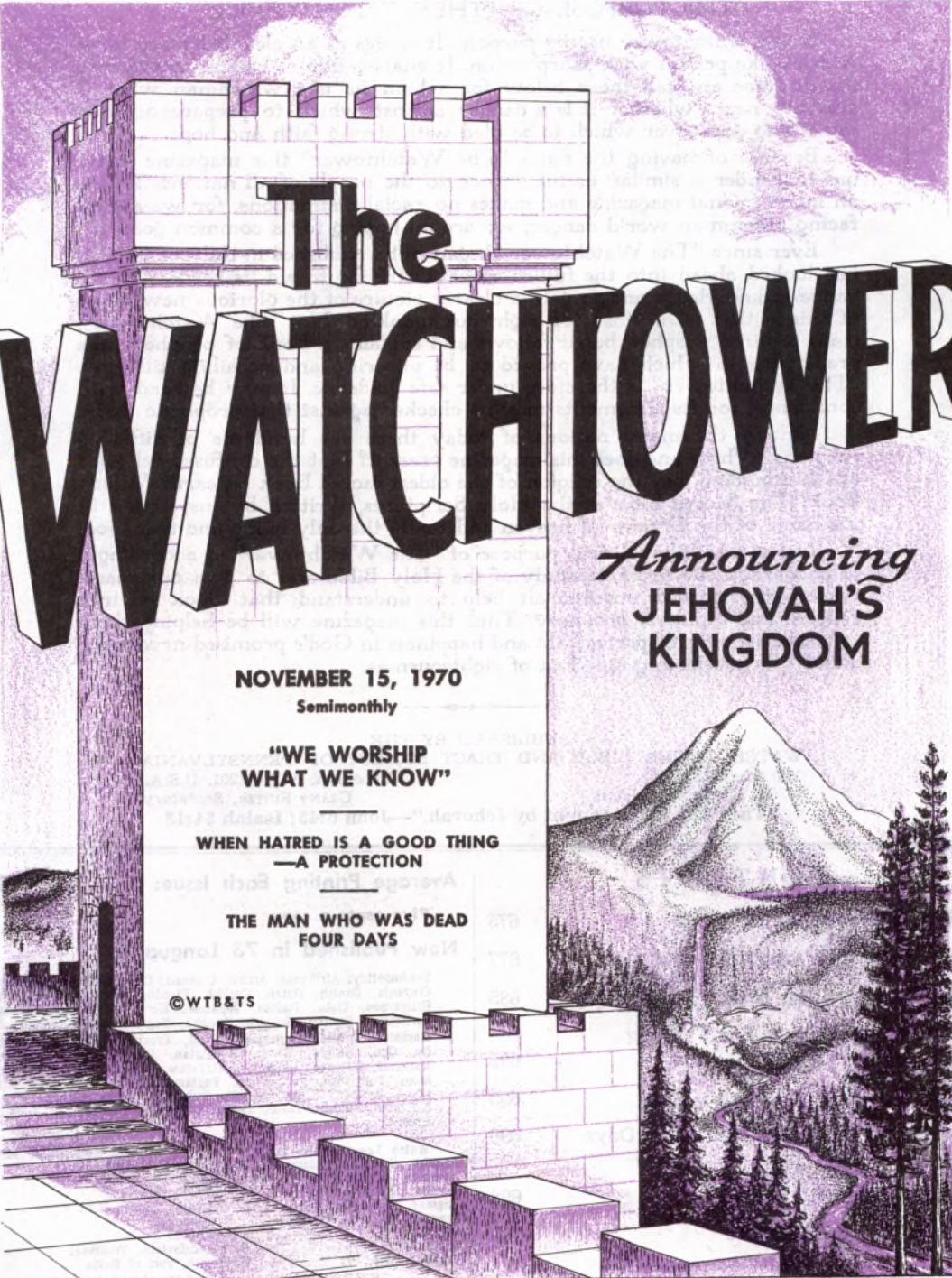




The WATCHTOWER

Announcing
**JEHOVAH'S
KINGDOM**

NOVEMBER 15, 1970

Semimonthly

**"WE WORSHIP
WHAT WE KNOW"**

**WHEN HATRED IS A GOOD THING
—A PROTECTION**

**THE MAN WHO WAS DEAD
FOUR DAYS**

©WTB&TS

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

THE PURPOSE OF "THE WATCHTOWER"

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Announcing
JEHOVAH'S
KINGDOM

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Number 22

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE

KIND

WHAT does it mean to be kind? To be kind means to be truly helpful. Kindness is love in action, for true love is practical. To be kind can mean to have a disposition to sympathy and helpfulness, a sympathetic interest in others' welfare. The word *chrestós*, translated "kind" in the Christian Greek Scriptures, is even more forceful, for it means "*being helpful toward others.*"

Yes, being kind does not mean just being sentimental. Neither does it mean to humor people in their weaknesses. It means being truly helpful to those in need of help. Empathy will help us to see how we can be helpful in both little ways and big ways.

For example, it had been raining torrents in the city of Guayaquil, Ecuador, May of 1969. The streets were muddy and slippery. An elderly missionary hurrying along slipped and fell, landing with his hip on the curbstone. When he tried to get up he was in such pain that he could not do so. He looked around for help, but it was between twenty and thirty minutes before someone showed kindness by inquiring if he could help. This person then notified the missionary's friends of his predicament.

When they came to the scene they painstakingly lifted him into the back of a station wagon and took him to a clinic, where X rays revealed that he had a T-fracture, one of the worst that the doctors at the clinic had ever seen. How grateful he was that someone had shown him kindness! How grateful his wife and friends were as well! And without a doubt the one who showed kindness also felt happy that he had lent a helping hand.

Why do so few people show themselves kind these days? One reason no doubt is selfishness. People show less and less neighbor love. The crowded condition of large cities of itself is conducive to being indifferent to the needs of others. And so is the fast pace of modern living. People are always in a hurry, and it takes time to be helpful. Others are afraid of getting involved.

Yet the very fact that we have received so much kindness from our Creator, Jehovah God, obligates us to show kindness to others. What a fine example he has set in being kind! Seeing the plight of humankind, he showed "kindness and the love for man" by giving "his only-begotten Son" so that those exercising faith in him might get everlasting life.—Titus 3:4; John 3:16.

Those exercising such faith are said to have "tasted that the Lord [Jesus] is kind." (1 Pet. 2:3) Jesus' life certainly was one of showing kindness, being helpful toward others. He showed kindness by feeding the hungry multitudes and by curing their diseases. What a kindness it was for him to raise from the dead the only son of a widow at the city of Nain! (Luke 7:11-17) What a kindness it was for him to restore his friend Lazarus to life and to his mourning sisters! (John 11:1-44) He also showed kindness by ministering to the spiritual needs of the people, 'teaching them many things.' And he showed the greatest possible kindness by laying down his human life for us.—Mark 6:34; Matt. 20:28.

Kindness should begin within the family circle. And it means many things there. For example, it means for the husband to dwell with his wife "according to knowledge," taking into account her vicissitudes. (1 Pet. 3:7) Wives can show kindness by not being critical of their husbands and not bothering them with petty aggravations. Fathers can show kindness by spending time with their children both for instruction and recreation and not irritating them needlessly. (Eph. 6:4) Children can show kindness by expressing appreciation for all that their parents do for them. This can be done not only by words but by being helpful around the home, keeping their own rooms neat, helping mother with the dishes and suchlike chores.

The thoughtful Christian also shows kindness in many little ways at the meeting place of his congregation. He introduces himself to the stranger and makes him feel welcome. He has an encouraging word for old folks who may seem lonely and shows interest in young folks who may feel neglected. He is alert to assist any needing help in getting to and from the local Kingdom Hall.

Today there are many upright persons in the world who are sorely in need of spiritual help. Ever so many are "sighing and groaning over all the detestable things that are being done." It is being truly kind for Christian witnesses of Jehovah to lend these a helping hand, to bring comfort to these, to minister to their spiritual needs.—Ezek. 9:4; Matt. 5:3, 6.

This Christian ministers do by going from house to house with the good news of God's kingdom; by making return visits and by conducting Bible studies in the homes of those wanting to understand their Bibles. They kindly offer Bible magazines on street corners and preach incidentally as opportunity affords. And while doing these things they do not neglect showing kindness in other ways, which often results in furthering their ministry.

Thus a storm blew down a large tree in the yard of a couple who had manifested some interest in God's Word. In vain they sought help from neighbors, friends and relatives to get this fallen tree cleared away. A group of Witnesses, aware of their problem, helpfully called one day with a power saw, and, though finding no one at home, cut up the tree and left a neat pile of kindling wood. When the interested couple came home and learned what the Witnesses had done—when none of their own friends, neighbors and relatives had shown a willingness to help—were they surprised! They concluded that there must be something special about the Witnesses' religion that they ought to know about. They found out by means of a Bible study in their home, which resulted in both becoming Witnesses.

Being kind means being truly helpful where there is genuine need and especially in what is upbuilding to another. Such kindness results in happiness to others and even greater happiness to the one showing kindness.—Acts 20:35.

