

28th June

Memory verse

One generation shall praise thy works to another,
and shall declare thy mighty acts. Psalm 145:4

Younger children can learn the words in bold and understand that “thy” stands for “God's”. They can imagine the words like this:

One generation shall praise thy works to another [generation].

They might like to consider that they are part of a chain. Their parents are declaring God's mighty acts to them now. They must be the link that passes on the wonderful news of God's mighty Act of Salvation to the generation to come!

Something to make¹

Henry VIII was born on 28th June 1491. The Venetian ambassador described him in these words:

His Majesty is the handsomest potentate I ever set eyes on: above usual height, his complexion very fair and bright, with auburn hair combed straight and short in the French fashion, and a round face, his throat being rather long and thick.

He wore a cap of crimson velvet. His doublet was in the Swiss fashion, striped alternately with white and crimson satin, and his hose were scarlet, and all slashed from the knee upwards. Very close around his neck he had a gold collar, from which there hung a rough cut diamond, the size of the largest walnut I ever saw, and to this was suspended a most beautiful and very large round pearl. His mantle was of purple velvet lined with white satin. This mantle was girt in front like a gown, with a thick gold cord from which there hung large golden acorns. Beneath the mantle he wore a pouch of cloth of gold which covered a dagger; and his fingers were one mass of jewelled rings.

How well can you visualise the king from this description? On the next page is a portrait of the king. Holbein painted a portrait of Henry VIII but it was destroyed in a fire in 1698. Copies of it had been made so we know what it looked like. Make your own Henry VIII paper doll. Begin by tracing the outline of Henry VIII from the Holbein portrait on the next page. Fill in the details and stick it onto some cardboard.

The simplest way to make your Henry VIII doll stand up is to cut a strip of card nearly as long as the figure and attach one end of it with strong glue or sellotape at the back of the figure. The figure will stand up but always at rather a backwards slope. The best kind of stand is made in a different way. Before you cut out the figure, draw a pencil semicircle using a compass. Put the point of the compass low down between the feet and open it to give a semicircle that crosses both legs at about the ankles. Now cut out the figure but do not cut out anything inside the semicircle. Make two small cuts in the base of the semicircle one each side of the feet. Now cut a strip of card a little longer than the semicircle base. Make two small cuts in the top one near each end. Carefully slot the cuts in the semicircle base into the cuts in the strip. Position the strip so that it forms a semicircle behind the figure. The figure should now stand up.²

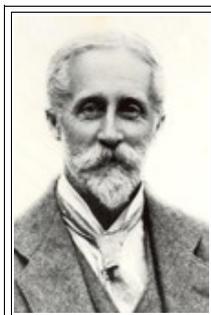
¹ Adapted from Owen, Evan, *What Happened Today?* Book 2 available on the *Mothers' Companion* flashdrive <https://motherscompanion.weebly.com/>

² You can see how this is done here: <https://dollcoloringbook.blogspot.com/2017/08/how-to-cut-stands-for-your-paper-dolls.html>. This website has many lovely paper dolls to cut out and colour – hours of fun!



Now you can make the clothes. You can do one as in Holbein's portrait and another to match the ambassador's description. Draw round the doll to get the correct fit. Cut out the clothes with tabs sticking up from the shoulders that can be folded down over the figure to hold them in place. You will need to know the meaning of the words highlighted in turquoise to do this. Do you know what a rough cut diamond is? Perhaps you could find some gold foil (sweet or biscuit wrappers?) to cut out the gold collar and the gold cord with its golden acorns.

A missionary story and some map work



Today is the anniversary of the death of an extraordinary missionary businessman. I have marked some of the places where he preached the Gospel in green below so that you can find them in an atlas. Edmund Hamer Broadbent (1861–1945) was a small, blue-eyed, mild-mannered English gentleman with a pleasant, easy-going manner. I think his face looks very kind in the picture. Converted to Christ in his youth, he began travelling extensively in Germany and Eastern Europe when he was in his 20s alongside a more experienced older traveller, Frederick Baedeker, pioneer missionary to Russia. He became fluent in German and French and preached in Germany, Poland, Armenia, Russia, Romania, Hungary, Lithuania, Belgium, Austria, the Balkans, Turkey, Egypt, Turkestan and Uzbekistan. He had a knack of gaining entrance to places that seemed to be closed to other missionaries. He spent the years that led up to the Russian Revolution and then the Second World War preaching and encouraging those who were converted to form small churches and then go out and spread the Gospel themselves. “He ate their food, slept on their rough beds, discussed their farming methods, and played with their children. And when the sun went down and the lamps were lit, 'the Book' was opened and in a clear, kindly way, the Scriptures became understandable and living to his hearers,” explained one writer.³

Hundreds of little churches were formed as a result of his journeys. He visited and revisited them as he could. In the times that followed many of those who first heard the good news of salvation from Mr Broadbent were to lose their lives in waves of fierce persecution from the cruel Turks, from the Communist Russian authorities, from the German Nazis ...

In 1931 Mr Broadbent wrote a book. He wrote it partly to explain the need for missionary work which follows the pattern of the New Testament. But he wrote it also to make better known the existence of small churches of true believers that had existed in distant times and in the middle ages. He wanted to carry out today's memory verse. His abilities as a linguist were a great help to him and he had friends all over Europe who showed him old documents, many of which have now disappeared as a result of the Second World War. His researches led him to the conclusion that many of the movements labelled as heretical in the middle ages were, in fact, movements of godly people who were persecuted by the Roman Catholic Church. In many cases persecution was so violent that the only writings describing the beliefs of these movements that survive are those of the persecutors themselves, all the writings of the persecuted having been destroyed. These are by no means the best documents from which to learn the real beliefs of persecuted Christians! Included in today's Optional Resources files is an extract from the book in which he describes the Bogomils or Patarenes, a group of believers in the Balkans who were all but wiped out for their faith before being rescued from their persecutors and then conquered by the Islamic Turks. Even today you will find the Bogomils described as Gnostics – a much earlier heresy. This is what the Catholic Church accused them of. Gnostics believed in secret knowledge and did not think Jesus was the son of God. Although the Bogomils probably had some variations in their beliefs, they were not Gnostics. They were believers in the Bible. We should remember the Bogomils – “One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.”

3 <https://plymouthbrethren.org/article/62>