



Narration from The Musical

Written by:
Peter J Foster

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Old Testament

Introduction....

Peter To talk about life, the origins of the Universe and the cosmological interplay that effects man at its' very centre, is a complex and speculative subject.
So let's not bother!
Instead, let's talk about the way it is according to the Bible.
This is THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE.

Song *Creation Song*

Claire So, God created man. Male and female He created them; in His own image, in His own likeness. God created them to live in intimate friendship with Himself: to walk and talk in the light of His love.

Peter So there you have it! In six days God created the sun, the moon, the stars, the heavens, the earth and man himself....
So, what did He do next?
And on the seventh day God rested.

Claire Now Adam was given a rather nice place to live: the Garden of Eden. He was given rule over all the animals and everything that grew. But God said it wasn't right that Adam should be alone. So God brought every bird and every beast to Adam for him to name; but somehow he felt a kind of emptiness inside. It was as though he were missing someone he'd never known; almost as though he had a love song in him for someone special. Someone he'd never met. And God knew exactly who it was.

Laura And the Lord caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept. And He took out one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its' place.
Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from the man, He made into a woman; and He brought her to the man, and Adam said:

Peter Wow.....a woman!

Laura And they were both naked: the man and his wife; and were not ashamed. Adam finally had a love song to sing.

Song *Eve's Song*

Claire Well, what a happy couple they were, wanting for nothing other than each other and their Heavenly Father. True love indeed! (Aghhhh..
And it would have stayed that way had it not been for one tragic

mistake. God had already told them:

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Peter *“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat; for in the day you eat of it you shall surely die!”*

Guitar Intro...

Peter Now the devil, in the form of a serpent, tempted the woman saying:

Laura Has God indeed said “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”

Peter And the woman said:

Claire We may eat of every tree, but the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden we should not eat because we shall surely die!

Peter Then the serpent said: *“Go on try it. You shan’t die. On the contrary, you will be like God knowing good and evil. Go on try it, try, try....”*

Song ***Temptation Song***

(Claire is standing, being tempted. She goes to take apple...)

Claire So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its’ fruit and ate. She also gave it to her husband with her, and he ate.

Chorus

Claire Adam and Eve succumbed. They fell for temptation and sin was now in the world: death, disease, pain and hatred!
Frankly, they’d bitten off more than they could chew!

Peter God asked them what they’d been up to. They tried to hide from Him, knowing the wrong they done. But it was too late: they now had to accept the consequences of opening their hearts to evil.

Claire Generations later, God decided He’d had enough of mankind’s evil ways. He was sorry He’d made man on the earth. He was grieved in heart. He decided to destroy every living thing.

Noah’s Song (Intro..)

Laura However, there was a man called Noah who was found to be good and right in the eyes of God. So God said to Noah: *“I have decided to bring an end to all living things. I will destroy them along with the Earth. Make yourself an Ark and I will save you and your family.”*

Song ***Noah’s Song***

Claire Well, there they were, Noah and his family and all the creatures of the Ark with a brand new world to start again. The floods had gone, storm clouds dispersed and a bright new day awaited them.

Claire God gave Noah the sign of the Rainbow to remind him and mankind of His continuing promise to restore what had been lost through Adam and Eve.

Guitar Intro...

Claire Many generations later, that promise began to unfold and was expressed through a man called Abraham.

Song Abraham's Song

Peter So, because Abraham believed God, he was given a son in his old age. And from that son arose a mighty nation: the nation of Israel.

Claire God had already promised them a land; a land flowing with milk and honey. But they were to suffer much before inhabiting that land. They became enslaved in the mighty nation of Egypt: a proud empire of Pharaohs, pyramids, mummies and sphinx's; where they were crushed and cruelly treated.

Song (Laura) ***Oh God, remember your promises; your children and dying; send us a Saviour...***

Peter They cried out to their God in desperation. They cried out to be saved from their captivity; and God heard them and He sent them their Saviour.... and his name was Moses.