"WE WORSHIP WHAT WE KNOW"

**"You worship what you do not know;
we worship what we know."—John 4:22.**

ALL persons are inclined to worship someone or something, even if it is to worship one's own self. The person who sourly says, "I do not worship anybody or anything!" is really a worshiper of himself. He makes himself a human god, but due to his egotism he is unaware of that fact. He prides himself in the presumptuous idea that he gives worship to nothing whether alive or lifeless. This does not result in any benefit to him; it does not enlarge his freedom; it does not lighten his responsibility. Rather, it does harm to him, possibly to his everlasting destruction. To render any worship with lasting benefit to oneself, it is good to know what one worships, to worship what one knows. We do wisely to ask ourselves, Do I worship what I know? Or, could it be said to me and to my religious or irreligious associates, "You [people] worship what you do not know"? That is to say, You worship you know not what.

² This matter of religion is a thing about which most people are very touchy. Not just radicals and communists, but church members of Christendom are ashamed to be thought of as religious, when outside their church building. Many will choke off any discussion with a person of another

religion by curtly saying: "I have my own religion!" Others, and they are many, after hearing someone present a religious argument, will say: "Your religion is truth to you, and my religion is truth to me, and so there is no need for me to change my religion." But each one of that attitude might well ask himself, Would I resent it if someone who knew what he was talking about said to me: "You worship what you do not know"? The woman to whom such a statement was first made by a person of another religion did not resent it. It worked out well for her that she did not do so. She grabbed the opportunity to ask a further question. By this she found out why the one speaking to her was able to say what he said to her.

³ The woman was a Middle Eastern woman, a member of a provincial group known as Samaritans. She came upon this well-informed man seated at a deep well near the city of Sychar one noontime. It was in the year 30 of our Common Era, sometime after the Samaritans had celebrated their Passover feast in nearby Mount Gerizim, where once a Samaritan temple had stood. There is still a small colony of Samaritans at Mount Gerizim today, and at their shrine they have an ancient copy of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Holy Bible as written by the prophet Moses), which they claim

1. (a) What are all persons inclined to worship, and how is one who claims to be an exception to this affected? (b) As regards worship, what questions does one wisely put to oneself?

2. (a) Many persons, when outside their religious building, are very touchy in what regard? (b) How did the Samaritan woman respond and benefit when told she worshipped what she did not know?

3. When and where did the Samaritan woman meet the man who made this statement to her?

to be the oldest copy in existence today. Also, nearby, is a deep well, which is claimed to be the very well at which the Samaritan woman met this man. To the left of this well a grillwork partition has been erected on which occurs the tetragrammaton, the four Hebrew alphabetic letters that stand for the name of the God of Moses, namely, Jehovah or Yahweh. All this now stands inside a protective building, and tourists visit it.

⁴ The man proved to be of a race with whom the Samaritans then had no dealings, and yet he struck up a conversation with this Samaritan woman, which caused her to wonder. This lack of racial prejudice impressed her. Appropriately there at a well that was reputedly dug by the patriarch Jacob, the great-great-grandfather of Moses, the man spoke to her of a new thing, "living water," after the drinking of which a person would not get thirsty again. He revealed to her facts about her most intimate life. This led her to ask him about a religious problem of that day. She said:

⁵ "Sir, I perceive you are a prophet. Our forefathers worshiped in this mountain; but you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where persons ought to worship." —John 4:1-20.

⁶ The man's reply to her question was: "Believe me, woman, The hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you people worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, because salvation originates with the Jews. Nevertheless, the hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshipers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for, indeed, the Father is looking for suchlike ones to wor-

ship him. God is a Spirit, and those worshipping him must worship with spirit and truth."—John 4:21-24.

⁷ Who was this man to speak so authoritatively to this Samaritan woman? The woman showed that she had faith in the Messiah, whom those Jews speaking Greek called Christ, and she looked forward to such Messiah or Christ to settle finally all questions of worship. So she said: "I know that Messiah is coming, who is called Christ. Whenever that one arrives, he will declare all things to us openly." But the question as to the place and manner of worshipping the divine Father had already been declared openly to this Samaritan woman, for the man said to her: "I who am speaking to you am he." If that woman lived for three years longer, she learned of further facts, undeniable facts, to prove that this man was indeed the Messiah, the long-promised Anointed One of God. But his personal name on earth was Jesus, which means "Salvation of Jehovah." So he was called Jesus Christ.—John 4:25, 26.

⁸ This was news indeed! And, inasmuch as the man was now joined by his twelve companions with food for their lunch, the Samaritan woman left her water jar at the well, returned to Sychar and told its inhabitants: "Come here, see a man that told me all the things I did. This is not perhaps the Christ, is it?" The Samaritans came out to see and hear. They had the man stay with them for two days. To what conclusion did they come? That this man was the Messianic Savior of not just the Jews who had no dealings back there with the Samaritans, but they said to the woman: "We do not believe any longer on account of your talk; for we have heard for ourselves and we know that this man is for a certainty the savior of the world."

4, 5. (a) Why was it remarkable that a conversation should be struck up at the well? (b) The man's remarks led the woman to bring up what religious problem? 6. What did the man tell her about the worship of her people and the worship of his people, and about future worship?

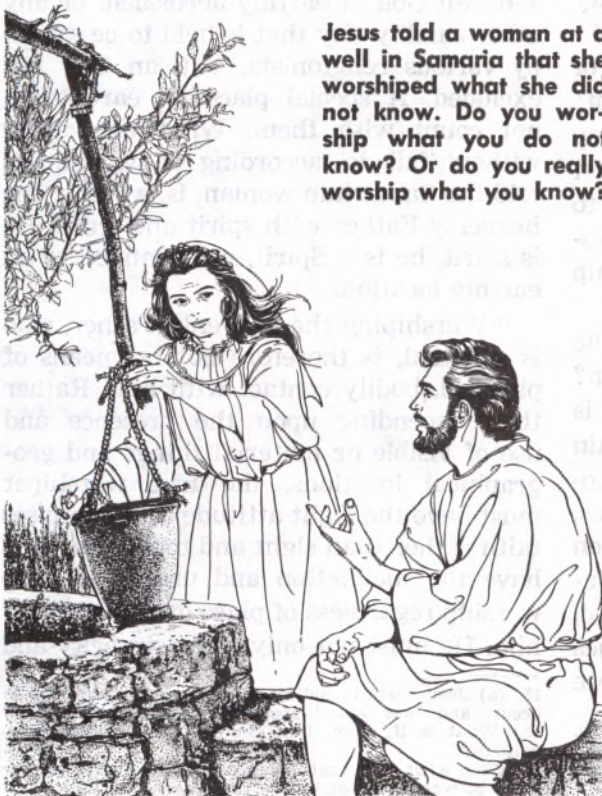
7, 8. (a) Who did the man at the well prove to be, and how did the woman find that out? (b) To what conclusion concerning this man Jesus did the men of Sychar come, and why correctly so?

(John 4:28-30, 39-42) Three years later the historical facts were provided to prove that those Samaritans were right: Jesus Christ is the Savior of all mankind. He knew what he was talking about to the Samaritan woman.

"DO I KNOW?" IS THE QUESTION

⁹ Suppose that Jesus Christ were personally on earth today and were saying to a certain religious group: "You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know." Would he be including us with himself in saying: "We worship what we know"? Or would he be including us with the religious group that did not know what it was worshipping? The answers to these questions are of the highest importance

9. With whom would Jesus, if on earth today, include us—with knowing worshipers or unknowing worshipers, and why is it important to decide concerning this question?



Jesus told a woman at a well in Samaria that she worshiped what she did not know. Do you worship what you do not know? Or do you really worship what you know?

to us today when there is being forced upon us the need to make an intelligent decision regarding whom or what we will worship. A person can fool himself by saying in stubborn pride and reliance upon himself: "I worship no one or nothing! I fear neither God nor man." But in course of time telltale facts will come to light to show whom or what a person is worshipping.

¹⁰ Many claim to worship, not Buddha, nor one of the 330,000,000 gods of the Hindus, nor the Allah of the Mohammedans, nor the God of the modern-day Jews, but another kind of God, a nameless one who has no racial or national connections. He can be worshiped by everyone, with no racial or national ties to stumble him. Many today claim that this nameless God is the God of the Holy Bible.

¹¹ Plainly, then, the question for each one is, Do I worship what I do not know, just as the Samaritans of nineteen centuries ago did? Or, Do I, like the Messiah, worship what I know? If we worship what the Messiah on earth knew, it will mean salvation for us, because the Messiah himself said so. He knew the heavenly Father about whom he spoke to the Samaritan woman. In proof of this he said: "Neither does anyone fully know the Father but the Son and anyone to whom the Son is willing to reveal him." (Matt. 11:27) "The Father knows me and I know the Father."—John 10:15.

