

February 13<sup>th</sup>

Memory verse

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup,  
ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Perhaps you are already familiar with this verse. More about it in the lesson for 15<sup>th</sup> February.

What can you find in a cave?<sup>1</sup>



Look at the picture on the left. What a hot dry place it seems to be! Can you see a kind of cave or hole in one of the rocky outcrops?

This picture was taken near the **Dead Sea** in Israel. Can you find it in your atlas? The Dead Sea is a lake and its shores are the lowest dry land on earth. The water is very salty; nearly ten times as salty as sea water which makes it very buoyant. (Remember yesterday's lesson!) People enjoy going to the Dead Sea for a holiday just to float in the water! The Dead Sea borders on modern Israel and Jordan as you will see if you look at your Atlas. One side of it is part of Israel's troubled "West Bank" area.

In the little cave in the picture, just after the Second World War, some very important documents – scrolls – were found quite by accident. The initial discoverers were boys belonging to a group of smugglers, who were minding goats in the area. These were turbulent and dangerous times in this part of the world. At first there was little understanding of what the scrolls were and of their importance. Some were acquired by one person some by another. The only person who had any understanding of what they could be and their importance seems to have been the Syrian Orthodox Church's Metropolitan (church officer) in Jerusalem, Mar Samuel, who, by a chain of events too complex to go into here, got hold of some of them. Then the Arab Israeli War took place in 1948 and people have other things to think about besides old documents when there is a war on.

On **February 13**, 1955, in Jerusalem there was a press conference. Israel's prime minister, Moshe Sharett, announced that of the seven scrolls initially discovered in the cave, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem had acquired four. They had been purchased in New York for \$250,000 from representatives of the Syrian Orthodox Church through Mar Samuel. A special facility for the scrolls where they could be on display would be built called The Shrine of the Book, the Prime Minister explained.

Caves near to the original finds were excavated for the next eleven years and more scrolls and artefacts were discovered.

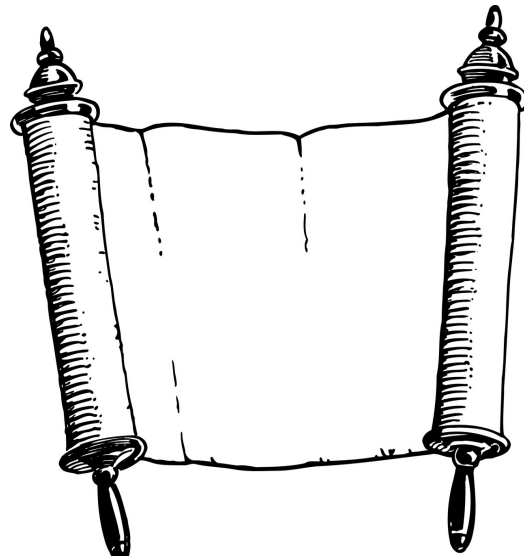
Just what were these documents? Why were they so important?

The researches eventually yielded tens of thousands of scroll fragments dating from the third century B.C. to A.D. 68 and included pieces of at least 800 different documents. They are written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, and in many different styles and on different topics. Collectively they are now known as the Dead Sea Scrolls.



<sup>1</sup> Information from <http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2008/05/21/What-is-the-importance-of-the-Dead-Sea-Scrolls.aspx>, <https://www.gotquestions.org/dead-sea-scrolls.html> and other sources.

The exciting thing about the Dead Sea Scrolls is that they contain manuscripts or fragments of every book in the Hebrew Bible except the Book of Esther, and all of them were copied out nearly one thousand years earlier than any previously known biblical manuscripts. In fact the majority of the manuscripts were parts of the Old Testament. In the picture on the previous page you can see part of the scroll of Isaiah.<sup>2</sup> It is the oldest copy of any Old Testament book ever to be discovered. Even today the search for more scroll fragments is continuing in the caves of the area. The latest finds (2021) include fragments of the books of Zechariah and Nahum.



### Something to make

Scrolls were the books of the ancient world. If you look at the Isaiah scroll above you will see that the text was written in columns. The Jewish reader would use the handles on either side to roll the scroll on to the next column when needed. The Greeks and Romans used scrolls too, but they generally did not have the wooden handles, they were just rolls of paper.

