Jehovah's Mighty Acts
by Rev. Nathan Langerak

Lee Kong Wee
Member of CERC

This book is the first book of a series entitled "Tell His Wonders" that the RFPA intends to publish from the pen of Rev Nathan Langerak, Pastor of Crete Protestant Reformed Church in USA. As the series title hints at, the series has a covenantal purpose, namely to convey Jehovah's mighty savings acts to our generations (Ps. 78:4, 6). We want to tell God's wonders to our children so that they might know Him, believe in Him, and in turn tell His wonders to their children. The book relates some of the foundational saving acts of Jehovah in the Old Testament, from creation to the return of Judah from the Babylonian captivity.

The language used throughout is simple and straightforward, without using deep, theological terms; yet biblical, Reformed truths are clearly and accurately conveyed, sometimes even in a striking and profound manner. For example, regarding creation, the author writes "He filled the universe with billions 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 one by name." (page 10). Explaining the doctrine of the covenant, "During the cool of the evening Adam & Eve walked & talked with God there. That's what friends do. They want to be together & talk together." (page 11). Concerning the doctrine of election and reprobation, "God is a God of choices. He chooses what is pleasing to Him.... God gives us a wonderful example of His saving choice in the story of Jacob and Esau." (page 35). In some of the stories, Rev. Langerak provides insightful and vivid commentary into the biblical account, e.g. "Adam & Eve had never seen death. How shocked they must have been to see those animals being killed (to make the coats to cover them)!" (page 18).

At the end of each story, a lesson is drawn out in relation to God's covenant, reminding us that all history is no mere passing of events through time, but are 'His-Story', with every single event being part of the unfolding revelation of God's eternal covenant of grace with his Church. Nothing happened, is happening or will happen by chance, but all things work together to fulfil the highest purpose of God, i.e. to bring to pass the coming of Jesus Christ as Head and Mediator of the covenant, to save his friend-servants through His death & resurrection, for the glory of His Name. These brief lessons are perhaps the most important part of the book, lest we and our children miss the true wonder of God's works, impressive and astounding as they may be even in their earthly physical form and appearance.

Definitely worth mentioning is also the very beautiful and realistic full-colour illustrations in the book, which add to the reader's understanding and appreciation of the historical setting in which the stories took place. Children are naturally attracted by the colourful pictures, which not only help capture their attention, but also make the biblical story more real and understandable to them. The 2-page spread of the parting of the Red Sea evokes overwhelming awe and amazement as one imagines walking in the midst of the two million Israelites, with the howling winds blowing and beholding the turbulent walls of waters towering on both sides.

I would highly recommend parents with children from 7-10 years old to get a copy of this book to use for family devotions. If you have gone through 'Come Ye Children' several rounds already, and are reaching the end of the book once again, perhaps you want to consider using this book (and its sequel, God willing) for devotions with the children for a change, before restarting 'Come Ye Children' again. Read aloud to the younger children. Read together with the older children. Tell them the wonders of Jehovah's mighty acts in saving us from our sin through the unspeakable gift of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Tell them, that they in turn might tell Jehovah's wonders to their children and grandchildren.