¹² At the time that he said those words, the nation that was worshipping at the temple in Jerusalem was in

10. What kind of God do many profess to worship today, whom they claim to be the Bible God? 11, 12. (a) Why would those worshipping as Jesus did be worshipping what they know? (b) Why did the Samaritans not know what they worshiped, and in what way did salvation originate with the Jews?

a solemn contract or covenant with Jehovah God through his mediator, the prophet Moses. God was not in a national covenant with the Samaritans, even though they claimed to hold to the Pentateuch, five Bible books written by Moses. Because they rejected the rest of the inspired Sacred Scriptures, they were not worshipping at the right mountain and they did not properly know Jehovah God who revealed himself through *all* those inspired writings. Rightly, then, Jesus could say to the Samaritans: "You worship what you do not know." But speaking for himself and the nation of which he was an earthly part, Jesus could say: "We worship what we know, because salvation originates with the Jews." (John 4:22) This was true, since Jesus Christ in the days of his flesh was a circumcised Jew, and, even as the Samaritans of Sychar said regarding him, "We know that this man is for a certainty the savior of the world."—John 4:42.

¹³ Many racially prejudiced persons of today may stumble at Jesus' statement: "Salvation originates with the Jews." They might ask, 'Does this mean that we must accept Judaism, get circumcised and go to the Jewish synagogue and make pilgrimages to Jerusalem if we desire to worship the true God?'

¹⁴ Well, what do we learn from what the Messiah Jesus told the Samaritan woman? Listen: "Believe me, woman, The hour is coming when neither in this mountain [Gerizim] nor in Jerusalem will you people worship the Father. . . . Nevertheless, the hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshipers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for, indeed, the Father is looking for suchlike ones to worship him. God is a Spirit, and those

worshiping him must worship with spirit and truth."—John 4:21-24.

¹⁵ Those words indicated that a radical change was about to take place. Forty years later the city of Jerusalem was destroyed by the Roman legions under General Titus, and its temple for the worship of Jehovah God has not been reestablished there to this day. The city that was built there in the following century by the pagan Romans eventually became a "Christian" city where people of Christendom made pilgrimages. Still later it became a Mohammedan city, where the Moslems worshiped at the mosque that was built on the site of the former Jewish temple. Today that mosque still stands and all Jerusalem is now completely in the hands of the Jews who make up the Republic of Israel. But all this does not matter with the "true worshipers." They do not have to worship Jehovah God at earthly Jerusalem or any other earthly city that is held to be sacred by various religionists, Vatican City not excluded. A special place on earth does not count with them. What they must without fail do, according to what Jesus told the Samaritan woman, is, worship the heavenly Father with spirit and truth. He is spirit, he is a Spirit, not confined to an earthly location.

¹⁶ Worshiping the heavenly Father, who is spiritual, is therefore not by means of physical, bodily contact with him. Rather than depending upon the presence and use of visible or material things and geographical locations, the true worshiper must have the right attitude that exercises faith rather than sight and touch; he must have the inclination and urging of pure worship regardless of place or things about him. He must not only show sincerity and

13. How might racially prejudiced persons react to Jesus' statement, and what question might they ask?

14. What words of Jesus to the Samaritan woman answer that question?

15. (a) Jesus' words indicated that what was about to occur, and how has it occurred down to this day? (b) What is it, then, that counts with the true worshipers?

16. With what is it that Jesus said the heavenly Father must be worshiped, and why is this necessary?

wholeheartedness in his worship, but also have the truth. The heavenly Father is looking for those who seek the truth from Him and who worship him according to the truth, not according to the contradictory teachings and traditions of the hundreds of religious denominations of Christendom and other religious systems. Without the truth what kind of idea could any person have of what he worships as God? Ideas of God can vary millions of ways!

¹⁷ The truth about God is progressive, and the true worshiper must show a love for the truth by keeping up with its progress. What of Jesus' own nation according to the flesh? Could he keep on saying concerning that nation: "We worship what we know"? How could he do so? After hearing him preach for about three years the message, "The kingdom of God has drawn near!" the religious leaders of the nation, followed by most of the people, showed that they differed from him as to ideas of God. They showed that they preferred their religious traditions and precepts of men to what he pointed out to them from the inspired Holy Scriptures. They accused him of blasphemy and violently tried to kill him. At last their Supreme Court at Jerusalem did condemn him to death as a blasphemer of God. They even told the Roman governor Pontius Pilate that, according to their own law, Jesus ought to die for blasphemy. But in order to induce the Roman governor at Jerusalem to exercise his authority and have Jesus put to death they accused him of political sedition. Jesus' death on an execution stake followed. So they were not with Jesus in worshiping what he knew!

¹⁸ Can we go along with that ancient nation in that course of action? Not if we

want to worship the same God that Jesus worshiped, the God that he knew. To this day the descendants of that nation have not repudiated that stand that they took toward the Messiah Jesus. They rejected Jesus' message and also the proofs that he gave that he was the long-promised Messiah, but they were forced to accept the fulfillment of Jesus' prediction that the "holy city" of Jerusalem and its gorgeous temple would be destroyed, never to be rebuilt by the Jews. True to Jesus' words, the horrifying destruction of Jerusalem and its temple came within that "generation," in the year 70 C.E. (Matt. 24:1-34) Thus, although the Jews fanatically tried to have it otherwise, Jerusalem ceased to be the place to worship the only living and true God. Not even a Jewish temple stands there today to recommend it as the city at which to render united worship to a Known God. But the truthfulness of Jesus as the real Messianic prophet of this Known God stands established by inerasable facts of history. So, not Jesus, but the nation that rejected him, was rejected by this Known God.

¹⁹ So the fact that Jesus said, "Salvation originates with the Jews," does not mean that eternal salvation is by means of that nation today and that we have to become a circumcised proselyte or member of it. We must become partners, not with the nation that rejected the Messiah, but with the Jewish "remnant" of some thousands of natural Jews who accepted the Messiah Jesus, in 33 C.E., and who became his faithful followers. (Rom. 11:1-7) After Jesus was resurrected from the dead and before he ascended to heaven, he gathered together the first members of this Jewish "remnant" of believers. On the day of Pentecost (Sivan 6, 33 C.E.) God used

17. (a) To worship God with truth requires what of us as regards the truth? (b) How did Jesus' own nation show that they were not with him in what he knew?
18. Who was rejected by God, Jesus or the Jewish nation, and how has this been shown?

19. (a) If not with the Jewish nation, with whom, however, must we become partakers in their course back there? (b) By what kind of channel did salvation come to the Gentiles, and when?

Jesus Christ to pour out from heaven the holy spirit upon those first members of the Jewish "remnant." Thus they were able to worship God, not only with the "spirit" of genuine worship, but also with the help of God's holy spirit, and also with the "truth" that was revealed by means of that holy spirit. (Acts 2:1-47) Later, in 36 C.E., this Jewish remnant passed on God's message of salvation to the Gentiles or non-Jews. (Acts 10:1 to 11:18) So they were a channel by which salvation came to the Gentiles.

²⁰ Later, at the critical time before Jerusalem's destruction as foretold by Jesus occurred, the members of that Jewish remnant neither returned to Jerusalem to celebrate any feasts nor stayed in it.

Rather, they avoided and fled from Jerusalem and Judea just as Jesus, like a true prophet, had warned them to do. In that way they did not get destroyed with Jerusalem and its temple in the year 70 C.E. (Matt. 24:15-22; Luke 21:20-24) But they were not thereby deprived of a true place to worship the God whom they knew. No, but they kept on worshipping him at his true temple, which is not made by human hands, and which can never be destroyed by human hands. (Heb. 8:1, 2) It is of this Jewish "remnant" that Jesus Christ could continue to say after Pentecost of 33 C.E. his words to the Samaritan woman: "We worship what we know, because salvation originates with the Jews." (John 4:22) Not with the rejected nation, but with

this Jewish "remnant," as if it were still alive, we must take our stand today if we desire salvation from God through his Messiah, Jesus.

HOW TO KNOW WHAT WE WORSHIP

²¹ To "worship what we know" means to worship the God whom we know. He is not some imaginary God. If we worship an imaginary God, it can be said to us by Jesus: "You worship what you do not know." If we accept partial facts even about the true God, but we thereafter refuse to accept the fully revealed truth about him, then what? Then we get only

an incomplete understanding of God. In fact, we get a distorted idea of God, and what we worship is really not the true God. We worship what

we do not know; we worship someone non-existent. That was the trouble with those Samaritans of the first century C.E. They accepted the inspired Pentateuch as written by the prophet Moses. But they stubbornly refused to accept the further revelation of Jehovah God as contained in the remaining thirty-four books of the inspired Hebrew Scriptures. So they had, not only an incomplete conception of Jehovah God, but also an incorrect conception of him. That is why they refused to go up to Jerusalem's temple to worship, but worshiped at Mount Gerizim. They did not accept the up-to-date historical record of God's activities and truth.

²² The like thing became true of the nation of which Jesus Christ was a natural

THE NEXT ISSUE

- Do You Uphold God's Name and Reputation?
- The Desolating of Christendom by the "Disgusting Thing."
- Is It Hard for You to Find Scriptures?

20. (a) In the critical time before Jerusalem's destruction, what did Jewish Christians do, and did this deprive them of a place to worship the Known God? (b) With whom must we take our stand, if we desire salvation from God through Christ?