If you would like to make your own “ancient” scroll you can stain some paper using cold tea or coffee. There are instructions on how to do this if you look ahead to the lesson for June 10<sup>th</sup>. Singeing the edges of your paper using a candle gives a very good effect too but if you do this please be careful not to set the paper alight and make sure you have adult supervision.

When you have finished your scroll you can write your memory verse on it or you could copy a Bible chapter.

Then you can roll it up from both ends and tie it with some ribbon. If you want it to have handles you can make them out of wooden barbecue skewers or something similar depending on the size required.

### A story to read from history

February 13<sup>th</sup> was an important date for King William III (reigned 1689-1702). It was on 13<sup>th</sup> February that he and his wife Mary were proclaimed co-rulers of England. You will be able to read about that in the lesson for April 21<sup>st</sup>. But it was also on that date, seven years later in 1696, that a plot to assassinate<sup>3</sup> William became apparent.



Various monarchs have been the subject of assassination plots but William was particularly vulnerable. He had come to the throne as the result of the Glorious Revolution which you can read about in the lesson for 21<sup>st</sup> April.<sup>4</sup> This meant that over in France was someone else who had once been king of England and who very much wanted to be king of England again. This was James Stuart, who had been James II of England and his followers were called “Jacobites”. James was a Catholic and the pope recognised him as lawful king of England.

<sup>2</sup> The scrolls can now be accessed on line here: <http://dss.collections.imj.org.il/isaiah>

<sup>3</sup> To assassinate is to murder a ruler or government official for political reasons.

<sup>4</sup> I have also put the story as H E Marshall tells in in today's Optional Resources files. See below.

William and Mary ruled England as joint sovereigns, the only English monarchs to do so. Both had claims to the throne, although Mary's was the stronger claim as she was the daughter of James II. William was the grandson of Charles I, James II's father (he was Mary's cousin) so his claim was weaker. He was also the great grandson of the Dutch ruler William the Silent about whom you can read in the lesson for April 16<sup>th</sup>. People were grateful to be rescued from the tyranny of James II but they still regarded William as something of a foreigner. Mary was much loved by the people: William less so. When Mary died, in 1694 she was greatly mourned. Her death left William more vulnerable to Jacobite plots.

In January 1696 Jacobite Sir George Barclay landed at Romney intent upon assassinating the King. The plot he concocted was based on a close observation of William's habits of movement when hunting. The Jacobites laid their plans carefully. On returning from hunting the king would always take a ferry boat across the Thames at Kew. Then he would make his way by coach, with armed guards on foot in attendance up a narrow lane from Turnham Green to Brentford. At one point this lane became very narrow so that there was no room for the coach with its six horses to manoeuvre in an emergency. The idea was for three parties of men to lie in wait at this point. One group would go for the king. The other two groups would deal with the guards.

However, the plot became known as early as the summer of 1695 and William's Secretary of State for the Northern Department (part of what we now call the Foreign Office), began gathering evidence and getting information together. James Vernon, who acted as secretary to the lords justices, took over the job.

On **13<sup>th</sup> February** about forty conspirators were organised to stop the coach on 15<sup>th</sup> but one of them went to Whitehall and informed the Earl of Portland. Once the information reached the king it was given out that he would not be going hunting on 15<sup>th</sup> and the plotters, unaware that they had been betrayed, changed their plans for the 21<sup>st</sup>. On that date they set out but, hearing that the guards had been sent out to apprehend them, they scattered. However, they were rounded up: the plot had failed.

Over the years Jacobite plotting continued. James II died but his son, James Francis Edward Stuart, known as the Old Pretender and his grandson Charles Edward Stuart, the Young Pretender continued to claim the throne of England.

The successful prevention of the plot of 1696 was helpful to William III. People regarded it as providential that the king had been saved and saw the event as a sign that he was regarded by God as the legitimate king. On the next page you can see a rather lurid popular broadsheet that was published at the time. It is headed *The Triumphs of Providence over Hell, France & Rome, In the Defeating & Discovering of the late Hellish and Barbarous Plott, for Assassinating his Royall Majesty King William the III Lively displayed in all its several*. The small pictures tell the story of the plot, its discovery and the punishment of the plotters rather in the manner of a modern cartoon or graphic novel. In the centre a larger scene is headed *LIMP* which stands for Louis XIV, James II (I and J can still be considered forms of the same letter at this time), Mary of Modena and Prince of Wales i.e. James Francis Edward Stuart. This gives the historical background of the plot including in the background the birth of Prince of Wales, James Francis Edward Stuart, which was popularly considered to have been faked, and which sparked the Glorious Revolution in the first place. There is not space to go into the details here but you can find them in *The Story of God's Dealings with our Nation* Volume 2<sup>5</sup> and also in today's Optional Resources files. The bottom picture in the oval is supposed to symbolise the "Eye of Providence" watching over the king as he travels in his coach. The whole story of the plot is told below the pictures in (rather bad) verse.

