

from the "Wycliffite" Bible (c. 1400)

CAP 3

1 But and the serpent was feller than alle lyuyng beestis of erthe, whiche the Lord God hadde maad. Which serpent seide to the womman, Why comaundide God to you, that 3e schulden not ete of ech tre of paradis?

2 To whom the womman answerde, We eten of the fruyt of trees that ben in paradis;

3 sothely God commaundide to vs, that we schulden not eate of the fruyt of the tre, which is in the myddis of paradijs, and that we schulden not touche it, lest perauenture we dien.

4 Forsothe the serpent seide to the womman, 3e schulen not die bi deeth;

5 for whi God woot that in what euere dai 3e schulen ete therof, youre iyen schulen be opened, and 3e schulen be as Goddis, knowynge good and yuel.

6 Therefore the womman sei3 that the tre was good, and swete to ete, and fair to the iyen, and delitable in bi holdyng; and sche took of the fruyt therof, and eet, and gaf to hir hosebande, and he eet.

7 And the iyen of bothe weren openid; and whanne thei knowen that thei weren nakid, thei sewden the leues of a fige tre, and maden brechis to hem silf.

8 And whanne thei herden the vois of the Lord God goynge in paradijs at the wynd after myddai, Adam and his wijf hidden hem fro the face of the Lord God in the middis of the tre of paradijs.

9 And the Lord God clepide Adam, and seide to hym, Where art thou?

10 And Adam seide, Y herde thi vois in paradijs, and Y drede, for Y was nakid, and Y hidde me.

11 To whom the Lord seide, Who forsothe schewide to thee that thou were nakid, no but for thou hast ete of the tre of which Y comaundide to thee that thou schuldist not ete?

12 And Adam seide, The womman which thou 3auest felowe to me, gaf me of the tre, and Y eet.

13 And the Lord seide to the womman, Whi didist thou this thing? Which answerde, The serpent disseyued me, and Y eet.

14 And the Lord God seide to the serpent, For thou didist this, thou schalt be cursid among alle lyuyng things and vnresonable beestis of erthe; thou schalt go on thi brest, and thou schalt ete erthe in alle daies of thi liif;

15 Y schal sette enemytees bitwixe thee and the womman, and bitwixe thi seed and hir seed; sche schal breke thin heed, and thou schalt sette aspies to hir heele.

16 Also God seide to the womman, Y schal multiplie thi wretchidnessis and thi conseuyngis; in sorewe thou schalt bere thi children; and thou schalt be vndur power of the hosebonde, and he schal be lord of thee.

17 Sothely God seyde to Adam, For thou herdist the voys of thi wijf, and hast ete of the tree, of which Y comaundide to thee that thou schuldist not ete, the erthe schal be cursid in thi werk; in traueylis thou schalt ete therof in alle daies of thi lijf;

18 it schal brynge forth thornes and breris to thee, and thou schalt ete eerbis of the erthe;

19 in swoot of thi cheer thou schalt ete thi breed, til thou turne agen in to the erthe of which thou art takun; for thou art dust, and thou schalt turne agen in to dust.

20 And Adam clepide the name of his wijf Eue, for sche was the moder of alle men lyuyng. And the Lord God made cootis of skynnys to Adam and Eue his wijf, and clothide hem; and seide, Lo!

22 Adam is maad as oon of vs, and knowith good and yuel; now therefore se ze, lest peraenture he putte his hond, and take of the tre of lijf, and ete, and lyue with outen ende.

23 And the Lord God sente hym out of paradijs of likyng, that he schulde worche the erthe, of which he was takun.

24 And God castide out Adam, and settide bifore paradys of lykyng cherubyn, and a swerd of flawme and turnyng aboute to kepe the weie of the tre of lijf.

CAP 4

1 Forsothe Adam knewe Eue his wijf, which conseyuede, and childe Cayn, and seide, Y haue gete a man bi God.

2 And efte sche childe his brother Abel. Forsothe Abel was a kepere of scheep, and Cayn was an erthe tilyere.

3 Sotheli it was don after many daies, that Cayn offrde giftis to the Lord of the fruytis of erthe;

4 and Abel offrde of the first gendrid of his floc, and of the fatnesse of tho. And the Lord bihelde to Abel and to the giftis of hym;

5 sotheli he bihelde not to Cayn and to hise giftis. And Cayn was wrooth greetli, and his cheer felde doun.

6 And the Lord seide to hym, Whi art thou wrooth, and whi felde doun thi face?

7 Whether not if thou schalt do wel, thou schalt resseyue; but if thou doist yuele, thi synne schal be present anoon in the zatis? but the desir therof schal be vndur thee, and thou schalt be lord therof.

