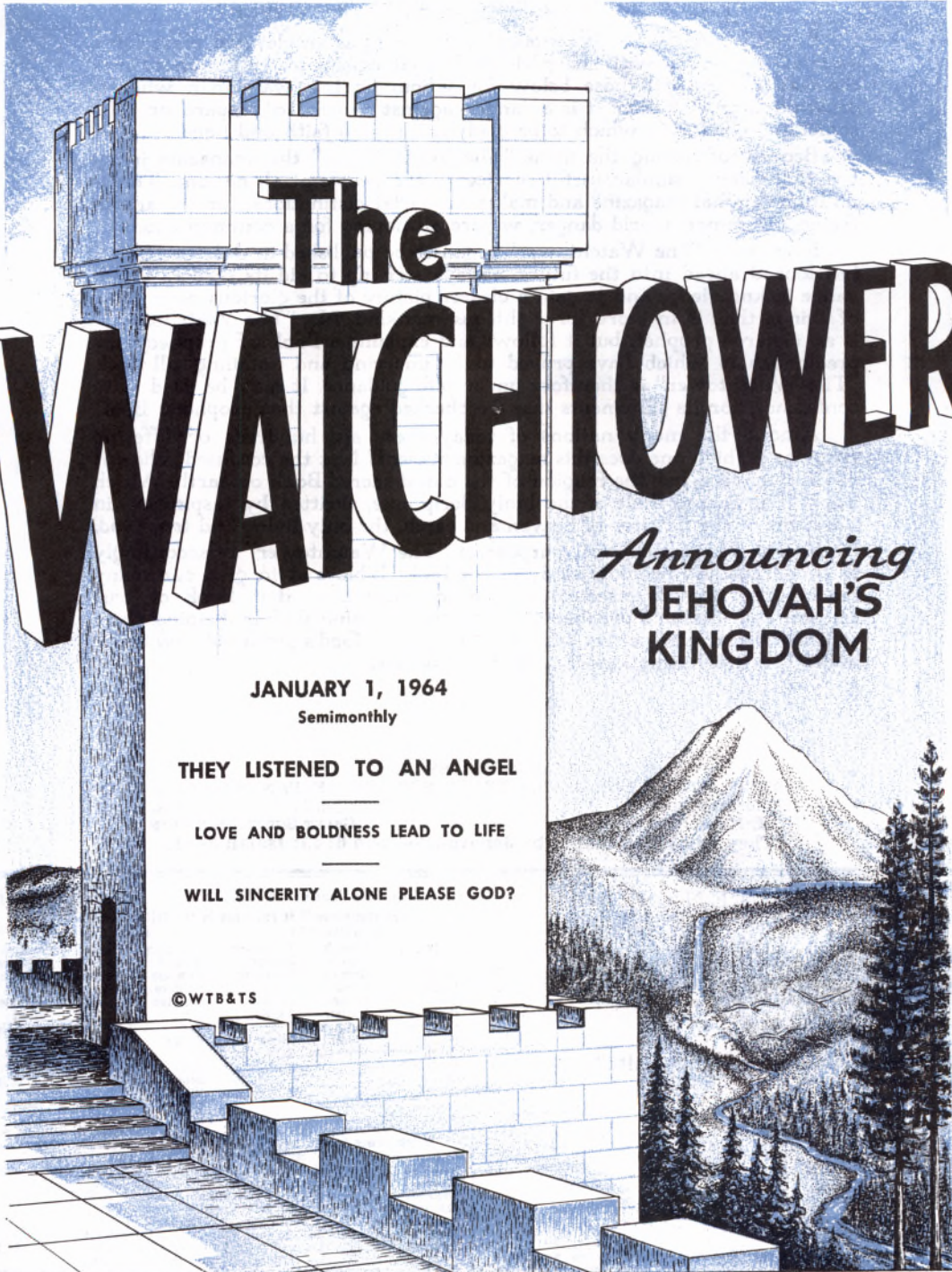




The WATCHTOWER

Announcing
**JEHOVAH'S
KINGDOM**

JANUARY 1, 1964
Semimonthly

THEY LISTENED TO AN ANGEL

—
LOVE AND BOLDNESS LEAD TO LIFE

—
WILL SINCERITY ALONE PLEASE GOD?

©WTB&TS

"YOU ARE MY WITNESSES," SAYS JEHOVAH.—Isa. 43:12

THE PURPOSE OF "THE WATCHTOWER"

Every watchtower has its purpose. It serves as an elevated place for a wide-awake person with sharp vision. It enables him to see far ahead into the distance and tell those below for whom he is a watchman what is drawing near, whether it is a danger against which to prepare or it is something good over which to be glad with strong faith and hope.

Because of having the name "The Watchtower" this magazine justly has to render a similar useful service to the people of all nations. This is an international magazine and makes no racial distinctions, for we are all facing a common world danger; we are all hoping for a common good.

Ever since "The Watchtower" began to be published in July of 1879 it has looked ahead into the future, always striving to aid its readers to advance in knowledge and to gain a clearer picture of the glorious new order of things that is in store for righteous mankind. No, "The Watchtower" is no inspired prophet, but it follows and explains a Book of prophecy the predictions in which have proved to be unerring and unfailing till now. "The Watchtower" is therefore under safe guidance. It may be read with confidence, for its statements may be checked against that prophetic Book.

Among the many nations of today there are hundreds of differing religions. Which one does this magazine present? Not the confused religions of Christendom, but the religion of the oldest sacred Book on earth. Which Book? The Sacred Bible of the Holy Scriptures, written by inspiration in the name of the Creator of heaven and earth, the only living and true God.

The sacred, nonpolitical purpose of "The Watchtower" is accordingly to encourage and promote study of the Holy Bible and to give our many readers the needed unsectarian help to understand that Book of true religion and infallible prophecy. Thus this magazine will be helping them to prove worthy of perfect life and happiness in God's promised new order under His everlasting kingdom of righteousness.

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"They will all be taught by Jehovah."—John 6: 45; Isaiah 54: 13

CONTENTS

Will Sincerity Alone Please God?	3
They Listened to an Angel	7
Love and Boldness Lead to Life	19
"Fight the Fine Fight of the Faith"	30
Do You Remember?	31
Questions from Readers	31

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Announcing
**JEHOVAH'S
KINGDOM**

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Number 1

Will

SINCERITY ALONE

Please God?

Is sincerity in worship sufficient? Or is something additional required to please God?

SINCERITY is a virtue. You surely would not appreciate it if someone regarded you as being insincere. Insincerity is akin to hypocrisy.

Sincerity in the way we worship God is also a virtue. Here, too, you surely do not want to be insincere, as this also would be similar to hypocrisy. It would be especially bad, since it is connected with one's relationship to God.

Because the need for sincerity in worship is generally recognized, many persons, when asked what they think pleases God in the way of worship, reply: "Oh, I believe that if a person is sincere in his worship, regardless of the way he worships, this is pleasing to God."

Do you feel that way? Do you believe that as long as one is sincere in the way he chooses to worship God, regardless of what that way is, this is acceptable and pleasing to God?

WHAT IF MISPLACED?

While sincerity is commendable, what if it is misplaced? What if the result of a

belief or action is not as anticipated because that belief or course of action, however sincere, was in error?

Not long ago a drug called thalidomide was introduced on the market. It was used as a sedative and proved effective in inducing sleep. However, to the dismay of the whole world, it was later discovered that the drug was responsible for babies being born horribly deformed. Mothers who had taken the drug early in their pregnancy bore children who had deformed arms and legs, or who were lacking one or more of these limbs. Sometimes the external ears were missing. Deformities were also noted in the eyes, throat and intestinal tract. Swiftly the drug was removed from the market. Governments banned its distribution. It was definitely proved to be a threat to the birth of normal, healthy babies.

This drug was introduced in all sincerity. It was to be an aid to those having difficulties with sleep. Yet it proved a disas-

ter. All the sincerity of doctors, druggists and scientists was of no avail. Their confidence in this new drug had been misplaced. Instead of proving a benefit to humanity, it proved a curse. Sincerity alone was not sufficient to produce pleasing results.

Again, how pleasing would it be to an employer if an employee did not do the work assigned to him, but took it upon himself to perform other work not delegated to him? Would the employer be happy that he did not carry out his assigned tasks? No, the employer hired the worker for a specific task and he expects that task to be accomplished. The worker might be sincere in walking off his assigned work to another job, but that sincerity would not be pleasing to the employer.

So, too, the builders of the superliner *Titanic* were sincere in feeling that the ship was virtually unsinkable. Yet on its maiden voyage in 1912 it struck an iceberg and quickly sank, with great loss of life. Her designers no doubt sincerely believed in the ship's ability to withstand damage, but this sincerity did not prove to be enough.

SINCERE, YET DISPLEASING TO GOD

In the all-important matter of worshipping God, it is likewise true that sincerity alone does not guarantee that God is pleased with our worship. We may conscientiously believe we are doing well in this regard, yet we may be deluding ourselves.

This self-deception has happened time and again in history. It even had something to do with the very condition of misery, pain and death that the human race finds itself in today. How so? Back in the garden of Eden, some 6,000 years ago, the woman Eve thought she had a good idea. Someone had told her this: "God knows that in the very day of your eating from it [the tree in the middle of

the garden] your eyes are bound to be opened and you are bound to be like God, knowing good and bad." What did Eve then do? "Consequently the woman saw that the tree's fruit was good for food and that it was something to be longed for to the eyes, yes, the tree was desirable to look upon. So she began taking of its fruit and eating it."—Gen. 3:5, 6.

Eve felt that the tree was good to eat from, and, after all, had not that voice told her that she would even be like God if she ate of it? She believed this, apparently in sincerity. She even gave her husband some of the fruit to eat.

But what was the result? God pronounced this decision: "In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return." Yes, the death penalty was pronounced against Adam and Eve.—Gen. 3:19.

Why? What had happened for this couple to be found worthy of death? The first human pair had overlooked something. God had warned: "From every tree of the garden you may eat to satisfaction. But as for the tree of the knowledge of good and bad you must not eat from it, for in the day you eat from it you will positively die."—Gen. 2:16, 17.

That is what they ignored! God had commanded them not to eat from this tree. They violated that clear command. They pushed aside God and his ways.

Later in human history 450 prophets of the god Baal assembled together with the man Elijah, who worshiped Jehovah. They took a young bull and placed it upon an altar. Then the Baal prophets called for fire from their god to consume this offering. Did he? The account relates this: "They kept calling upon the name of Baal from morning till noon, saying: 'O Baal, answer us!' But there was no voice, and

there was no one answering." These prophets had sincerely believed Baal would answer them. In their desperation they did the following: "They began calling at the top of their voice and cutting themselves according to their custom with daggers and with lances, until they caused blood to flow out upon them. And it came about that, as soon as noon was past and they continued behaving as prophets until the going up of the grain offering, there was no voice, and there was no one answering, and there was no paying of attention." —1 Ki. 18:25-29.

No answer! All their sincerity and zeal availed absolutely nothing! Baal did not answer because he could not. He was not a living god. Their sincerity in worship did not please the living God Jehovah, for he had already condemned the practices these priests were performing. He was not pleased with their degraded form of worship, however sincere. The result? God approved of the slaughter of the entire lot of 450 Baal prophets. Were these Baal prophets sincere? Yes. Did they please God? No. They angered him. Why? Because they violated God's clear statement of law regarding the worship of false gods: "You must not have any other gods against my face."—Ex. 20:3.

No, sincerity alone will not please God. Repeatedly God has expressed his displeasure against those who violate his laws, however sincere they may be.

WHAT PLEASES GOD?

If sincerity alone does not please God, then what does? The first essential to pleasing God is to know him. We cannot please God if we do not know who he is, what his purposes are and what he wants from us.

It is like a person who wants an automobile driver's license. He must acquaint himself with the traffic regulations of the

country in which he lives. He may drive an automobile, provided he abides by those laws. If he breaks the laws connected with driving, then he must pay the corresponding penalty and may even lose his license. But one must learn about the rules before he can fulfill them. Without knowledge of those rules, violations would occur immediately, however sincere one may be in his driving efforts.

Where God is concerned we learn about him from his Word, the Bible. In this remarkable communication to the human family he tells us who he is, what his purposes are and what he wants from man. His Word tells us of his laws. To please God, we must keep those laws. If we violate them, then we displease God. "You well know that Jehovah your God is the true God, the faithful God, keeping covenant and loving-kindness in the case of those who love him and those who keep his commandments to a thousand generations, but repaying to his face the one who hates him by destroying him." (Deut. 7: 9-11) Hence, it is not a matter of mere sincerity in the way *we* choose to worship. What is vital is sincerity in adhering to the way *God* specifies we should worship.