---

5 Available from <https://www.creationresearchstore.com/s/search?q=The%20Story%20of%20Gods%20Dealings%20with%20our%20Nation>

**Something to do**

You could make a broadsheet of your own. You could choose an event that interests you from history or perhaps use a local or national event. A Bible event might be another option. Use a good big piece of paper such as a square cut from the back of a roll of wallpaper. You can lay out your illustrations carefully and copy the broadsheet below if you like. If you want to be satisfied with each picture before it is included, draw it separately and paste it onto your broadsheet. You can do the same with the text if you wish. Your account does not have to be in verse!



**T**he Great Design's Resolv'd: And there must be  
Fighting, to introduce a Jubilee;  
And Prayers and Greek Processions must be Made,  
For Heavens Help, to Plots that Hell had laid.  
And next in Council sits the Great Divan,  
Who come to this Resolv'd, That nothing can  
Succeed their Attempts by Night or Day,  
Until they take King WILLIAM'S Life away:  
Which to effect, some barbarous Villains be  
Sent to Affiliate his Majesty.  
This Council (that for Lustre did pimp)  
Was by themselves Characterized I.M.F.  
A proper Term! For those who thence did Rouse,  
Caught by the Hangman, came but Limping home.  
But to prepare things, Berwick first must go,  
And there remain a while Inactive;  
Who reckoning that the Plot was firmly laid,  
Dances at Drapers Hall in Masquerade:  
With High-Crown'd Hat, and 'bout his Neck a Ruff,  
Better becoming Him that Steel, or Buff;  
And that the rest in Ignominy did lie,  
Come to the Council, was fill the Plotters cry.  
But hoping now all things would well succeed,  
He back again to France returns with speed:  
And tells King James, Their Plot was laid so deep,  
The Prince of Orange seem'd to be a sleep;  
And thereupon King James to Calice flies,  
As Super Cargo of the Enterprize:  
And that it might infallibly succeed,  
There the Popes Nuncio does repair with speed,  
His Holiness sitting to below,  
That he might the English Hiericks O'rethrow.  
And now the Affidavits come to give the Blow,  
(Which had it took, had wrought all Europe's Woe)  
The very Day is fix'd, the Ambush laid,  
Which should the Life (so dear to all) invade:  
But then High Providence (whose piercing Eye  
Did into their most secret Councils pry)  
Brings their Dark Deeds to Light, that thereby all  
The Ills they meant, on their own Heads might fall:  
'Mongst that Black Crew were some, whose Hearts did hate  
Those damn'd Designs they were to perpetrate;

And therefore were by Heaven ordain'd to be  
Th' Instruments of this best Discovery:  
Which when they'd made, and the King found it true,  
He did both Pardon and Rewards e'm too:  
The chief who this Discovery brought to pass,  
May well be termed *Honest Prendergrast*:  
The Tables now are Turn'd; and, Thanks to Heaven,  
A just Reward is to the Traytors given:  
Erick Charlesock, King and Keys, are brought to th' Bar,  
Where they Arraign'd, Try'd and found Guilty are:  
From thence to Tyburn they a Journey take,  
And on the *Triple Tree* their Exits make:  
Confessing, ere they took their fatal Swing,  
The Black Design they had against the King,  
Sir William Perkins next, and Sir John Friend,  
Do their Unhappy Lives at Tyburn End:  
For being caught i'th *COIN*, it is but reason  
That they should both be *OUNDRED* for their Treason,  
Then *Charlesock*, *Leacock*, *Crawshaw* next were Try'd,  
And in like manner all for Treason Dy'd.  
*Lewis* and *James*, who this Vile Plot had laid,  
Knew not, as yet, their Treason was betray'd:  
Nay, they indeed, suspecting nothing less,  
Were getting all thing in a Readiness,  
To second that *Bald Stroke* that should be made,  
And England with French Forces to invade:  
The Army was Embargo'd, the Fleet was Stor'd,  
And *James* himself ready to go on Board,  
With his black Guard of Jesuits, Priests and Fryars,  
The only Company that he desires:  
Expecting th' happy Signal now from Dover,  
That all was ready for him to come over.  
But what Confusion in King *James* it wrought,  
When he was told his Plot was come to Nought!  
That th' English Fleet was almost come in view,  
To take both him and all his Forces too:  
He made not half that haste into the Main,  
As now he did to get on Shore again.  
The Transport Ships design'd to wait him o're,  
Now Dash to pieces on the *Galick Shoar*:  
Whilst th' English Fleet appearing in their light,  
Put the whole Court of France into a Fright,