Song Intro...

Claire Now Moses was in exile when God called him to return to Egypt. He'd seen his people, the Israelites, crushed under the tyrannical rule and was told by God: "*Go to Pharaoh and tell him to set my people free*".

Song ***Set My People Free, I will lead them out of captivity.
Let my people go, I will make a Nation of Israel.***

Claire Pharaoh refused Moses' request to let his people go; God said He would be punished. God sent a plague of frogs and turned their rivers to blood; but Pharaoh hardened his heart and refused to let the people go.

Chorus (Set My People Free)

Claire So God sent further plagues to punish Pharaoh. He sent flies to kill

the cattle, boils to torment his people and locusts to eat his crops, but would still not let them go. 4

Chorus (Set My People Free)

Claire So God said He would kill every first born son of the Egyptians and every first born of their animals. He sent the Angel of Death to carry out His commands, but the Angel passed over the doors of the Israelites and left them unharmed.

Chorus (Set My People Free)

Claire Finally, Pharaoh gave in. The Israelites fled Egypt for their promised land. Meanwhile, Pharaoh once again hardened his heart. He sent an army of chariots and horses to recapture the Israelites. With the Red Sea before them and the Egyptians chasing behind, there was no way through. The Israelites cried out to their God to be saved, and once again God heard them: *“Don’t be afraid”*, said Moses. *“Just stand firm and you will see what God will do to save you”*.

Chorus (Set My People Free)

Claire Before their very eyes God divided the Red Sea and Moses led his people across the muddy sea bed. The Egyptians quickly followed but their chariot wheels got bogged down in the mud! Then God caused the sea to come back over the Egyptian army. Their chariots, men and horses were drowned as the waves crashed around them. Once again God saved His people from destruction.

Peter Well, as you can imagine, there was much rejoicing, singing and dancing in praise of God.

All “Yipee...Woo..!”

Laura Moses led the victorious people towards the goal of their promised land. But, they were to suffer many hardships in the great wilderness that stretched before them. They became hungry and God gave them food; thirsty and God provided water. In fact, anything they needed God gave it to them - Miraculously!

Claire And yet they still complained... (Moan, Moan..!). Even after all that God had done for them, they continued to blame Moses for their miserable existence.

Claire Woo, woo indeed! They just couldn’t seem to get it right. They wondered the desert wilderness for 40 years - plenty of time for God to instruct them in His ways. He did this by giving them the 10 Commandments; how else were they to know what was right from wrong!

- Laura** *“You shall have no other God before me”.*
- Claire** Yeah, yeah!
- Laura** *“You shall not steal. You shall not lie”.*
- Claire** Yes but...
- Laura** *“You shall not covert your neighbours ox”.*
- Claire** All right! ALL RIGHT!.... You can see why they struggled so much; all those laws and all that sand...!
- Guitar Intro** ***David’s Song***
- Laura** You’ll be pleased to know though, they did get into their promised land, and after the odd skirmish with their neighbours they enjoyed a period of rest. And it would have stayed that way if they hadn’t continually slipped back into disobedience. The results were the same: famine, invasion, and disease.
- Peter** Even so, God was to continue with His faithfulness to the Israelites, and eventually He gave them the king they wanted: a king who would raise them up above all other nations and lead them back to God. His name was David.
- Song** ***David’s Song***
- Peter** King David was indeed a man after God’s heart. He spoke with God. He listened to God. And as a result He prospered with God. Through David God was demonstrating a simple truth for mankind - and that is RELATIONSHIP!
- Claire** God was not interested in a people merely living by His Commandments; nor by simply offering sacrifices to please Him. Above all, God wanted a people who would be certain of His love for them; a people who would quite simply live by faith. It was King David who showed this kind of faith.
- Peter** Many years, and many kings later, with the Israelites back into all sorts of disobedience, the Lord God announced through His prophets His intention to even things out once and for all.
- Laura** His final master-stroke of restoration was about to be revealed.
- All Sing** *‘Woo, woo, woo; the Israelites’.*
- Claire** And that’s where we leave the Old Testament.