8 And Cayn seide to Abel his brother, Go we out. And whanne thei weren in the feeld, Cayn roos azens his brother Abel, and killide him.

9 And the Lord seide to Cayn, Where is Abel thi brother? Which answerde, Y woot not; whether Y am the kepere of my brothir?

10 And God seide to Cayn, What hast thou do? the vois of the blood of thi brother crieth to me fro erthe.

11 Now therfor thou schalt be cursid on erthe, that openyde his mouth, and resseyuede of thin hond the blood of thi brothir.

12 Whanne thou schalt worche the erthe, it schal not 3yue his fruytis to thee; thou schalt be vnstable of dwellyng and fleyng aboute on erthe in alle the daies of thi lijf.

13 And Cayn seide to the Lord, My wickidnesse is more than that Y disserue foryyuenesse; lo!

14 to dai thou castist me out fro the face of the erthe; and Y schal be hid fro thi face, and Y schal be vnstable of dwellyng and fleyng aboute in erthe; therefore ech man that schal fynde me schal slee me.

15 And the Lord seide to hym, It schal not be don so, but ech man that schal slee Cayn shal be punyschid seuenfold. And the Lord settide a signe in Cayn, that ech man that schulde fynde hym schulde not slee hym.

16 And Cayn zede out fro the face of the Lord, and dwellide fleyng aboute in erthe, at the eest coast of Eden.

CAP 6

9 These ben the generaciouns of Noe. Noe was a iust man and perfit in hise generaciouns; Noe zede with God,

10 and gendride thre sones, Sem, Cam, and Jafeth.

11 Forsothe the erthe was corrupt bifore God, and was fillid with wickidnes.

12 And whanne God seiy, that the erthe was corrupt, for ech fleisch ether man hadde corrupt his weie on erthe,

13 he seide to Noe, The ende of al fleisch is comen bifore me; the erthe is fillid with wickidnesse of the face of hem, and Y schal distrye hem with the erthe.

14 Make thou to thee a schip of trees hewun and planed; thou schalt make dwellynge placis in the schip, and thou schalt anoynte it with pitche with ynne and with outforth.

15 And so thou schalt make it. The lengthe of the schip schal be of thre hundrid cubitis, the brede schal be of fifti cubitis, and the hiynesse therof schal be of thretti cubitis.

16 Thou schalt make a wyndow in the schip, and thou schalt ende the hiynesse therof in a cubite; sotheli thou schalt sette the dore of the schip in the side binethe; thou shalt make soleris and placis of thre chaumbris in the schip.

17 Lo! Y schal brynge `watrīs of diluuye ether greet flood on erthe, and Y schal sle ech fleisch in which is the spirit of lijf vndir heuene, and alle thingis that ben in erthe, schulen be wastid.

18 And Y schal sette my couenaunt of pees with thee; and thou schalt entre in to the schip, and thy sones, and thi wijf, and the wiues of thi sones schulen entre with thee.

19 And of alle lyuynghe beestis of al fleisch thou schalt brynghe in to the schip tweyne and tweyne, of male kynde and female, that thei lyue with thee;

20 of briddis bi her kynde, and of werk beestis in her kynde, and of ech crepynghe beeste of erthe, by her kynde; tweyne and tweyne of alle schulen entre with thee, that thei moun lyue.

21 Therefore thou schalt take with thee of alle metis that moun be etun, and thou schalt bere to gidre at thee, and tho schulen be as well to thee as to the beestis in to mete.

22 Therfor Noe dide alle thingis whiche God comaundide to hym.

CAP 7

1 Also the Lord seide to Noe, Entre thou and al thin hous in to the schip, for Y seiy thee iust bifore me in this generacioun.

2 Of alle clene lyuynghe beestis thou schalt take bi seuene and bi seuene, male and female; forsothe of vnclene lyuynghe beestis thou schalt take bi tweyne and bi tweyne, male and female;

3 but also of volatils of heuene thou schalt take, bi seuene and bi seuene, male and female, that her seed be saued on the face of al erthe.

4 For yit and aftir seuene daies Y schal reyne on erthe fourti daies and fourti nyttis, and Y schal do away al substaunce which Y made, fro the face of erthe.

5 Therfor Noe dide alle thingis whiche the Lord comaundide to hym.

6 And he was of sixe hundrid zeer, whanne the wattris of the greet flood flowiden on erthe.

7 And Noe entride in to the schip, and hise sones, and hise wijf, and the wyues of his sones, entriden with him for the wattris of the greet flood.