The reasonableness of this can be seen when we examine the world in which we live. The crime, delinquency, disorder, hate, racial tension and general breakdown of morals is the direct result of disobeying God's commandments. Do you consider the results pleasing? Of course not! However, where God's laws are obeyed, then peace, harmony, love and high morality are the rule. This condition can be found today among dedicated worshipers of Jehovah God.

Even among dedicated Christians, however, the individual must not delude himself into thinking that by merely going through the motions he pleases God. Those who are dedicated to God must be whole-

souled, obedient from the heart. They must keep his commandments. Their association with other Christians who have respect for all of God's commandments is no assurance that they are individually pleasing God. They please him if they obey him. If they do not obey him, then their claims of sincerity and their association with other dedicated Christians will not suffice to please God.

God is not to be mocked. His purposes will stand. What he says he will accomplish, he will certainly do. When he commands humans to worship in a certain way, they should. Yes, sincerity coupled with the performance of God's will is the way to please him. Sincerity alone, if it is not accompanied by the performance of God's will, cannot please him.

WHY PLEASE?

When a person breaks civil laws, he incurs a penalty. By obeying those laws, he enjoys the benefits of the society that made them. When a person breaks God's laws, he incurs a penalty. By obeying God's laws, the benefits that come from God are enjoyed.

What is the penalty for violations of God's laws in our time? Since we are living in the last days, near the end of this wicked

system of things, the statement of the psalmist takes on added significance: "But the transgressors themselves will certainly be annihilated together." (Ps. 37:38) Violators of God's laws, even though sincere, will be cut off in death at this system's end.

What are the benefits for those who sincerely obey God's commandments? Psalm 37:27 promises: "Turn away from what is bad and do what is good, and so reside to time indefinite." Lovers of what God considers good will live through the end of this system into a new system of things where the earth will be brought back to a paradise condition. There they will in-

deed "reside to time indefinite" and enjoy the delights of this beautiful earth. Psalm 37:29 helps us to understand how long this "time indefinite" will be for lovers of what is right when it says: "The righteous themselves will possess the earth, and they will reside forever upon it."

Peace and perfect life in a restored paradise will be the lot of those who love God and sincerely follow *his* ways. Life in that paradise will fulfill all their righteous desires, for of God's promises the psalmist said: "You are opening your hand and satisfying the desire of every living thing." —Ps. 145:16.

COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

- The World—God's Field of Work.
- Why God's Field Will Be Productive.
- What the Armageddon of the Bible Is.
- Ephesus—The Great City of Asia.
- Does What You Believe Make a Difference?



"Not everyone saying to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but the one doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens will. Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name?' And yet then I will confess to them: I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness."

—Matt. 7:21-23.

They Listened TO AN Angel

**"Be on your way, and, having taken a stand in the temple, keep on speaking to the people all the sayings about this life."
—Acts 5:20.**

THE Christian apostles Peter and John had been in custody before. So being arrested and jailed now was no new experience for them. But to have an angel of Jehovah open the door of the prison and tell them and their fellow apostles to be on their way was something new. Such an experience must have instilled confidence, strengthened their faith and helped them in their fearless position already taken against the religious leaders of Jerusalem. The religious leaders had shown fear of this small band of Christian ministers and their successful work. "The high priest and all those with him, the then existing sect of the Sadducees, rose and became filled with jealousy, and they laid hands upon the apostles and put them in the public place of custody." (Acts 5:17, 18) What had these men said or done to arouse jealousy on the part of these religionists and make them take such action? Let us see.

1. Although the apostles had been arrested before, what new experience does Acts, chapter five, relate concerning them, and how did it affect them?

² It was not many days before this happening that the apostles and others with them, 120 in all, were "filled with holy spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance." (Acts 2:1-4) It was on that very day of the Festival of Pentecost that Peter stood up with the eleven and spoke to the men of Judah and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Peter told them about Jesus the Nazarene, how he had been fastened to a stake by the hands of lawless men and killed, and how God had resurrected Jesus by loosening the pangs of death. Peter spoke fearlessly. He told the truth about the impaling of Jesus Christ outside Jerusalem fifty-one days previously. Listening attentively to the words of Peter, that great crowd of people heard his exhortation to repent. Peter said: "Repent, and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the free gift of the holy spirit." "And with many other words he bore thorough witness and kept exhorting them, saying: 'Get saved from this crooked generation.'" There were many there who embraced Peter's words heartily and were baptized, and on "that day about three thousand souls were added. And they continued devoting themselves to the teaching of the apostles." (Acts 2:38-42) This great crowd of people that had come to Jerusalem from many nations, some from as far away as

2. On the day of Pentecost what had Peter told the many Jews gathered in Jerusalem, and what response did he get?

Rome, were in constant attendance at the temple day after day listening to the truth from God's Word. Before returning home they were anxious to learn all they could about the fulfillment of prophecy and about this impaled one, Jesus Christ, the Son of Jehovah God. How many persons today are anxious to learn "all the sayings about this life"? In our day you can hardly find a person who reads his Bible daily.

³ However, nineteen hundred years ago the temple area in Jerusalem, where Jesus did considerable preaching, was the center of attraction for gaining the latest information. From Pentecost on, the apostles were there busily giving out the most important information, telling the truth concerning the kingdom of the heavens, the exaltation of Christ Jesus to the right hand of God and the promised holy spirit from the Father that was being poured out daily upon believers. There was much evidence of the pouring out of this holy spirit, because "Jehovah continued to join to them daily those being saved." (Acts 2:47) The Christian religion was getting a real foothold. No wonder, then, that the Jewish religionists were getting jealous.

⁴ The Bible account in the following chapter tells us: "Now Peter and John were going up into the temple for the hour of prayer, the ninth hour, and a certain man that was lame from his mother's womb

was being carried, and they would daily put him near the temple door." Here this crippled man would "ask [for] gifts of mercy from those entering into the temple." It was quite natural, then, for him to ask Peter and John for gifts of mercy. Peter and John stopped and gazed at this lame man and said: "Take a look at us." So the man did and was surprised to hear Peter say: "Silver and gold I do not possess, but what I do have is what I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, walk!" Peter reached out and took the lame man by the right hand and raised him up. A miracle occurred! "Instantly the soles of his feet and his ankle bones were



3. Why were the Jewish religionists jealous of the apostles?

4. Relate the experience of the lame man who came into contact with Peter and John.

made firm; and, leaping up, he stood up and began walking, and he entered with them into the temple, walking and leaping and praising God.”—Acts 3:1-8.

⁵ What a wonderful thing! Unbelievable, but many people were coming into the temple and recognized that this one now walking about was the same man who used to be lame. “Well, as the man was holding onto Peter and John, all the people ran together to them at what was called Solomon’s colonnade, surprised out of their wits.” (Acts 3:11) This gave Peter a wonderful opportunity to talk about Jesus Christ. He certainly did not want them to believe that what had happened was due to any personal power of his. He said: “Men of Israel, why are you wondering over this, or why are you gazing at us as though by personal power or godly devotion we have made him walk? The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our forefathers, has glorified his Servant, Jesus, whom you, for your part, delivered up and disowned before Pilate’s face, when he had decided to release him. Yes, you disowned that holy and righteous one, and you asked for a man, a murderer, to be freely granted to you, whereas you killed the Chief Agent of life. But God raised him up from the dead, of which fact we are witnesses. Consequently his name, by our faith in his name, has made this man strong whom you behold and know, and the faith that is through him has given the man this complete soundness



in the sight of all of you. And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers also did. But in this way God has fulfilled the things he announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer. Repent, therefore, and turn around so as to get your sins blotted out, that seasons of refreshing may come from the person of Jehovah and that he may send forth the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven, indeed, must hold within itself until the times of restoration of all things of which God spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets of old time.” (Acts 3:12-21) Do you believe what Peter said then? Is your faith in Jesus Christ and Jehovah God as strong as Peter’s? Do

you speak to others about your Christian faith as plainly as he did? If not, why not? Are you afraid that what happened to Peter and John will hap-

pen to you?

⁶ Let us see what happened when the two apostles attracted great crowds by the miracle performed and by their freeness of speech: “Now while the two were speaking to the people, the chief priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, being annoyed because they were teaching the people and were plainly declaring the resurrection from the dead in the case of Jesus; and they laid their hands upon them and put them in custody till the next day, for it was already evening. However, many of those who had listened to the speech believed, and the number of the men became about five thousand.” (Acts 4:1-4) Of course, during

5. (a) At the gathering together of all the people following the miraculous healing show how Peter gave proper credit to Jesus for this lame man’s recovery. (b) What exhortation did he now give those gathered Jews?

6. For performing this miracle how were Peter and John treated by the chief priests and Sadducees, and why should the chief priests and Sadducees have acted differently?

the previous days thousands of people had associated themselves with these faithful followers of Christ Jesus and had become Christians. The message of Peter and John was making Jews repent, and they were leaving the Jewish religion. Really, the ones who should have accepted Christ Jesus were the leaders among the people, namely, their rulers and their priests. They knew the Scriptures and should have seen the fulfillment of prophecy before their very eyes, but these leaders were no more interested in God's kingdom and Christ Jesus in their day than are the rulers and religious priests today.

⁷ The present-day religious clergy of Christendom are acting just like the priests and Sadducees of Jesus' time. The leaders of the masses try to keep the people in line through threats and little irritations. They cannot find real fault with the individual Christian's excellent work, but what the Christian does is not to their liking and reflects on their prestige, so stop—scare them! What had Peter and John done that was wrong and that led to their being put in jail? The only thing that the rulers could find fault with in Peter and John was that they had told the truth to too many people and did something good to a lame man. They had healed that man, a man who had been lame from the time of his birth and now was forty years old. They had not asked permission from the rulers to do this good deed and to preach the truth. Now the way to stop them was to put them in jail for a night. That should take the spirit of God out of them, they thought.

7. (a) What similar attitude is shown by modern-day religious leaders? (b) As far as the religious leaders in the days of the apostles are concerned what "wrongs" had Peter and John committed?

INTIMIDATION FAILS

⁸ This was the first time that Peter and John were put into custody, held overnight in jail. This intimidation did not disturb Peter and John at all. The next day when they were asked by the rulers, "By what power or in whose name did you do this?" here was what happened: "Then Peter, filled with holy spirit, said to them: 'Rulers of the people and older men, if we are this day being examined, on the basis of a good deed to an ailing man, as to by whom this man has been made well, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you impaled but whom God raised up from the dead, by this one does this man stand here sound in front of you.' " Then they told Annas the chief priest and Caiaphas, as well as many others who were kinsfolk of the chief priest, that they were the ones that rejected Jesus and that "there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved." (Acts 4:7-12) Then Peter used a powerful illustration. He went back to the writings of David, quoting from Psalm 118:22. Peter pointed to scripture in which they should believe and he showed the fulfillment of prophecy. David had written that the stone that the builders rejected had become the head of the corner. Would they now listen when Peter said: "This is 'the stone that was treated by you builders as of no account that has become the head of the corner' "? (Acts 4:11) Peter and John very likely had in mind the words of the prophet Isaiah, too, who wrote: "Therefore hear the word of Jehovah, you braggarts, . . . 'Here I am laying as a foundation in Zion a stone, a tried stone, the

8, 9. (a) What effect did jailing have on the apostles, and how did Peter answer the question, "By what power and in whose name did you do this" healing? (b) How did Peter use Bible prophecies of Psalms and Isaiah to good advantage?

precious corner of a sure foundation. No one exercising faith will get panicky.” —Isa. 28:14, 16.

⁹ Peter and John were not panicky but spoke boldly to the Jewish rulers who had cried out to Pilate about Jesus: “Let him be impaled!” (Matt. 27:15-26) They showed their faith and courage even though being in prison one night and then being brought to stand before these august men. This did not disturb their thinking. They were there for a purpose—to speak fearlessly about the true God and his Son, Jesus Christ, the only “name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved.”—Acts 4:12.

¹⁰ Peter and John were ordinary fishermen by trade, and the people knew them as such. But it could be seen that they had walked with Jesus, had listened to his words and were trained by him. They had something else, too—the holy spirit from God. All this would make them act differently from most persons. This difference was noticed by these rulers. “Now when they beheld the outspokenness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were men unlettered and ordinary, they got to wondering. And they began to recognize about them that they used to be with Jesus; and as they were looking at the man that had been cured standing with them, they had nothing to say in rebuttal.”—Acts 4:13, 14.