THE BIBLE IN AN HOUR MUSICAL

New Testament

Narration

Laura For to us a child is born.
To us a Son is given.
And the government shall be on His shoulders.
And He will be called: Wonderful Counsellor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

All Baa baaa baaa!

Peter Sheep, they're everywhere. Wherever you go in the Old Testament,
and now the New Testament, you're sure to find plenty of sheep!

Song *'While Shepherds Watch'*.

Claire A beautiful angel, shining like the sun, told the shepherds who were
there that they were not to fear, for he had great news. The Saviour
King of all mankind had been born nearby. They were told to see for
themselves, and that they would find Him in a cattle trough in
Bethlehem.... Yes, a cattle trough!

Peter/Laura A cattle trough?!

Guitar intro

Laura Well now, you won't be surprised to hear that the sheep might
have been just a little bit surprised. Maybe someone pulling the
wool over their eyes! But no, this was no joke! This was the real
thing. They found the new born baby boy just as the angel had
said. Wise men from afar also came to praise and worship the
baby boy whose name was Jesus. Yes, something truly incredible
had happened in the world.

Claire At much the same time as Jesus being born, was another sent from
God. His name was John. It was his job to prepare the Jewish
people, the Israelites, to be ready to receive the One who would
come after him. That is, the King, the Saviour, the Christ.

Song *John the Baptist*

Claire Many years later, Jesus, by now a grown man, came to John to be
baptised. And while he prayed, the heavens opened and the Holy
Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice
came from heaven which said:
You are my beloved Son, in you I am well pleased."

Song ***John The Baptist (chorus)***

Laura Filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was now ready to fulfil His mission, which was - to take away the sins of the world and restore what was lost through Adam and Eve.

Guitar Intro (I will follow)

Peter But, He was going to need some help. An army of followers were chosen to serve Him, disciples to train under Him and helpers to work alongside Him. An elect people, faithful and committed. Like he fisherman in this song...

Laura/Claire Fisherman??!!

Peter Yes! And the fisherman's Mother-in-law..

Laura/Claire Mother-in-law??!!

Song I Follow You

Claire So, this carpenter's son from Nazareth - Jesus; a handful of fishermen, a tax collector and a bunch of faithful followers went off to do God's work. Lives were healed, broken hearts mended, and everywhere they went people were added to their number.

Song ***I Will Follow (chorus)***

Claire By now the entire region was in uproar with rumours and speculation. Was He the long awaited Saviour, or was He not? Some believed in Jesus, others hated Him. They were the Pharisees, the religious leaders of the day. They'd say, "He's been known to perform miracles on the Sabbath day of rest!"

Peter/Laura "Sacrilege!!"

Claire They'd say, "He's been heard making claims to be the Son of God"

Peter/Laura "Disgraceful!"

Claire Yes, he sure was putting a few backs up! And everyone, but everyone had heard of this Jesus!

Song ***Have you heard?***

Claire Clearly a name on everybody's lips! But what do we know of the man behind the name, the Jesus Christ as a person...? And what was it about Him that touched so many people so deeply?

Guitar strum...

Claire Let's set the scene. Jesus is invited by a Pharisee round to his house for dinner - most probably so that he can find fault in Jesus. During the meal a disturbance is caused as a woman bursts in to the room. Uncontrollably, she breaks down, weeping at His feet.

Song *Mary's Song*

Peter Jesus knew His fate. To accomplish His plan in bringing forgiveness to the world, He knew He must be put to death: to die for us, on our behalf, for our sins; for the world He loved so much. Even for the very people who hated Him!

Drum roll

Claire It was the religious leaders who finally got Him. They arrested Him in Jerusalem - three years into His ministry - and managed to manipulate His death sentence by the Roman Authorities.

