  

Chapter 7  BABEL  
 Ż  Genesis 10–11  

Chapter 8  SODOM AND GOMORRAH  
 Ż  Genesis 18–19  

Chapter 9  ABRAHAM SACRIFICES ISAAC  
 Ż  Genesis 18, 21–22, Hebrews 11  

Chapter 10  GOD’S CHOICE OF JACOB  
 Ż  Genesis 24–25, Malachi 1  

Chapter 11  GOD PRESERVES ISRAEL IN EGYPT  
 Ż  Genesis 41, 46–47, Exodus 1  

Chapter 12  MOSES, ISRAEL’S SAVIOR  
 Ż  Exodus 2–4  

Chapter 13  GOD PLAGUES EGYPT  
 Ż  Exodus 5, 7–10  

Chapter 14  DELIVERED FROM EGYPT  
 Ż  Exodus 11–15
Chapter 15  GOD PRESERVES ISRAEL IN THE WILDERNESS  .......... 50
Exodus 13, 16-17

Chapter 16  MOUNT SINAI  ........................................ 53
Exodus 19-40

Chapter 17  REBELLION IN THE WILDERNESS  .............. 56
Numbers 13-14, 16

Chapter 18  ACROSS JORDAN  ..................................... 59
Numbers 20, Deuteronomy 34, Joshua 3-4

Chapter 19  JERICHO  ................................................... 62
Joshua 2, 6

Chapter 20  THE DAY THE SUN STOOD STILL ................. 65
Joshua 9-10

Chapter 21  A KING LIKE THE OTHER NATIONS ............... 68
1 Samuel 8-11, 13, 15, 31

Chapter 22  THE KING AFTER GOD’S OWN HEART ........... 71
1 Samuel 16-18, 20, 22-24, 26

Chapter 23  DAVID’S SIN  ............................................ 74
2 Samuel 11-12, Psalm 32

Chapter 24  SOLOMON’S WISDOM AND RICHES ............. 77
1 Kings 3, 6-7, 10

Chapter 25  A KINGDOM DIVIDED  ............................... 80
1 Kings 11-12

Chapter 26  ISRAEL WORSHIPS GOLDEN CALVES .......... 83
1 Kings 12-13, 2 Kings 17

Chapter 27  ASSYRIA SMITTEN  ................................... 86
2 Kings 16, 18-19, 2 Chronicles 31

Chapter 28  JERUSALEM DESTROYED  .......................... 89
2 Kings 20, 23-25

Chapter 29  THE RETURN HOME  .............................. 92
Psalm 137, Daniel 9, Ezra 1-5, Haggai 1-2, Zechariah 8

Chapter 30  LORD OF THE NATIONS  .......................... 95
Esther 1-4

Chapter 31  GOD CATCHES THE WICKED IN THEIR TRAPS .. 98
Esther 5-9
This book is the first in a series of children’s Bible story books that will cover the main events of Old and New Testament history. The series is entitled Tell His Wonders. Telling God’s wonders is the calling that God gives to his church in Psalm 78:4 and 6: “We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done…that the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children.” All God’s works are wonders. He made the world, he upholds and governs the world, and by the wonder of grace he brings all things to the perfection of his covenant in Jesus Christ.

The purpose of telling these wonders is that the generation that follows might know God through them, believe in him, and tell his wonders to their children. It is God’s promise to his church that in the way of faithfully relating these wonders his covenant will continue in the generations of believers.

The series is covenantal. God’s covenant is his gracious relationship of friendship with his elect people in Christ. In the covenant God gives a promise to save believers and their seed from their sins and bring them to heavenly glory in Christ. God’s covenant is the main thing in all of history and especially in sacred history. Each chapter will teach the truth of God’s eternal covenant of grace in Christ as that is revealed in the Bible stories and applies to the New Testament church.

Each book is organized by a theme that unites all the stories of that book, and each book is arranged chronologically. One of the main considerations was to keep the stories engaging, simple, and brief. Each chapter includes original art that captures some aspect of the story.

The first book is Jehovah’s Mighty Acts. Jehovah is God’s covenantal name. All of God’s acts are mighty. So this book relates some of the foundational saving acts of God revealed in the Old Testament. Many of these mighty acts are obvious, such as creation, the flood, the tower of Babel, and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Others are not so obvious, such as the history of Saul and the division of the kingdom after Solomon. These stories are included for chronological continuity and because they tell of the mighty acts of Jehovah’s steadfast covenantal faithfulness over against the unfaithfulness and sins of his people. His word is truth. His promise is sure. Some of the stories relate more personal mighty acts of God, such as Jehovah’s sovereign election of Jacob and God’s forgiveness of David. Together they all impress on us that our mighty God is both willing and able to save his people from their sins. This book is foundational to the series.
Chapter 1
THE CREATION OF THE WORLD
GENESIS 1–2

Have you ever looked up at night and seen the stars? Have you ever looked out and seen the grass in the yard? Have you heard the birds chirp and sing in the trees or seen the cat stretched out on the porch enjoying the warmth of the sun? Have you ever caught a fish from the water? Have you seen your face in a mirror?

Who made all these things? Who made you? God created the heavens and the earth and all creatures. Create means to make out of nothing. God made all things out of nothing.

The sky full of stars, the grass, the birds, the cat, the fish, you, and all things have a beginning. Before the beginning of all things there was only God. He has no beginning and no ending; he is eternal. He lives in blessed fellowship as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Fellowship means friendship. So God did not create all things because he was lonely; he had friendship in himself.