¹¹ The religious leaders, immediate-

10. Though “ordinary” men, what did Peter and John as well as the rest of the apostles possess that made them different?

11. What problem did the religious leaders now have to face, and to what conclusion did they come?

ly having a problem they did not know how to cope with, told Peter and John to step outside the Sanhedrin hall, and these “wise” men began to consult with one another, saying: “What shall we do with these men?” They certainly could not ignore or deny what had happened. All the inhabitants of Jerusalem by now knew what had occurred. Fearing the people, the rulers came to a conclusion: “Let us tell them with threats not to speak any more upon the basis of this name to any man at all.”—Acts 4:15-17.

CLERICAL FEAR OF WITNESSES

¹² Similar action has been taken today against Christians in the nations of the earth that call themselves Christian. Religious leaders get just as fearful of the same message that true Christians, Jehovah’s witnesses, preach worldwide today. They will do everything within their power to stop the message of God’s kingdom from being given. For example, in Greece,

in the summer of 1963, the archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church, Chrysostomos, threatened the Greek government that he would organize a march from Salonika to Athens if the convention of Jehovah’s witnesses was allowed to meet in Athens. He had his way, as the

12. (a) Show how similar action by false religious leaders is carried on even today. (b) How was this reported on by the *Daily American* newspaper?

Greece Prohibits Meetings By Jehovah’s Witnesses

ATHENS, July 25 (Reuter) — The Greek government has banned all public meetings of Jehovah’s Witnesses, it was announced today.

The ban was imposed following warnings from Greek Orthodox organizations that they would stage protest marches from Salonika to Athens if the sect were allowed to hold a mass rally here on Tuesday.

Announcing the ban, the under-secretary for the interior today ordered police to forbid any meeting whatsoever of the sect — numbering some 20,000 members in Greece — in the interests of “peace and order.”

Archbishop Chrysostomos, primate of Greece, has led all Greek Orthodox organizations in a general outcry against the Jehovah’s Witnesses’ rally, which he called a “shameful congress of atheists and anarchists.”

In a letter to the prime minister, Panayotis Pipinelis, he said unless the rally were banned, he would be compelled to “defend everything sacred and to lead the clergy and the people” in an all-out action against the sect.

DAILY AMERICAN
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Daily American newspaper of July 26, 1963, pointed out: "The Greek government has banned all public meetings of Jehovah's Witnesses, it was announced today. . . . Archbishop Chrysostomos, primate of Greece, has led all Greek Orthodox organizations in a general outcry against the Jehovah's Witnesses' rally, which he called a 'shameful congress of atheists and anarchists.' In a letter to the prime minister, Panayotis Pipinelis, he said unless the rally were banned, he would be compelled to 'defend everything sacred and to lead the clergy and the people' in an all-out action against the sect."

¹³ What was the archbishop afraid of, or, for that matter, what are all the Greek Orthodox clergy afraid of? Bible study? The distribution of the Bible? Encouragement given to the Greek people to read the Bible? All the world knows that Jehovah's witnesses devote their time to aiding people around the world to read and understand the Bible in their own language. Is that what the archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church labels atheism and anarchy, the study of the Word of God? the preaching of the good news of God's kingdom? Is he against having the Greek people walk in the footsteps of Christ Jesus? Who really is the anarchist, the disrupter of government? Who wanted to make all people rise up and march from Salonika to Athens and break up Jehovah's witnesses' peaceful meeting?

¹⁴ The Greek Orthodox Church was successful in its threats against the government and it was able to dictate the action that the government of Greece took, namely, cancel the approved meeting of Jehovah's witnesses on July 30, 1963. In Jesus' day Caiaphas, the high priest, and the howling Jews shouted at the ruler, Pilate,

"Let him be impaled!" Even Pilate, the ruler in the Roman province, did not want Jesus killed; but when he saw that an uproar was arising, Pilate took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying: "I am innocent of the blood of this man. You yourselves must see to it." "At that all the people said in answer: 'His blood come upon us and upon our children.' Then he released Barabbas to them, but he had Jesus whipped and handed him over to be impaled." (Matt. 27:24-26) You hear the same kind of cries today by false religionists against true followers of Jesus.

¹⁵ Despite all the outcries of the Greek clergy, Jehovah's witnesses in Greece increased by 9 percent during the year 1963. There are now 10,507 of Jehovah's witnesses, all Christians, preaching the good news of God's kingdom. They have spent more than 1,100,000 hours talking to persons interested in Bible study. Have the Greek Orthodox clergy spent that much time going from house to house teaching the people of Greece the things they learned from God's Word? Or, have they spent most of their time telling the people not to listen to Jehovah's witnesses and seeing to it that Jehovah's witnesses are arrested for teaching the Bible to people who want to hear? Have the Greek clergy gone to the homes of their parishioners and conducted 4,245 Bible studies each week with persons who want to know what the Bible contains? We wish they would! Jehovah's witnesses did that in Greece in the year 1963.

¹⁶ In the days of the apostles, it was false religionists who tried to stop the faithful followers of Christ from preaching the good news, and today it is false religionists who are doing the same thing. Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic and the

13. Outline the pointed questions now in need of answers.

14. How was the Greek government of 1963 much like Pilate in Jesus' day?

15. (a) Does this opposition against Jehovah's witnesses in Greece cause them to shrink back in fear? (b) What would the Greek Orthodox clergy do well to consider?

16. As in the days of the apostles, who today seek to stop the preaching of the good news?

Protestant clergy are not training all their congregation members to be ministers; rather, their members feel they should keep quiet and not say a word about Jesus or his kingdom to anyone else. Is that walking in the steps of Jesus Christ?

¹⁷ Returning to the account in Acts, we find that the religious leaders called the apostles back into their presence and "charged them, nowhere to make any utterance or to teach upon the basis of the name of Jesus. But in reply Peter and John said to them: 'Whether it is righteous in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves. But as for us, we cannot stop speaking about the things we have seen and heard.'"—Acts 4:18-20.

¹⁸ So it must be today for every person who claims to be a Christian. If your "church" does not encourage you to preach publicly and from house to house about God's kingdom, then heed heaven's command: "Get out of her . . . if you do not want to share with her in her sins . . . and receive part of her plagues." (Rev. 18:4, 5) You must speak about the things you have seen and heard in God's Word. You cannot be silent! When, for instance, the Greek Orthodox Church claims that no one (in this case meaning Jehovah's witnesses) may go about doing proselyting work, that is, preaching to other people about the Bible, they are going absolutely contrary to the commandment of God as stated in the Bible, God's Word. What were Peter and John doing in Jerusalem? They were preaching God's Word to the Jews, changing them from one religion to another, from traditional Jews to Christians. They were able to do it because they were preaching the truth. Jehovah's witnesses are doing a similar thing today.

17, 18. (a) Though called on to stop preaching, what was the apostles' answer? (b) Is it any different today, and how must Christians view proselyting?

¹⁹ Hitler, a Roman Catholic, the arm of his church in Germany, forbade Jehovah's witnesses to preach the kingdom of God, and these modern-day Christians had to say to Hitler's Gestapo police: 'Whether it is righteous in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves.' They kept preaching even though 10,000 of them were put in concentration camps and over 4,000 died there. The rest nearly starved to death. The war's end aided their survival.

²⁰ In 1933 Hitler signed a concordat with the Roman Catholic Church, even as Mussolini, the head of the Italian government in his day, had done. But even if the rulers of countries make agreements with religious organizations, Jehovah's witnesses living in those countries cannot forget God's Word. They must serve God, 'speaking about the things we have seen and heard.' Even though these were threatened with death, the rulers were unable to stop the preaching activity of Jehovah's people. Today Hitler and Mussolini are gone, but Jehovah's witnesses are preaching in greater numbers than ever in their countries. Today there are 78,043 ministers in West Germany, and in Italy there are 7,801 witnesses of Jehovah telling out the good news.

²¹ No one can destroy the truth. Truth is always right, though everyone opposes it. The apostle Paul said: "Let God be found true, though every man be found a liar." (Rom. 3:4) Just because Peter and John spoke the truth, saying they healed a lame man in the name of Jesus, they were jailed and threatened. Finally they were released because the Jewish court "did not find any ground on which to pun-

19, 20. What was the Christians' answer to Hitler when he forbade the preaching of God's kingdom, and with what result by 1963?

21, 22. (a) How long-lasting is truth even when its proclaimers are persecuted? (b) When Peter and John related the experience to their fellow Christians what did they all together raise their voices and say?

ish them and on account of the people.”
—Acts 4:21, 22.

²² Peter and John hastened “to their own people and reported what things the chief priests and the older men had said to them.” Then, all together, they raised their voices to God and said: “‘Why did nations become tumultuous and peoples meditate upon empty things? The kings of the earth took their stand and the rulers massed together as one against Jehovah and against his anointed one.’ Even so, both Herod and Pontius Pilate with men of nations and with peoples of Israel were in actuality gathered together in this city against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed.”
—Acts 4:23-27.

²³ Just as it was in the days of the apostles, so Christians today must put up with the empty things the rulers meditate on. Just because Jehovah’s witnesses refuse to salute the flag of Liberia under pressure by the army, Watch Tower Society missionaries were expelled from that country. It is easy for the religious president, Tubman, to say “the Jehovah’s Witnesses as a sect are welcome in this country [Liberia] but they will be required to conform to the law requiring all persons to salute the flag when it is being hoisted or lowered at ceremonies in their sight, or keep away from such ceremonies.” But the question must be asked of the president: How can Christians keep away from such a ceremony, which is idolatrous, when an army comes to an assembly ground of Jehovah’s witnesses and at gunpoint makes everyone march to a compound where a flag is raised and where force is used to try to make everyone salute the flag of the Republic of Liberia? Will that make the individual a better Liberian or a better Christian? This whole story appears in the

Awake! magazine of August 8, 1963. Has President Tubman put himself in the class of Hitler and Mussolini?

²⁴ The ruler in Haiti too expelled missionaries who were carrying on a good work of preaching God’s kingdom and teaching the people to study the Bible. In Spain Christian missionaries have been expelled because of conducting Bible studies in people’s homes. The same is true of Portugal. Meeting places in private homes of Jehovah’s witnesses in Roman Catholic Spain and Portugal have been invaded, and many individuals have been put in prison. Why? Because those people were studying the Bible with other Christians. So the rulers have taken their stand and have massed together against Jehovah and against his servants. They must certainly know that Jehovah’s witnesses are not interested in upsetting their governments or causing any disturbance to them. The rulers further know that Jehovah’s witnesses are well-behaved people. Why must the ruler be fearful? The only reason is that Jehovah’s witnesses preach the good news of God’s kingdom.

²⁵ Are you preaching this good news today? If you are, you too are doing Christian work and someday will be as much looked down upon by false religionists as the apostles were. Do not be surprised if it happens to you. Christians can expect such treatment. Jesus said: “You will be haled before governors and kings for my sake, for a witness to them and the nations.”—Matt. 10:18.

SPEAKING WITH BOLDNESS

²⁶ Nineteen hundred years ago Peter and John asked Jehovah God to “give attention to their threats, and grant your slaves to

23. (a) How did Liberia’s president Tubman show he felt toward Jehovah’s Christian witnesses? (b) What question would be logical to ask after reading President Tubman’s public statement about Jehovah’s witnesses?

24. Where else have Christian witnesses had difficulty, and why?

25. Therefore, what can the true followers of Christ expect?

26. What was the prayer of Peter and John, and does it apply to Christians today?

keep speaking your word with all boldness." This prayer God answered right away, because "they were one and all filled with the holy spirit and were speaking the word of God with boldness." (Acts 4:29, 31) Jehovah did not show any partiality then, neither does he now, for it is the same holy spirit, God's active force, that each dedicated servant of God wants so he can speak with the boldness necessary to keep on declaring the Word of God even though threats come from archbishops, presidents or dictators of countries, clergy or anyone else. Because of "speaking the word of God with boldness" today Christians will have the same results as Peter and John had, regardless of threats and opposition. They, too, can joyfully say: "Believers in the Lord kept on being added, multitudes both of men and of women."—Acts 5:14.