His method of punishment - crucifixion - is probably the most agonising death known to mankind. He was stripped naked, lashed until His back was laid bare, and forced to carry a heavy wooden cross which He was then nailed to by the wrists and ankles.

Song intro... *Temptation*

Claire Jesus was left to die before a gawking crowd; and to add to His suffering He was also tormented by the devil, the evil one who started all this trouble in the first place.

Song *Temptation reprise*

Peter At midday a shadow passed across the sun, and for three hours it was strangely dark! Then Jesus, looking down from the cross on the people He'd come to save, forgave them, and, giving up His Spirit' He cried "It is finished!", and died!

Laura Day one...

Claire They buried Jesus in a tomb, sealing the entrance with a rock and guard.

Laura Day Two...

Claire Jesus had already said that He would come alive again on the third day; but His followers did not understand.

Laura Day Three...

Claire And on the third day, Mary Magdalene - the faithful one who Jesus had healed, came to visit the tomb. But it was empty!

Laura "Where are You Lord? The stone has been rolled away, what's happening here?"

Claire The linen clothes that Jesus had been wrapped in were lying there, discarded...

Laura "He did say on the third day... May be... could it be...?"

Claire Mary wept!

Laura Where are You Lord...?"

Claire And weeping, she turned around and saw Jesus, but thought He was the gardener.

Laura "Where have they taken my Lord?"

Claire 'Where have they taken my Lord', she asked

Peter "Mary, it is I, Jesus"...

Laura He's alive

Claire Jesus had overcome the power of death in the tomb.

Laura He's alive

Claire Proving He was no ordinary man, but God Himself!

Laura He's alive

Claire God with us, to restore what had been lost through Adam and Eve.

Laura He's alive!

Guitar intro

Claire The news quickly spread to all of the disciples - Jesus had been raised from the dead. He came amongst them and He explained to them exactly why it that He'd had to die, and how it was that He'd come back to life.

Song ***Saviour King (1st)***

Claire Jesus appeared to over 500 people in the 40 days after the resurrection, speaking to them of a new Kingdom here on earth; that is, the Kingdom of Heaven. He commanded the disciples to not leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise from the Father; they were going to receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

Song ***Saviour King (2nd)***

Claire Finally, Jesus left them. He ascended into Heaven. An angel told the disciples, who were there, that one day He would return in the same way.

Song ***Thank you Father for your son
We'll be waiting 'till your work is done
Your Kingdom come***

Claire Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth and the life; no one can come to the except through me".

We believe Jesus is the way back to a restored relationship with our heavenly Father; this is the truth which brings life in all its fullness here on earth, and life eternal. We are created to live in intimate relationship with our heavenly Father - just like Adam and Eve. But they fell for temptation and sin is now in the world.

The Israelites tried so hard to get back that relationship with God, but it was never quite good enough. There needed to be a death penalty paid for man's sin. So God gave His Son to die that death in our place.

stop music

God's final master stroke of restoration is Jesus: His life, His death and His resurrection.

Song ***John The Baptist***

Laura After Jesus ascended into Heaven, the disciples waited in Jerusalem as Jesus had said. And as they gathered together the Holy Spirit fell upon them in power. A rushing wind came from nowhere and filled the room; tongues of fire rested on their heads. The disciples, now filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, burst out into the streets.

Song ***Je' Je' Jesus***

Claire Many people did believe the good news that Jesus is alive again. They'd seen plenty of evidence that the one true God was working through the disciples in His Son's name....that is: the one and only, the Son of God, the name of Jesus!

Song intro ***I will follow***

Laura Thousands of followers were added to their number and the Christian church was born. Jesus had told his disciples to go and make disciples of all the world... to go and set captives free; to heal the sick and cast out demons in His name.

Claire There are now many millions of Christians around the world - and growing! And in case you're wondering what these Jesus disciples are like, well, here's three of them! Meanwhile...

Song ***I will Follow.***

THE END