21. (a) As to worshipping what we know, we need to know to what extent, and why so? (b) How were the Samaritans at fault in this respect?

22. How did a like thing become true of the nation of which Jesus was a natural member?

member. They claimed to accept all the inspired Hebrew Scriptures up to that time, namely, the Law, the Prophets and the Psalms, but, as Jesus Christ pointed out to them, they made the commandments of God null and void by their traditions and precepts of uninspired men. (Matt. 15:1-9; Luke 24:44, 45) Further than that, they refused to discern and acknowledge the fulfillment of the inspired Hebrew prophecies as these were fulfilled in Jesus Christ. So they did not accept him as the Scripturally foretold Messiah. Consistent with this, they did not join up with the Jewish "remnant" of believers who received the holy spirit of God on the day of Pentecost. Further, they did not accept the final part of the Holy Scriptures, namely, the inspired Scriptures that were written in Greek by faithful apostles and disciples of the Messiah Jesus. To those unbelieving Jews divine inspiration and revelation of truth ceased with the books of Malachi and Chronicles so that to them the books from Matthew to Revelation are not an inspired addition to the Hebrew Scriptures.

²³ How has this resulted for this nation whose city of Jerusalem and its temple were destroyed in 70 C.E. and whose priesthood was thus put out of business? It has resulted for them in a misconception of God. They worship a God who has not lived up to his promises and prophecies till now. They worship a God who did not send his promised Messiah in the person of Jesus Christ, "son of David, son of Abraham." (Matt. 1:1) They worship a God who did not raise up his Messiah from the dead and seat him at his own right hand in heaven as "both Lord and Christ." (Acts 2:22-36) They worship a God who did not make a "new covenant" with a

new "holy nation," an "Israel of God" that is spiritual, by means of a mediator greater than Moses, namely, by the Messiah Jesus.—Jer. 31:31-34; Deut. 18:15-18; Acts 3:20-24; Heb. 8:7-13; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6.

²⁴ So they worship a God whose Messiah must not come now a second time to establish over all the earth the Messianic kingdom for the blessing of all mankind with a government of endless peace and righteousness. (2 Sam. 7:4-17; Isa. 9:6, 7; Dan. 2:44; 7:13, 14) As a result, the Jewish nation does not worship the true God, although their faithful forefathers did worship him.

²⁵ Concerning them, the Christian apostle, who was once himself a persecutor of the Jewish Christian remnant, wrote: "Brothers, the goodwill of my heart and my supplication to God for them are, indeed, for their salvation. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God; but not according to accurate knowledge; for, because of not knowing the righteousness of God but seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. For Christ [Messiah] is the end of the Law, so that everyone exercising faith may have righteousness." (Rom. 10:1-4; 1 Tim. 1:12-16; Gal. 1:13, 14) What, then, shall it be said of the once favored nation that rejects the God of the Messiah? Their religious zeal is "not according to accurate knowledge," but they too are worshipping what they do not know. They do not worship the God of the inspired Christian Greek Scriptures, who is the same as the God of the inspired Hebrew Scriptures.

²⁶ Well, then, is Christendom as a worshiper of her so-called Triune God wor-

23, 24. As a result of their course, how does the God of their worship fall short of the better Known God?

25. What did the apostle Paul say regarding the zeal of his nation toward God, and so what do they also today worship?

26, 27. Does "Trinitarian" Christendom worship what she knows, and how do we determine the right answer?

shipping what she knows? Or is she worshipping what she does not know? How can we know? By searching the inspired Hebrew Scriptures and the inspired Christian Greek Scriptures, for both sets of Scriptures belong together as one inspired Book.

²⁷ In neither section of that Book will the searcher find the expression "Triune God" or "Trinity," nor is there any Scriptural argument therein in favor of such a so-called "God in three Persons," namely,



When people worship as their God a Trinity, which they admit is a "mystery," can it be said that they 'worship what they know'?

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost. To the very contrary, in answer to the question, "Which commandment is first of all?" Jesus Christ answered: "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel, Jehovah our God is one Jehovah, and you must love Jehovah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole mind and with your whole strength.'" In that answer Jesus quoted from the Pentateuch at Deuteronomy 6: 4, 5. (Mark 12:28-30) But Christendom

does not obey this "first" commandment to worship the one God whose name is Jehovah.

²⁸ How, then, can Christendom worship aright? Though she refuses to admit it, she worships the pagan idea of God, a triad. Her idea of God is as varied as are the hundreds of religious sects into which she is split up. Who can deny that Christendom worships what she does not know? There is no salvation by her!

²⁹ Salvation to everlasting life in happiness is by worshipping what Jesus and his true followers know to be the true God. One of such followers, the apostle Paul, wrote under inspiration from God and said: "This is fine and acceptable in the sight of our Savior, God, whose will is that all sorts of men should be saved and come to an accurate knowledge of truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, a man, Christ Jesus, who gave himself a corresponding ransom for all." (1 Tim. 2:3-6) "Now there is no mediator where only one person is concerned, but God is only one." (Gal. 3:20) So God is one party to his "new covenant," and men who are brought into that new covenant make up the other party or other side of the arrangement; and such men can come to an "accurate knowledge of truth" through the "one mediator between God and men." That mediator was once here on earth as a man, a perfect man, who because of his human perfection and sinlessness was able to give himself as a "corresponding ransom for all." That Mediator is the Messiah Jesus or Christ Jesus. Since he mediates for the God whom he knows, he leads us to "worship what we know," God.

28. How varied is Christendom's idea of God, and is salvation by means of her?

29. To what knowledge is it God's will for all sorts of men to come, and so by whom are we led to worship what we know?

The Need to Know

WHAT WE WORSHIP

THIS loving God, whose will is for all sorts of men to be saved through the corresponding ransom of Christ Jesus, desires us to know him, that we may "worship what we know." (1 Tim. 2:3-6; John 4:22) On the other hand, there is one that seeks to get us to worship false gods, that we may worship what we do not know, to our everlasting destruction.

² Naturally this latter one is an opposer of the true God and deserves the name Resister or Satan. He worked up a resistance to the good news as preached by the apostle Paul, and concerning him Paul wrote: "If, now, the good news we declare is in fact veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing, among whom the god of this system of things has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, that the illumination of the glorious good news about the Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine through. . . . 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." (2 Cor. 4:3-6) Those who let their minds be blinded by the "god of this system of things" will perish, worshiping what they know not.

³ For millenniums now the "god of this

system of things" has put before each generation of mankind false things to worship. In this twentieth century he has caused to be set up an object of worldwide worship. No one questions the fact that we are living in a time of world endangerment, when men feel more than ever the need for organizing all the nations for world peace and security. The first world war, of 1914-1918 C.E., alerted men of the world to the danger of mankind's destroying itself by modern warfare. Two dominant political groups especially became manifest as a result of that war for world domination, namely, the democratic bloc of nations and the dictatorial, totalitarian bloc of nations. Two political ideologies were represented by them, and each bloc feared expansion by violent aggression on the part of the other. The prophecy of God's Word, the Bible, pictured them under the symbol of two kings, the democratic, liberal bloc of nations as the "king of the south," and the dictatorial, totalitarian bloc of nations as the "king of the north." Daniel's prophecy, chapter eleven, tells about these two "kings."

⁴ The movements of these two symbolic "kings" against each other affect all mankind, and no nation or people escapes the effects. This is especially so in what Daniel's prophecy calls "the time of the end."

1, 2. (a) Who is opposed to our worshiping what we know, and what is he therefore designated? (b) What does the apostle Paul call that one, and what happens to those whose minds he blinds?

3. (a) Amid worldwide danger, men today have seen the need to organize the world for what? (b) What two political blocs are active on the world scene, and how does Daniel, chapter eleven, picture them?

4. (a) The movements of these two symbolic "kings" affect whom, and particularly at what time? (b) Against whom or what is each one of these "kings"?

(Dan. 11:27-40; 12:4) World history agrees with Bible prophecy that this critical "time of the end" began in the year 1914 C.E., when the "times of the Gentiles" as mentioned by Jesus Christ in his prophecy in Luke 21:20-24 (*Authorized Version*) came to their end. World War I, which began in that year, marked the beginning of "the end" for those Gentile nations. Those nations have since lined up in blocs behind either the "king of the north" or the "king of the south," some few nations trying to keep neutral. Both of these "kings" are intent on world domination. But they are not just against each other. Unitedly they are against the Government that has the right to sovereignty over all the earth since the Gentile Times ended in 1914.

⁵ That government is the one that Jesus Christ prophesied would be proclaimed, especially since 1914, saying: "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) Was it the dispersed natural Jews with their Zionist hopes of a homeland for the Jews in Palestine who took up preaching the good news of God's Messianic kingdom? No, but the faithful disciples of Jesus Christ did so. These disciples, anointed with God's spirit, were the ones who calculated from the Bible's timetable that the Gentile Times were to end in early autumn of 1914 C.E. The visible proof that the Gentile Times ended at that time came before the notice of all the world from 1914 onward. For them this proof meant that God's Messianic kingdom had been established in the heavens by the enthronement up there of the Messiah, Jesus.