²⁷ The people in Jerusalem were interested in truth and wanted to hear what the apostles had to say. But not so the false religionists! So again "the high priest and all those with him, the then existing sect of the Sadducees, rose and became filled with jealousy, and they laid hands upon the apostles and put them in the public place of custody." (Acts 5:17, 18) This was the second time for Peter and John, but they had company. The rest of the apostles were locked up with them too. Now something very unusual happened. The angel of Jehovah stepped into the picture and did what Jehovah told him to do. The apostles were unafraid, being well acquainted with the words of the psalmist: "The angel of Jehovah is camping all around those fearing him, and he rescues them," and they would remember what Jesus said: "For I tell you that their angels in heaven always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven." (Ps. 34:7;

Matt. 18:6, 10) They also knew that angels took a great interest in happenings on the earth. They were acquainted with the facts of the birth of Jesus when the shepherds were living out of doors and watching their flocks. "And suddenly Jehovah's angel stood by them, and Jehovah's glory gleamed around them, . . . and suddenly there came to be with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God." (Luke 2:9, 13) All these thoughts may have flashed through their minds when "during the night Jehovah's angel opened the doors of the prison, [and] brought them out."

²⁸ Can you imagine the astonishment, the look of amazement on their faces? The doors of the prison opened. No protest came from the guards. Here is an angel directing them out of the prison. When they are all outside, the angel speaks: "Be on your way, and, having taken a stand in the temple, keep on speaking to the people all the sayings about this life."—Acts 5:20.

²⁹ What could be more definite! The command given to the apostles by the angel could not be made any plainer than that. Some days earlier they had asked Jehovah God to give attention to the threats of the rulers "and grant your slaves to keep speaking your word with all boldness." When "they had made supplication, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were one and all filled with the holy spirit and were speaking the word of God with boldness." For doing this the whole group of apostles were imprisoned this time. Now, here is more assurance that they had done the right thing. An angel is pointing toward the temple: "Be on your way, and, having taken a stand in the temple, keep on speaking to the people all the sayings about this

27. (a) At the time of the second arrest of the apostles what unusual happening occurred? (b) What may have well come into the minds of these men of God?

28, 29. What next took place, and what command were they given?

life." What satisfaction this must have meant to them!

³⁰ The apostles had been in the temple day after day doing what God told them to do, and thousands of people had heard them preach. There at the temple is where they belonged. There is where Jehovah was going to keep them, despite the false religionists. What joy, what confidence, what gratitude was theirs! They were right in what they were doing! Those religionists were wrong and fighting against God. Here was a direct command from Jehovah by his angel or messenger as to what to do. Were they filled with zeal? O yes! "After hearing this, they entered into the temple at daybreak and began to teach."—Acts 5:21.

EXTENDING THE GOOD NEWS WORLDWIDE

³¹ There was no stopping the apostles then, and there will be no stopping of Jehovah's witnesses today, by Jehovah's undeserved kindness. Why? Because the truth from God's Word must be preached. Jehovah's witnesses have the very same command that the apostles had. They have the very same message from the Word of God and they believe it just as firmly today as did the apostles. The work of declaring this good news of God's kingdom around the whole earth is getting greater every year. This is no time for Christians to be fearful. At Pentecost the Christians began preaching in Jerusalem, first at the upper room. In time they took in all the Promised Land and then a much larger assignment, an assignment Jesus said must be covered: "Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit."—Matt. 28:19, 20.

³⁰ Having this answer to their prayers for boldness, what attitude did the apostles have, and where were they at daybreak?

³¹ (a) Why was there no stopping of the apostles then, and why will there be no stopping of Jehovah's witnesses today? (b) To what extent must the good news be preached?

³² Jehovah's witnesses today are trying hard to accomplish the very thing that Jesus commanded his followers to keep doing, namely, fulfill their commission to disciple people of all nations. They bear constantly in mind these words: "This good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations; and then the end will come." (Matt. 24:14) Jehovah's witnesses still seek angelic direction but now go to God's written Word to see what is to be done. We can see in our mind's eye what John saw in vision: "And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, and he had everlasting good news to declare as glad tidings to those who dwell on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people, saying in a loud voice: 'Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of the judgment by him has arrived, and so worship the One who made the heaven and the earth and sea and fountains of waters.'" (Rev. 14:6, 7) That is an assignment! Not just for the angel, but for those who appreciate the work God wants done on the earth.

³³ Jehovah's witnesses today fully realize that Jehovah God has used angels in times past, and while they do not actually see the angel flying in midheaven now, they do see through John's vision that the message of this angel must be declared today in its every detail. More than one million proclaimers of the "everlasting good news" are going from house to house around this earth declaring glad tidings to everyone everywhere regardless of his circumstances or nationality.

³⁴ So what was happening back there in Jerusalem on a small scale with the angel

³² How do Jehovah's witnesses seek angelic direction today, and what does Revelation 14:6, 7, show as to the work of such heavenly servants of God?

³³ While the angel flying in midheaven is not seen literally by Jehovah's people, what do they see and then do?

³⁴ How widespread is the preaching of the "everlasting good news" in our day?

freeing the apostles and telling them to go into the temple area, there to speak again, is occurring in these last days on a world-wide scale. The angel in midheaven is directing God's people to preach the "everlasting good news," that everyone may have the opportunity to "fear God and give him glory." No one who is dedicated to Jehovah can hesitate for a minute from telling all peoples to "worship the One who made the heaven and the earth."

³⁵ The rulers and false religionists of the earth today do not like Jehovah's witnesses to do this any more than the rulers and priests did in the days of the apostles. When Jehovah's witnesses are arrested today they usually have to stay in prison longer than the apostles experienced in these accounts, but in God's due time they are released. It took ten years or more to release many of Jehovah's witnesses from the concentration camps in Hitler's time, but these Christians did get out; and today they are listening to the angel flying in midheaven and, with their brothers world-wide, are declaring the "everlasting good news" as glad tidings.

³⁶ Let us look at our apostolic pattern-makers again, our exemplars in good works. Right at daybreak the apostles entered into the temple and began to teach. Now when the high priest and the Sadducees had got together and they assembled the older men of the sons of Israel, and they sent out to the jail to have the apostles brought to them, they learned from the officers that the apostles were not there. These men reported to the religious leaders: "The jail we found locked with all security and the guards standing at the doors, but on opening up we found no one inside." The angel had taken care of every-

thing. After he had opened the doors of the prison and had brought the apostles out, then he closed them again, locked them, and none of the guards knew what had happened, except now they learned they were guarding an empty prison. This was a disturbing situation for the captain of the temple and for the chief priests. Just about this time, when they were all worrying and were concerned over what had taken place, a certain man arrived and reported to them: "Look! The men you put in the prison are in the temple, standing and teaching the people." This was where the angel had instructed them to go and that is where they went, to do the work God had directed them to do. "Then the captain went off with his officers and proceeded to bring" the apostles to this religious crowd, "but without violence, as they were afraid of being stoned by the people."—Acts 5:20-26.

OBEYING GOD RATHER THAN MEN

³⁷ As the apostles stood before these rulers in the Sanhedrin hall and heard the questions of the high priest, they were not quivering and were not fearful. They had the protection of Jehovah God and of the unseen angels. Therefore, after the rulers said: "We positively ordered you not to keep teaching upon the basis of this name, and yet, look! you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring the blood of this man upon us," Peter and the other apostles said: "We must obey God as ruler rather than men. The God of our forefathers raised up Jesus, whom you slew, hanging him upon a stake. God exalted this one as Chief Agent and Savior to his right hand, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses of these matters,

35. What attitude do rulers and religious leaders have toward Jehovah's witnesses today?

36. (a) Returning to the days of the apostles, what do we now note happening in Jerusalem? (b) Where are the apostles reported as being found, and how can we be sure that was where they would be?

37, 38. (a) Brought before the rulers, how did Peter fearlessly answer his accusers who demanded that the apostles stop preaching? (b) What is the situation today in this regard?

and so is the holy spirit, which God has given to those obeying him as ruler." (Acts 5:27-32) It took boldness to say what they did to the rulers, but what they said was the truth. They were Christians.

³⁸ That is the very position every dedicated Christian must take today. Knowledge of Jehovah God and his Son, Jesus, causes a Christian to declare that Jesus Christ has been exalted as Chief Agent and Savior and now sits at the right hand of his Father "until I [Jehovah] place your enemies as a stool for your feet."—Acts 2:34-36.

³⁹ Faithfulness to the Christian mission means some inconveniences, threats, hardships and trials, and perhaps even death in some instances. So the priests and Sadducees felt ill-disposed toward the apostles, as the record shows: "When they heard this, they felt deeply cut and were wanting to do away with them." (Acts 5:33) Some time later Stephen was stoned to death because he spoke the truth. (Acts 7:54-60) In this modern age we see like things happening when fanatics, filled with the spirit of this world, object to the ministry of Jehovah's witnesses. Still, when a Christian knows he is right and is commissioned to declare the "everlasting good news," he continues to preach the glad tidings with boldness.

⁴⁰ During all this excitement back there in the days of the apostles, a man of wisdom, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, stood up and said: "Men of Israel, pay attention to yourselves as to what you intend to do respecting these men. For instance, before these days Theudas rose, saying he himself was somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined his party. But he was done away with, and all those who were obeying him were dispersed and came

to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose in the days of the registration, and he drew off people after him. And yet that man perished, and all those who were obeying him were scattered abroad. And so, under the present circumstances, I say to you, Do not meddle with these men, but let them alone; (because, if this scheme or this work is from men, it will be overthrown; but if it is from God, you will not be able to overthrow them;) otherwise, you may perhaps be found fighters actually against God." At this they gave heed to Gamaliel, "and they summoned the apostles, flogged them, and ordered them to stop speaking upon the basis of Jesus' name, and let them go." There should be more men today like Gamaliel to counsel the religious leaders and rulers as to the course they should take.—Acts 5:35-40.

⁴¹ The flogging did not change matters for the apostles. They had been beaten before. They had been in prison before. They had been threatened before. There was an unseen power backing them up that the rulers did not recognize. It was Jehovah God, his Son, Christ Jesus, and a multitude of angels, and the holy spirit that God was sending to strengthen his earthly servants. These faithful Christians, "therefore, went their way from before the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy to be dishonored in behalf of his name. And every day in the temple and from house to house they continued without letup teaching and declaring the good news about the Christ." Do you have that kind of faith? Would you listen to an angel of Jehovah and do what the apostles did? True Christians will!—Acts 5:41, 42.

⁴² What joy the apostles had because they listened to the angel! They moved out into greater fields of service in vindication.

39. What may faithfulness to God mean for the Christian, and yet what does he continue to do?

40. How did Gamaliel view this trial before the Sanhedrin, and what conclusions did he reach?

41. How did the apostles view the flogging they received and the threats?

42. Having listened with joy to the angel, how did the apostles show boldness in declaring the good news?

cation of Jehovah's name and word. They strengthened the growing congregation of God in their day. Eventually, these apostles along with many other faithful, tried followers moved out into other regions, not just among the Jews, but among the Gentiles. These others of every tribe and tongue and people were given the opportunity of learning the truth and "the sayings about this life" that Jesus had told his followers about. The apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthians, told of his keen interest in "the sayings about this life" when he gave them his wonderful argument in proof of the resurrection of the dead.—1 Cor. 15:1-57.

⁴³ Christians will now imitate those apostles who did what God's angel told them to do. Jehovah's angels today are directing his people in his organization throughout the earth as these declare the

43, 44. What encouragement is given to modern-day Christian witnesses of Jehovah, and what will they continue to pray?

message of "everlasting good news." So take courage. Share in the preaching work. Do it with boldness, having confidence in God's Word. "For he will give his own angels a command concerning you, to guard you in all your ways." (Ps. 91:11) In proof of this Paul asks the question: "Are they not all spirits for public service, sent forth to minister for those who are going to inherit salvation?" (Heb. 1:14) His question calls for the answer Yes.

"Are you, then, interested in salvation through Christ Jesus? Peter and John were and said: "There is no salvation in anyone else, for there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved." (Acts 4:12) If you have the faith a Christian must have in Christ Jesus, then in order to succeed in this fast-fading system of things you will continue to pray to be "filled with the holy spirit" and as a result you will be "speaking the word of God with boldness."—Acts 4:31.

LOVE and BOLDNESS

Lead to
LIFE

IF YOU believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that "there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved," then you must certainly believe the words of Jesus and his apostles. Jesus said: "If you love me, you will observe my commandments." (John 14:15) The

logical conclusion, then, is as stated by Jesus: "He that has my commandments and observes them, that one is he who loves me. In turn he that loves me will be loved by my Father." (John 14:21) So, when a disciple keeps Jesus' commandments he shows love. But what do these commandments of Jesus involve? For one thing, Je-

1. How does a disciple of Jesus observe the commandments of that one?

sus said: "Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you." (Matt. 28:19, 20) For Jesus' followers to convince people to become disciples of Jesus it would take some talking, preaching, persuasion.