God tells us in the Bible that he created all things for his pleasure. This means that God wanted to create all things. He made all creatures to serve him and to give him glory. Being able to know God and to serve him is the best thing for all creatures.

God made all things just as he planned them to be. He created everything in six days by his Word, which is all-powerful. Each day God made different kinds of creatures. He spoke and those creatures were made.

The first day God made the heaven and the earth and two of his greatest creatures, time and light. Time is seconds, minutes, hours, days, and years. Our clocks on the wall keep time. Since the first day of creation, time has flowed on like a river. The whole creation is carried along on the rivers of time. For everything there is a time: a time to go to bed, a time to wake up, a time to eat, a time to play, and a time to go to church.

When God made the heaven and the earth, they were dark and without form. The Spirit of God floated over the darkness. Then God said, “Let there be light.” And the light stood out of the deep darkness and shined out over the heaven and earth. The light God called day, and the darkness God called night.

The second day God stretched out the heaven and made a large empty space, a mixture of water and land called the earth, and a sky full of air around the earth for his creatures to breathe.
The third day beneath that sky God made dry land appear on the earth as a tiny speck surrounded by oceans of water. On the land he called for trees and bushes, grass and herbs—so many kinds and all so beautiful, full of fruit and good for food.

The fourth day God hung the sun, moon, and stars in the large, empty space above that sky. The sun he made to rule the day and the moon to rule the night. He filled the universe with billions of stars—bands of stars, clusters of stars, galaxies of stars, each star a mighty work of God. Who can count all the stars? Yet God knows every star by name.

The fifth day God filled the oceans with fish and huge whales, the largest of all animals. Out of the ocean waves he called flocks of birds—many birds of different kinds to fly, soar, and sing in the sky above the earth.

The sixth day God called herds of cattle and all kinds of beasts and swarms of creeping and crawling animals out of the dust of the ground to fill the grasslands, forests, and fields on the earth. After God made the animals he talked with himself and said, “Let us make man in our image and likeness.” So God took dust and shaped a man’s body and breathed into his nose the breath of life. God called the man Adam.

Then God looked over everything he had made and said, “It is very good.” Everything was perfect, exactly as he wanted it to be and without any sin.

The seventh day God rested. By his rest he gave to us our day of rest, Sunday. One day out of seven we also rest from our work, and we go to church.

How great a God is our God who made the heavens and the earth!

He is the only true God.

He only is our help and strength.
Do you remember that God made the heavens and the earth? God made the world and everything in it in six days. On that sixth day God made the first man, Adam. He formed Adam out of the dust of the ground and breathed into Adam’s nostrils the breath of life. The first work that God gave Adam was to name all the animals. God brought the animals to Adam, and Adam gave them names. We do not know what names Adam gave them, but we know he did not call them what we call them today: deer, rabbits, lions, tigers, and wildebeests. Adam called them special names. He could see God’s word that made each animal and he named them after that word.

While Adam was naming all the animals, he saw that something was wrong. All the animals came in pairs, boy and girl, but Adam was alone. There was no girl for Adam. When Adam saw that he was all alone, God made Adam sleep a deep sleep. While Adam slept, God took one of his ribs, and out of that rib God made Eve, Adam’s wife. When Adam saw her, he loved her and he called her woman, which means that she was taken out of the man. She was Adam’s friend and helper. God wills that men and women be married. They must be close friends like Adam and Eve.

The friendship between Adam and Eve was a little picture of their friendship with God. God made Adam and Eve in his image. That means that spiritually they looked like God, just as children look like their parents. Adam was the son of God. Eve was the daughter of God. As God’s children, they were also his friends. We call this friendship that God gives his covenant.

God wanted to walk and talk with his friends, so he planted a beautiful garden for their home. God planted that garden in the east, toward the rising of the sun, in the land of Eden. During the cool of the evening Adam and Eve walked and talked with God there. That is what friends do. They want to be together and talk together.

Everything was perfect in that garden. The garden of Eden had a river and many kinds of trees for food and for beauty. There was gold there and beautiful gemstones. All was peaceful among the animals. The lions did not eat the deer. The wolves did not eat the sheep. All the animals, even the lions and wolves, ate plants, and they
all lay down together. There was no rain, but a mist went up from the ground to water the whole garden. There was no sin, so there was no death. The whole creation was at peace. Because there was no sin yet, Adam and Eve did not need to wear any clothes.

Adam and Eve were not only God’s friends but also his servants, and they had work to do in the garden. It was not work like our work that makes us sweat and grow tired. It was all pleasant and enjoyable. They cared for the garden and enjoyed it as God’s gift to them. Adam and Eve also had one more job—Adam was king, and Eve was queen. God had appointed them to be the rulers of the garden. They were to obey God and do all things for his glory.
In the middle of the garden God planted two special trees. One was the tree of life. It gave life to Adam and Eve so that they could live forever in the garden. The other was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God told Adam that he could eat of the tree of life, but he could not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve would live as God’s friends and servants in the garden so long as they obeyed him and did not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If they ate of that tree, they would surely die. They would be cast out of the garden. They would no longer be God’s friends. Through that tree God taught Adam and Eve that it was good for them to obey God, and it was evil for them to disobey God. God was their life. To depart from God was their death.

There in the garden they lived as king and queen, friends and servants of the living God, and married friends with each other. They were happy in the garden and so were the animals and all of creation.