5. By whom was the good news of that government proclaimed, as foretold in Matthew 24:14, and since what marked event?

⁶ However, the Kingdom's birth did not mean immediate destruction for all earthly nations. The Kingdom would first establish itself in full control over the wreck and ruin of all earthly institutions after the world's worst time of trouble had run its course. So in the issue of *The Watch Tower* of October 15, 1914, more than two months after World War I had started, there was published the opening article "View from the Watch Tower." Under the heading "Shortening of the Days of Trouble" it expressed the view that the world war was the opening phase of a world tribulation that would worsen until its most crucial stage, wrecking the unity of human society. That *Watch Tower* article said:

"That will be the time mentioned by our Savior, saying, 'Unless those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved.' (Matthew 24:22) The Master tells us, however, that those days of anarchy and general strife—'every man's hand against his brother, against his neighbor, and no peace to him that goeth out or to him that cometh in'—*shall be shortened*. The establishment of the church in glory, the bringing of the elect into control of the world, will shorten those days and inaugurate the reign of the Prince of Peace."—Page 307.

⁸ In the following issue of *The Watch Tower*, that of November 1, 1914, came the leading article "Making Ready for the Reign of Righteousness." It featured sub-headings such as "A Counterfeit of Christ's Kingdom," "The End of the Gentile Times," "Evidences of Our Lord's Parousia [Presence]," "Inauguration of Messiah's Kingdom Gradual," "The Battle of

6, 7. (a) The Kingdom was expected to establish itself in full control over earth when or after what? (b) What did *The Watch Tower* as of October 15, 1914, say about shortening the days of the great tribulation?

8. (a) What interesting themes were discussed in the next succeeding issue of *The Watch Tower*? (b) How was much publicity as to the meaning of the times carried on back there in 1914?

Armageddon," and "Re the Deliverance of the Church." Much other publicity explained what the times meant, by the worldwide presentation of the Photo-Drama of Creation, and by public lectures and by spreading six volumes of *Studies in the Scriptures*, but also by distributing free tracts, such as the one featuring "End of the World in 1914." Under the subheading "Many Tons of Free Literature," the Annual Report for 1914 said: "The quantities have grown enormously. Many who cannot give all their time in the colporteur work, colporteurs also and pilgrims (indeed, all our readers), have found opportunities for engaging as volunteers in the Lord's service in the distribution of reading matter, which we provide approximately in thirty languages."—*The Watch Tower*, December 15, 1914, page 374.

TAKING AWAY

THE CONSTANT SACRIFICE OF PRAISE

⁹ Thus from the records it is manifest that the faithful disciples of Jesus Christ were then endeavoring to offer to Jehovah a continual sacrifice of praise, to "shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." (1 Pet. 2:9, *Authorized Version*) They had their hearts set on God's heavenly kingdom by Christ and were advertising it as the rightful government of all mankind. But the democratic "king of the south" and the autocratic "king of the north," both of whom were part of the counterfeit kingdom of Christ in Christendom, were battling for world domination. As a part of their war program, and with the full backing of the religious clergy of Christendom, they maneuvered their affairs to "scatter the power of the holy

people," to dash the "power of the holy people to pieces." (Dan. 12:7; *Authorized Version*) By the end of three and a half years (three and a half symbolic "times") they succeeded in doing this.

¹⁰ Up to that point of time they were greatly hampering the daily, continual, constant offering of the sacrifice of praise to Jehovah God by war restrictions and pressures. For instance, in Great Britain, those dedicated Christians who were "absolutists" in keeping strict neutrality and who refused to aid either side in the conflict were sentenced to years in prison. Strict Christian neutrals in North America were treated similarly. Many did not see Christian neutrality clearly and undertook noncombatant service, even in uniform. At times these were treated worse by the military forces than were the "absolutists." They were also taken away from the priestly offering up of the sacrifices of praise to Jehovah God.

¹¹ In July of 1917 the Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society published the religious book *The Finished Mystery*. This was seized upon by the "king of the south" as something to use against the dedicated "holy people" of Jehovah God. This book and other printed literature that were used in offering "sacrifices of praise" were put under government ban or censorship and were withdrawn from circulation, much to the delight of the religious clergy of Christendom. Finally, in order to "scatter the power of the holy people" or to dash their unified power to pieces, the "king of the south" proceeded against certain officials and other servants of the Watch Tower Society who had had something to do with publishing *The Finished Mystery*. These were railroaded off to Fed-

9. What was it that God's "holy people" were offering to him, and what did the "king of the south" and the "king of the north" try to do?

10. How was the work of the "holy people" hampered, and how were many taken away from this priestly work of offering sacrifice?

11. (a) The publication of what book was seized upon as a means to proceed against offerers of sacrifices of praise? (b) How was the power of the holy people finally dashed to pieces?

eral Penitentiary under charges later proved to be false, and sentences of twenty years' imprisonment. This reduced the "power of the holy people" in this "time of the end" to a very low point.

¹² What did this signify in the fulfillment of Bible prophecies concerning the "time of the end"? It meant the taking away of the "constant" sacrifice or feature, or "daily sacrifice," as offered by Jehovah's holy people. This had been foretold, in Daniel 12:11 which speaks of "the time that the constant feature [the daily sacrifice, *Authorized Version*] has been removed and there has been a placing of the disgusting thing that is causing desolation." It was during the spring of 1918 that the scattering or dashing to pieces was accomplished as regards the power of Jehovah's "holy people" to offer the "constant feature" or "daily sacrifice."

¹³ But what did those who did this scattering or dashing to pieces present as a substitute for the "daily sacrifice" or "constant feature" that Jehovah's "holy people" had been continually offering up by preaching "this good news of the kingdom" as a praise to God? Something that did not bring praise to Jehovah God, but what his Word, at Daniel 12:11, calls "the disgusting thing [the abomination, *Authorized Version*] that is causing desolation."

PUTTING IN PLACE THE DISGUSTING DESOLATOR

¹⁴ What was this disgusting, abominable thing, and when was it placed? This was a political measure that was adopted by the worldly nations instead of accepting God's Messianic kingdom that had been set up in the heavens at the end of the

Gentile Times in 1914 C.E. This was the League of Nations, the covenant of which was made part of the Versailles Peace Treaty, and was especially advocated by the "king of the south." Thus when the Peace Treaty was ratified by the political powers that were involved, on October 13, 1919, the League of Nations went into effect. So this international organization, as instead of God's Messianic kingdom, was set up to preserve the peace and security of all mankind. When Great Britain ratified the Peace Treaty, the Church of England ratified the anti-Kingdom League of Nations, for the then king of England was the head of that national Church.

¹⁵ The United States Senate refused to ratify the Peace Treaty because it contained the Covenant of the League of Nations, and later it concluded a separate peace treaty with Germany; however, the president of the United States strongly advocated the League of Nations and, back in December of 1918, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America did, by special resolution, urge the American president to work at the Peace Conference for setting up the League of Nations, as being "the political expression of the Kingdom of God on earth." Was the product of such international action disgusting, abominable to the God of the true Messianic kingdom? It could not be anything else but that!

¹⁶ Did this disgusted God make protest to the nations that undertook the League of Nations? Yes, through his "holy people" on earth. In the spring of 1919 he brought to an end the condition in which his "holy people" had their power scat-

12. What did such action mean for God's "holy people" in connection with the fulfillment of Daniel 12:11?

13. What did those who took away the "constant feature" or "daily sacrifice" present instead thereof, according to Daniel 12:11?

14. What was this "disgusting thing" or abomination, and when was it placed?

15. (a) How did elements in the United States of America react toward the League of Nations? (b) Was that product of international action such a thing as described in Daniel 12:11?

16. (a) How was protest on the part of the disgusted God rendered to the nations? (b) In time, what was the League of Nations identified as being, according to Revelation 17:11?

tered or dashed to pieces. After the Versailles Peace Treaty was signed on June 28, 1919, but before the League of Nations went into effect on October 13, 1919, God's liberated, reunited "holy people" celebrated their first international convention at Cedar Point, Ohio, September 1-8, 1919. There in the public lecture of "Hope for Distressed Humanity" it was boldly declared that the League of Nations, despite having the blessing of the clergy of Christendom, would never have Jehovah's blessing and would therefore fail. Shortly afterward the League was identified in the *Watch Tower* issue as of January 1, 1921, as being the "image of the wild beast" foretold in Revelation 13: 14, 15, set up for worldwide worship. Furthermore, in 1926, in the public lecture in Royal Albert Hall of London, England, it was proclaimed that the League of Nations was the Eighth World Power foretold in Revelation 17:11.