² It was not only a matter of making disciples but there was Jesus' instruction to teach the new disciples and show them how to observe all the things Jesus commanded. To travel, preach and teach, that is, put the truth in the other person's mind, is a lot of work for any Christian. Have you tried it? Does the "church" you belong to urge you to do all that? Or is your religion more like the one described in *Time* magazine of October 25, 1963, in its religious section on page 86? It makes this statement: "President [of the Disciples of Christ Church] Dr. Robert W. Burns of Atlanta warned that the flames of a faith built on evangelism seemed to be dying into embers. 'Our evangelism has lagged because many of us lack a deep concern for the salvation of our neighbor's soul,' he said. 'How long since you were the means through which God added a soul to the church? How long since you even tried?'" These are good questions for everyone claiming to be a Christian to ponder. Every person belonging to any religious organization of Christendom should examine himself. Why? Well, if you claim to be a Christian, do you "go," "disciple," "baptize" and "teach"? What proof do you have that you are a Christian if you do not preach and teach pure Christianity? When did you last try to persuade anyone to take up Christian activity, like preach-

ing the good news of God's kingdom to others? Or, when did you even direct someone's attention to God's written Word the Bible so that he could take a firm stand for right principles? But you say: "The way I live my moral life proves I am a Christian. I do not have to talk it."

³ Interestingly, "all the things I have commanded you" takes in the high moral standard of God too. Do you join in the spirit of this world, which revolts against the teachings of Christ on sex morality? Do you in your church close your eyes to adultery, fornication and sodomy by your members? Paul the Christian did not! He spoke out, saying: "You, the one preaching 'Do not steal,' do you steal? You, the one saying 'Do not commit adultery,' do you commit adultery?" After pointing out the "disgraceful sexual appetites" of both the males and females of his day, he said: "These know full well the righteous decree of God, that those practicing such things are deserving of death." (Rom. 2: 21, 22; 1:24-32) Practicing wrong morals surely will not get you life! Paul believed what Jesus said on morals and bad habits. Remember Jesus' words, "From inside, out of the heart of men, injurious reasonings issue forth: fornications, thieveries, murders, adulteries, covetings, acts of wickedness, deceit, loose conduct, an envious eye, blasphemy, haughtiness, unreasonableness. All these wicked things issue forth from within and defile a man."—Mark 7:21-23.

⁴ It was with straightforward words that Jesus answered the scribes and Pharisees when they complained about Jesus' disciples eating with unwashed hands. He reached into God's written Word to reply authoritatively, saying: "Isaiah aptly

2. (a) Is our work only to preach and make disciples, and what searching questions on the matter of evangelism did *Time* magazine report one religious person as asking? (b) What additional queries might be made of one claiming to be a Christian?

3. (a) How all-inclusive are the words "observe all the things I have commanded you"? (b) Where did Jesus show wrong acts got their start?

4, 5. (a) What was Jesus against, and so how should Christians question themselves? (b) Contrast Jesus' words at John 12:48-50 with the comment reported in *Time* magazine of October 25, 1963.

prophesied about you hypocrites, as it is written: "This people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far removed from me." It is what is in a man's heart that makes him what he is, for out of his heart a man speaks. If he is like the Pharisees, he has lost sight of the real issue and is not following God's or Jesus' commandments. (Mark 7:6) Jesus was preaching the truth and was against any sort of hypocritical practice. Which side are you on when it comes to morals in a so-called Christian community? Do you express yourself or just let people look at you and wonder what you do stand for? Do you have the love of neighbor and the boldness to stand up and talk for what Jesus said on moral issues? Do you agree that "he that disregards me [Jesus] and does not receive my sayings has one to judge him"? Jesus said: "The word that I have spoken is what will judge him in the last day; because I have not spoken out of my own impulse, but the Father himself who sent me has given me a commandment as to what to tell and what to speak. Also, I know that his commandment means everlasting life. Therefore the things I speak, just as the Father has told me them, so I speak them." (John 12:48-50) Think! Just when did you read and understand the full meaning of the words Jesus spoke?

⁵ It is easy to see that a Christian cannot just arrive at his own conclusions and decide how he should live. He must take into account what is written in God's Word. If he loves Jesus he must obey the commandments of Jesus Christ too. How strange it sounds to a Christian's ears to hear a member of a modern-day "church" say: "Ever since the beginning, we've been scared to death that we'd arrive at a theology everyone would have to subscribe to." So said industrialist J. Irwin Miller, a lay disciple and president of the National Council of Churches. "The heart of the

movement is this great concern to preserve the freedom to arrive at one's own conclusions." (*Time* magazine, Oct. 25, 1963, page 86) Does he mean to say the people of his religion do not on every occasion want to agree with the conclusions of Jesus and God?

⁶ The twelve apostles of Christ Jesus did not want or have twelve different conclusions when they expressed the teachings of Christ. There was only one conclusion at which to arrive. The truth! Why is it that today there are more than a thousand so-called Christian church organizations throughout the world? It is because they want to teach their own conclusions, present their own ideas, and not God's or those of Jesus. Is there not just one faith, one baptism, one Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? Well, then, why not get back to simple Christianity and have real love for one another and get understanding of God? Because there are too many persons wanting their 'own conclusion,' not truth. Even within the many different religious denominations themselves the individuals do not love their neighbors as they do themselves. Did not Jesus say: "Just as I have loved you . . . you also love one another"? Yes! All true Christians must show love for Jehovah God and for God's Son Christ Jesus. To try to help people, showing love by explaining the Bible so all persons will learn the truth in this day and age, takes boldness.

PAUL'S EXAMPLE OF BOLDNESS

⁷ The apostle Paul had that kind of boldness and showed love by the way he served his brothers. First of all, he was not afraid to preach. The Bible records that Paul was "walking in and out at Jerusalem, speak-

6. Why do we have many so-called Christian church organizations in our day?

7. (a) What kind of man was Paul? (b) What attitude did the Jews take toward Paul, and so how did he answer them?

ing boldly in the name of the Lord; and he was talking and disputing with the Greek-speaking Jews. But these made attempts to do away with him." (Acts 9:28, 29) Do you who claim to be Christians go in and out and about your city, discussing your faith with others? Jesus did. The apostles did. Early Christians did. When Paul was in Antioch, he did. He wanted to aid the "lost sheep" of the children of Israel to understand that the Word of God pointed to the promised Messiah, namely, Christ Jesus. On sabbath days Paul would go into the synagogue of Antioch in Pisidia, and the people of the city would gather together to hear the words of Jehovah. However, when the Jews caught sight of the crowds they were filled with jealousy and began blaspheming and contradicting the things that were spoken by Paul: "And so, talking with boldness, Paul and Barnabas said: 'It was necessary for the word of God to be spoken first to you. Since you are thrusting it away from you and do not judge yourselves worthy of everlasting life, look! we turn to the nations. In fact, Jehovah has laid commandment upon us in these words, "I have appointed you as a light of nations, for you to be a salvation to the extremity of the earth."' When those of the nations heard this, they began to rejoice and to glorify the word of Jehovah, and all those who were rightly disposed for everlasting life became believers. Furthermore, the word of Jehovah went on being carried throughout the whole country." (Acts 13:44-49) That message that Paul spoke back there reached many of your ancestors by means of the Bible. But has it reached you? Or are you like many millions today, just born into your religion? Have you made a personal decision to be a footstep follower of Christ Jesus? If you have, can you endure what Paul did and keep going in the Christian way?

⁸ Just because Paul was preaching the word of God the people of the city raised up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas and threw them outside their boundaries. So what did these two men do? "These shook the dust off their feet against them and went to Iconium." (Acts 13:51) Paul showed love for Jehovah God and his Son, Christ Jesus, by boldly speaking to the Jews in the synagogue in Iconium. In this way Paul proved he was a Christian. He loved Jesus. He observed Jesus' commandments. Paul made "disciples of people of all nations" and taught them to observe the things Jesus commanded all his followers to do. What is your method of preaching? Do you teach too? Do you uphold the real Christian standard for proper morals, not the watered-down kind? The teachings of Christ and his way of doing things are still right. Are yours?

⁹ Do not think that all the people in Christendom are Christians. They could not be, because they do not show the love of Christ and keep his commandments. Be honest with yourself about the question. Do the people belonging to Christendom's churches in all their various religious denominations really act like Christians? You can say, 'They have a religion,' but surely you cannot say they are walking in the footsteps of Christ Jesus. If the people were doing so, this system of things would be different. Christendom's religious leaders do not want to follow Christ any more than the Jewish religious leaders of Paul's day did. Take a firm stand for righteousness, no compromise, and speak up in behalf of your faith in Christ Jesus and the kingdom of God and you can expect the same kind of treatment as Paul got at Iconium. Here "a violent attempt took

8. How did Paul show his boldness in Iconium, giving rise to what timely questions calling for our personal answer?

9. What can one who takes a firm, uncompromising stand as a Christian expect?

place . . . to treat them insolently and pelt them with stones." When Paul and Barnabas were informed of what the people and rulers were going to do, they fled the city.—Acts 14:5-7.

¹⁰ On another occasion Paul was speaking in a synagogue in Ephesus and "he spoke with boldness for three months, giving talks and using persuasion concerning the kingdom of God." When some began "speaking injuriously about The Way before the multitude, he withdrew from them and separated the disciples from them, daily giving talks in the school auditorium of Tyrannus." (Acts 19:8, 9) Paul truly was a Christian missionary. He went to places and did preaching. He showed love for his brothers and was bold in teaching all sorts of people the way to everlasting life. You will find that to be a real Christian you will have to do the same thing.

BOLDNESS IN OUR DAY

¹¹ If anyone is going to lay hold on everlasting life, he must do the same thing that Jesus Christ, Peter, John, Paul and all the rest of the apostles and disciples of Christ did. They all boldly declared the good news of God's kingdom. The modern-day witnesses of Jehovah are trying hard to do the work Jesus said must be done "for a witness to all the nations." (Matt. 24:14) Despite the opposition that they meet up with, as related in the 1964 *Yearbook of Jehovah's Witnesses*, they boldly move ahead. They must declare the "everlasting good news" in all the inhabited earth again and again. That is God's will. (See chart of countries, pages 24-27.)

¹² Looking back, we see that the joy of Jehovah's witnesses was great in the year

1963, because 1,040,836 different publishers were boldly preaching the message of God's kingdom in 194 lands. These Christians were associated with 22,761 congregations of Jehovah's witnesses. These men and women love to teach God's Word, and proved it by spending 151,251,242 hours going from house to house, conducting Bible studies and speaking from the public platform. They actually made 51,994,915 return visits on people who had shown interest in Christ's message and wanted to know more about God's promises. These millions of people called on did not come to Jehovah's witnesses' Kingdom Halls, but the million Kingdom publishers went to the peoples' homes. Quite a different method than Christendom uses, but the original one introduced by Jesus and his apostles.

¹³ Some people ask: 'Is Bible study waning?' Not with Jehovah's witnesses. The fact is that every week of the year Jehovah's witnesses conducted 702,470 home Bible studies. Think of the time spent too in going to and from these Bible studies on the part of these Christians. Would you call that a demonstration of love? How many times has your clergyman visited you in your home in 1963?

¹⁴ This conducting of home Bible studies was not being carried on by just the presiding "minister" of Jehovah's witnesses' congregations, but this work was being done by those who make up the congregation. All witnesses of Jehovah are ordained Christian ministers. In the apostles' days any dedicated, baptized man or woman was commanded to 'go and disciple the people of all nations.' There is no difference in Christian work today. Neither God's Bible nor the commandments in it have changed. But people's conclusions as to what Chris-

10. How did Paul show his concern for those really wanting to be disciples of Christ?

11. Who today are making an effort to lay hold on everlasting life, and how are they doing so?

12. To what extent did Jehovah's witnesses speak with boldness during 1963, and how did this method differ from that of Christendom's clergy?

13, 14. To what extent did Jehovah's witnesses prove that the study of the Bible is not waning as far as they are concerned, and who besides the presiding "minister" shared in that work?

