

BAPTIST FEATURES

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GOD'S WONDROUS WORLD
By Thelma C. Carter
(illustration #2)

Shaking hands with another person is our way of showing a friendly greeting. Handshaking, in America, is a sign of friendliness. President Eisenhower has shaken hands with hundreds of people each day, and thousands each month.

Long ago, people did not shake hands in a spirit of friendliness. Tradition tells us that men first held out their hands, palms up, to show they carried no weapons. Cave men were expert sleight of hand performers when it came to concealing sharp stones and shells in their hands. Seldom did they wander far from their homes unarmed. And, when they met another person, they never quite trusted him. Neither did they know what ambush lurked nearby.

The act of clasping hands to show that there was no knife or weapon hidden between the fingers came about slowly. But when it did, tradition tells us the people "beamed happily" for it was a proud and courageous moment to meet up with another -- unarmed and empty-handed.

For a long time, only men shook hands. Then as the custom grew, women began shaking hands to show a friendly spirit. Later, children and young people extended their hands in friendliness.

Our handshake conveys a message. We can "beam happily" while we extend a proud, sincere handshake. Proverbs 18:24 gives us wise advice: "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly."

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(Is there something about God's Wondrous World you would like to see described in this column? If so please send your suggestions to Baptist Press Syndicate, 127 N. Ninth Ave., Nashville 3, Tenn.)

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QUESTIONS

By Alice Whitson Norton

Of course I've seen the man in the moon,

But what of the Milky Way?

Is it a place where the angels walk,

Or the wee star babies play.

And what of the bear that lives in the sky,

Not far from the milky brink,

Does the big star dipper hold water enough

For the big Star Bear to drink?

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THE TINIEST STAR
By Wanda Allen Moore

Out through my window the other night
I saw the tiniest star,
Gleaming and beaming its steady light
From the sky way up so far.

There was the star and here was I
So far, so far apart;
Farther away than a bird can fly
Or a baby wind can dart.

But the star and I, the wind, the bird
Are blessed by God above;
Wherever we are, together we share
The blessing of His love.

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BIBLE PEOPLE PUZZLE
By Bertha R. Hudelson

Change these letters around and you will have the names of Bible peopl .

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. HURT | 6. MESH |
| 2. HEAL | 7. NAILED |
| 3. WANDER | 8. NOSE |
| 4. GO | 9. SOIL |
| 5. BALE | 10. RAZE |

Answers:

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Ruth | 6. Shem |
| 2. Leah | 7. Daniel |
| 3. Andrew | 8. Enos |
| 4. Og | 9. Lois |
| 5. Abel | 10. Ezra |

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