



The WATCHTOWER

Announcing
**JEHOVAH'S
KINGDOM**

MAY 1, 1967

Semimonthly

**REMEMBER YOUR CREATOR BY
MANIFESTING GOODNESS**

GOODNESS IS TO BE MANIFESTED

**WHERE ARE WE
ACCORDING TO GOD'S TIMETABLE?**

**'FAITH TALKED ABOUT
THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD'**

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"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

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FROM reading God's Word the Bible one cannot but conclude that God knows what the future holds. For the frightful events of our time were all foretold by him centuries ago and are appearing on the world scene precisely on schedule according to his "timetable." Not that God Almighty is responsible for all that has happened on earth down through the ages. He himself testifies that men "have acted ruinously on their own part," that "the defect is their own." (Deut. 32:5) Rather, in his infinite wisdom he has been able to predetermine what course nations would take, and for our guidance and encouragement has caused a record of these prophetic events to be written down in his Word the Bible.

Therefore, knowledge of this "timetable" is of intense interest to man, for it provides him with priceless information that marks his location in the stream of time. *It also* reveals what events are about to break forth on the world scene. So with this information close at hand we can chart a course in life that will lead to a happy conclusion.

For example, the Bible "timetable" indicates that we are at the threshold of a new era, that this earth is in store for a

number of dramatic changes in this very generation—changes that will affect your life and that of every other person for all time to come. It shows we are facing the day for the expression of God's wrath against all wickedness in the battle at what the Bible calls "Armageddon." Following that war will

be the glorious thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ. (Rev. 16:16; 20:4-6) Exercising faith in these promises, a great crowd of mankind have arranged their

lives in harmony with God's Word in hope of becoming recipients of the blessings that are to come.

But how can we be confident that these promises are sure of fulfillment? The answer is simple: Because these are the promises of a God who cannot lie. (Heb. 6:18) They are scheduled events in the "timetable" of God.—Matt. 24:34, 35.

For instance, in the book of Ecclesiastes (3:1, 8) the Creator assures us: "For everything there is an appointed time, even a time for every affair under the heavens: . . . a time for war and a time for peace." Without doubt, then, there is a precise time for the war of **Armageddon**

*Where
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to be fought and also a set time for the peaceful thousand-year reign of Christ to begin.

A close study of the Bible helps us to appreciate that world events can be anticipated and understood in advance by those who are acquainted with Bible prophecies. For example, from a study of the Hebrew Scriptures Jesus Christ knew that he was destined to suffer, die and be resurrected to life. So he told his disciples in advance that "he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the older men and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised up." (Matt. 16:21-23) The reason for such prophecies was given by Jesus in these words: "So now I have told you before it occurs, in order that, when it does occur, you may believe." (John 14:25-29) This is the advantage of knowing prophecy and seeing its fulfillment. We gain faith and strength in witnessing the fulfillment of God's promises and can look ahead with confidence to seeing other promises fulfilled. Therefore, those who do not believe forfeit the value of God's "timetable" for themselves.

PROPHECIES FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

God's promises and prophecies are for our encouragement. For example, long before the Hebrews were enslaved in Egypt, God told Abram: "You may know for sure that your seed will become an alien resident in a land not theirs, and they will have to serve them, and these will certainly afflict them for four hundred years." (Gen. 15:13) The beginning of that affliction was when Ishmael, son of the Egyptian Hagar, mocked Isaac in the year 1913 B.C.E. Subtracting 400 years from 1913 brings us to 1513 B.C.E., the precise year when God delivered the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. Knowledge of this prophecy to Abram could have served

as a source of great encouragement to those enslaved and afflicted Jews, for it also told of deliverance.—Gen. 50:24, 25.

Another example where knowledge of a recorded prophecy served as an encouragement can be found in the prophecy of Jeremiah. Jehovah caused his prophet Jeremiah to write that the Jews would be held captive in Babylon while their land was desolate for seventy years. (Jer. 29:10) The prophet Daniel, while in Babylon, took encouragement from these prophetic words and looked for the releasing of his people and their return to Jerusalem, which took place in 537 B.C.E., precisely seventy years after Judah had been left uninhabited when the last Jews fled to Egypt not long after Jerusalem's desolation. This again emphasizes the accuracy of God's "timetable."

At the beginning of the first century of our Common Era faithful Jews were looking for the Messiah because of recorded prophecies. The prophet Daniel was told "that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the anointed one [Messiah], the prince, shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks." (Dan. 9:24, 25, AS) In other words, sixty-nine weeks of years or 483 years (for these are symbolic weeks) would pass. (Ezek. 4:6) It was in 455 B.C.E. that King Artaxerxes decreed that the city of Jerusalem and its wall be rebuilt. (Neh. 2:1-8) Counting from 455 B.C.E., the 483 years would end 29 C.E. In 29 C.E. Jesus of Nazareth was anointed with holy spirit, at which time he became Jesus Christ or Jesus the Messiah, the anointed one. In that year Andrew the brother of Simon Peter declared: "'We have found the Messiah' (which means, when translated, Christ)." (John 1:41) This was precisely as foretold by the prophet Daniel centuries before.

Since prophecies and promises of God

were an encouragement for men throughout all ages, we who live at the conclusion of this system of things would be wise to turn to the same sources for our encouragement.—Rom. 15:4.

END OF THE GENTILE TIMES

Ours is a most critical generation. Bible chronology and prophecies agree on this fact. We who live today stand at the threshold of Armageddon, God's war in which the wicked will be wiped off the earth. This also means we stand at the threshold of the incomparable peaceful, righteous rule of Christ that is to follow. But how can we be sure? Because of prophecies and God's unerring "timetable."—2 Tim. 3:1-5; Matt. 24:21; 2 Pet. 3:13.

Consider the time factor that Jesus gave. He said: "Jerusalem will be trampled on by the nations, until the appointed times of the nations are fulfilled." (Luke 21:24) After this, as he said, "nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be food shortages and earthquakes in one place after another. All these things are a beginning of pangs of distress." (Matt. 24:7, 8) The "appointed times of the nations," mentioned by Jesus, indicated a period in which there would be no representative government of Jehovah in the hands of the royal line of King David to interfere with the Gentile domination of the earth. So when did those "times" begin, and for how long a period would they extend?

Those Gentile Times began to count in 607 B.C.E., when Jerusalem, the capital of God's representative government on earth, was destroyed by the king of Babylon. They were to run for seven symbolic times, as shown by Daniel chapter 4. There in Daniel is found a prophecy concerning the kingdom of God (Dan. 4:34), a prophecy that pointed to the time when the one

chosen by God would be given the right to rule (Dan. 4:17, 25, 32) after a period of "seven times" had elapsed. The Bible indicates that each of those "times" would be 360 years in length, and that the seven would, therefore, be 2,520 years in duration.* That time period ended in the autumn of 1914 of our Common Era. This fact is significant because, according to the prophecies of God's "timetable," the earth was to witness a marked change after 1914. Well, did it?

EVIDENCE MARKING THE END

For over thirty-five years in advance Jehovah's witnesses proclaimed that 1914 would be a marked year. As early as 1877 their publications warned that 1914 would see Gentile rule interrupted by the kingdom of God. They firmly believed that Jesus' prophecy of the conclusion of the system of things would come true, that following the end of the Gentile Times God's Messianic kingdom would come into full power and the Gentile powers on earth be ousted.

But nothing in the early part of 1914 indicated that world upheaval was at hand. The nations were at peace. The world's scene was a scoffer's dream, and scoff many did. It was not until late June of 1914 that the world began to feel the jitters of world instability. But by October 1, 1914, it was obvious that Jesus' prophecy was fulfilled and that the "appointed times of the nations" had ended. Historians and statesmen speak of 1914 C.E. as being a "dividing line in history," "the day when the world went mad," a "turning point," when 'the world began its march toward disaster.' This is precisely what God's "timetable" said 1914, the year marking the end of the Gentile Times, would be.

World War I did not settle the world's problems. It merely sowed the seeds that

* See the book "Babylon the Great Has Fallen!" *God's Kingdom Rules!*, pages 174-181.

plunged the world into another and even greater war within the same generation, namely, World War II. Shortly thereafter came smaller wars and revolutions. As Jesus foretold, the end of the Gentile Times would mark "a beginning of pangs of distress" for the earth, and so it has been.

Since 1914, the earth has also experienced unprecedented famine. Food shortages have affected more than twice as many people as were affected in the 900 years before. Pestilences have increased in the earth and go on increasing. Mental and nervous disorders, heart diseases and cancer are reaching the proportions of a global calamity. And earthquakes, too, are bringing increased woe. The yearly toll in lives lost from earthquakes since 1914 has been ten times what it was before that year.

These events emphasize the preciseness of God's "timetable." They make us witnesses of fulfilled prophecies. They tell us what Satan the Devil already knows, namely, that we stand at the threshold of Armageddon, that his wicked rule is about to end, that 'God's kingdom come' will soon be a reality for the earth.—Rev. 12:12.

THE END OF 6,000 YEARS

In examining these Scriptural facts, something else also captures our attention. According to Bible chronology, we are already over fifty-two years into the wicked system of things' "time of the end." That time began in the autumn of 1914 C.E., at the termination of the "appointed times of the nations," and it is already far advanced. Jesus said that "this generation" that saw the beginning of this time period

in 1914 would also see its end. The generation that was old enough to view those events with understanding in 1914 is no longer young. It no longer has many years to run. Already many of its members have died. But Jesus showed that there would still be members of "this generation" alive at the time of the passing away of this wicked system of things in both heaven and earth. (Luke 21:32, 33) How much longer will it be, then, before God takes action to destroy the wicked and usher in the blessings of his Kingdom rule?

Interestingly, the autumn of the year 1975 marks the end of 6,000 years of human experience. This is ascertainable from reliable chronology preserved in the Bible itself. What will that year mean for humankind? Will it be the time when God executes the wicked and starts off the thousand-year reign of his Son Jesus Christ? It very well could, but we will have to wait to see. Yet of this we can be certain: the generation that Jesus said would witness those events is nearing its close. The time is close at hand. On God's "timetable" we are in the closing days of a wicked system of things that will soon be gone forever. A glorious new order is immediately before us. This is, therefore, good reason for Christians everywhere to rejoice. Yes, they rejoice because fulfillment of their prayers for the kingdom of God is now at hand.—Luke 21:28.

Therefore, keep in mind the admonition of the Lord Jesus when speaking of our day: "Keep awake, then, all the time making supplication that you may succeed in escaping all these things that are destined to occur, and in standing before the Son of man." (Luke 21:36) The prophecy is sure; the time is short.

COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

- Mildness, a Christian Requirement.
- Instructing with Mildness.
- Commercial World Experiences Cause for Mourning.
- Do You Give 'Just as You Have Resolved in Your Heart'?

FAITH

**Talked about
throughout
the whole world'**

—Displayed at "God's Sons of Liberty" Assemblies

THE faith-displaying course of devoted servants of Jehovah in this day, as in the past, is truly a fit subject for up-building consideration. It moves other servants of God to inquire into how such strength of faith can be acquired. It leads them to examine their own attitudes and ways of thinking in order to root out any that raise obstacles to the growth of faith. As they apply the lessons learned, followers of Christ today are in effect saying what first-century disciples said to the Master: "Give us more faith."—Luke 17: 5.

Things learned and experiences reported at the 1966-67 series of "God's Sons of Liberty" International Assemblies provide much food for thought along this line. Jehovah's witnesses from the northern hemisphere had opportunity to visit Mexico, Central and South America and the islands of the Caribbean and see firsthand the background against which a vast campaign of Bible education is being pushed in those southern lands. They were thrilled by what they saw and heard, and felt they

could react as did the apostle Paul when he informed the congregation of Christians in Rome: "Your faith is talked about throughout the whole world."—Rom. 1:8.