¹⁷ In spite of being repeatedly put on notice by Jehovah's "holy people," the nations of Christendom continued to idolize that "image of the wild beast" until it went into the abyss of helpless ineffectiveness in World War II of 1939-1945. But Revelation 17:7, 8 foretold that the "image of the wild beast" was to come up out of the abyss of inactivity. It did, on October 24, 1945, when the needed number of political powers had ratified the Peace Treaty. This international organization for world peace and security was given the name United Nations. This was preceded by the worldwide persecution carried on against Jehovah's "holy people" for the purpose of again removing their sacrifices of praise at God's spiritual

sanctuary, their constantly advertising God's Messianic kingdom as the one and only hope of the world of mankind. This was an attempt to do again what the armed nations had done during World War I. Daniel 11:31 foretold this:

¹⁸ "And there will be arms that will stand up, proceeding from him; and they will actually profane the sanctuary, the fortress, and remove the constant feature. And they will certainly put in place the disgusting thing that is causing desolation."

¹⁹ To this day the peoples and nations hold to this idolatrous "image of the wild beast," 126 nations being members of the United Nations. Those nations are worshiping what they do not know, their own religious leaders misleading them. But the "holy people" of Jehovah God know what they are worshiping. They do not join the world in worshiping the political "image" of the Devil's worldwide system of political government. They worship what they know, and that is Jehovah the only living and true God, who forbids image worship. They do not join those of Christendom who claim to be in the covenant for God's kingdom and yet turn against it in favor of the League of Nations and its successor, the United Nations, "the disgusting thing that is causing desolation."

²⁰ In view of this world situation the next verse (32) of Daniel, chapter 11, finds fulfillment: "And those who are acting wickedly against the covenant, he will lead into apostasy by means of smooth words. But as regards the people who are knowing their God, they will prevail and act effectively."

17, 18. (a) Why did there need to be a reviving of the organization for world peace and security, and how did it occur? (b) What was attempted against the sacrificial work of Jehovah's "holy people" and how was this foretold in Daniel 11:31?

19. How are the nations thus worshiping what they do not know, and what is the object of worship for the "holy people"?

20. What contrast does Daniel 11:32 draw between those acting wickedly and the people who know their God?

EXPLOITS OF THE PEOPLE THAT KNOW THEIR GOD

²¹ In Jehovah's Christian witnesses of today we can observe the divine reward to the "people who are knowing their God." They are not ashamed to point out from the inspired Holy Bible that the true God's name is Jehovah and that they are his dedicated, baptized witnesses just the same as Jesus Christ himself was. All these years, from 1919 till now, they have not let themselves be won over by the flattering, smooth words uttered by either "the king of the south" or "the king of the north" and thus turned into the way of apostasy against God's Messianic kingdom. They have prevailed over smoothworded flattery of political and religious propaganda and over the heavy pressure of brutal persecution. Valiantly they have unswervingly held fast to the course marked out for them by Jesus Christ, in Matthew 24:14: "This good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations." In defiance of the worldwide worshiping of the political "image of the wild beast" they persist in worshiping the Bible God, Jehovah, whom they know.

²² Have they dealt valiantly, have they taken action, have they done exploits, have they acted effectively? The answer to this question can be based upon the fulfillment of the prophecy of Daniel 11:33 toward them: "And as regards those having insight among the people, they will impart understanding to the many." And to this are added the words of Daniel 12:3: "And the ones having insight will shine like the brightness of the expanse; and those who are bringing the many to

righteousness, like the stars to time indefinite, even forever." How necessary this work of enlightenment and of imparting understanding has been during this "time of the end"! How vital this work is Satan the Devil, "the god of this system of things," well knows. Consequently he has brought the foretold persecution upon the "people who are knowing their God." By it he tries to knock them out of their God-given work. (Dan. 11:33-35) He has used the worshipers of the idolatrous "image of the wild beast" in this persecution, but he has not prevailed. The anointed remnant of "people who are knowing their God" have been the ones that have prevailed, and this due to having insight.

²³ Today religious conditions are deplorable throughout the earth. As to the Samaritans of Jesus' day it can be said to them: "You worship what you do not know." (John 4:22) Their worship of the political "image of the wild beast" and of other false gods will result in their being destroyed in the coming "great tribulation" upon Christendom, upon all the rest of Babylon the Great and upon all her political paramours in this mundane system of things. Such worldwide danger increases the nearer mankind gets to the outbreak of the "great tribulation," out of which, unless the days of it were cut short, "no flesh would be saved." (Matt. 24:21, 22) Men need to be enlightened with the truth of God's Word, the Bible; they need to have understanding of it imparted to them, that they may truthfully know the only God to worship, Jehovah.

²⁴ The anointed remnant of "people who are knowing their God" have lived up to

21. How have Jehovah's Christian witnesses 'prevailed and acted effectively,' holding fast to what course of worldwide activity?

22. What prophecies of Daniel concerning enlightening and imparting understanding have the Christian witnesses of Jehovah fulfilled, and despite Satan's use of what?

23. The world's religious condition will result in "great tribulation" upon whom, and for what purpose do the people need enlightenment and understanding?

24. How extensively have Jehovah's witnesses acted effectively in the work foretold in Daniel's prophecy?

the prophecy that foretold how they would "act effectively." The record as published over the years proves this. Their work has not been without the effect promised in the infallible Word of God. They have imparted the all-necessary understanding to "the many" till now. This they have done by means of spreading the magazine *The Watchtower* now published in seventy-three languages, by the circulation from house to house of other Bible literature in 165 languages, yes, by the printing and distributing of a number of Bible versions of which they have the ownership in a number of languages. And not only by putting these Bibles and Bible study aids in the hands of the people, but by personally carrying on free studies in the Bible itself in the homes of the people who are dissatisfied at worshipping what they do not know.

²⁵ Their taking this action has been effective under Jehovah's blessing. Particularly since the year 1935 C.E. a "great crowd" of persons has been responding in all the nations, tribes, peoples and languages where this imparting of Bible understanding could be carried forward. They have given up worshipping what they do not know at various places considered sacred, religiously holy. They have been helped to worship the only God worthy of being worshiped. They do not go up to Mount Gerizim or to Jerusalem in Israel to worship him. They do not worship him mechanically or ceremonially, but in the real spirit of worship by faith and with the Bible truth they worship him, wherever they are.

²⁶ They worship him at his true sanctuary, his spiritual temple not made with

human hands, serving him day and night there in righteousness, pictured by white robes that have been washed in the blood of the Lamb Jesus Christ. In worship to the God whom they know, they cry out in unity: "Salvation we owe to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb."—Rev. 7:9-15.

²⁷ These worshipers of what they know have not kept their knowledge, insight and understanding to themselves. In full dedication to God they have joined the anointed "holy people" who "are knowing their God," and are imparting understanding to still others and spreading spiritual enlightenment to them. Persecution has not stopped them any more than it has stopped the anointed remnant since 1919 C.E. They also will prevail and continue to "act effectively" until the "great tribulation" comes shortly upon their persecutors and these are no more.

²⁸ Thereafter this earth will be a clean place for all those who are "knowing their God" and who are worshipping him with spirit and truth. To endless time they will keep on taking in knowledge of the only true God, Jehovah, and of the one whom he sent, namely, Jesus Christ, for this taking in knowledge of these two means everlasting life in happiness to those who live in harmony with that knowledge. (John 17:3) Forever, in God's approaching new order, they will do as he has advised, namely, boast in 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."—Jer. 9:24; 1 Cor. 1:31.

27. (a) What have these worshipers done with their knowledge, insight and understanding? (b) How long will they also act effectively?

28. (a) How long will these worshipers take in knowledge that is vital? (b) In what will they boast, according to Jeremiah 9:24?

25, 26. (a) In what way has their taking action been effective especially since 1935 C.E.? (b) Where does this "great crowd" of worshipers carry on their worship, and how?

A MIDDLE-AGED mother in the supermarket slipped a can of anchovies into her purse without paying for it. At the same time her husband across the street dropped a slug into a parking meter, where it registered as a dime. Their daughter that day got off work early after lying about being sick. What do you think of acts such as these? Do you view them as clever or do you hate them?

These things may seem petty, but are they? Oceans are made of drops of water. A small spark can set a forest afire. Small wrongs often lead to big disasters. Jesus Christ said: "The person faithful in what is least is faithful also in much, and the person unrighteous in what is least is unrighteous also in much." (Luke 16:10) So wrong acts, even though small, should not be excused but viewed with serious concern, because they are evidence of moral weakness.

People, no doubt, become more aware of the evils of wrongdoing when the act, little or big, is committed against themselves. Then it hurts. The pain becomes real. If the mother with the anchovies returned home to find her television set stolen, if the father caught someone trying to shortchange him, or if the daughter's fiancé feigned sickness so as to go out with another girl, doubtless these people would find such acts offensive and would raise a cry of protest. The difference, of course, is that they themselves would be the victims.

When HATRED is a GOOD THING -A PROTECTION

When we hear of the bad done in the world—the lying, the frauds, the robberies, the acts of fornication and adultery, the brutality and killings—it helps us to get the right viewpoint if we realize that we or our loved ones might have been the victims. And if a person feels tempted to do wrong, he does well to ask himself how he would feel if that same wrong were committed against himself or members of his family.

Such an approach will cause one to understand and appreciate better why God commands: "O you lovers of Jehovah, hate what is bad." Also why the apostle Paul urged: "Abhor what is wicked." And why the psalmist said: "I have hated every false path. Falsehood I have hated, and I do keep detesting it." (Ps. 97:10; Rom. 12:9; Ps. 119:104, 163) Do you feel as the apostle and the psalmist did about badness? Do you hate what is bad?