1963 SERVICE YEAR REPORT OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES WORLDWIDE

Country	1962 Av. Pubs.	1963 Av. Pubs.	% Inc. over 1962	Peak Pubs. 1963	Av. Plo. Pubs.	No. Public Meet'gs	No. of Cong's	Total Literature	Total Hours	New Subs.	Individual Magazines	Back-Calls	Av. Bible Studies
U.S. of America	267,436	280,052	5	308,370	11,806	299,331	4,777	8,558,693	44,572,990	877,705	50,584,964	14,864,621	210,918
Bermuda	52	70	35	85	8	112	1	7,795	16,046	1,437	26,064	6,165	96
Guam	40	38	-5*	48	5	12	1	1,114	7,862	158	7,518	2,478	30
Saipan		4	New	4	3	1		191	3,721	3	1,103	1,204	12
Sudan	31	38	23	40	3		1	614	7,641	30	1,276	2,298	33
Alaska	395	462	17	481	30	437	11	14,164	83,354	1,791	82,150	28,133	407
Argentina	8,415	9,292	10	9,754	515	6,893	239	200,121	1,748,683	18,265	1,536,167	769,849	9,213
Australia	14,634	15,045	3	16,544	570	13,028	384	318,831	2,340,620	25,393	2,481,500	740,023	10,067
Austria	6,374	6,717	5	7,414	199	4,650	180	137,316	970,276	4,995	1,151,493	433,745	4,588
Bahamas	225	225		255	23	182	7	12,446	53,743	911	59,143	19,908	311
Belgium	6,721	7,016	4	7,837	205	4,970	118	136,954	1,028,981	7,396	1,252,467	374,469	4,434
Bolivia	439	476	8	552	59	667	18	17,883	131,802	1,322	101,887	42,523	563
Brazil	24,664	26,827	9	30,118	930	19,984	669	495,351	4,086,618	25,068	2,959,462	1,411,010	18,571
British Guiana	685	795	16	882	78	683	21	35,621	178,322	1,396	133,359	64,428	888
British Honduras	238	308	29	344	26	249	10	7,561	70,273	488	58,922	23,229	357
British Isles	46,842	47,053		51,725	1,903	51,669	930	1,106,605	7,001,443	58,214	8,455,876	2,753,121	33,099
Aden	2	4	100	7				53	349	9	48	154	5
Gibraltar	21	13	-38*	17		14	1	239	1,676	13	2,406	1,108	23
Malta	7	6	-14*	9		7	1	221	759	27	422	488	8
Burma	195	219	12	234	33	231	5	20,888	76,911	599	64,135	28,759	329
Cameroun	5,974	6,506	9	6,850	323	6,789	149	46,758	1,829,504	479	33,840	694,402	7,079
Canada	37,227	37,418	1	40,625	1,431	38,397	886	668,243	5,775,431	58,398	5,392,490	1,801,195	22,250
Ceylon	224	239	7	264	45	176	9	11,071	91,422	1,453	79,928	28,856	334
Chile	2,719	2,938	8	3,144	197	2,279	82	77,282	583,643	4,103	573,849	231,068	3,558
Colombia	2,281	2,803	23	3,038	288	3,373	89	79,124	755,564	3,079	501,690	314,835	4,029
Congo (Brazzaville)	701	775	11	812	32	718	15	6,163	157,203	216	9,564	55,487	589
Central Afr. Rep.	394	508	29	635	14	739	14	2,586	94,773	25	396	40,986	425
Gabon Republic	32	39	22	58	2	46	2	1,045	7,706	11	769	2,393	40
Tchad Republic	18	15	-17*	24		27		69	2,891	1	44	1,287	19
Congo (Leopoldville)	1,662	2,025	22	2,443	45	944	25	24,254	396,796	633	28,002	171,516	1,958
Costa Rica	2,569	2,656	3	2,733	88	1,425	79	14,857	403,107	599	142,970	132,355	2,129
Cuba	14,082	15,240	8	16,161	1,168	18,201	482	145,107	2,823,373		163,857	1,270,716	18,379
Cyprus	493	516	5	566	22	195	13	9,323	79,097	490	33,098	29,490	298
Denmark	9,782	10,080	3	11,002	287	10,156	214	157,276	1,292,528	3,844	1,262,491	498,490	5,122
Faroe Islands	25	27	8	29	7	26	1	2,102	13,007	118	17,063	4,746	33
Greenland	9	10	11	15	4	42	2	1,084	2,885	13	2,364	1,349	10
Dominican Republic	790	1,035	31	1,155	115	841	26	44,119	292,147	2,952	245,291	129,609	2,071
Ecuador	809	1,053	30	1,164	118	1,211	22	27,854	293,820	1,720	185,160	130,070	1,383
Eire (Ireland)	202	223	10	246	82	332	4	8,169	142,329	277	42,588	32,691	184
El Salvador	671	773	15	802	83	964	19	19,246	213,175	1,263	163,307	76,397	1,054
Fiji	217	227	5	248	23	214	7	10,771	62,397	540	33,462	22,184	335
American Samoa	26	24	-8*	27	6	16	1	2,217	12,682	353	9,144	4,424	63
Gilbert & Ellice Isls.		5	New	7		1		36	650	1	72	654	11
New Caledonia	28	48	71	58	3	50	1	909	10,478	22	81	4,305	61
New Hebrides	2	4	100	6		4		187	750	36	558	352	5
Niue	13	16	23	22		8	1	132	1,414		221	524	16
Tahiti	50	62	24	68	8	67	1	5,297	21,955	785	14,295	7,860	110
Tonga		6	New	9				120	531	1		478	7
Western Samoa	58	61	5	70		8		1,980	20,555	196	13,038	6,000	93
Finland	8,348	8,737	5	9,664	309	8,425	340	151,763	1,180,807	12,733	1,439,943	446,038	4,722
France	17,299	18,514	7	20,367	439	10,975	328	526,178	2,498,871	29,499	2,823,940	1,029,755	12,135
Algeria	137	60	-56*	74	15	55	1	9,365	27,675	696	34,286	9,817	73
Malagasy Republic	80	98	22	108	18	104	1	13,385	36,476	1,080	35,717	13,871	196
Mali	4	5	25	6	4	2		379	6,863	8	319	2,257	23
Réunion	19	61	221	93	3	53	2	2,598	17,514	21	9,892	6,554	98

Senegal Republic	35	43	23	49	5	46	1	3,384	13,736	412	12,393	6,680	83
Tunisia	35	42	20	49	4	8	1	694	9,744	62	7,097	4,233	26
Germany, West	70,663	73,119	3	78,043	1,862	60,900	917	1,164,375	9,969,093	33,003	10,468,733	3,947,394	39,937
West Berlin	4,909	5,054	3	5,400	114	2,744	39	94,618	699,235	1,764	715,828	293,245	2,902
Ghana	8,295	8,408	1	8,841	413	7,660	257	114,994	1,856,142	3,655	403,555	580,681	7,543
Ivory Coast	85	78	-8*	94	9	86	2	4,342	26,588	307	9,937	8,747	119
Togoland	338	364	8	439	32	316	12	7,605	117,464	211	11,674	33,996	439
Upper Volta		7	New	7				142	331		31	63	7
Greece	8,823	9,573	9	10,507	172	2,431	338	57,617	1,103,775	3,872	699,731	651,221	4,245
Guadeloupe	325	376	16	388	23	148	10	11,551	78,499	512	74,288	30,067	368
French Gulana	17	17		22	1	18	1	1,500	3,793	136	6,812	1,591	29
Martinique	94	124	32	138	13	112	3	5,926	37,267	302	36,282	13,862	237
Guatemala	1,061	1,164	10	1,236	110	1,850	34	25,559	293,474	1,384	202,627	95,554	1,481
Haiti	831	933	12	1,036	96	1,075	29	16,234	251,771	337	71,065	91,384	1,440
Hawaii	1,711	1,832	7	2,006	135	2,036	35	79,958	446,284	8,906	484,336	157,206	2,182
Honduras	624	653	5	709	64	658	13	13,404	175,126	1,348	102,829	63,316	836
Hong Kong	216	209	-3*	222	39	283	7	15,568	84,007	1,964	79,113	33,086	444
Iceland	61	66	8	74	11	42	1	4,302	20,763	226	20,437	7,614	86
India	1,772	1,875	6	2,000	199	1,071	74	88,055	483,413	6,286	224,841	161,332	1,957
Indonesia	588	700	19	801	140	1,002	37	178,715	285,270	471	13,426	100,872	1,210
Israel	71	73	4	80	9	28	2	6,324	17,905	332	13,042	6,468	74
Italy	6,501	7,130	10	7,801	237	3,179	246	218,095	972,652	10,029	1,062,278	413,714	5,330
Libya	42	41	-2*	42	1	1	1	360	3,406	4	427	1,728	27
Somalia	4	2	-50*	2					10		4	2	
Jamaica	4,465	4,580	3	4,935	157	4,155	155	85,686	652,151	1,992	413,251	243,325	3,923
Cayman Islands	25	23	-8*	26	3	21	1	594	5,944	36	2,646	2,487	29
Turks & Caicos Is.	2	2		3	1	4		124	2,188	6	1,102	788	14
Japan	2,266	2,670	18	2,931	346	3,372	105	220,726	799,058	16,356	973,725	304,223	3,991
Okinawa	141	181	28	203	29	161	5	15,343	60,804	981	86,397	20,200	283
Jordan	59	66	12	72	15	109	3	467	23,470	17	353	8,328	82
Kenya	118	133	13	144	8	145	2	8,603	30,857	334	22,596	12,260	191
Uganda	18	19	6	25	2	14	1	730	5,748	55	1,951	2,422	39
Korea	4,120	4,617	12	5,075	467	4,495	123	105,082	1,132,367	8,890	701,939	409,030	6,193
Lebanon	693	756	9	836	40	1,033	19	32,365	147,638	67	652	56,791	870
Bahrain Islands	1	1		2				5	23			48	1
Iran	16	16		20	4	10	1	2,012	6,537	102	2,120	3,202	50
Iraq	1	1		1				1	27		2	10	1
Kuwait	8	6	-25*	8	1	7	1	411	1,589	79	377	538	3
Qatar	1	1		1				41	277	3	265	181	1
Syria	91	113	24	128	5	54	4	1,950	19,973	1	35	6,398	92
Leewards (Antigua)	104	106	2	115	11	117	3	3,151	26,622	173	18,032	10,097	126
Anguilla	8	8		9	1	12	1	252	3,182	11	1,568	970	13
Dominica	117	116	-1*	119	12	135	6	2,041	30,811	129	15,610	10,372	148
Montserrat	15	16	7	16	4	42	2	717	7,908	30	3,992	2,663	32
Nevis	29	31	7	34	5	42	2	466	11,377	16	4,016	4,031	57
St. Eustatius	2	2		4		3		45	218	3	24	137	3
St. Kitts	65	71	9	76	8	72	3	2,028	19,440	186	14,950	7,488	111
St. Martin	43	45	5	50	4	34	2	801	11,331	104	7,182	4,493	61
Liberia	597	401	-33*	658	37	258	12	13,303	113,420	252	24,622	32,751	442
Luxembourg	311	344	11	372	12	211	11	9,267	47,206	305	72,885	23,078	254
Mauritius	63	73	16	79	13	134	2	8,194	29,479	318	27,210	10,796	158
Mexico	24,060	26,311	9	30,026	1,509	16,895	1,004	398,469	4,384,759	24,120	2,827,637	1,308,051	21,364
Morocco	150	135	-10*	151	22	146	6	7,073	45,309	809	43,835	17,339	209
Netherlands	12,300	12,668	3	13,546	377	6,976	211	91,731	1,626,240	3,857	1,378,070	600,525	6,337
Neth. Ant. (Curaçao)	176	185	5	208	15	116	4	6,629	39,039	1,179	40,504	16,560	206
Aruba	114	119	4	128	4	112	3	2,869	17,977	584	19,537	7,399	94
Bonaire	24	23	-4*	26	2	12	1	522	3,756	59	2,571	1,627	17
Newfoundland	531	571	8	645	31	598	35	12,620	97,922	1,163	112,219	30,868	344
New Zealand	3,954	4,067	3	4,355	148	3,862	114	74,307	595,118	6,111	658,810	189,420	2,517
Cook Islands		4	New	6	3			225	3,168		296	1,086	14