ATTENDING ASSEMBLIES

For example, have you ever hesitated about attending some circuit or district assembly of Jehovah's witnesses organized for your benefit, because of some seemingly insurmountable obstacles? Jesus taught that faith can surmount obstacles. (Matt. 17:20) And that has proved to be true of many of Jehovah's witnesses in Latin America. One schoolteacher living some 200 miles distant from Montevideo, Uruguay, wanted to get to the assembly, but her opposed husband even made it difficult for her to attend local meetings. Was she discouraged? Did her faith waver? No, for she went ahead with preparations, confident that, if it was the Lord's will, she would get there. The unexpected happened. A government department handling her retirement application called her to the capital for discussion at the very time when the assembly would be in session. So she was one of the happy participants.

A group of Witnesses from the coast of Honduras started out by train for the assembly in Tegucigalpa. They could not get through because high waters had rendered a rail bridge impassable. Did they give up? No! They went home and tried again next day and got through and finally arrived one day after the assembly had started. Obstacles could not extinguish their zeal for attendance at the spiritual feast prepared for them.

Jehovah's witnesses from Manaus, in the Amazon basin, traveled four days on that mighty river to reach Belém on the coast, and then five days by bus to get to the Brazilian assembly in São Paulo. The prospect and the hazards of a twenty-day

return trip could not shake their determination to attend.

Thirty-seven delegates from Nuevo Paraíso, Colombia, were undeterred by the hazardous trip in a large motor-powered canoe. As it turned out, the boat did capsize and they lost all their spare clothing and money. However, they turned up at the assembly in Barranquilla undaunted, happy to be alive to partake of the spiritual bounty of the Lord's table.

Many Witnesses had to be resourceful in order to make the trip to the assembly site. One Uruguayan Witness began taking in washing early in July so that when January arrived she would have enough funds for the journey. Another with several children and an opposed husband made and sold ice cream to earn her travel expenses.

FAITH TO REACH OUT

How do you view the possibility of taking on enlarged privileges and responsibilities in Kingdom service? Those who have faith to reach out and grasp such opportunities are truly blessed by Jehovah, as experiences told at the "God's Sons of Liberty" assemblies show. One Witness in a fishing town in Peru was informed that he could not qualify to be a special pioneer minister until he learned to read and write. That did it. He began studying right away, made excellent progress in but a few months, and now has his assignment as a special pioneer minister in his hometown. From his district two hundred persons came to the assembly in Lima.

How signally blessed was one Uruguayan Witness who, despite frail health, reached out for pioneer ministerial privileges! She has been instrumental in bringing some ninety persons into the organization of Jehovah's witnesses, eighty of them already baptized. How rewarding it was for her to see a good proportion of

these mount the platform at the Montevideo assembly in testimony to her zealous and diligent ministry!

Northern visitors at all these assemblies also met and talked with missionaries who years ago had the faith to reach out for service privileges. They accepted the invitation to train at the Watchtower Bible School of Gilead and were sent off to foreign assignments. But did they have the faith to stick with their assignments? They certainly did. Think of it! Eight graduates from Gilead's first class back in 1943 are still faithfully serving in Mexico and others are to be found in various Central and South American lands. Surely their faith is like Abraham's!

FAITHFUL CONDUCT IMPRESSES

"Fine testimony from people on the outside" of the Christian congregation is, in fact, testimony to the faith of God's servants. (1 Tim. 3:7) Let us never overlook the effect that good conduct has on persons who observe Jehovah's witnesses under varying conditions. They really take note and talk about it, as convention delegates learned during the Central and South American tour of assemblies. A waiter in a Panama restaurant approached some Witnesses and asked: "Who are you people? You all seem so happy, and there is no discrimination among you—how can it be?" When told that the Witnesses were the same people who distribute the book *From Paradise Lost to Paradise Regained*, which he already had, he declared he was going to get it out and start studying it.

The supervisor of a bus company in San Juan, Puerto Rico, after dealing with the assembly organization, said to his staff: "We must cooperate to the greatest extent with these people; they are the most organized people we have dealt with." And a hotel manager in Mexico City declared: "You Witnesses are welcome here any-

time. How many rooms do you want?" Another hotel manager, this time in Kingston, Jamaica, said: "Although I am not one of Jehovah's witnesses, if I could employ only Witnesses here I would be happy. For with such a staff we could run a trouble-free hotel."

A Government official in Ecuador said of the assembly organization: "They have every last detail planned out with mathematical precision. There is not much that we can do for them that they have not already done for themselves." And an airline manager stated: "You people did a magnificent job of organization. Wish we had men like you in our firm." A hotel manager in one South American city, remarking on the efficiency of the Witnesses, observed: "If you people were running the country I would not mind paying taxes, for I know I would get my money's worth."

The auditorium personnel at the Palacio Peñarol, Montevideo, Uruguay, were deeply impressed. At first they were smoking, but as they got to associating with and cooperating with the Witness workers it was noticeable that none of them smoked any longer, and they would address each Witness as *Hermano* or "Brother." One of them declared: "This is the first time the Palacio has a clean smell, free of tobacco smoke and other odors." Another said: "This is the first time the Palacio management has turned over the entire building, including rooms and private offices, to anyone, and they seem unconcerned about how the property will be handled."

Time and again conventioners heard at these assemblies that Indians and the poorer natives in remote districts of all those southern lands were impressed, above all, by the willingness of missionaries and other Witnesses to come into their humble homes and even eat with

them. They quickly gain confidence in teachers of this kind, teachers of the Bible who are prepared to put its fine principles into operation in their own lives.

HAVING DONE ALL, TRUST JEHOVAH

It often happens that servants of God have done their very best to carry out his will and yet reach the point where they must trust in Jehovah for the outcome, because it may be beyond their power to achieve. They need faith in God to meet such situations. For example, think of the position of the Watch Tower convention servant at Managua, Nicaragua, when he learned that the leaseholder who had rented the auditorium to him had lost his lease, and the contract with him was no longer valid. The opening of the assembly was just days away, with delegates on their way from all over Nicaragua, not to speak of the many foreign delegates. But everything finally worked out well. The owner of the auditorium consented to negotiate a last-minute contract.

Normally, January 1 marks the start of Ecuador's rainy season, and with it come hordes of crickets and mosquitoes. In previous years the crickets had to be swept up by the bushel in the downtown areas, while mosquitoes made life unbearable to everyone. This year, sure enough, the rains did come on January 1, the very day that four planeloads of Witness delegates arrived from Panama. However, a successful assembly was held in Guayaquil's Covered Coliseum. And what of the crickets? They arrived in their thousands one hour after the closing session, penetrating every corner of the Coliseum. As someone remarked, referring to the locustlike thoroughness of the Witness organization: "The locusts moved out and the crickets moved in."

Witnesses in Santiago, Chile, had had their eyes on the huge Velodrome in the

grounds of the National Stadium ever since the idea of an international assembly in their city became known. But the Velodrome was still unfinished, and even the cyclist association for whose use it was being built had tried and failed to get the use of it as late as the month of December. Nevertheless, by patient, continuing discussion with one group of officials after another, this new structure was finally opened to Jehovah's witnesses, and the "God's Sons of Liberty" Assembly was the first event to take place in it. Cycling fans were urged by a news reporter to attend the Witnesses' assembly in order to get their first glimpse of the completed Velodrome.

In Uruguay it seemed that a strike that tied up all buses and taxis would have a grave effect on attendance at the assembly. However, this obstacle, too, was surmounted. How? Many of the incoming delegates simply walked to their accommodations, some many blocks. Many types of transportation were pressed into use, including a fire department bus and a huge dump truck. But the visitors got to their hotels and rooms, and they also managed to be at the Palacio Peñarol for the unforgettable sessions of the assembly.

ASSEMBLIES IN THE HEADLINES

Without exception the 1966-67 series of assemblies produced the greatest amount of favorable public attention ever given to the activities of Jehovah's people in Central and South America. But not without a great deal of hard work and faith in Jehovah as to the outcome was this result achieved. Newspapers in Jamaica gave an unprecedented 730 column inches to reports on the activities of the Witnesses at Kingston's National Stadium. One entire page of a leading paper was filled with pictures of cafeteria activity, and carried

favorable comment on the cleanliness observed among the Witnesses.

In Guatemala the Government-owned radio station provided three hours of free time for interviews and other reports on the assembly, while Guatemalan papers published 400 column inches, including eighteen photographs relating to the Witnesses' gathering. In San Juan, Puerto Rico, five banners announcing the public lecture were strung across the streets at strategic points. In Brazil an excellent job was done of bringing the assembly to the attention of the press, with the result that the final count in column inches amounted to 4,263.

The illustrated *Flash* magazine of Santiago, Chile, featured the baptism on its cover, with the four succeeding pages of pictures and explanatory text under the heading: "Swimpool of National Stadium Converted into Baptismal Font." Quite different in motive was the article published by the Communist daily in the same city, *El Siglo* (*The Century*), under the headline: "Jehovah's Witnesses Convert National Stadium into Temple of Anticomunism." Other local papers, however, explained truthfully that the Witnesses are entirely neutral as to political questions and are exclusively devoted to preaching and teaching the Bible's message for our day.

Puerto Rico's illustrated magazine *Bohemia*, in its issue of February 26, 1967, carried a six-page story of the assembly, including twelve pictures, drawing attention to the baptism and the Bible dramas. The article concluded: "With the sincerity that flows from the words of Jehovah's [witnesses], countless *boricuas* [Puerto Ricans] are deeply convinced that they will make it to the era of 'Mankind's Millennium Under God's Kingdom.'"

All of Costa Rica's national newspapers published items on the assembly in San

José, in all, over seventy column inches. Here, too, an interview in Spanish with F. W. Franz, vice-president of the Watch Tower Society, was broadcast over a nationwide network. So by radio, television and printed page, news about the faith of Jehovah's people was spread and talked about in many parts of this western hemisphere.

MISSIONARIES TELL THEIR STORY

Visiting Witnesses to Mexico and other lands to the south will never forget hearing firsthand accounts by genuine missionaries of their tribulations and joys in foreign assignments. Special English sessions at each assembly furnished the opportunity to get to know these missionaries who, many years ago, left homes, families, conveniences and luxuries, to serve in areas where the need for Kingdom preaching was particularly great. Also, at each branch home of the Watch Tower Society the president and directors of the Watch Tower Society enjoyed a special get-together with these missionaries, including a fine meal. How wonderful it was to talk with faithful ministers who have been diligent in their missionary assignments for periods up to twenty years or more!

One missionary recounted how three interested families in a small Peruvian town got together and started having meetings in a home. Soon they had an attendance of thirty. A Witness offered his garage and obtained some chairs so as to care for the growing attendance. From this same town came thirty-two delegates to the "God's Sons of Liberty" Assembly. Another missionary, assigned to Colombia two years ago, told that in all that time he could recall only one door being slammed in his face.

Those missionaries have been privileged to witness marvelous growth of the Kingdom interests. As one remarked in

connection with the ministry in Colombia: "In the matter of assembly places we have progressed all the way from backyards to stadiums." And those faithful missionaries look at their assignment as "home." They tell how once in a while relatives will write and urge them to come home to the comforts of a more modern land. But the view they have adopted is that the simplicity of life in a foreign assignment permits them to give far greater care to the interests of the Kingdom, unhampered by distractions. Besides, when they do go back north for a brief vacation, they are eager to get back to these lovable people who have become their children in the faith. They feel like fish out of water being anywhere other than in their assignments.

On a number of occasions visiting delegates heard President N. H. Knorr of the Watch Tower Society bid them, when back home, tell fellow Witnesses what a large and satisfying field there is in these lands of the south for those with the true missionary spirit. There are still many places to which whole families could move and serve where the need is greater. Young married couples and single boys and girls should inquire how they can qualify for Gilead training and be equipped for a lifetime career as missionaries. The spirit of Isaiah is needed, the "Here I am! Send me" attitude. (Isa. 6:8) Just imagine! The crying need of the vast field in those southern lands is for at least a thousand more missionaries right now!

ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

The faith of a multitude of new Witnesses was displayed at the baptism sessions of the "God's Sons of Liberty" assemblies. Not lightly, but after sober consideration and many months of Bible study, did those groups of every age bracket, from the teen years up to the seven-

ties, step forward and declare themselves ready to submit to immersion in water as a public testimony of their dedication of their lives to God. In all, a grand total of 6,131 persons were baptized during the entire assembly tour.

The Bible dramas presented on the program at each assembly were hailed by the Witnesses as a most effective means of impressing the fine principles of the Bible on young and old. After seeing the vivid counsel portrayed in "Look to the Bible as Our Guide in Life," one Ecuadorian parent, who had saved for months so as to bring his family to the assembly, declared: "It was worth every *sucre* I spent for my children to see that one demonstration. None of us will forget the counsel given in such a striking way." Another delegate commented: "Never has the Bible had such force. Now, when I read the Bible, I'm going to try to see the things I'm reading, to remember them."

The public lecture on the theme "Mankind's Millennium Under God's Kingdom" drew unprecedented crowds, with a total of more than 175,000 persons hearing it at the twenty-one assemblies. It was very evident that people are interested in the future that God's Word envisions for the earth and obedient men upon it. The peak num-

ber attending some of the assemblies was several times the total number of Witnesses in the country.

Such figures speak eloquently about the increase of active Witnesses in all these lands in the past twenty years. They also reveal something of the magnitude of the field in which there is still need for those who have the faith to reach out for greater privileges of Kingdom service. Multitudes in those lands are anxious to learn how to study the Bible and to serve God acceptably. They need teachers who will show them how. Considering the whole of the western hemisphere south of the continental United States together, it is noted that there is but one Witness for each 1,600 of population. How urgent the need for qualified missionaries and others who can plan their affairs so as to spend a greater share of their time, in the few years remaining for this system of things, in spreading the good news to waiting multitudes!

The faith of missionaries already active

in this and other parts of the world field is talked about throughout the whole world, wherever Jehovah's witnesses are located. They have truly spearheaded a grand work of enlightening peoples of many nations. Do you, too, have such faith, and will it move you to volunteer your services?

Location of Assembly	Witnesses active in 1947	Witnesses active in Jan. '67	Peak Assembly Attendance	Number Baptized
Mexico City, Mexico	4,125	33,257	36,556	1,082
Guatemala City, Guatemala	75	1,446	2,950	102
San Salvador, El Salvador	80	1,026	4,989	105
Belize, British Honduras	38	370	755	10
Tegucigalpa, Honduras	45	837	1,422	60
Managua, Nicaragua	36	824	1,654	71
San José, Costa Rica	449	2,677	2,974	73
Panama City, Panama	175	1,413	2,110	60
Barranquilla, Colombia	29	4,203	5,777	179
Kingston, Jamaica	1,185	5,162	9,458	189
Guayaquil, Ecuador	14	1,616	2,723	172
Lima, Peru	22	2,484	6,925	265
Santiago, Chile	137	3,888	7,693	441
La Paz, Bolivia	16	562	1,150	66
Asunción, Paraguay	34	535	489	37
Buenos Aires, Argentina (including Córdoba)	679	12,331	15,238	692
Montevideo, Uruguay	175	2,264	3,958	212
São Paulo, Brazil	648	38,109	46,151	1,723
Caracas, Venezuela	29	4,171	10,463	195
San Juan, Puerto Rico	87	3,488	8,604	225
Santo Domingo, Dom. Rep.	59	2,312	5,154	172
	8,137	122,945	177,193	6,131

You Are Invited to COME AGAIN

EACH year Jehovah's witnesses and their friends gather in congregation groups around the earth to celebrate the "Lord's supper" on Nisan 14, according to the ancient Jewish calendar. This year that memorial supper was held on the night of March 25. Perhaps you were present.

Yearly, large numbers of readers of *The Watchtower* do attend the Memorial. In 1966, 1,971,107 persons met together around the world on that sacred occasion. The report for this year has not yet been completed, but we have every reason to believe that again the attendance was large. Yet something concerns us: This past year we observed that about a million who attended the Memorial never came to any of the other meetings of the congregation. These other meetings are just as important in the life of a Christian. The Bible is just as pointed in counseling us to attend these meetings as it is in instructing that the "Lord's supper" be held. (Heb. 10:23-25) Why, then, do so many attend one meeting but not the others?

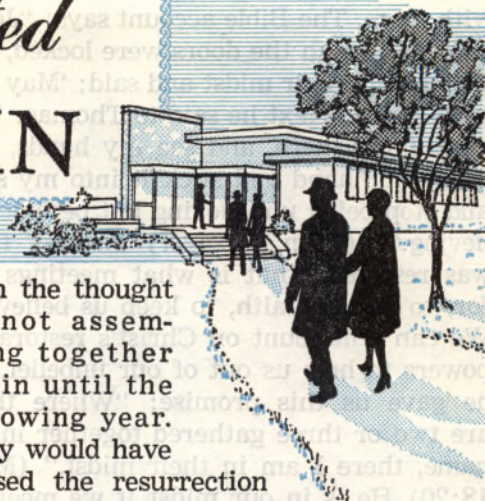
A surprising number of people apparently believe that a single attendance is all that is required of them as Christians and to gain salvation. Thus these miss one of the key points highlighted at the Lord's evening meal, namely, the need for Christians to meet together regularly.

That need was emphasized by what happened immediately after the first celebration of the Lord's evening meal in the year 33 of our Common Era. Think what the apostles would have missed had they left the upper room and Jerusalem that night

with the thought of not assembling together again until the following year. They would have missed the resurrection of Jesus Christ, meeting with him in Galilee, seeing him ascend to heaven, the outpouring of the holy spirit at Pentecost, the miracle of the tongues. But those who were regularly meeting together for worship did not miss out.

After Jesus' resurrection, for fear of the Jews the disciples of Christ met together behind locked doors. This they did despite the danger to themselves, because they appreciated the vital need and importance of meeting together. On one such occasion the resurrected Jesus paid them an unexpected visit, showing thereby that he approved of what they were doing. Jesus entered through a locked door, much to the disciples' amazement. The apostle Thomas missed this meeting. Since he was not present, the brothers began to tell him what he had missed, namely, "We have seen the Lord!" Thomas responded with disbelief: "I don't believe it!" "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and stick my finger into the print of the nails and stick my hand into his side, I will certainly not believe." Obviously, Thomas' faith was weak.

Eight days later Jesus' disciples were again at a meeting. This time Thomas was



with them. The Bible account says: "Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and he stood in their midst and said: 'May you have peace.' Next he said to Thomas: 'Put your finger here, and see my hands, and take your hand and stick it into my side, and stop being unbelieving but become believing.'" (John 20:24-27) Thomas' faith was restored. That is what meetings are for, to restore faith, to keep us believing. We can still count on Christ's restorative powers to help us out of our unbelief, for he gave us this promise: "Where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there I am in their midst." (Matt. 18:20) He is in our midst if we meet together in his name.

PURPOSE OF MEETINGS

Regularly attending and participating in meetings is an outward act of faith. It is an essential part of declaring *publicly* our faith that Christ is Lord. The apostle Paul says this must be done: "If you *publicly* declare that 'word in your own mouth,' that Jesus is Lord, and exercise faith in your heart that God raised him up from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one exercises faith for righteousness, but with the mouth one makes public declaration for salvation." (Rom. 10:9, 10) Thomas indeed gave public declaration when he beheld the risen Christ. He cried out: "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus said to Thomas: "Because you have seen me have you believed? Happy are those who do not see and yet believe." (John 20:28, 29) Yes, happy are those who today, in faith, make public declaration of this fact that Jesus is Christ the Lord.

Meetings are like water holes where thirsty souls gather to drink. Christians assemble regularly to replenish themselves spiritually and to receive instruction. At meetings Jesus taught his disciples many

things. At one meeting after his resurrection he gave them the order: "Do not withdraw from Jerusalem, but keep waiting for what the Father has promised . . . you will be baptized in holy spirit not many days after this." (Acts 1:4, 5) At a meeting Jesus instructed them as to their service work: "You will be witnesses of me . . . to the most distant part of the earth." (Acts 1:8) Failure to attend those meetings would have meant missing out on precious privileges.

After Jesus ascended to heaven his disciples continued to assemble together regularly. They met in an upper chamber where they persisted in prayer. At a meeting Matthias was selected to fill the spot vacated by Judas Iscariot. The holy spirit was also poured out on a congregation of 120 while they were together at a meeting. —Acts 1:12-14, 24-26; 2:1-4, 46, 47; 4:31.

So the idea of going home Memorial night and not showing up among Christian brothers until the next Memorial is certainly not in keeping with what Christ and the apostles did, is it?

MISLEADING CONCEPTS

Beware of the dangerous concept that says all that is required to gain God's approval and life is an appearance at the Lord's evening meal once a year. This, of course, is not true. One meeting cannot supply us all our spiritual needs any more than one meal can supply all our physical needs. Jesus made this plain, saying: "Man must live, not on bread alone, but on every utterance coming forth through Jehovah's mouth." (Matt. 4:4) Everlasting life requires the regular taking in of the knowledge of God and Christ. (John 17:3) Meetings keep us in touch with that constant flow.

Some people say, 'We have our Bible and in the privacy of our own homes we can study it without having to go to meet-

ings.' This sounds fine, but is it the whole truth? How often weeks pass by without persons even once opening the Bible or seriously meditating on its message! It is a rare person indeed who today sets aside time to study the Bible privately and does so regularly.

While private home Bible study is most commendable and should not be discouraged or neglected, it is misleading to think that it will supply all our spiritual needs, even if we do adhere to a strict schedule. There are needs that can be supplied only in the association with others. For example, the text at John 5:37 perplexed a Bible student for years. At a meeting one day it was read and commented on. An understanding of it flashed through the mind. Jesus was not addressing his words to all men, but only to those near him. 'They had not heard God's voice or seen his figure.' This flash of light came at a meeting, which calls to mind the proverb: "By iron, iron itself is sharpened. So one man sharpens the face of another." (Prov. 27:17) This underscores the importance of meetings.

MEETINGS AN OBLIGATION

The apostle Paul gave us still another reason why we should want to meet regularly with our Christian brothers, saying: "Do not you people be owing anybody a single thing, except to love one another." (Rom. 13:8) We owe love to our brothers, which debt we must pay. At meetings we can best do this. Stressing this point, Paul says: "Consider one another to incite to love and fine works, not forsaking the gathering of ourselves together, as some have the custom, but encouraging one another, and all the more so as you behold the day drawing near."—Heb. 10:24, 25.

Our love should compel us to meet with our Christian brothers regularly, if at all

possible. What love would that be if a husband and a wife voluntarily stayed away from each other weeks, months and years at a time? Christ's love is manifest in these words: "I am with you all the days." (Matt. 28:20) Our love must reflect the same desire, that is, to be where the brothers are met together.

Memorial reminds us not to be selfish, not to think solely of ourselves, but to minister to the needs of one another. (Matt. 20:28) If Christ were hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, depressed or in prison, would you not care for him? Of course you would! This a person can do by ministering to the needs of even the least of these his brothers, which Christ counts as done to himself. Being at meetings, if at all possible, places one in a position to care for the needs of others, thus proving whether one is a "sheep" or a "goat."—Matt. 25:34-46.

Whatever our position in life, there is need to continue to cultivate the same longing for the brothers that Paul had, the same concern for them, when he said: "I am longing to see you, that I may impart some spiritual gift to you in order for you to be made firm; or, rather, that there may be an interchange of encouragement among you, by each one through the other's faith, both yours and mine." (Rom. 1:11, 12) This fine attitude will prevent you from withdrawing to yourself, from becoming cool or indifferent toward those who need your love. This Christian attitude will transform you into what all men should be and what all who gain divine approval will eventually be, namely, active witnesses to the glory of God in one grand assembly.