WRONG AND RIGHT KINDS OF HATRED

This word "hate" has several shades of meaning. It may denote intense hostility, sustained ill will often accompanied by malice, that impels one to bring harm to the hated object. This is a wrong kind of hatred. It has a bad motive. It is born of the Devil, often is nurtured in a confused and frustrated mind, and is invariably misdirected. The whole history of men and nations under the Devil's control has been practically a continuous account of violent bloodspilling hatred. Sometimes only a few individuals are involved. At other times

anarchy and revolution engulf a whole nation. Frequently the hatred bred by international wars blots out the lives of thousands of innocent ones.

"Hate" may also signify a strong dislike, but without any intent to bring harm to the object, seeking instead to avoid it as when one loathes something distasteful. This kind of hate is good if directed against that which is bad.

This right kind of hatred is in imitation of Jehovah, the God of righteousness. He does not hate what is bad because of frustration nor does he manifest his hate in uncontrolled, intemperate, violent actions. God's hatred of what is bad is a principled hatred. Such hatred does not disturb one's peace of mind and afflict one with ulcers. It is a strong dislike, an extreme aversion, a pronounced distaste, a profound repugnance of what is bad. It means to loathe, to abhor, to abominate whatever is bad because it is wrong, very harmful and wholly unloving.—Prov. 6:16-19.

WHY HATE WHAT IS BAD?

First of all, Jehovah hates what is bad. That in itself should be reason enough for any of us also to hate what is bad. If a loving, very wise father refuses to eat poisonous mushrooms, this should be sufficient reason for his little boy also to loathe them. And if the father forbids the boy to eat them, then this is a double reason why an obedient boy who loves his father will despise them as food. To the boy it is not just a matter of hating the consequences of getting sick if he disobeys his father. Rather, his obedience springs from a heartfelt love for his father.

A secondary, yet very important reason for hating what is wrong has to do with the resulting consequences. Says the proverb: "A bad person will not go unpunished." (Prov. 11:21) Men and women before the flood of Noah's day did not escape

the consequences of doing what was bad; only the eight who hated what was bad survived. (Gen. 6:5-7; 7:1) A more modern example is the experience of the men who engineered England's greatest train robbery, making away with some \$7,300,000. Later, they were all caught and imprisoned. If these men had hated the bad, as God's Word commands, they would have saved themselves many miserable prison years.—*Time*, October 31, 1969.

NEED FOR RIGHT HATRED TODAY

The God-given counsel to hate what is bad was never more needed than it is today. Satan and his demons, knowing that their time is short, are doing all they possibly can to corrupt and destroy the human race. They use selfish, greedy men to exploit the weaknesses and sinful tendencies of their fellow humans. Truly we are living in "critical times hard to deal with," when 'because of the increase of lawlessness the love of the greater number has cooled off.' To protect yourself from these conditions you must hate what is bad.—2 Tim. 3:1; Matt. 24:12; Rev. 12:12.

Unless we are strongly opposed to bad, we may be won over by it. Because we are born sinners, our inclination is toward bad. (Ps. 51:5; Gen. 8:21; Rom. 7:14-25) That is why it is not enough just to love what is good; we must also hate what is bad. Jesus Christ 'loved righteousness and hated wickedness.' (Ps. 45:7; Heb. 1:9) We must do the same to survive this evil system of things.

There is no neutral middle ground of indifference in this matter. The principle that Jesus stated applies here: "He that is not on my side is against me." (Matt. 12:30) Jesus was not indifferent, but actively and uncompromisingly took his stand as a hater of what was bad. If you are not with him in a similar hatred of

the wrong you are against him by being a lover of the bad.

Put yourself to the test: Are your standards those of this old world or are yours the Christian standards as set forth in the Bible? The worldly standards say in substance: "You must not steal—much." "You must not lie—unless you are in a jam." "You must not commit adultery—except when you are in 'love.'" Or sometimes worldlings make their law read: "You must not *get caught* stealing, lying, committing adultery, etc." Are these your standards? Certainly they are not those of God, Christ Jesus or of true Christians, all of whom hate what is wrong.

What about your standard of morality? Do you go along with those who advocate new, popular standards with convenient escape clauses added? These people will say, "I'm honest—up to a point." "I'm truthful—a good part of the time." "You can trust me—if you keep an eye on me." "I'd never rob a bank, because it's too dangerous." "The Bible's Ten Commandments are great, for the other fellow."

HATING THE BAD PROTECTS YOU

There are many things that Jehovah hates and which he tells those loving him to hate. To follow through on this divine counsel is beneficial in many respects, one of which is the protection it affords the person obeying. Consider a few examples.

In their illicit sex relations many persons have experienced the fear of unwanted pregnancy, the dread of disease, the threat of abandonment and heartbreak, and the erosion of self-respect. A twenty-two-year-old girl said: 'I wanted nothing more in the world than to marry him. But when I became pregnant, he abandoned me.' Had she heeded the wise counsel of God's Word and hated what is bad, her life would have been altogether different.

A wife said that she "very nearly lost her home, her sanity and everything in life that matters" by engaging in "wife swapping." "Our foolishness had cost more than we had planned to pay," she said. "My blood runs cold when I think how close we came to destroying ourselves for a few cheap thrills." God's Word protects persons from such miseries, if they will heed the warning and hate what is bad.

Graphically the Bible warns of the result of sexual immorality when it describes the foolish young man that is enticed to have relations with a prostitute: "All of a sudden he is going after her, like a bull that comes even to the slaughter, . . . just as a bird hastens into the trap, and he has not known that it involves his very soul." (Prov. 7:22, 23) Every year thousands are caught in this "sex trap" and are figuratively led away like animals to the slaughter, pierced through with venereal diseases—all because they spurned the protection that hating the bad would have afforded them.

Drunkenness is a killer. A report from England says that it is responsible for over a third of all fatal car accidents. And yet the remedy is simpler and less costly than safety belts. If these drunkards applied the wisdom of the Bible, hating the bad thing, thousands of tragic deaths could be avoided. Those having woe, uneasiness, contentions, concern, dull eyes, the Bible says, are "those staying a long time with the wine . . . At its end it bites just like a serpent."—Prov. 23:29-32.

It is good to hate crime and violence, adultery, drunkenness and homosexuality for what they are. Crime robs people of what is rightfully theirs. It is to be loathed. Adultery breaks up families, deprives children of care. It is a sin against God and man and deserving of our deepest hatred. Drunkenness endangers people and also ruins lives. It should be abhorred. Homo-

sexuality is a perversion of the lowest sort. It is detested by God. (Rom. 1:24-27) If you hate such bad things, this is good and for your protection.

But what about those things termed "petty crimes," like the stealing of the anchovies, cheating the parking meter, or lying to the boss? While such bad things may have a certain appeal, or may seem to do no one any great harm, still sooner or later they too will exact undesirable penalties—guilty consciences, shame and reproach, and estrangement from true friends. If you hate these things too, not because of the penalties, but because Jehovah hates them, this too will be for your protection.

HOW TO HATE WHAT IS BAD

You can do this by keeping far from what is bad. What you abhor, you avoid. You must therefore first know what is bad before you can avoid it. But in this regard you are well equipped, for Jehovah in his Word sets out in great detail what is bad, and often tells us how to avoid it. Study of the Bible is absolutely essential to know how and what to hate.

So it is that enlightened Christians rightly hate those who are confirmed enemies of God, such as the Devil and his demons, as well as men who have deliberately and knowingly taken their stand against Jehovah. (Ps. 139:21, 22) This hatred of such individuals does not seek to inflict injury on them and is not synonymous with

spite or malice. Rather, it finds expression in its utter abhorrence and avoidance of those intensely hating Jehovah. You must avoid the "table of demons" if you hope to eat at Jehovah's table.—1 Cor. 10:21; Rom. 12:9, 17, 19.

Some people may appear to be "nice people," but one must ask: "Do they have Christian morals and principles? Do they love Jehovah?" Their love of God and neighbor should determine what our relationship with them will be. This matter of association is important, for if we enjoy being with those who do bad things we will soon cease hating what they do.—1 Cor. 15:33.

Positive thinking, of course, is very important. It is not merely a matter of negatively hating badness; a positive love of goodness is also necessary. Hence, the formula for hating what is bad is twofold, as the apostle Paul so concisely puts it: "Abhor what is wicked, cling to what is good." (Rom. 12:9) Show that you hate wickedness by filling the mind with good thoughts. (Phil. 4:8) Also, fill the heart with good motivations, instead of storing up in it the desires to do bad.—Matt. 15:19; Mark 7:21-23; Prov. 4:23.

Do you hate what is bad? God's Word urges you to do so. And it is the right, the wise and the loving thing to do. Show, then, that you hate what is bad and love what is good by your choice of associates, by what you think about, what you talk about, and by how you act.