Country	1962 Av. Pubs.	1963 Av. Pubs.	%Inc. over 1962	Peak Pubs. 1963	Av. Pio. Pubs.	No. Public Meet'gs	No. of Cong's	Total Literature	Total Hours	New Subs.	Individual Magazines	Back-Calls	Av. Bible Studies
Nicaragua	473	524	11	580	50	374	19	11,168	126,920	683	88,706	45,172	640
Nigeria	31,923	33,492	5	37,073	1,704	31,207	665	236,572	7,854,879	5,912	678,170	1,940,973	28,263
Dahomey	817	868	6	1,455	49	966	22	8,032	202,179	258	14,973	49,272	477
Fernando Po	52	46	-12*	74				115	10,414	10	327	3,175	82
Northern Rhodesia	28,426	28,303		29,338	392	20,478	591	97,761	4,517,760	3,223	234,410	1,222,100	20,651
Tanganyika	672	745	11	815	54	1,344	25	19,387	209,112	317	18,423	66,477	977
Zanzibar	3	3		5		4		145	209	18	392	107	3
Norway	3,634	3,738	3	3,944	104	2,126	128	62,867	474,545	2,670	630,087	203,144	1,924
Nyasaland	13,900	13,975		15,061	644	12,454	394	70,830	3,239,689	1,808	91,787	1,092,678	9,502
Mozambique	638	745	17	982	39	674	8	4,793	189,230	117	6,078	59,589	674
Pakistan	131	147	12	162	20	88	4	8,715	44,714	1,149	27,283	16,203	195
Afghanistan	9	8	-11*	9	1	12	1	212	1,803	27	1,063	653	7
Panama	1,321	1,316		1,470	112	1,272	43	26,585	301,121	1,819	209,619	112,562	1,654
Papua	384	374	-3*	398	16	167	9	3,153	56,616	102	17,028	18,319	273
New Britain	75	60	-20*	64	3	46	1	1,785	15,847	25	5,374	5,553	50
New Guinea	154	198	29	215	14	293	3	2,511	43,832	25	14,105	19,623	255
Solomon Islands	179	239	34	299	7	524	4	374	53,724		24	22,956	207
Paraguay	409	444	9	461	47	334	22	8,057	108,742	674	80,648	34,925	442
Peru	1,451	1,673	15	1,824	175	2,691	52	70,434	448,353	3,761	350,897	148,077	2,045
Philippines	30,819	32,049	4	36,836	2,878	18,354	1,103	367,839	6,543,431	31,043	2,549,202	1,686,031	25,236
Portugal	1,235	1,597	29	1,798	51	921	31	23,604	295,216	48	12,501	126,219	1,820
Angola	21	35	67	58	1	1	1	491	6,900	9	180	4,897	126
Azores	76	86	13	90	5	130	4	625	18,115	13	2,371	9,796	46
Cape Verde Isl.	3	4	33	7	2	3		191	3,357	3	58	1,530	29
Madeira	30	39	30	46	1	33	1	396	6,535	8	550	2,723	36
São Tomé	4	8	100	10				54	573	3	22	203	6
Puerto Rico	2,176	2,453	13	2,725	128	2,888	56	138,350	462,139	15,264	713,521	165,287	2,699
Tortola	10	15	50	16	2	12	1	680	2,925	33	2,348	1,051	27
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	108	123	14	138	4	73	5	6,153	18,550	850	31,842	7,557	127
Sierra Leone	308	356	16	384	80	918	17	18,056	162,455	806	95,633	56,922	813
Gambia	11	7	-36*	11	2	62	1	527	4,053	14	4,375	1,654	23
Guinea	37	44	19	75	15	96	2	1,097	29,888	5	2,711	9,999	101
Singapore	127	150	18	168	19	77	4	7,078	45,924	1,440	57,560	16,035	257
Malaya	100	106	6	112	24	82	4	58,011	47,767	204	2,017	16,789	265
North Borneo	21	20	-5*	28		7	1	215	1,521	45	913	371	10
Sarawak	3	3		6		2		75	320	4	251	122	3
South Africa	17,657	17,688		18,787	1,045	15,668	478	336,475	3,787,019	23,779	1,487,137	1,094,470	16,129
Basutoland	153	196	28	211	28	84	8	2,767	64,753	56	4,777	17,353	242
Bechuanaland	208	205	-1*	240	16	138	5	2,159	49,135	47	4,513	13,477	194
St. Helena	35	36	3	40	2	29	2	331	6,161	20	3,800	1,927	35
South-West Africa	140	150	7	161	6	77	5	4,215	21,960	330	22,968	6,601	103
Swaziland	378	366	-3*	415	23	527	10	3,545	89,124	123	17,582	22,861	383
Southern Rhodesia	11,263	10,360	-8*	11,058	527	13,866	347	99,369	2,070,866	3,098	267,889	588,624	9,005
Spain	2,358	2,768	17	2,935	158	779	63	30,934	550,145	65	108,831	270,782	3,796
Andorra		3 New		5	1	1		31	635		78	227	5
Canary Islands	75	83	11	90	7	34	2	587	19,004		4,130	8,115	147
Surinam	397	427	8	461	41	329	10	13,016	96,320	634	70,231	34,153	409
Sweden	8,906	9,361	5	10,056	387	10,334	235	214,857	1,392,290	16,438	1,881,663	578,757	5,878
Switzerland	5,185	5,436	5	5,750	110	3,021	118	146,314	693,567	7,641	1,052,641	304,055	3,875
Liechtenstein	6	7	17	8	2			129	844	3	621	333	5
Taiwan	1,552	1,255	-19*	1,477	123	1,025	47	18,109	264,524	1,748	98,010	91,423	749
Thailand	328	312	-5*	357	41	298	23	14,302	79,948	1,941	60,810	25,146	340
Cambodia	7	5	-29*	8	4	10	1	651	3,831	109	3,536	1,268	17
Laos	10	13	30	17	7	16	1	1,873	11,324	113	5,904	3,769	50
Vietnam	11	13	18	15	7	9	1	6,290	8,921	766	11,997	3,361	37
Trinidad	1,539	1,645	7	1,756	77	1,343	39	29,158	296,319	1,797	218,994	116,351	1,714
Barbados	618	651	5	709	17	795	20	7,793	92,411	582	65,906	32,994	578
Bequia	11	14	27	19	3	47		273	6,930	9	2,244	3,090	44

Carriacou Grenada	22 129	25 146	14 13	27 158	2 14	39 83	1 5	103 2,175	6,257 33,453	5 153	1,312 16,966	2,380 11,894	33 166
St. Lucia	65	73	12	74	8	116	2	1,563	20,564	166	13,340	7,822	128
St. Vincent	53	67	26	75	7	34	2	757	13,308	76	5,906	5,831	86
Tobago	43	52	21	68	5	64	1	1,513	13,747	116	10,145	7,151	71
Uruguay	1,640	1,806	10	1,960	154	1,269	40	49,013	433,045	3,030	285,435	159,558	2,223
Falkland Islands	4	3	-25*	5		1		21	106		181	70	3
Venezuela	2,750	3,150	15	3,369	174	2,001	59	77,705	649,318	3,432	411,470	241,927	3,648
181 Countries	821,434	858,040	4.5	939,384	38,207	789,803	18,840	18,688,858	144,815,497	1,433,385	116,540,324	49,649,276	652,159
†13 Other Countries	39,486	98,608	-9*	101,452	366	53,402	3,921	338,397	6,435,745	157	305,604	2,345,639	50,311
GRAND TOTAL	920,920	956,648	3.9	1,040,836	38,573	843,205	22,761	19,027,255	151,251,242	1,433,542	116,845,928	51,994,915	702,470
*Percentage of Decrease										1962	1963		
†Work Banned and Reports Are Incomplete										1,639,681	1,693,752		
										12,714	12,292		

tian religion should be have changed. Why not make your religion like what Jesus taught his to be, Christian?

¹⁵ In addition to these 702,470 home Bible studies held in the private homes of people Jehovah's Christian witnesses conducted 843,205 public meetings, usually on Sundays, in their Kingdom Halls. There are other weekly meetings too, such as the theocratic ministry school, a Bible school where Jehovah's witnesses receive training to express themselves better. They have "service meetings" each week, where they learn how to improve their house-to-house ministry. Then there is the weekly study of the *Watchtower* magazine and the congregation book study. All these meetings are Bible study meetings. Jehovah's witnesses keep on preparing themselves so as to be better ministers.

¹⁶ The outstanding thing about Jehovah's witnesses is that they believe alike and preach the same things Jesus preached. They do not encourage conclusions of their own originality. God's Word is their teacher. Who is man that he can determine by himself the way of everlasting life? He needs a guide. That guide is the written Word of God. Jesus said: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) And where is the truth Jesus taught? In the Holy Bible! Study it with others.

¹⁷ There are many people of all nations yet to be disciplined, and after learning the commandments of Christ Jesus they will dedicate their lives to the service of Jehovah and be baptized by total immersion in water. During the year 1963 Jehovah's witnesses baptized 62,798 individuals from all nations, people and tongues. They not only baptized these individuals but they taught them to observe all the things Jesus commanded. These, too, became Christian ministers.

¹⁸ To help people, in their preaching work Jehovah's witnesses placed with the people many Bible-study aids in 162 different languages. In the year 1963 they distributed 4,221,772 Bibles and bound books and 14,805,483 booklets. One of the best ways to keep your faith strong is to read regularly the Scriptures and good publications on the Holy Bible. All of Jehovah's witnesses around the world read the *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines and so do millions of other per-

15. What other ministerial activity did Jehovah's witnesses engage in during the past year?

16. How do witnesses of Jehovah feel about reaching their own conclusions, and why?

17. Why is it evident that there are yet many people who want to be followers of Christ?

18. Since printed Bible sermons are of great value in appreciating God's promises, what distribution of them did Jehovah's witnesses carry on in 1963?

sons. Jehovah's witnesses obtained 1,433,542 new subscriptions for the *Watchtower* magazine, printed in sixty-six languages, and the *Awake!* magazine, printed in twenty-five languages. They also placed individual copies of these two journals to the total number of 116,845,928. What an aid these printed Bible sermons are to Jehovah's witnesses! They cannot spend all their time in the homes of the people talking, but they can leave literature with them so that the people can read until the publishers of the good news can make a return visit.

¹⁹ The Society has its own printing plants where Bibles, books, booklets, tracts and magazines are printed. To meet the demand for Bible literature ministers of Jehovah's witnesses, all volunteer workers, produced 6,722,239 Bibles and bound books, 26,057,581 booklets, 103,763,470 copies of the *Watchtower* magazine and 95,100,307 copies of the *Awake!* magazine. They also printed 487,116,545 handbills, tracts and letters, as well as other office supplies.

²⁰ The method Jehovah's witnesses use to reach the people is exactly like the method employed by Christ Jesus and his disciples. They went preaching from house to house and publicly. Jehovah's witnesses today do the same. Today, though, the printed page helps Christian witnesses of Jehovah to speed up their work. It is not just left to the memory of the person who has heard what is said about everlasting life, but leaving Bible literature helps him to learn the truth in his private study of God's Word.

²¹ In addition to attending meetings at Kingdom Halls regularly five times a week,

19. How did the Watch Tower Society's printing plants meet the demand for printed Bible sermons?

20. While Jehovah's witnesses today use the same method of preaching that Jesus and the apostles used, what advantage do they have today, and why is this an advantage?

21. Outline the ministerial work done by Jehovah's witnesses as congregation publishers, special pioneers and regular pioneers.

and taking part in the discussions there, did you know that Jehovah's witnesses spend about ten hours each month going from house to house preaching and teaching the good news of God's kingdom? Some spend more time, others less. Many special representatives devote much more time to this ministry work each month. There are 7,475 special pioneers who go into territory where there are often no congregations and spend at least 150 hours a month preaching from house to house, conducting Bible studies and organizing new congregations. Then there is another group of 31,098 pioneers who devote approximately 100 hours each month to the field service. They work generally in large cities, but may choose any field territory that is not assigned to someone else, and in such they carry on their ministerial service under the supervision of the Society.

²² Society representatives called circuit and district servants visit all pioneers and congregations to give organizational assistance and Scriptural counsel. These spend one week with each congregation, helping with the local problems. There are 1,983 such circuit and district servants assigned to overseers' duties.

²³ The ninety branch offices of the Watch Tower Society around the world supervise the work of the circuit and district servants. There are 1,461 dedicated ministers of God that live in what the Society calls Bethel homes attached to branch offices. The branch office staff is keenly interested in the activity of all pioneers and congregations, and these all receive uniform instructions every month from the branch office under which they serve. This develops unity, oneness of thought and action, because all the instructions sent out

22. Why does the Society use circuit and district servants?

23. (a) What part do those serving in branch offices of the Society have in spreading the Word of God boldly? (b) How does the "organization chart" show much has been accomplished since 1938?

are based on the Word of God. All the activity performed by Jehovah's witnesses conforms to the principles of truth and righteousness and results in a showing of love by these witnesses toward their neighbors. Jehovah's witnesses everywhere really feel the urgency of preaching the good news of God's kingdom. Through this kind of organization much is accomplished worldwide.