So, do not wait another year to attend a meeting. Do not wait another week. You are invited to come to the Kingdom Hall again *this week*.

Happy Missionaries Urged to Appreciate Life

“ARE you students or alumni happy?” That is what F. W. Franz, vice-president of the Watch Tower Society, asked the graduating 43rd Class of the Watchtower Bible School of Gilead, gathered on March 12 in New York city. “I don’t mean happy because you are graduating, but happy in *general*. Well, you ought to be happy because we have entered the fifth decade of a remarkable time.”

What time? Franz showed that it was the blessed time mentioned at Daniel 12:12; being due to ‘true knowledge having become abundant because of many roving about’ in God’s Word. (Dan. 12:4) As a result, today Jehovah’s witnesses are experiencing a knowledge explosion. In conclusion Franz told the students: “Happy are you for having roved through the Bible and partaken of this abundant knowledge! Happy will you be as you lovingly and zealously share it with others!”

An example of the happiness that lay in store for them was brought out by another speaker, Max Larson. He told of one town 500 miles from Santiago, Chile, where a convention was to be held. There were a zealous group of missionaries and a congregation of thirty-six Witnesses in that town. How many came to the convention? All thirty-six? Even more; 100 came to that assembly of Jehovah’s witnesses 500 miles away!

To these happy missionaries with such happy prospects N. H. Knorr, president of the Watch Tower Society, spoke on appreciating life and the part maturity plays in holding on to that life. He began: “How do we think about life? How much time do we allow ourselves to meditate on the subject of life? How did we get to be? After we are here . . . what are we going to do with life? From where did you get this life? Your life, in fact, began with God, for when we go back far enough we come to Adam, and the Bible tells us that Adam was the son of God. (Luke 3:38) God is the Source of life. (Ps. 36:9) You have enjoyed life up until now, but you can enjoy it still more in the future. Life is so important, for without it we cannot have anything nor can we do anything for others. As it says at Ecclesiastes 9:5, 10, in death there is no consciousness, no work or wisdom. With life we can show others the way to life.”

Among other things, Knorr further ob-

served: “If we appreciate life we will give God credit for the fact that we are alive. With life we can work, we can make others happy. To hold on to life we must keep on taking in knowledge of God and of his Son, for this means everlasting life. (John 17:3) Even Jesus Christ had to keep on taking in knowledge. And that is why maturing is so important. Maturity helps us to hold on to life, to enhance our life, to keep it forever. And let us keep humble, never thinking we know it all. We don’t. There is so much for us to learn. . . .

“We are happy for you. All of us are backing you up, but more than all else, God is with you. He is interested in you and backing you up. He gave you life in the first place. May you always press on, seeking maturity, because as you gain maturity you will have a stronger hold on life, everlasting life.” After these remarks he handed out the diplomas to those that had earned them, the great majority. The 103 students had come from twelve countries and were being sent to twenty-nine different lands. They were rather young folks, their average age being twenty-six years, and had been dedicated Christian ministers for an average of eleven years.

The highlights of the afternoon’s program, which was provided by the students themselves, also served to heighten appreciation of life. Very touching as well as inspiring was the graphic portrayal of a Witness who had spent two years in prison, living on crusts of bread, and who held on to her hope of life in God’s new order by calling to mind choice passages from the book of Philippians. An hour-long Bible drama in costume that dealt with God’s ancient merciful provision for the unintentional manslayer in the cities of refuge, and which provision was shown to have its counterpart in our day, pointed to the *same* moral. Most forcefully it made its point that life depends upon obedience to God and that life is worth more than any material possessions one might have.

Yes, without doubt the graduation program underscored not only the happiness of the missionaries but also appreciation of life. It was greatly enjoyed by the some 2,000 guests, friends and relatives, some of whom had come from as far west as Hawaii and as far east as London, England.

Remember Your Creator

BY

MANIFESTING GOODNESS

DO YOU recognize that the quotation above is from the holy book of the Christian religion? Are you familiar with that book? In some parts of the earth where *The Watchtower* is read persons do not profess to be Christians and are not familiar with it. It may be that you live where the Christian religion is claimed by many people, but still have not been particularly concerned about this religious book called the Bible. Or perhaps you know and love the Bible. Wherever you may live or whatever is your religious understanding, the subject that we want to discuss, that of remembering your grand Creator by manifesting goodness, is one with which you are concerned. The Scripture text above is religious counsel to all who have physical, mental and spiritual powers sufficient to enable them to remember their Creator, who is grand indeed.

² *The Watchtower* recognizes that in all parts of the earth there are persons who feel that they are not religious, or, though religious, are not Christians. Nevertheless, there are expressions made in the Holy Scriptures that embrace you, whoever you are, of whatever religion you are, where-

**"Remember, now,
your grand
Creator."**

—Eccl. 12:1.

ever you live upon earth, whether you are particularly religious or not. You are included because

**THE HOLY BIBLE ADVISES
EVERYONE TO PRAISE THE
CREATOR, JEHOVAH GOD**

³ Many statements in the Bible show that persons of all ages, both men and women, of all nationalities, of all races and of all stations in life are included in its wholesome, upbuilding counsel. Can you find yourself in the text of Scripture that we here quote? You are there:

⁴ "Praise Jah, you people!" The name Jah is an abbreviated form of the name Jehovah. Jehovah is the personal name of God, the Creator. "Praise Jehovah from the heavens, praise him in the heights. Praise him, all you his angels. Praise him, all you his army. Praise him, you sun and moon. Praise him, all you stars of light. Praise him, you heavens of the heavens, and you waters that are above the heavens. Let them praise the name of Jehovah; for he himself commanded, and they were created. . . . [Praise Jehovah] you kings of the earth and all you national groups, you princes and all you judges of the earth, you young men and also you vir-

1, 2. (a) From what is Ecclesiastes 12:1 quoted? (b) What is the Bible? (c) Is everyone familiar with the Bible? (d) Is it of concern to you?

3. Who should give heed to Bible counsel?

4. (a) As expressed in Psalm 148, what and who are to praise the Creator? (b) Who is the Creator?

gins, you old men together with boys. Let them praise the name of Jehovah, for his name alone is unreachably high. . . . Praise Jah, you people!"—Ps. 148:1-5, 11-14.

⁵ So the Bible does here include you when it includes all mankind in its invitation and counsel to praise Jehovah, the Creator!

JEHOVAH THE CREATOR IS THE SOURCE OF SPIRIT AND LIGHT

⁶ Jehovah the Creator has power. His power operates through his spirit or active force. One of the Bible references to this is found in the very first verses of the Holy Scriptures: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth proved to be formless and waste and there was darkness upon the surface of the watery deep; and God's active force was moving to and fro over the surface of the waters. And God proceeded to say: 'Let light come to be.' Then there came to be light. After that God saw that the light was good, and God brought about a division between the light and the darkness." Inasmuch as his spirit is from him, he is its source and also he is the source of physical light, as stated at Genesis 1:1-4. Also, the light of understanding and comprehension is from Jehovah God. This is pointed out most interestingly in 2 Corinthians 4:6: "For God is he who said: 'Let the light shine out of darkness,' and he has shone on our hearts to illuminate them with the glorious knowledge of God by the face of Christ." God the Creator is the source of the light of illumination of truth.

⁷ Through God's spirit Christians receive the light of understanding of the

truth of his Word. "For it is to us God has revealed them through his spirit . . . no one has come to know the things of God, except the spirit of God. Now we received . . . the spirit which is from God, that we might know the things that have been kindly given us by God." (1 Cor. 2:10-12) In the first four chapters of this Bible book much is said about the operation of God's spirit on persons who are Christians. These and other Scripture passages show that Jehovah God is the source of spirit and the source of light.

RESULTS ARE PRODUCED BY SPIRIT AND LIGHT

⁸ In providing his Bible Jehovah has given to mankind his written Word and he also makes the understanding of it possible. His Word calls upon all persons to praise him and shows that as the grand Creator he is worthy of such praise. How could we forget him? He has made all we have and has enabled us to have life itself. Then should we remember him? Yes. How? One way that we can remember him is by manifesting qualities that he approves and that bring praise to him. Even as the operation of God's laws concerning growth and production gives rise to fruit or fruitage, so the result of the operation of the light and spirit from Jehovah God upon the hearts and minds of those who love him is spoken of in his Word as fruitage. Notice two of these references.

⁹ "The fruitage of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, mildness, self-control." (Gal. 5:22, 23) In this fifth chapter of Galatians strong contrast is made between things

5. Are you excluded or included?

6. Explain how Jehovah is the source of (a) holy spirit, (b) light, (c) the light of truth.

7. By what means are Christians enlightened?

8. (a) Why should we remember Jehovah? (b) How may we do so? (c) In what do God's spirit and light result?

9. (a) What kind of fruit is goodness? (b) Does God's spirit produce bad fruits? (c) What follows in regard to a person's fruitage?

that are good and things that are not good. The spirit of the Creator does not produce things that are bad. God's creation was found by him to be good, not bad. (Gen. 1:12, 18, 25, 31) He is good, not bad. (Ps. 25:7, 8) This means that persons who would be in harmony with Jehovah God must produce good things, the things that are shown to be the fruitage of God's spirit.

¹⁰ In what way are they the fruitage of God's spirit when they are produced in men and women? In that persons who love righteousness do those good things because they have his spirit and wish to be in harmony with God. Their love for Jehovah and for the high standards of his Word the Bible impels them to conform to his requirements, and in this way they are led by God's Word and spirit.

¹¹ You will notice that in the quotation from Galatians 5:22, 23 one of the specific things mentioned as being part of the fruitage of the spirit is "goodness." It is particularly the manifestation of this quality of goodness that claims our interest here.

¹² As to the fruitage of the light: "The fruitage of the light consists of every sort of *goodness* and righteousness and truth. Keep on making sure of what is acceptable to the Lord; and quit sharing with them in the unfruitful works that belong to the darkness, but, rather, even be reproving them, for the things that take place in secret by them it is shameful even to relate." "Therefore do not become partakers with them; for you were once darkness, but you are now light in connection with the Lord. Go on walking as children of light." (Eph. 5:9-12, 7, 8) Our interest centers again upon "goodness" as fruitage

of the light of truth, as well as of the spirit of God.

¹³ Inasmuch as the fruitage of goodness is the result of God's spirit and truth, this goodness must be apparent in those who have his spirit and truth and would praise Jehovah the Creator. If this goodness is not apparent, the Creator is not remembered but is disregarded, forgotten or pushed into the background. The very fact of your existence as a member of humankind brings to you the opportunity to praise and worship the Creator, Jehovah, who reveals himself in his Holy Word, the Bible. What a wonderful and blessed opportunity is afforded, not only to have life, but to make this life worth while by remembering your Creator, manifesting goodness, winning his goodwill and with this the assurance of everlasting life! The Creator's purpose is for those who receive his approval to have everlasting life in his righteous new system of things.

¹⁴ In our respective languages, whatever they may be, we contrast good with bad. The Bible makes the same contrast. But someone may say in effect, "I do not see value in doing what is good. I see those who do bad prospering. I do not see those who do bad punished. I see those who do good suffering and I see that those who do bad take advantage of those who try to do good. Therefore, why should I do good?" People do reason along this line and sometimes they become quite bitter of heart. Jehovah God is aware of this and his Word recognizes it. Being blessed for producing the fruit of goodness is not a matter of being benefited or favored by other men. The blessing and favor to be

10. Explain how it is that the fruitage of Jehovah's spirit may be produced in men and women.

11. As to Galatians 5:22, what particularly claims our interest now?

12. As to the light of truth from Jehovah, what result is to be found?

13. (a) What follows as to persons who have received of God's truth and spirit? (b) What wonderful opportunity do you have?