8 And of lyuynghe beestis clene and vnclene, and of briddis of heuene, and of ech beeste which is moued on erthe,

9 bi tweyne and bi tweyne, male and female entriden to Noe in to the schip, as the Lord comaundide to Noe.

10 And whanne seuene daies hadden passid, the wattris of the greet flood flowiden on erthe.

11 In the sixe hundrid 3eer of the lijf of Noe, in the secunde moneth, in the seuententhe dai of the moneth, alle the wellis of the greet see weren brokun, and the wyndowis of heuene weren opened,

12 and reyn was maad on erthe fourti daies and fourti nyttis.

13 In the ende of that dai Noe entride, and Sem, Cham, and Japheth, hise sones, his wijf, and the wyues of hise sones, entriden with hem into the schip.

14 Thei entriden, and ech beeste bi his kynde, and alle werk beestis in her kynde, and ech beeste which is moued on erthe in his kynde, and ech volatil bi his kynde; alle briddis and alle volatils entriden to Noe in to the schip,

15 bi tweyne and bi tweyne of ech fleisch in whiche the spirit of lijf was.

16 And tho that entriden, entriden male and female of ech fleisch, as God comaundide to hym. And the Lord encloside hym fro with out-forth.

17 And the greet flood was maad fourti daies and fourti niytis on erthe, and the wattris weren multiplied, and reiseden the schip on hiy fro erthe.

18 The wattris flowiden greetli, and filliden alle thingis in the face of erthe. Forsothe the schip was borun on the wattris.

19 And the wattris hadden maistrie greetli on erthe, and alle hize hillis vndur alle heuene weren hilid;

20 the watyr was hizere bi fiftene cubitis ouer the hilis whiche it hilide.

21 And ech fleisch was wastid that was moued on erthe, of briddis, of lyuyngbeestis, of vnresonable beestis, and of alle `reptilis that crepen on erthe.

22 Alle men, and alle thingis in whiche the brething of lijf was in erthe, weren deed.

23 And God dide awei al substaunce that was on erthe, fro man til to beeste, as wel a crepyngbeeste as the briddis of heuene; and tho weren doon awei fro erthe. Forsothe Noe dwellide aloone, and thei that weren with hym in the schip.

24 And the wattris of the greet flood oueregeden the erthe an hundrid and fifti daies.

CAP 8

1 Forsothe the Lord hadde mynde of Noe, and of alle lyuynghe beestis, and of alle werk beestis, that weren with hym in the schip; and brouzte a wynd on the erthe.

2 And wattris weren decreessid, and the wellis of the see weren closid, and the wyndowis of heuene weren closid, and reynes of heuene weren ceessid.

3 And watrys turneden ayen fro erthe, and zeden ayen, and bigunnen to be decreessid aftir an hundrid and fifti daies.

4 And the schip restide in the seuenthe monthe, in the seuene and twentithe dai of the monthe, on the hillis of Armenye.

5 And sotheli the watrys zeden and decresiden til to the tenthe monethe, for in the tenthe monethe, in the firste dai of the monethe, the coppis of hillis apperiden.

6 And whanne fourti daies weren passid, Noe openyde the wyndow of the schip which he hadde maad, and sente out a crowe,

7 which zede out, and turnede not ayen til the wattris weren dried on erthe.

Also Noe sente out a culuer aftir hym, to se if the wattris hadden ceessid thanne on the face of erthe;

9 and whanne the culuer foond not where hir foot schulde reste, sche turnede ayen to hym in to the schip, for the wattris weren on al erthe; and Noe helde forth his hoond, and brouzte the culuer takun in to the schip.

10 Sotheli whanne othere seuene daies weren abedun aftirward, eft he leet out a culuer fro the schip;

11 and sche cam to hym at euentid, and bare in hir mouth a braunche of olyue tre with greene leeuys. Therfor Noe vndirstood that the wattris hadden ceessid on erthe;

12 and neuerthelesse he abood seuene othere daies, and sente out a culuer, which turnede `no more ayen to hym.

13 Therfor in the sixe hundrid and o 3eer of the lijf of Noe, in the firste monethe, in the firste day of the monethe, watris weren decreessid on erthe; and Noe openede the roof of the schip, and bihelde and seiy that the face of the erthe was dried.

14 In the secunde monethe, in the seuene and twentithe dai of the monethe, the erthe was maad drie.

15 Sotheli the Lord spak to Noe;

16 and seide, Go out of the schip, thou, and thi wijf, thi sones, and the wyues of thi sones with thee;

17 and lede out with thee alle lyuynghe beestis that ben at thee of ech fleisch, as wel in volatilis as in vnresonable beestis, and alle `reptils that crepen on erthe; and entre ye on the erthe, encreesse ye, and be ye multiplied on erthe.

