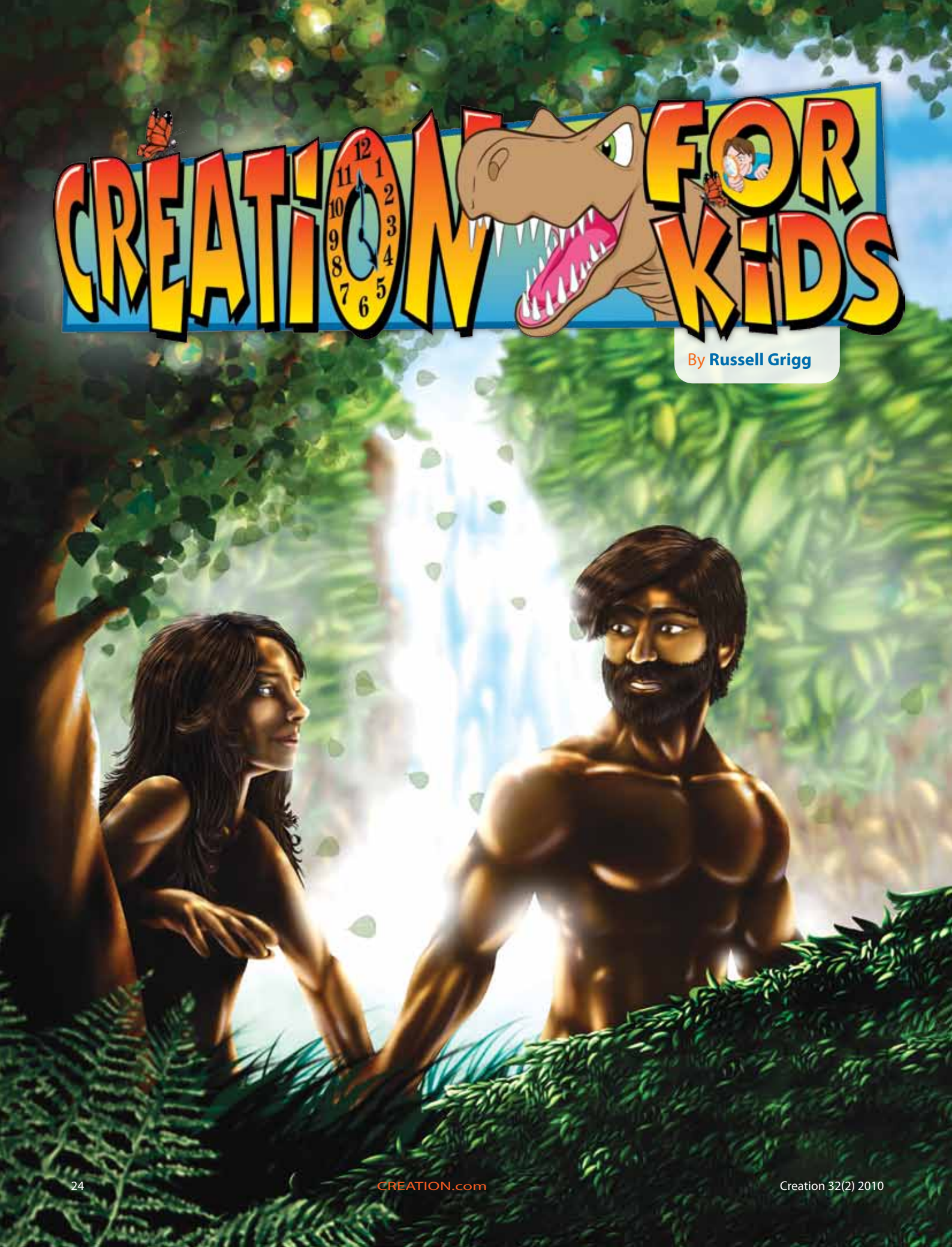


# CREATION FOR KIDS



By Russell Grigg



## GOD'S PLAN: ACT 1, A COUPLE

On Day 6 of Creation Week, God created Adam and Eve, the very first man and woman, a single couple. God gave them a very special blessing. He told them to have lots of children ... who would have lots of children ... and so on. In time there would be enough people to fill the earth and look after it on God's behalf (Genesis 1:28).

God loved them and He wanted them to love and obey Him. But, sadly, they preferred to do their own thing, and they didn't love God enough to obey Him. Nor did most of their children. Their first son, Cain, killed his own brother, Abel. And after a while all the people were so violent, so sinful, and so rebellious against God that God was sorry He had made them (Genesis 6:7).

In order to stop the wickedness, God sent a Flood over the whole earth. Everyone died except one family—that of Noah, who, the Bible says, "was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God" (Genesis 6:9). With Noah on the Ark were his wife, their three sons, and their three sons' wives.

## GOD'S PLAN: ACT 2, A FAMILY

So God began again. This time with a single family, the family of Noah. God blessed them in much the same way as He had blessed Adam and Eve. He told them to have lots of children ... who would have lots of children ... who would have lots of children, who in due course would fill the earth (Genesis 9:1, 7). However, when it came to moving away to live in far-off lands, they didn't want to go.

God had a way of making them do it. At a place called Babel, God confused the people's language so that different families suddenly found that they were speaking different languages and couldn't understand what other families were saying. This forced the different families to move apart and eventually to migrate over the whole earth. But how was God to reach these people and nations now and teach them about Himself?

God directs human history!

## GOD'S PLAN: ACT 3, A NATION

God began again, this time with a single nation, whose task it would be to tell all the other nations about God. First of all God had to form that nation. To do this, He chose a man whose name was Abram (later changed to Abraham). Abram was Noah's great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great grandson. God blessed Abram and told him that all the families on earth would be blessed through him (Genesis 12:3). In time, Abraham's grandson, Jacob, had 12 sons, whose descendants became the 12 tribes of Israel. But how does a family become a nation? Somehow, God had to keep all these people together until there were enough of them to form the nation of Israel.

To do this, God sent a famine in that land. Because of this, Jacob and his family went to live in Egypt, where there was plenty of food, and where one of his sons, Joseph, had become the Prime Minister. After Joseph died, the Egyptians made the Israelites slaves. This kept the Israelites in Egypt until, after 400 years, there were enough of them to become the nation that God wanted to form.

At the right time, God made the Pharaoh of Egypt release the people of Israel. God then led them by His servant Moses to the land of Canaan, which He wanted to be their homeland. At first the Israelites were unwilling to trust

God and enter the land, so God made them wait for another 40 years until the people of that generation had died, and there was a new generation made up of their children, who were willing to obey God. God gave the Israelites, through Moses, His Law, including the Ten Commandments.

God is holy, and He wants us to be holy too. Jesus summed up the Ten Commandments by saying that we should love God with all our heart and soul and mind, and our neighbours as ourselves (Matthew 22:37–39).

Unfortunately, every one of us is guilty of disobeying God. This is called sin and there is a penalty. This is because God is holy and without sin. When Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, God pronounced the penalty of death on the human race. As a result we all need a Saviour.

## GOD'S PLAN: ACT 4, A SAVIOUR

At the right time, God sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to live in the nation of Israel, which He had formed. Here Jesus died on the cross of Calvary and then rose from the dead. In doing this, He paid the penalty for our sin, so that God can now justly forgive all those who are sorry for their sin and who put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