14, 15. (a) In contrasting and comparing good with bad, how do some persons reason? (b) What is the correct reasoning on the matter as to benefits desired? (c) as to time involved?

sought are those from God himself and this in his own due time. Time must pass. If there were no time allowed for us to manifest goodness, how could we manifest this desirable quality? So at a time when you may see that good conduct is not popular and perhaps not materially profitable, that is the very time for you to manifest goodness and thereby demonstrate that, regardless of what other persons do or do not do, you love and remember your grand Creator. How helpful this scripture is:

¹⁵ "Because sentence against a bad work has not been executed speedily, that is why the heart of the sons of men has become fully set in them to do bad. Although a sinner may be doing bad a hundred times and continuing a long time as he pleases, yet I am also aware that it will turn out well with those fearing the true God, because they were in fear of him. But it will not turn out well at all with the wicked one, neither will he prolong his days that are like a shadow, because he is not in fear of God."—Eccl. 8:11-13.

¹⁶ So the delay of the execution of sentence against the bad work should not discourage us from doing good.

¹⁷ Also have in mind the time in which we are living. These days are difficult times of violence, lawlessness, selfishness, and days when the works spoken of in 2 Timothy 3:1-3 are manifest. "But know this, that in the last days critical times hard to deal with will be here. For men will be . . . without love of *goodness*." So if you see that men are without love of goodness this is no reason for you to exercise badness but is more impelling reason for you to produce the fruit of goodness.

16. In view of what the Bible teaches, what must we conclude?

17. How are we assisted to produce good fruit by having in mind the time in which we are living?

¹⁸ In the further consideration of this subject you will be assisted by viewing it from the standpoint of what an individual Christian should do as set out in the Bible. Whether you profess to be Christian or do not profess to be Christian, you can see what the Bible designates as the real Christian course.

THERE ARE SO MANY GOOD THINGS TO DO

¹⁹ There are many things that are right and good in conduct that individual Christians must do day by day. These things result in the fruit of goodness. Goodness, basically, is that which is fitting. "It is good to make melody to our God . . . praise is fitting." (Ps. 147:1) Goodness is that which is fitting and suitable for the servants of the Creator by God's standards. Things that are good work to a good end, a proper, suitable end. God's Word shows a Christian what things are good and of what goodness consists. Deuteronomy 12:28 states: "Do what is good and right in the eyes of Jehovah." Webster's *Third New International Dictionary* (English language) defines "good" in English as basically meaning "uniting, fitting, becoming, appropriate," and "goodness" as "moral excellence"; but in the Bible Greek, "capable; serviceable; of good morals." In Bible Hebrew, "good (in every variety of meaning), pleasant, useful, efficient, beautiful, right, morally good." Certainly there are many things for Christians to do that meet these definitions.—Jas. 3:17, 18.

HOW MAY WE DETERMINE IF A THING IS GOOD?

²⁰ That is a good question (a suitable one). How may we determine if a course

18. Both Christians and non-Christians may be informed as to what?

19. What definitions show that there are many good things to do?

20. (a) How may we determine if a thing is good? (b) What knowledge equips one to so determine?

of action or something we say or advocate or support is good? How may we know if we are manifesting goodness and not manifesting badness? One way is to ask ourselves some questions concerning that which we are doing or contemplating. We can ask: Is it suitable for a real Christian? Is it out of place? Would the Creator approve of it? Real Christians know if a thing is suitable to their profession of following Christ Jesus. The Christian apostle Paul told other Christians: "I myself also am persuaded about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are also full of *goodness*, as you have been filled with all knowledge, and that you can also admonish one another." (Rom. 15:14) Being filled with goodness and the knowledge of God's Word and requirements, a Christian is equipped to determine if a thing is good or bad and if his course of action will produce the fruitage of the spirit and light, which is goodness. Let us mention specifically some of the things to which a real Christian must give thoughtful consideration. First, how it will affect

²¹ **JEHOVAH.** Will Jehovah be pleased or displeased? Is the course of conduct, act or statement to Jehovah's praise, in harmony with God, who is good and upright? If it is not, how can it be good and suitable? What moral excellence is there in that which is not in accord with the will of God? Jehovah's worship is involved in what Christians do and say. "Quit being fashioned after this system of things, but be transformed by making your mind over, that you may prove to yourselves the good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (Rom. 12:2) Also, how it does affect

²² **KINGDOM INTERESTS.** Christians

are entrusted with the service of the interests of the kingdom of Jehovah God by Christ Jesus. Their work in faithfully looking after these interests is centered around the prophetic command of their Leader, Christ Jesus: "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) Is the preaching of the good news of the Kingdom advanced or hindered? Is such suitable to the "everlasting good news," which they carry under angelic direction? (Rev. 14:6) In this connection there are to be considered

²³ **OTHER PERSONS.** Other people may be advantageously or adversely affected by the course of the Christian. The everlasting good news is to be declared "to those who dwell on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people," calling on all to "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) Because witnesses of Jehovah serve this grand Creator and appeal to others also to serve him, they must view their course of action in the light of the effect it has on other persons and upon the relationship of these other persons to Jehovah. By living lives suitable to the good message that they carry, Christians can aid other persons to come into a favorable relationship to Jehovah God, receiving his goodwill. Also, very close to the individual Christian are those who are his

²⁴ **LOVED ONES.** Christians are concerned with the relationship of their loved ones to Jehovah God, and in the close, intimate family circle each one can be a

21. How is Jehovah's worship involved in our determination?

22. (a) Christians have what work to do? (b) How is it involved in our determination?

23. Why must Christians view their course of action in the light of the effect it has on other persons?

24. Where can a Christian be a great help, and to whom?

great help to the others who are near and dear because of family relationships. The principle applies: "You should not hide yourself from your own flesh." (Isa. 58:7) Then there is

²⁵ THE CONGREGATION. "Really, then, as long as we have time favorable for it, let us work what is good toward all, but especially toward those related to us in the faith." (Gal. 6:10) It is good to support the Christian congregation and look after its interests and welfare. It is fitting to attend the meetings of the congregation, to arrive before the appointed time for the meetings to begin, to participate in them as opportunity affords. It is a fruit of God's spirit for parents to bring their children of all ages to the meetings of the congregation and to care for the children while they are present, keeping them in order, attentive, quiet, not disturbing others, so that all at the Kingdom Hall, children and adults, can receive the full benefit of the spiritual food provided. Proper care of the Kingdom Hall property and its facilities and equipment is good. And in all things consider

²⁶ YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO JEHO-

25. Enumerate good things to be done in behalf of the Christian congregation.

26. With what does the entire subject of manifesting goodness deal?

VAH. In respect to the favorable or unfavorable relation to Jehovah it is stated: "Beloved one, be an imitator, not of what is bad, but of what is good. He that does good originates with God. He that does bad has not seen God." (3 John 11) The whole subject of remembering our Creator by manifesting goodness really deals with our relation to Jehovah, the great Creator.

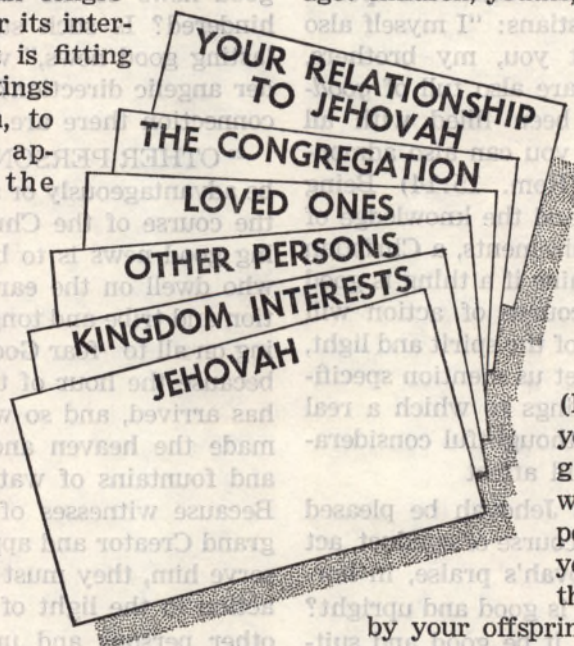
²⁷ This is true of real Christians of every age: children, youths, adults and aged persons. Both parents and children should be impressed by the important Bible truth: "Even by his practices a boy makes himself recognized as to whether his activity is pure and upright." (Prov. 20:11) Even a young boy or a young girl? Yes. Parents, what a wonderful opportunity is set before you to see to it that the activity practiced

by your offspring is manifestly pure and upright!

²⁸ Attention is now due to be given to the application of the foregoing Bible principles to various occasions in life in which we are faced with the necessity of determining what course to follow and what guide the Bible gives for making the proper decisions. Otherwise stated: make specific application of the foregoing material. Please see the article following.

27. As to the youthful and aged, what point does the Bible make?

28. With the foregoing points in our minds, what remains for us to do?



Goodness

IS TO BE MANIFESTED

"The true God himself will bring every sort of work into the judgment in relation to every hidden thing, as to whether it is good or bad."—Eccl. 12:14.

AMONG the commandments that Jehovah God communicated to his people in days of old are these words: "Watch, and you must obey all these words that I am commanding you, in order that it may go well with you and your sons after you to time indefinite, because you will do what is good and right in the eyes of Jehovah your God." (Deut. 12:28) Does this require actually doing the things pleasing to God? Obviously, it does mean not merely talking about what is right but rather the doing of what is right. From the standpoint of the application of the principles mentioned in the foregoing article, it means actually producing the fruit of goodness. A Christian servant of God made the same point in this way: "The things that you learned as well as accepted and heard and saw in connection with me, practice these; and the God of peace will be with you." (Phil. 4:9) It is by the practicing of these things, the putting of them into specific application, that goodness is actually manifested. Otherwise, goodness is not manifested; it is hidden.

1. (a) Whose standard of conduct is to be met, according to Deuteronomy 12:28, and how does this harmonize with Ecclesiastes 12:14 first above? (b) What does this require in order for goodness to be manifested? (c) How does Philipians 4:9 verify this?

²Some problems of life confronting all persons in various ways and to varying degrees receive consideration here

in line with the foregoing. As goodness is in contrast with badness, so in each of the following problems there is contrast between two courses of action. The good course honors Jehovah, advances his Kingdom interests, works for the welfare of other persons and establishes more firmly our good relationship to Jehovah.

CHRISTIANS TELL THE TRUTH

³The contrast here is between truth and untruth. Real Christians tell the truth. Truthfulness is one of the evidences that a person is a Christian.

⁴It must be admitted that among men in general lying is not viewed as being particularly reprehensible and something to be avoided. Some persons even say that it is necessary to lie in order to be successful and to make their relations with other persons pleasant or even bearable. Some tell lies to protect themselves from punishment for things they have done that are wrong or to avoid difficulty, inconvenience or reproach. Lying goes with com-

2. What problems and contrasts are to be considered next?

3. What is one of the evidences that a person is a Christian?

4. (a) State various views of lies and lying. (b) What is the view of Jehovah and of the Bible? (c) How necessary is honesty?

promise and lack of integrity. Lying is a mark of a coward and of one lacking loving-kindness. Lies and liars are hated by Jehovah God. (Prov. 6:16-19) The Bible teaches that the upright, honest person fears Jehovah and the dishonest lying persons despise Almighty God. (Prov. 14:2) Honesty is necessary for the good fruitage of the spirit to be produced and also, as we have previously seen, "the fruitage of the light consists of every sort of goodness and righteousness and truth."—Eph. 5:9.

