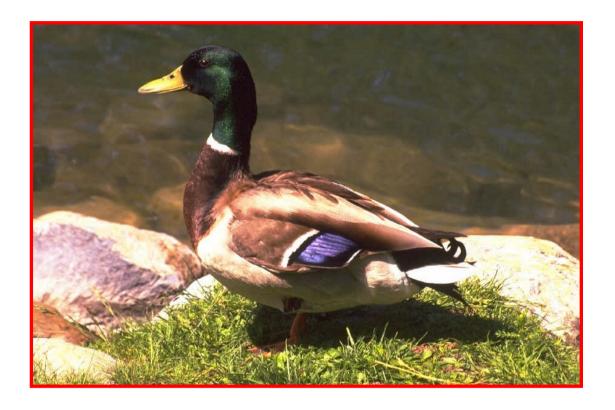
Lesson 45

## God's Animal Kingdom Classroom

## Duck



The duck is a wonderful bird that has fascinated us for a long time. Ducks are perfectly made to live in the water. Their feathers are made waterproof with oils they make, they have a very warm undercoat of down feathers and they have webbed feet for swimming. One of the most interesting things about ducks is that they migrate south for the winter and north for the summer. They seem to know what climate is best for them. They

are also smart and do a good job of avoiding hunters.

What can we learn from the duck?

The duck teaches us to read the entire Bible, the Old and the New Testaments. Ducks also teach us to be wary of the devil and his ways.

Christians often read the New Testament which is the story of Jesus and the early church but they often neglect to read the Old Testament. There are a lot of wonderful stories and lessons in the Old Testament but they often do not get read. The duck seems to know what environment is best for them at any given time. They will stay in one place until they feel they need to go someplace else where they can find new homes and food. Ducks do not stay in one place all the time. If they did, they would not be healthy and may even die.

If we do not read the entire Bible, we will not be healthy in a spiritual way. The story of Jesus begins on the first page of the Old Testament and continues all the way through the Old Testament. We are missing much of the importance of Jesus when we neglect to read the Old Testament. Jesus tells us that we can make mistakes if we do not

know the Bible when He says in Matthew 22:29, "Jesus replied, 'You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God." Jesus used the Old Testament to teach people that He is the Savior in Luke 24:27, "Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he (Jesus) explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself." Jesus also tells us that the Old Testament talk about Him in John 5:39, "You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me."

Ducks are very wary of hunters and their tricks. Hunters hide and wait for ducks to fly near them. Hunters also put out decoy ducks which are toy ducks that fool real ducks into thinking a pond is safe. If they come to the pond, hunters can shoot at them. Satan uses many tricks to try to pull us away from Jesus. Satan hides until he thinks we are not watching and then tries to take us from Jesus. Satan uses decoys to temp us to sin and turn from Jesus. Like the duck, we must always be watchful so that Satan does not catch us and trick us. Paul tells us in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2:10, "I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his

schemes." Paul also tells us in Ephesians 6:11, "Take your stand against the devil's schemes." We are also told that Satan is always hunting for us in 1st Peter 5:8, "Be self controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

Let us learn from the duck and read both the Old and the New Testaments so that we can always have the best shelter and food for our souls as we go through life always on guard against Satan and his sinful ways.