ORGANIZATION CHART SHOWING INCREASE AT FIVE-YEAR INTERVALS

Year	Average Pubs.	Peak Pubs.	Hours	Bible Studies	Congre- gations	Coun- tries
1938	47,143	59,047	10,572,086		3,633	52
1943	109,794	126,329	28,726,524	66,493	6,310	54
1948	230,532	260,756	49,832,205	130,281	11,714	96
1953	468,106	519,982	72,344,728	281,219	14,163	143
1958	717,088	798,326	110,390,944	508,320	17,878	175
1963	956,648	1,040,836	151,251,242	702,470	22,761	194

²⁴ There is one day in the year that Jehovah's witnesses commemorate, that is, the day of Christ's death. That day, Nisan 14 according to the Jewish calendar, Jesus commanded to be remembered because of its significance. Last year Nisan 14 began on the evening of April 8, 1963, and there were 1,693,752 witnesses of Jehovah and persons of goodwill assembled in Kingdom Halls around the world to celebrate this occasion with gladness because they rejoiced that Christ Jesus died according to the will of God in their behalf. Of this number, 12,292 professed to be of the remnant of the body of Christ, anointed by holy spirit to be joint heirs with Christ Jesus in heavenly glory, and they anticipate being part of the bride of Christ. The hope of all the rest assembled that night is everlasting life in a new system of things here upon the earth along with

all those dead ones who loved righteousness and showed it by their works too. These will be resurrected in God's due time during the one-thousand-year reign of Christ. It was Jesus who said: "The hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life, those who practiced vile things to a resurrection of judgment." (John 5:28, 29) What a day or period of time that will be! What love one can show now to tell such truths to mankind!

²⁵ The strong sense of responsibility Jehovah's witnesses have causes them to continue to preach this good news about the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus and the ransom sacrifice that he provided. They believe in God's kingdom as mankind's only hope. They not only pray for this kingdom to come but work for it now. Have you ever earnestly prayed the Lord's prayer, "Our Father in the heavens, let your name be sanctified. Let your kingdom come. Let your will take place, as in heaven, also upon earth"? (Matt. 6:9, 10) If you have, work for it too by being a real Christian minister.

²⁶ To do this great work of declaring the "everlasting good news" that Jehovah's witnesses feel they must perform requires real love on their part for their fellowman

of every nation, tribe, tongue and people. But to do this they must first of all have love for their Father in heaven. Jehovah's witnesses love Christ Jesus too and they know they are his disciples. They are truly Jehovah's Christian wit-



"Jehovah's Witnesses Are Not Christians," says sign on St. Andrew's Catholic church in Milan, Italy, July, 1963. But the facts do not agree.

24. (a) What great gathering took place on April 8, 1963, and how many assembled at that time? (b) What hope lies before the remnant of anointed ones? the great crowd of others?

25. Besides praying for God's kingdom, how else does one show forth his faith in such kingdom?

26. To whom must love be shown in order to speak boldly the word of truth?

nesses because they love not only Jehovah, but his Son, Christ Jesus, and they are doing the will of God and following the commandments of Christ. Doing this in a world with the spirit it has against truth certainly takes love and boldness, but it certainly will lead to life and eternal happiness.

²⁷ Even with all the teachings of the Bible that Jehovah's witnesses carry on, some religious organizations of the world today claim that the Witnesses are not Christians, but that is because the religious organizations are jealous, even as were the Jewish priests. Jehovah's witnesses are walking in the footsteps of Christ Jesus, and the false religionists

27. (a) Despite the good work of the witnesses of Jehovah, how do many religious organizations view them in our day? (b) What closing encouragement do Jehovah's witnesses give to all who want life?

know it! Jesus said: "I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love among yourselves." (John 13:34, 35) This love Jehovah's witnesses do have and they proved it again in their Around-the-World Assembly in the summer of 1963. They must maintain that love even while in this present evil system of things in order to receive the blessing of Jehovah God and everlasting life. If you have the love and the boldness of the early Christians, then get out of Babylon the Great, the world empire of false religion, and serve Jehovah God and obey the commandments of Christ Jesus with Jehovah's witnesses and have their joy in preaching the "everlasting good news."

"FIGHT THE FINE FIGHT OF THE FAITH"

TIME and again the Scriptures liken the course of a Christian to that of a soldier. One such instance is where the apostle Paul wrote Timothy: "Fight the fine fight of the faith, get a firm hold on the everlasting life for which you were called and you offered the fine public declaration in front of many witnesses."—1 Tim. 6:12.*

What is that faith? "The faith" is the faith that Jesus and his disciples and apostles had in Jehovah God and in the inspiration of the Hebrew Scriptures. And today "the faith" includes faith in the Christian Greek Scriptures.—2 Pet. 2:4-9; 3:15, 16.

What does it mean to fight the fine fight of the faith? It means preaching the Word of God, the good news of God's kingdom, from house to house, on the streets, in the homes and wherever else an opportunity presents itself—doing so despite indifference and ridicule. And where the "superior authorities" ban preaching the good news, it means continuing to do so underground. As the early Christians were an organization of preachers, so Christ's followers today must likewise be preachers, in both favorable and unfavorable season.—2 Tim. 4:2.

* For details see *The Watchtower*, January 1, 1963.

Jesus Christ set a fine example in fighting the fine fight of the faith. He did not close his mouth because of opposition by the rulers of his day, but continued preaching faithfully even though it meant death on the torture stake. The apostle Paul also set a fine example. Among the things he willingly endured in fighting the fine fight of the faith were being persecuted by the Jews, beaten with rods, stoned, imprisoned, shipwrecked, and suffering from hunger and thirst.—Heb. 12:2; 2 Cor. 11:23-28.

To be able to fight the fine fight strengthen your faith by taking in knowledge of Jehovah God and Jesus Christ. Read God's Word daily and study it with the helps God has provided, such as this magazine. For a strong faith it is also imperative that you do not forsake gathering together with others who are also fighting the fine fight of the faith. At the same time keep asking God to increase and strengthen your faith.—Heb. 10:23-25, 38, 39.

And what will be the reward for fighting the fine fight of the faith? The reward of a firm hold on the everlasting life promised to all faithful servants of Jehovah God and to be enjoyed in God's new system of things.—1 Tim. 6:12.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Have you read the recent issues of *The Watchtower* carefully? If so, you should recognize these important points. Check yourself.

● When a Christian husband and wife feel they are incompatible and want to separate, what is wrong?

One or both of them are not applying Bible principles.—P. 570.*

● Do angels have a part in the preaching of the good news of God's kingdom?

Yes, the preaching is done under angelic direction.—Pp. 586, 588.

● What is the difference between a rebuke and a reproof?

A rebuke may not be deserved and can be given to inanimate things and the incorrigible. A reproof is always deserved and given only to moral creatures able to benefit by it if they choose.—Pp. 659-661.

● What is "Babylon the Great" of Revelation 17:5?

* All page references are to *The Watchtower* for 1963.

The world empire of false religion based upon the religion of ancient Babylon.—P. 698.

● Who is God's "woman," first mentioned at Genesis 3:15?

His wifely organization of heavenly creatures.—P. 716.

● Who is the woman enemy of God's woman (Mic. 7:8)?

The world empire of false, Babylonish religion.—P. 718.

● Why was Pergamum described as the site of the "throne of Satan" (Rev. 2:12, 13)?

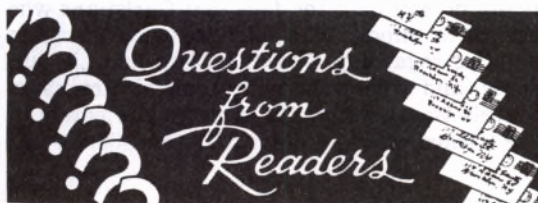
Because of its taking the lead in emperor worship.—P. 731.

● What is "the spirit of the world"?

The frame of mind, the inclination of mind, the persistent tendency that controls the world of mankind ruled by Satan the Devil.—P. 745.

● What are the seven plagues mentioned in Revelation chapters 15 and 16?

Judgment messages from God's Word expressing his righteous anger and making clear how world conditions appear to him.—Pp. 751, 752.



● What is the meaning of Proverbs 14:17? The rendering in the *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* differs from that of other translations.—L. A., United States.

Proverbs 14:17 reads, according to the *New World Translation*: "He that is quick to anger will commit foolishness, but the man of thinking abilities is hated." The *King James Version* says: "He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated." Now, there is no doubt that "he that is quick to anger will commit foolishness" or that "he that is soon angry dealeth foolishly." But, what about the phrase "a man of wicked devices is hated"? Various translations agree with the *King James Version* in this rendering, whereas the *New World Translation* seems to give a different thought in saying, "but the man of thinking abilities is hated."

First, let us take note of this phrase as rendered by certain modern translators. James Moffatt's version reads: "but a prudent man will be patient." Lamsa's translation from the Peshitta says: "but a wise man is moderate." *An American Translation* reads: "But a man of discretion is patient." The *Revised Standard Version* also says: "but a man of discretion is patient." Noteworthy, however, is its footnote on the word "patient," which shows that the Hebrew says "is hated." Yet it is seen that these modern translations speak of "a prudent man," "a wise man" and "a man of discretion." The underlying thought is quite similar to that found in the *New World Translation*, which speaks of a "man of thinking abilities."

The expression "thinking abilities" is rendered from the Hebrew word *mezimmah* in the plural number. *Mezimmah* means "a plan, usually evil (*machination*), sometimes good (*sagacity*)." So the Hebrew word can be used in a good sense, which is allowed by the expression "thinking abilities."

Well, then, is a man of thinking abilities even in a good way hated? Actually, the world in general is not particularly fond of persons who exercise thinking abilities. Thinking persons who are true intellectuals are now some-

times called "eggheads." This term has often been applied in a disparaging manner to those who really use their thinking faculties properly and productively. They are frowned upon because they exercise their minds. Some persons are too lazy to think, for thinking is hard work. Hence they look unfavorably upon those who utilize mental abilities, who show industry in employing the mind. It often occurs, therefore, that thinking persons are hated.

Reflecting a rather general view is the following quotation from the book *The Age of Conformity*, by Alan Valentine, pages 105 and 106: "Einstein was another kind of national hero in a more remote way; almost no one understood him but nearly everyone accepted the experts' verdict that he was a tremendous adventurer on the exalted heights of mathematics. But when he began to express opinions on public issues his admirers diminished. To think independently is to challenge the democratic norm, and 'highbrow' and 'theorist' are not complimentary terms. 'I'd rather be a bonehead than an egghead,' is simply the latest slogan to defend the commonplace."

There are, of course, those who only pretend to think. Proverbs 14:17 is not referring to these pseudo-intellectuals. They have not really attained the position of true intellectuals, thinking persons who show they have real intelligence. The pseudo-intellectual who acts and talks in a manner intended to impress may

actually exhaust others instead and may repulse them. But he is not the type of person that is "the man of thinking abilities" who is hated. In the case of the sham intellectual the truthfulness of 1 Corinthians 8:1 is demonstrated: "knowledge puffs up."

That a man of *real* thinking abilities is hated, however, is evident as far as Jehovah's witnesses are concerned. They exercise their minds regarding God's purposes and they walk with God. (Mic. 6:8) They take in and act upon knowledge of God's Word and do not conform to this system of things. (Rom. 12:1, 2) As thinking persons who follow Christ as their exemplar and who do the divine will they are hated. In this they are unlike worldlings. And no wonder, for they are no part of this world! They show this by thinking, by exercising their mental faculties, and then by acting in harmony with the righteous principles of God's Word.—John 15:19.

The expression "thinking abilities" at Proverbs 14:17 could, of course, cover malicious thinking. A man who devises evil or who is malicious is hated. So either application given to "thinking abilities" is possible. Yet there is really no escaping the fact that Christians who use their minds, who exercise their thinking abilities regarding God, his Word and his purposes, and who walk with Jehovah are hated by this world, which "is lying in the power of the wicked one."—1 John 5:19; Isa. 30:20, 21.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIELD MINISTRY

What must one do to put up a fine fight for the faith? He must publish that faith before "many witnesses." (1 Tim. 6:12) Jehovah's witnesses will be doing that during January by preaching and teaching from the Bible, and by offering to all persons a year's subscription for *The Watchtower*, together with three booklets on the Bible, for a contribution of \$1.

"WATCHTOWER" STUDIES FOR THE WEEKS

February 2: They Listened to an Angel, ¶1-25.

Page 7.

February 9: They Listened to an Angel, ¶26-44, and Love and Boldness Lead to Life, ¶1-6.

Page 14.

February 16: Love and Boldness Lead to Life, ¶7-27. Page 21.