⁵ In your country, does the educational system teach people to tell the truth? This question is justified in view of the following published comment concerning colleges in the United States: "Part of the problem [of dishonest employees] stems from the fact that our colleges and universities have failed to instill in their students reliable, ethical standards and appropriate moral values. Too many graduates enter industry with the objective of achieving prestige and instant financial success, with little or no regard for moral and ethical considerations. These people participate in the majority of transactions involving conflicts of interest, inventory irregularities, theft of company secrets, kickbacks, price fixing and falsification of records and financial reports."—*Advance*, July-August, 1963.

⁶ If you abhor lies and lying you may be assured that you have the right point of view. It is not necessary to lie. Christians realize it is necessary to tell the truth. Although one has practiced lying, he can change. It is possible for him to atone for having been a liar, because in his great love Jehovah informs us: "By loving-kindness and trueness error is atoned for, and in the fear of Jehovah one

turns away from bad." (Prov. 16:6) So be completely encouraged to be truthful regardless of what course others may take. Truthfulness is the right way, the way to life and blessings, the loving and beneficial way. It is the Christian way that the Bible teaches, and requires in remembrance of our grand Creator.

CHRISTIANS DO NOT STEAL

⁷ Stealing goes hand in hand with lying. In the same publication from which is taken the above quotation regarding the failure of educational institutions there appears this comment: "Bonding company statistics indicate that 25 per cent of all employees steal to some degree whenever they feel they can get away with it. Another 50 per cent are influenced by the good and bad examples put before them. . . . supervisory and executive [employees] are stealing more than four million dollars in cash and property from their employers each working day. This year such thefts will reach the astronomical figure of substantially more than one billion dollars. . . .

⁸ "Theft of merchandise is seven times greater than that of cash. Frauds drive more than 250 firms out of business each year. . . . Kickbacks, conflicts of interest, and thefts of company secrets are widespread. Cheating on the incentive plan to pad earnings is a common occurrence.

⁹ "In addition to the losses just described, even larger sums go down the drain as a result of malingering on the job, falsification of labor vouchers, improper disposition of scrap and damaged material, job time standards that have unwarranted built-in delay factors, and the failure to enforce established standards. These losses are hidden in the

5. What failure of educational systems is brought to our attention?

6. What encouragement is there for the person who loves truth?

7-9. Review the points made in the published comment on stealing.

cost of doing business. They are losses books don't show."

¹⁰ Stealing or knowingly buying stolen property does not honor Jehovah, but the recognition of the property rights of others is the good course a Christian must follow. The Bible puts the question to Christians this way: "And you are persuaded that you are a guide of the blind, a light for those in darkness, a corrector of the unreasonable ones, a teacher of babes, and having the framework of the knowledge and of the truth in the Law—do you, however, the one teaching someone else, not teach yourself? You, the one preaching 'Do not steal,' do you steal?" —Rom. 2:19-21.

CHRISTIANS ARE LAW-ABIDING

¹¹ Obedience is required by the Bible of Christians of all ages and under all circumstances. Subject to primary obedience to Jehovah God and his Word and law, obedience must be rendered by Christians in the home, in the school and to governmental authorities, in contrast to the spirit of lawlessness that is prevalent throughout the world among all peoples. Lawfulness produces good fruitage and honors Jehovah God. As to children, the Bible states: "You children, be obedient to your parents in everything, for this is well-pleasing in the Lord." In this same connection the fathers are told: "You fathers, do not be exasperating your children, so that they do not become downhearted." (Col. 3:20, 21) The best citizens obey God, put his commandments first, are law-abiding and are genuine Christians. They refuse to take part in uprisings against governments, mob action, looting, personal injury or violence in any form. Their

weapons are spiritual ones and are wielded for the good of all and for the praise of the God whom they remember.—Eph. 6: 10-18.

CHRISTIANS ARE RESPECTFUL

¹² Respect is closely related to obedience and lawfulness. It is important that you understand the Christian position in regard to this because there is so much insolence manifested in the world. Respectfulness is contrasted with insolence. An insolent "smart-alecky" person is haughty and contemptuous, often brutal in behavior or language. He is overbearing and grossly disrespectful toward his fellowman and, above all, toward Jehovah God. Insolence is really a form of false religion; demon worship in contrast to the worship of the great Creator. "For rebelliousness is the same as the sin of divination, and pushing ahead presumptuously the same as using uncanny power and teraphim. Since you have rejected the word of Jehovah, he accordingly rejects you from being king." (1 Sam. 15:23) Insolence is one of the things Jehovah hates, "things detestable to his soul: lofty eyes." (Prov. 6:16, 17) Respect and respectfulness and respectableness are manifestations of the good fruitage of God's light and spirit and are suitable, in fact, necessary for Christians. How fine it is to be in the company of respectful persons!

CLEANLINESS MANIFESTS GOODNESS

¹³ Christians manifest cleanness or cleanliness in all the different ways that this good quality can be demonstrated. The Holy Scriptures, which guide the Christian, require them to so do. Cleanliness is necessary in speech, in the person, in the house or dwelling place and, of course, in conduct. In all these ways cleanliness is

10. (a) What honors Jehovah? (b) How does Romans 2:19-21 put the issue to each one professing honesty? 11. (a) To what must Christians render primary obedience? (b) What additional obedience is required of them? (c) How is Christian law-abiding conduct good?

12. (a) Contrast respectfulness with insolence. (b) Which is necessary for good fruitage?

13. In what ways does cleanliness manifest goodness?

in contrast to uncleanness. "Touch nothing unclean . . . keep yourselves clean, you who are carrying the utensils of Jehovah." (Isa. 52:11) It is good that the Bible makes the requirement of cleanliness plain, because uncleanness of all sorts is prevalent and is part of the sign of the time in which we are living.

¹⁴ Often the speech of persons is corrupt, unclean, profane, obscene and slovenly. Christians know that the power of speech is a gift from God, and the ability to make this vocal expression is a great blessing. They wish to honor God with their lips, not dishonor him.—Heb. 13:15.

¹⁵ Christians endeavor to keep their bodies clean and, while the Bible does not require rich garments, clean clothing available to all persons is appropriate to the Christian. The same may be said regarding his house. Very humble homes can be neat and clean and orderly and thereby suitable, not only as dwellings for those who serve God, but for use of groups of persons in regular Bible study. Wealthy persons can be clean or unclean in speech, mind and conduct. Poor persons can be unclean or clean in person, dwelling, speech, mind, conduct and heart. It is the course of cleanliness that the Christian is required by the Bible to pursue. The suitability and appropriateness of this is readily seen.

HOW ABOUT DRUNKENNESS AND GLUTTONY?

¹⁶ Drunkenness is overindulgence in intoxicating drink. Gluttony is overindulgence in food. Is there anything about either that is honoring to the Creator? Both food and drink are provisions of the Creator through the good earth he has made

for man's home, and God has certainly provided earth's produce in abundance. Men should use these abundant provisions in harmony with the Provider's will. You will be interested to know that the Bible says: "Do not come to be among heavy drinkers of wine, among those who are gluttonous eaters of flesh. For a drunkard and a glutton will come to poverty." (Prov. 23:20, 21) There is personal happiness and pleasure in the moderate use of these things. There is no happiness, pleasure, contentment or satisfaction in overindulgence and drunkenness.

¹⁷ The Christian must not be misled by the false reasoning to the effect that drunkards are simply physically or mentally sick and drunkenness is just an illness, and, therefore, there is no reproach attached to it. Rather, drunkards are sick morally. The moral strength of mankind is very low. Self-indulgence is weakening to the moral fiber of an individual, and constant failure to accept the discipline of Jehovah God through his Word brings moral breakdown. The fact is that the drunkards and other immoral persons are morally weak and are such because of not being disciplined by God's Word. A drunkard need not continue as such. Drunkenness can be overcome by conforming to the Bible requirements. To do so is wise. "Wine is a ridiculer, intoxicating liquor is boisterous, and everyone going astray by it is not wise." (Prov. 20:1) Moral strength can be gained and exercised. The sober person partakes in moderation of food and drink with thanksgiving to the Creator for the loving provisions he makes and remembers the Creator, manifesting goodness.

14. Why should speech be clean?

15. (a) What is good in respect to the person? (b) the home?

16. (a) Who has provided food and drink? (b) What is their good use? (c) What advice on these is contained in the Bible?

17. (a) What is the factual view of drunkenness? (b) What weakens the moral fiber? (c) What strengthens it? (d) These facts provide what encouragement?

CHRISTIANS ARE INDUSTRIOUS

¹⁸ Industriousness is contrasted with laziness, needlessly going into debt, and gambling in an effort to get something for nothing. "The wicked one is making false wages, but the one sowing righteousness, true earnings." (Prov. 11:18) The Christian gives an honest day's work in exchange for the wages he has agreed to accept. His industriousness extends to his activity in aiding others to come to a knowledge of the truth of God's Word, the care of his loved ones, efforts in behalf of his congregation and the Kingdom interests. He does not allow himself to be deceived by the prevalent religious and governmental approval on gambling of various forms but he abstains from gambling, realizing full well that, while it may be a means of stuffing the moneybags of some religious organization, it is not the means of manifesting goodness in remembrance of the Creator.

¹⁹ Some persons allow their addiction to what they feel to be innocent social gambling to deprive them of the company of their families and of the congregation of God's people. In this they are making a mistake. As in the case of habitual drunkards, gambling addicts can receive abundantly of the needed moral strength by the disciplining from God's Word. Honest toil is so much better than gambling. "Two sorts of weights are something detestable to Jehovah, and a cheating pair of scales is not good."—Prov. 20:23.

MODESTY

²⁰ Modesty is suitable and appropriate for Christians, while immodesty is not. Modesty means not only a moderate or low estimate on one's own merits, and there-

fore not boastful, but also the observance of proprieties and freedom from indecency or lewdness. It follows that modesty includes chasteness in thought and conduct and apparel. There is modesty in dress and there is immodesty in dress. Christians should dress modestly, because that is suitable and appropriate and hence good, avoiding reproach that would accompany immodesty.

²¹ The Bible does not prescribe the form of dress that people should wear. It is not a style book. It seems that in some parts of the earth the form of dress used by the people has undergone relatively little change through centuries, while in other parts of the earth the change in the apparel of both men and women is constant. From the countries in which there is a constant change in the style of dress a great influence goes out to many other parts of the world, not only in dress but in other things. The countries more advanced technologically have fought the greatest wars, destroyed the most lives with their advanced weapons of war, exert the greatest economic influence over the world and, along with these and other influences, affect the dress of many people. In these countries sex is elevated for commercial reasons and for reasons of self-indulgence. In this overemphasis on sex, changes in the style of dress cause many people to dress more and more immodestly.

²² One of the evidences of perversion and undue preoccupation with sex is the desire on the part of both men and women to exhibit themselves. This exhibitionism is increasing everywhere that the influence of modern style fads reaches. Both males and females who have a self-

18. (a) As to industriousness, what contrast is seen? (b) To what does industriousness extend? (c) What about goodness and gambling? 19. What is better than "innocent social gambling"? 20. Define modesty and show its Christian appropriateness.

21. As to style and manner of dress, state the facts (a) as far as the Bible is concerned, (b) regarding influence and constant change, (c) underlying immodest trends.

22. Of what is exhibitionism an evidence?

indulgent preoccupation with sex find unnatural gratification in wearing clothes so tight, short and brief that their bodies are unavoidably before the eyes of others.

²³ There is nothing in this that is good or suitable for a Christian. Christians should be clean and neat appearing in dress and at the same time avoid being swept along in the trend to immodest dress. One can be "in style" in dress and still be modest. It is not necessary to go to extremes of dress in order to be presentable and to meet the prevailing local standards of what is acceptable. Immodest dresses would make Christian wearers just like any female of the old system of things. Christian women and girls should know that many, many men may accept their manner of dress as a "promise." The *New York Journal American*, in an article giving advice to young women against 'flaunting low-cut dresses and showing too much of their legs when they sit down,' said "you're . . . expected to follow through on what you promise"! Christian women and girls should not deliberately contribute to the situation discussed by Jesus in Matthew 5:28: "I say to you that everyone that keeps on looking at a woman so as to have a passion for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Is not that what the woman is trying to arouse in the man? The good Christian way is best for all. When it is followed, neither the platform participants nor the Kingdom Hall audiences are embarrassed. —1 Pet. 3:3, 4.