And *James* and *Lewis* both now think it best,  
Against this Plot to enter their Protest:  
And send it to all Princes Courts in Print,  
Pretending they had not a Finger in't:  
Tho' that 'twould take, they once themselves did flatter,  
Like *Tayford*, they know nothing of the matter:  
But if we look about, we soon shall find  
What 'twas made *James* and *Lewis* change their Mind:  
The Notice this Plot made, of so black a Thing,  
Design'd against the Life of England's King,  
By Europe's Princes was reflected on,  
That he who own'd it was their Common Foe:  
Each Court in Europe, Kingdom or Free-State,  
The Kings Deliverance did Congratulate.  
If therefore France did not the Plot disown,  
He thought he should for th' Author not be known.  
But let him ne'er so much *Disown* the Plot,  
'Twill in his Scutcheon be a lasting Blot.  
But one Distress seldom comes alone:  
Their deep-laid *Plot* by Heaven thus over-thrown;  
The Stores laid up at *Gibet* with such care,  
By the Confederates next consumed are,  
And all the Measures *Lewis* did Design,  
Lost by the Burning of that Magazine:  
This last Loss touches *Lewis* to the Quick;  
And not being well before, this makes him Sick:  
Heat makes him Coughive, and his Body blifter;  
For which the Doctor straight prescribes a *Gillifier*:  
And tells him, That if *Gillifier* will not do,  
He must a *Pomus* take, to make him Spew.  
The *Gillifier* failing, he a *Vomit* takes,  
Which mighty Rumbling in his Stomach makes:  
After a little walking up and down,  
And some hard Strainings, up he brings a *Colium*:  
*O Doctor*, says he, I am very Sick;  
There's something still does in my Stomach stick;  
*Stercus*, says the Doctor, *ferre*, sit once again;  
He does, and straight he Vomits up *Loquax*:  
That's well, the Doctor cries; but that won't do,  
There's more behind, bring up *Sturquandy* too:  
*O Fin* is mighty Sick, replies the King,  
To be at Ease, I'll bring up any thing.

A. The Procession. B. King James receives the Popes Blessing. C. King James Embarking at Callice. D. The Duke of Berwick Dancing in Masquerade. E. The Traytors in Ambush to Assassinate the King. F. The Traytors Try'd at the Old Bailey. G. Trial at Westminster Hall. H. Traytors Executed at Tyburn. I. The King grants his Pardon to Prendergrast. K. King James returns back on the Discovery of the Plot. L. The French King Sick, and taking a Pomus.

## Something to listen to



Fernando Sor (1778-1839) was born in Spain on 13<sup>th</sup> February. He was a composer and classical guitarist and he lived an eventful life. Trained to be a soldier, he fought against Napoleon when his country was invaded by France but when Napoleon was victorious he settled down to work for the invaders in a government job. This meant he was regarded as an *afrancesados* – someone who adopted the ideas of the French Revolution – by his fellow Spaniards. Because of this, when the Spanish managed to free themselves from the French, Sor had to run away from his own country to which he was never able to return.

Sor was a brilliant guitarist and he also taught others how to play. He travelled far and wide over Europe teaching and playing and even went as far as Moscow. He wrote music for his instrument, including some easy pieces for beginners as well as more difficult studies. His music is tuneful. Try to listen to his *L'Encouragement* op.34 which is for two guitars – a guitar duet.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup> You can hear it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dm3KOxlAuFI>. A lovely recording and very unusual because one of the players is playing left handed!