

CHILDREN'S GREAT BIBLE TEXTS

VOLUME X



THE BOOK OF  
JOB

***CHILDREN'S GREAT BIBLE TEXTS***

**THE BOOK OF JOB**

**JAMES HASTINGS**

**Contents:**

[a Spider's Web.](#)  
[A Laughing-Stock.](#)  
[A Driven Leaf.](#)  
[A Prisoner In The Stocks.](#)  
[A Moth-Eaten Garment.](#)  
[Removing Rocks.](#)  
[The Topaz.](#)  
[Seals.](#)  
[The Treasures Of The Snow.](#)  
[Who Sends The Rain?](#)  
[Pointers.](#)  
[Seeing The King.](#)

*The Book Of Job, J. Hastings  
Jazzybee Verlag Jürgen Beck  
86450 Altenmünster, Germany*

*ISBN: 9783849622183*

*[www.jazzybee-verlag.de](http://www.jazzybee-verlag.de)  
[admin@jazzybee-verlag.de](mailto:admin@jazzybee-verlag.de)*

## A SPIDER'S WEB.

Whose trust is a spider's web.— Job viii. 14.

You have all seen a spider's web, and some of you may have stopped for a minute to admire the arrangement of it. You noticed the long strong lines which run from the centre to the circumference, and the short lines which are woven across them at equal distances, making a perfect pattern. From the centre of the web runs a trap line up to the hiding-place of the spider which is in some little crevice or under a leaf. The slightest touch of the web sends a quiver along the threads and up this line, and the spider comes rushing down to see what has happened.

The web is made so as to take the smallest amount of time and silk. It is so fine that it can scarcely be seen, yet strong enough to stand the struggles of the insect caught in it. It is close enough to catch tiny flies, yet open enough to let the wind blow through it, and so it avoids the strain that would break down anything more solid. It blows with the breeze. You have sometimes seen in damp weather the bushes covered with gossamer threads which seem to appear suddenly from nowhere. These are woven by spiders too.

Some kinds of spiders when they are young and light are bold airmen. The little spider spins a long thread, lets the wind catch it, and immediately rises in the air to a great height, and sails away in his balloon. It is not a dirigible, however; he can't steer it, and he must just go with the wind. In this way spiders travel long distances, and even cross wide arms of the sea.

There have been fables and superstitions about spiders. You will still hear many people say that a spider is " lucky " and that to kill it is " unlucky," but good housekeepers do not pay much attention to that when they find one weaving its web in their house.

The Greeks had a story about the spider. They said there was once a girl called Arachne. She lived with her father, who was famous for the purple dye which he made. Arachne was wonderfully clever at spinning and weaving. Her parents were proud of her, and her fame spread through the whole of Greece. Great people came to see her at her work, and paid high prices for her tapestry. As a result, I am sorry to say, her head was turned, and she became very vain and boasted that no one could make tapestry like her — not even the goddess Athene.

Now the goddess Athene was the patroness of all that kind of work, and when she heard this she was much annoyed and came, disguised as an old woman, to Arachne's house. She found her busy at her work, and heard her boast that not even Athene could do better. The disguised goddess warned Arachne not to compare herself to Athene, but the girl would not listen. She merely boasted all the more and challenged Athene to come and try a contest with her. Then Athene took her own form, and they both set to work. The goddess wove pictures showing the fate of those mortals who had dared to oppose themselves to gods, and Arachne wove pictures showing the foolish things the gods had done (for the gods of Greece were just like men — very powerful but no better).

When they had finished their work, even Athene had to admit that Arachne had won. Her work was faultless. Then the goddess in a fit of anger tore it in pieces, and struck the girl on the head with the shuttle. When Arachne saw that