²⁴ In the foregoing and other circumstances where a person who loves right-

eousness can make a decision that is good, the principle of remembering the Creator operates. The good course is a reflection of the love that is shown by Jehovah toward men. "For even we were once senseless, disobedient, being misled, being slaves to various desires and pleasures, carrying on in maliciousness and envy, hateful, hating one another. However, when the kindness and the love for man on the part of our Savior, God, was manifested, owing to no works in righteousness that we had performed, but according to his mercy he saved us through the bath that brought us to life and through the making of us new by holy spirit. This spirit he poured out richly upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior, that, after being declared righteous by virtue of the undeserved kindness of that one, we might become heirs according to a hope of everlasting life." (Titus 3:3-7) The principle here set out applies to all who would please Jehovah and receive his goodwill and eventually life in his righteous new system of things. Thus we see that the course of manifesting goodness is the course of true wisdom. Such manifestations of goodness are also acts of faith in Jehovah and evidence of proper Christian humility. "This is what Jehovah has said: 'Let not the wise man brag about himself because of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man brag about himself because of his mightiness. Let not the rich man brag about himself because of his riches. But let the one bragging about himself brag about himself because of this very thing, the having of insight and the having of knowledge of me, that I am Jehovah, the One exercising loving-kindness, justice and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I do take delight,' is the utterance of Jehovah."—Jer. 9:23, 24.

23. (a) What is the good view of all this? (b) What is one of the dangers in immodest dress? (c) How does Matthew 5:28 relate to this discussion? (d) How does modest dress assist to make platform presentation beneficial?

24. (a) In these matters, how does the principle of remembering our grand Creator operate? (b) Is it wise to remember Jehovah in all our ways?

Keep Christian Balance Under Responsibilities

WHAT a pleasure it is to observe the balance of God's visible creation! We can see it wherever selfish or foolish man has not disrupted it. Balance is also God's will for us, 'keeping Christian balance under responsibilities.' As we read: "Brace up your minds for activity, keep completely balanced."*—1 Pet. 1:13, 1950 Edition.

Balance is something we all should strive for. Why? Because, whether we happen to be housewife, Christian missionary, overseer or other, we all have a variety of obligations to meet; and to discharge them in a way pleasing to Jehovah God we need to keep balanced.

What does it mean to have this Christian balance? It means giving all our various responsibilities time and attention according to their importance. Most likely we will not be able to spend upon any one of them as much time and energy as we would like, but we will give each some due, not wholly neglecting any one of them.

What will help us to keep Christian balance? Daily study of God's Word and regular meeting attendance will greatly help. Why? Because these will increase our faith, and faith is indispensable to keeping Christian balance under responsibilities. More than that, by Bible study and meeting attendance we learn to understand our responsibilities better and how to deal with them wisely. For example, a family man who is also a Christian overseer has to balance his family responsibilities with his overseer responsibilities. Which come first? Why, those of his family, for from God's Word he learns that if he neglects them he is worse than an unbeliever and, further, that only if he cares for his family in a right manner can he be considered

* For details see *The Watchtower*, May 15, 1966.

for an overseer's position.—1 Tim. 3:4; 5:8.

So also with the Christian housewife. From study of God's Word she learns the relative importance of her household duties as compared to her Christian ministry. Then she will neither neglect her family nor make the mistake that Martha made in being too concerned with material things.—Luke 10:38-42.

Among other valuable aids to keeping Christian balance under responsibilities are the qualities of reasonableness, self-control, godly devotion and self-sufficiency. These will help us to avoid extremes and to be content to serve wherever we are put in Jehovah's organization and will keep us from becoming frustrated because our progress may be slow. Instead, these will help us to rejoice with those who have the greater abilities and privileges and to be thankful that Jehovah's organization has such qualified men to take the lead. Then, too, we will be thankful that we can have the smile of God's approval and gain life in his new order even though we, like the widow of old, may be able to give only a few small coins of little value.—Luke 21:1-4; 1 Tim. 6:6-8.

And not to be overlooked in keeping our Christian balance under responsibilities is prayer. We cannot bear our burdens without God's help, and one of the ways by which he gives help is the precious privilege of prayer.—Ps. 55:22; Phil. 4:6, 7.

Nevertheless, while content with our lot, let us always seek to grow, to become mature. We may not be able to devote more time and energy this month or this year than we did last month or year, but we should be able to serve more effectively, more joyfully, better keeping balance under our responsibilities. And this we can do if we keep trying, studying, attending meetings, praying and preaching as opportunity affords.



DO YOU REMEMBER?

How carefully have you read recent issues of *The Watchtower*? Check yourself to see if you recall these significant points.

● What is the meaning of Isaiah's prophecy that said: "Make the heart of this people unreceptive, and make their very ears unresponsive, and paste their very eyes together, that they may not see with their eyes and with their ears they may not hear"?

Just as Isaiah's preaching proved to "this people" that they did not want healing or understanding, that they were too selfish to understand and learn from even a good teacher, so today Kingdom preaching proves that people have shut their own eyes and ears and that they will selfishly refuse to understand till calamity comes.—Pp. 17-19.*

● How can a wife endear herself to her husband?

By cultivating the qualities that spring from a good heart—a cheerful disposition, an even temper, modesty, friendliness, gentle kindness, sympathetic understanding.—P. 35.

● What did Jesus mean when he said: "But many that are first will be last and the last first"?

Jesus' disciples, who were the last ones that the self-righteous Jewish religious leaders thought would gain a throne in God's kingdom, became first by gaining that foremost position; in the reversal of matters those who had been "first" among the Jews became the "last" ones to accept the "penny," most rejecting it and thereby losing out on Kingdom privileges.—Pp. 42, 43, 50.

● In Jesus' illustration of the penny, what was symbolized by the penny?

The privilege and honor of being a member of spiritual Israel and of serving as spirit-anointed ambassadors of God's Messianic kingdom.—Pp. 49, 56.

● What is the spirit of the world?

It is the frame of mind, the persistent tendency that controls the world of mankind under the rule of Satan.—P. 57.

● How does God speak to us today?

What God spoke through the angels, prophets and his Son he had recorded in the Bible. Through it and through his organization, he speaks to us today.—Pp. 70, 72.

* All references are to *The Watchtower* for 1967.

● How can it be said that all of Jehovah's witnesses are full-time ministers?

Because every aspect of their lives is affected by their ministry.—P. 80.

● What are the daughters of Babylon the Great?

The various religious sects, both in Christendom and in pagandom, that copy their mother in committing fornication with the kings of the earth. All being of the same Babylonish family, they make up the world empire of false religion.—P. 91.

● What exists today that was typified by mighty Samson?

The "faithful and discreet slave" organization of true, devoted, anointed Christians.—P. 106.

● Why did Samson pray for strength to bring vengeance upon the Philistines for the loss of only one of his two eyes?

Samson apparently charged the loss of one of his eyes to his own lack of wakefulness in the affair with Delilah, but the loss of the other eye he charged to the Philistines.—P. 117.

● Why is "saving face" an unchristian practice?

Because it amounts to a lie by denying the need for correction or discipline. If we are to be honest with our God, with our Christian brothers and with ourselves, we will acknowledge our sins and shortcomings.—Pp. 125, 126.

● What are safeguards against loneliness?

Purposeful work; taking an interest in others; giving to others in a spiritual way; prayer.—Pp. 131, 132.

● Why can we be certain that God will put an end to wickedness?

He has made repeated promises to do just that, and his course of action in times past assures us that he will.—Pp. 133, 134.

● At the time Jesus spoke the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, who was represented by the rich man and who by Lazarus?

The rich man represented the ones to whom Jesus had just been speaking, the money-loving Pharisees; hence the religious leaders as a class. The beggar Lazarus represented primarily the poor and spiritually impoverished among the Jews who were despised by the ruling class.—Pp. 178, 179.

'Blessing Jehovah Among the Congregated Throngs'

EVEN as King David of old delighted in blessing Jehovah among the congregated throngs of true worshipers (Ps. 26:12), so there will be opportunity to voice appreciation of the Creator at this year's "Disciple-making" District Assemblies of Jehovah's witnesses. Have you begun to make your plans to attend?

The wide choice of locations and dates this year should make it convenient for all who love God's Word to benefit from the faith-building provisions of the assembly program. There will be counsel and help for young and old in the form of constructive discourses, demonstrations and Biblical dramas. After last year's assemblies the remark was fre-

quently heard: "I am so glad I brought the whole family!" Do your plans include the entire family?

Outstanding on the program at all assemblies will be the timely public lecture on the subject "Rescuing a Great Crowd of Mankind Out of Armageddon."

Assembly locations for all of the United States, Canada, Bermuda and the British Isles are listed below. Five weeks before the assembly of your choice is due to begin you may write Watch Tower Convention at the rooming address given for that city, and arrangements for your accommodation will be made.

AMERICA

JUNE 22-25: Kalispell, Mont., Fairgrounds Grandstand, U.S. 2 W. & Meridian Rd. Rooming: Phillips Addition, Kalispell, Mont. 59901. Shreveport, La., Youth Center, State Fairgrounds. Rooming: 7033 Brandtway Dr., Shreveport, La. 71108. Stockton, Calif., Fairgrounds Grandstand, 1658 S. Airport Way. Rooming: 428 S. Ash St., Stockton, Calif. 95205.

JUNE 29-JULY 2: Aberdeen, S.D., Civic Arena, Washington St. & 2d Ave. Rooming: 1024 S. Lawson St., Aberdeen, S.D. 57401. Amarillo, Tex. (English and Spanish), Coliseum (Fairgrounds), 3301 East 10th St. Rooming: 2123 S. Polk St., Amarillo, Tex. 79109. Galveston, Tex., Moody Civic Center, 21st & Boulevard. Rooming: 3328 Avenue P, Galveston, Tex. 77550. Grande Prairie, Alta., Grande Prairie Arena, 10117 99th Ave. Rooming: 10517 100th Ave., Grande Prairie, Alta. Montgomery, Ala., Garrett Coliseum, Federal Dr. Rooming: 3402 Doris Cir., Montgomery, Ala. 36105. Penticton, B.C., Penticton Arena, 399 Power St. Rooming: 30 Roy Ave. W., Penticton, B.C. Sedalia, Mo., Agriculture Building (State Fairgrounds), 16th & State Fair Blvd. Rooming: 721 E. 8d St., Sedalia, Mo. 65301. Utica, N.Y., Memorial Auditorium, Oriskany St. W. Rooming: 910 Kellogg Ave., Utica, N.Y. 13502.

JULY 6-9: Allentown, Pa., Fairgrounds Grandstand, 17th & Chew Sts. Rooming: 1335 Chew St., Allentown, Pa. 18102. Asheville, N.C., City Auditorium. Rooming: 68 Orange St., Asheville, N.C. 28801. Lansing, Mich., Civic Center, 505 W. Allegan St. Rooming: 2330 N. East St., Lansing, Mich. 48906. Prince Rupert, B.C., Prince Rupert Sr. Secondary School. Rooming: 1942 2d Ave. W., Prince Rupert, B.C. Salina, Kans., Agricultural Hall, Kenwood Park. Rooming: 760 Hancock St., Salina, Kans. 67401. Saskatoon, Sask., Saskatoon Arena, 19th St. E. Rooming: Queen St. & Second Ave. N., Saskatoon, Sask. Taunton, Mass., Taunton Dog Track, Route 44 (Taunton-Providence Highway). Rooming: 2 Vaillancourt St., Taunton, Mass. 02780. Tucson, Ariz., Rillito Racetrack, 4502 N. 1st Ave. Rooming: 207 W. Flores St., Tucson, Ariz. 85705. Waco, Tex., Heart O' Texas Coliseum, 4601 Bosque Blvd. Rooming: 824 Longfellow, Waco, Tex. 76710. West Palm Beach, Fla. (English and Spanish) English: West Palm Beach Auditorium, Congress Ave. & 12th St. Rooming: 532 Iris St., West Palm Beach, Fla. 33401. Spanish: West Palm Beach Kennel Club, Belvedere Rd. Rooming: 532 Iris St., West Palm Beach, Fla. 33401.