18 Therfor Noe 3ede out, and hise sones, and his wijf, and the wyues of hise sones with hym;

19 but also alle lyuynghe beestis, and werk beestis, and `reptils that crepen on erthe, bi her kynde, 3eden out of the schip.

20 Forsothe Noe bildide an auter to the Lord, and he took of alle clene beestis and briddis, and offrde brent sacrifices on the auter.

21 And the Lord sauerede the odour of swetnesse, and seide to hym, Y schal no more curse the erthe for men, for the wit and thou3t of mannus herte ben redi in to yuel fro yong wexynge age; therfor Y schal no more smyte ech lyuynghe soule as Y dide;

22 in alle the daies of erthe, seed and ripe corn, coold and heete, somer and wyntir, nytt and dai, shulen not reste.

CAP 9

1 And God blisside Noe and hise sones, and seide to hem, Encreesse ye, and be ye multiplied, and fille ye the erthe;

2 and youre drede and tremblyng be on alle vnresonable beestis of erthe, and on alle briddis of heuene, with alle thingis that ben moued in erthe; alle fischis of the see ben youun to youre hond.

3 And al thing which is moued and lyueth schal be to you in to mete; Y have youe to you alle thingis as greene wortis,

4 outakun that ye schulen not ete fleisch with blood,

5 for Y schal seke the blood of youre lyues of the hoond of alle vnresonable beestis and of the hoond of man, of the hoond of man and of hys brother Y schal seke the lijf of man.

6 Who euere schedith out mannus blood, his blood schal be sched; for man is maad to the ymage of God.

7 Forsothe encrease ye, and be ye multiplied, and entre ye on erthe, and fille ye it, Also the Lord seide thes thingis to Noe,

8 and to his sones with him, Lo!

9 Y schal make my couenaunt with you, and with your seed after you,

10 and to ech lyuyng soule which is with you, as wel in briddis as in werk beestis and smale beestis of erthe, and to alle thingis that zeden out of the schip, and to alle vnresonable beestis of erthe.

11 Y schal make my couenaunt with you, and ech fleisch schal no more be slayn of the wattris of the greet flood, nethir the greet flood distriynge al erthe schal be more.

12 And God seide, This is the signe of boond of pees, which Y yyue bitwixe me and you, and to ech lyuyng soule which is with you, in to euerlastyng generaciouns.

13 Y schal sette my bowe in the cloudis, and it schal be a signe of boond of pees bitwixe me and erthe;

14 and whanne Y schal hile heuene with cloudis, my bowe schal appere in the cloudis,

15 and Y schal haue mynde of my boond of pees which Y made with you, and with ech soule lyuyng, that nurschith fleisch; and the wattris of the greet flood schulen no more be to do away al fleish.

16 And my bowe schal be in the cloudis, and Y schal se it, and Y schal haue mynde of euerlastyng boond of pees, which is maad bitwixe God and man, and ech soul lyuyng of al fleisch which is on erthe.

17 And God seide to Noe, This schal be a signe of boond of pees, which Y made bitwixe me and ech fleisch on erthe.

18 Therefore thei that zeden out of the schip weren Noe, Sem, Cham, and Japheth; forsothe Cham, thilke is the fadir of Chanaan.

19 These thre weren the sones of Noe, and al the kynde of men was sowun of hem on al erthe.

20 And Noe, an erthe tiliere, bigan to tile the erthe, and he plauntide a viner,
21 and he drank wyn, and was drunkun; and he was nakid, and lay in his tabernacle.

22 And whanne Cham, the fadir of Chanaan, hadde seien this thing, that is, that the schameful membris of his fadir weren maad nakid, he telde to hise tweye britheren with out forth.

23 And sotheli Sem and Jafeth puttiden a mentil on her schuldris, and thei zeden backward, and hileden the schameful membris of her fadir, and her faces weren turned awei, and thei sien not the priuy membris of her fadir.

24 And forsothe Noe wakide of the wyn, and whanne he hadde lerned what thingis his lesse sone hadde do to hym,

25 he seide, Cursid be the child Canaan, he schal be seruaunt of seruauntis to hise britheren.

26 And Noe seide, Blessid be the Lord God of Sem,

27 and Chanaan be the seruaunt to Sem; God alarge Jafeth, and dwelle in the tabernaclis of Sem, and Chanaan be seruaunt of hym.

28 Forsothe Noe lyuede aftir the greet flood thre hundrid and fifti 3eer;

29 and alle the daies of hym weren fillid nyn hundrid and fifty 3eer, and he was deed.