JULY 13-16: Chicago, Ill. (Spanish only), Logan Square Hall, 2451 N. Kedzie Ave. Rooming: 2565 W. Fullerton Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60647. Laredo, Tex. (Spanish only), Laredo Civic Center, 2400 San Bernardo Ave. Rooming: 704 Buena Vista, Laredo, Tex. 48040. Nanaimo, B.C., Civic Arena, 48 Arena St. Rooming: 305 Prideaux St., Nanaimo,

B.C. New Westminster, B.C., Queen's Park Arena. Rooming: 120 10th St., New Westminster, B.C. San Jose, Calif., Fairgrounds Grandstand, 344 Tully Rd. Rooming: 2691 Almaden Rd., San Jose, Calif. 95125. Savannah, Ga., Grayson Stadium, E. Victory Dr. Rooming: 5032 Augusta Rd., Garden City, Ga. 31408. Weyburn, Sask., Weyburn Grandstand, Exhibition Grounds. Rooming: 610 Souris Ave., Weyburn, Sask.

JULY 20-23: Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii, Castle High School, 45-386 Kaneohe Bay Drive. Rooming: 1228 Pensacola St., Honolulu, Hawaii. 96814. Ketchikan, Alaska, Ketchikan High School, 4th & Madison. Rooming: Box 1542, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901. Manchester, N.H., J.F.K. Memorial Coliseum, Valley & Maple Sts. Rooming: 340 Varney St., Manchester, N.H. 03102. Ogden, Utah, Ogden Sr. High School, 2828 Harrison Blvd. Rooming: 410 West 5200 South, Ogden, Utah 84403. Springfield, Mo., Shrine Mosque, 601 St. Louis St. Rooming: 534 W. Catalpa, Springfield, Mo. 65804. Trenton, N.J., Fairgrounds Grandstand. Rooming: 2044 Greenwood Ave., Trenton, N.J. 08609.

JULY 27-30: Fort William, Ont., Fort William Gardens, Myles St. Rooming: 327 W. Frederica St., Fort William, Ont. Fresno, Calif., Convention Center, 700 M St. Rooming: 4525 N. First Ave., Fresno, Calif. 93726. Madison, Wis., Memorial Coliseum, Fairgrounds Dr. Rooming: 210 N. Blair St., Madison, Wis. 53703. Pittsburgh, Pa., Forbes Field. Rooming: 4100 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213. Sarnia, Ont., Point Edward Memorial Arena, Monk St. Rooming: 608 Errol Rd. W., Sarnia, Ont. Yakima, Wash., Grandstand, 1205 Fair Ave. Rooming: 112 W. Nob Hill Blvd., Yakima, Wash. 98902.

AUGUST 3-6: Eugene, Ore., County Fairgrounds, 796 13th Ave. W. Rooming: 1345 W. 16th St., Eugene, Ore. 97402. Grand Island, Neb., Fonner Park. Rooming: 825 N. White, Grand Island, Neb. 68801. Jersey City, N.J. (English and Spanish), Roosevelt Stadium, end of Danforth Ave. Rooming: 3316 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, N.J. 07307. Keauau, Hawaii, Shipman Gymnasium, Keauau. Rooming: 18 Hualalai Drive, Hilo, Hawaii 96720. Medicine Hat, Alta., Exhibition & Stampede Grounds, 21st Ave. SE. Rooming: 305 3d St. NW., Medicine Hat, Alta. Pembroke, Bermuda, B.A.A. Gymnasium, Serpentine Rd. Rooming: Box 72, Hamilton, Bermuda. Pomona, Calif. (English and Spanish) English: Fairgrounds Grandstand (Gate 17). Rooming: 1546 S. Gary, Pomona, Calif. 71966. Spanish: Amphitheatre, County Fairgrounds. Rooming: 1546 S. Gary, Pomona, Calif. 71966. Raleigh, N.C., Dorton Arena (State Fairgrounds), 5100 Hillsborough St. Rooming: 3400 Poole Rd., Raleigh, N.C. 27610. Truro, N.S., Colchester Legion Stadium, Lorne St. Rooming: 29 Arthur St., Truro, N.S. Welland, Ont., Welland-Crowland Arena, 501 King St. Rooming: 358 Riverside Dr., Welland, Ont.

AUGUST 10-13: Barrie, Ont., Barrie Arena, 155 Dunlop St. W. Rooming: 77 Eccles St., Barrie, Ont. **Columbus, Ga., Municipal Auditorium, 4th St. (At 4th Ave.) Rooming:** 4000 Beallwood Ave., Columbus, Ga. 31904. **Oshawa, Ont., Oshawa Civic Auditorium, Thornton Rd. S. Rooming:** 566 Simcoe St. N., Oshawa, Ont. **Peoria, Ill., Richwoods Community High School Stadium, 6301 N. University Rd. Rooming:** 1208 E. Duryea, Peoria Heights, Ill. 61614. **Rouyn, Qué. (French only) Forum de Rouyn, Rue d'Allaire. Rooming:** 514 est. rue Taschereau, Rouyn, Qué. **Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Sault Ste. Marie Armory, 1100 E. Portage. Rooming:** 629 Eureka St., Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. 49783. **South Bend, Ind., John Adams High School, 808 S. Twyckenham Dr. Rooming:** 1118 N. Eddy St., South Bend, Ind. 46617.

AUGUST 17-20: Aiea, Oahu, Aiea High School, 99-1276 Ulane St. Rooming: 1228 Pensacola St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96814. **Brockville, Ont., Brockville Memorial Civic Centre, Gilmour St. Rooming:** 6 Schofield Ave., Brockville, Ont. **Costa Mesa, Calif., Fairgrounds Grandstand. Rooming:** 2277 Canyon Dr., Costa Mesa, Calif. 92626. **Moncton, N.B., Moncton High School, Church St. & Mountain Rd. Rooming:** 15 Granville Dr., Moncton, N.B. **Orlando, Fla., Municipal Auditorium, 401 W. Livingston Ave. Rooming:** 1701 Lee St., Orlando, Fla. 32805. **Worcester, Mass., Memorial Auditorium, Lincoln Square. Rooming:** 44 Randolph Rd., Worcester, Mass. 01606.

AUGUST 24-27: Corner Brook, Newfoundland, Humber Gardens. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, Wellington St., Corner Brook, Newfoundland. **Evansville, Ind., Roberts Municipal Stadium, 2600 Division St. Rooming:** 941 N. Boeke Rd., Evansville, Ind. 47711. **Jackson, Mich., Fairgrounds Grandstand, 200 W. Ganson St. Rooming:** 219 W. Prospect St., Jackson, Mich. 49203. **Laurel, Md., Laurel Race Course. Rooming:** 917 Lyons Ave., Laurel, Md. 20810. **Rochester, Minn., Mayo Civic Auditorium, 30 2d Ave. SE. Rooming:** 1723 1st St. NW., Rochester, Minn. 55901. **Trois Rivières, Qué. (French only) Collisée, Terrain de l'Exposition. Rooming:** 1171, rue Cartier, Trois Rivières, Qué.

BRITISH ISLES

JUNE 29-JULY 2: Charlton, London, Charlton Athletic Football Ground, The Valley. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, Invicta Road, The Standard, Blackheath, London SE. 3. **Romford, Essex, Romford**

Football Ground, Brooklands, Brooklands Road, Romford, Essex. Rooming: Same address. **Torquay, Devon, Torquay United Football Ground, Plainmoor. Rooming:** Kingdom Hall, 84 (Rear) Babbacombe Road, Torquay, Devon.

JULY 6-9: Reading, Berks., Reading Football Ground, Elm Park Road. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, Kingsgate St., Reading, Berks.

JULY 13-16: Coventry, Warwickshire, Coventry City Football Ground, Highfield Road. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, 266/268 Holyhead Road, Coventry, Warwickshire. **Oxford, Oxon, Oxford United Football Ground, Manor Ground, Headington. Rooming:** Kingdom Hall, 15/17 Temple St., Cowley Rd., Oxford, Oxon.

JULY 20-23: Peterborough, Northants., Peterborough United Football Ground, London Road. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, 316 Clarence Rd., Peterborough, Northants. **Swindon, Wiltshire, Swindon Town Football Club, County Ground. Rooming:** Kingdom Hall, Seymour Rd., Walcot, Swindon, Wiltshire.

JULY 27-30: Barnsley, Yorkshire, Barnsley Football Club, Oakwell Ground, Grove Street. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, Old Parish Hall, Westfield Road, Hemsworth, Pontefract, Yorkshire.

AUGUST 3-6: Blackburn, Lancashire, King George's Hall, Northgate. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, 40 Church St., Blackburn, Lancashire.

AUGUST 10-13: Brighton, Sussex, Exhibition Hall, Hotel Metropole, Kings Road. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, 17 (Basement) Compton Ave., Seven Dials, Brighton 1, Sussex. **Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Northumberland, City Hall, Northumberland Road. Rooming:** Kingdom Hall, Ely St., Gateshead 8, Co. Durham.

AUGUST 17-20: Dundee, Angus, Scotland, Dundee Ice Rink, Kingsway West. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, Court St., Dundee, Angus. **Hamilton, Lanarkshire, Scotland, Town Hall, Lower Auchingramont Road. Rooming:** Kingdom Hall, Clydesdale St., Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 3: Wood Green, London, Alexandra Palace. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, 33 North Hill, Highgate, London N. 6.

SEPTEMBER 7-10: Swansea, Glamorganshire, Wales, Brangwyn Hall, Guldhall, St. Helens Road. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, Russell Street, Swansea, Glamorganshire.

SEPTEMBER 14-17: Liverpool, Lancashire, St. George's Hall, Lime St. Rooming: Kingdom Hall, 4/6 Park St., Bootle 20, Lancashire.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIELD MINISTRY

Zealous activity marked the life of Jesus' disciples. They joyfully accepted the responsibility of preaching the good news of God's kingdom. That is the way it is with Jesus' modern-day disciples, Jehovah's witnesses. They are joyfully busy in preaching, but keep this work in balance with other Christian responsibilities. (1 Pet. 1:13, 1950 Ed.) During May part of their work will consist of calling on people from door to door to talk about God's kingdom and to offer them the excellent Bible-study books *Life Everlasting—in Freedom of the Sons of God* and *Things in Which It Is Impossible for God to Lie*, either one for 50c.

LIFE IN FREEDOM? HOW?

Life is our most prized possession. Yet how many persons today are really free to enjoy

it?—free from sickness, anxiety, various forms of oppression, free from fear of the future? The Bible has been called the Book of Life. It could also be called the Book of Freedom because it holds out concrete hope for mankind of our own generation to enjoy life everlasting—in freedom. To learn how this hope is to be realized and what your part in it is, read the 416-page, hardbound book *Life Everlasting—in Freedom of the Sons of God*. Sent postpaid for only 50c. Write today and receive free the timely booklet *Security During "War of the Great Day of God the Almighty."*

"WATCHTOWER" STUDIES FOR THE WEEKS

May 28: Remember Your Creator by Manifesting Goodness. Page 273. Songs to Be Used: 49, 94.

June 4: Goodness Is to Be Manifested. Page 279. Songs to Be Used: 52, 118.