Omri, a Powerful Israelite King

- The Bible account regarding Israelite king Omri, the father of King Ahab, is very brief. It explains that he reigned for twelve years and built the city of Samaria. (1 Ki. 16:16-28) Other sources have been uncovered that indicate what a powerful ruler Omri was. In Assyrian records Palestine is called *Bit-Humria*, that is, House of Omri. Also, the discovery in 1868 of the now famous Moabite Stone reveals that King Omri subdued Mesha, the king of Moab, and showed his strength over Moab for some time. This information from the Moabite Stone further illuminates the Bible passage at 2 Kings 3:4, 5.

THE MAN WHO WAS DEAD FOUR DAYS

ISN'T it wonderful to be alive? Do you enjoy life? I enjoy living. When we are alive we can do so many interesting things.

But did you know that no man has lived forever? Sooner or later all persons have died. Do you know someone who has died? It makes people very unhappy when someone they love dies. This is because the person is gone, and they cannot see him or talk to him anymore.

There was a death in a family that Jesus knew very well. This made everyone sad, but

Jesus was able to turn the sadness to great joy. Let me tell you about it. This story will help you to see what happens to a person when he dies.

These friends of Jesus lived in Bethany, which is a small town not far from Jerusalem. There were Lazarus and his two sisters. One sister was named Martha and the other was Mary.

One day Lazarus got very sick. Jesus was far away at the time. So Martha and Mary sent word to him that their brother Lazarus was sick. Why did they do this? Because they knew that Jesus could make their brother well. Jesus was not a doctor, but he had power from God so that he could cure every kind of sickness.

But Jesus did not at once come to where Lazarus and his sisters lived. Lazarus got so sick that he died. The people buried him in a cave, and put a big stone in front of it.

When Lazarus died, Jesus knew about it right away. This is because he had the power from God to know such things. Jesus told his disciples that Lazarus was

sleeping. But Jesus said that he would go to wake him.

The disciples did not understand that Jesus meant that Lazarus was dead. So they told him that if Lazarus was sleeping, he would get well. Then Jesus said in plain language that Lazarus had died.

Death is like a deep sleep, a sleep that is so deep that the person does not even dream. In death people do not feel or suffer anything. That is why Jesus said that

Lazarus was sleeping when Lazarus really was dead. So this is what death is like.

Jesus now went to visit Martha and Mary. There were also many friends of the family there. They had come to comfort Martha and Mary over the loss of their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him. Soon Mary also came out to see Jesus. She was very sad and was crying, and she fell at his feet. Other friends, who had followed Mary, were also crying. When Jesus saw all the people crying, he became sad and started to cry too.

The Great Teacher asked where the body of Lazarus was. At that the people led Jesus to the cave where Lazarus had been buried. Jesus then told the men there: 'Take the stone away from the front of the cave.' Should they do it?

Martha did not think it was right. She said: 'Lord, by now he must smell, for he has been dead four days.' And it is true that dead bodies do smell bad after a while.

But Jesus said to her: "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" By that Jesus

An article specially designed for
parents to read with their children

meant that Martha would see something that would bring honor to God. What was Jesus going to do?

When the stone had been removed, Jesus prayed out loud to Jehovah. He wanted the people there to know that God is the One who gave Jesus his powers. Then Jesus said in a loud voice: "Lazarus, come on out!" Would he come out? Could he?

An amazing thing happened. The man who had been dead for four days came on out of the cave! He had been brought back to life! He could breathe and walk and speak again! Yes, Jesus raised Lazarus after he had been dead four days! Wasn't that wonderful?—John chapter 11.

But you may ask, Where was Lazarus during the four days he was dead? Lazarus was a good man, for Jesus had only good people as his close friends. Did Lazarus go to heaven when he died? Was he alive up there with God and the holy angels?

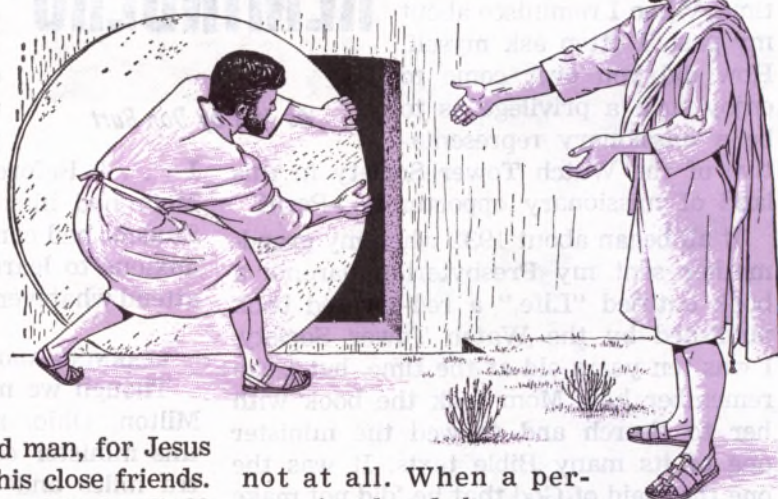
Think now: If Lazarus had been in heaven during those four days, would he not have said something about it? Living in heaven would have been something too wonderful to keep to himself! But Lazarus did not say a word about being in heaven or anywhere else.

Remember, Jesus said that Lazarus was sleeping. What is it like when you are asleep?

When you are in a very deep sleep, you do not know what is going on around you, do you? And when you wake up you do

not know how long you have been sleeping until you look at a clock.

Since death is like a deep sleep, this means that the dead cannot do anything. They are unconscious. But many persons do not know this. They are even scared to go near a graveyard because they are afraid of dead people. But is there any reason to be afraid of the dead? No,



not at all. When a person is dead he cannot do good and he cannot do harm.

Can you wake up somebody who is sleeping? Yes, if you call in a loud voice, the one who is sleeping will wake up. But can you wake up someone who is sleeping in death? No. No matter how loud you call, the one who is dead will not hear. There is nothing that you or any other person on earth can do to wake the dead.

But Jehovah God has given Jesus the power to raise the dead. He can bring the dead back to life again. And Jesus promises that he will do this soon under the rule of God's kingdom. What a happy time that will be!

"Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out."—John 5:28, 29.

Walking in the Way *of* **JEHOVAH'S REMINDERS**

PERU is my present assignment. I have been serving here since the fall of 1954. It has been and is an exciting place to work. I have never tired of the country and there seems to be something new happening all the time. When I reminisce about my past, I often ask myself, How did you ever come to enjoy such a privilege as to be a missionary representative of the Watch Tower Society in this land of missionary opportunity—Peru?

It all began about 1932 when my grandmother sent my Presbyterian parents a book entitled "Life," a red-covered book published by the Watch Tower Society. I was ten years old at the time, but I can remember how Mom took the book with her to church and showed the minister one of its many Bible texts. It was the one that said of God that he 'did not make the earth in vain, but to be inhabited.' (Isa. 45:18) Mom wondered how that harmonized with the church teaching that the earth was going to be destroyed at the end of the world.

Instead of answering her question, the clergyman said: "Where did you get that book? Get rid of it. It will only confuse you." Evidently that was the wrong thing to say to my mother, for that ended any association we had with the church. Mean-time, grandmother kept writing and sharing with us things she was learning about the Bible. Dad and Mom studied that red book with their Bible and always kept us kids up-to-date with what they were learning. We really felt that we had a part in what they were doing.

As told by Don Burt

We lived in Leavittsburg, Ohio, at that time, and we knew of no other readers of Watch Tower literature in the whole area. Mom always wondered when one of them—"Bible Students" as they were then known—would come to our door. She seemed to be sure they would. And, sure enough, one eventually did come. He introduced himself as coming from Niles, Ohio, and began: "I am visiting you as a Bible Student and

I . . . " Before he could go any farther Mom had him step right in. That Bible Student had contacted a willing family, all anxious to learn the Bible's message and attend whatever meetings they could reach.

LEARNING ABOUT JEHOVAH'S REMINDERS

Though we moved, soon after, to Lake Milton, Ohio, much farther from Niles, this minister continued to travel the extra miles and conduct the study in our family circle. Bible study aids that we studied thoroughly at that time included the books *Enemies*, *Prophecy*, *Reconciliation* and *Preservation*. My parents were always very strict about having us kids come in from play to share in the study. We were also trained to do jobs around the home.

In due time a congregation of Jehovah's people was formed at Newton Falls, Ohio, and Dad was appointed presiding minister or "company servant," while I was "sound servant." That meant that I was responsible to care for the phonographs and recorded lectures that we used in those days to introduce the Kingdom message in our door-to-door ministry.

I was a great reader, so Dad made it a point to furnish me with my own Bible,

which I had soon read through several times. Thus, during the time when I was going through junior high and high school, Jehovah's reminders were always there as a protection to me. (Ps. 119:9-16) I was guarded against evil practices and from the worldly thinking that keeps prodding people to "get ahead of the other guy" and "go out and make a place for yourself in the world." I knew that Jehovah expected us to practice truth and justice and kindness.

The falseness and unfairness of the "Christmas lie" and its imaginary Santa Claus disgusted me. I can recall seeing the furtive glances of the poorer kids at the nice things other children had received. They had been told that "Santa" brought fine gifts only for good children. I grew to hate the whole hypocritical business, and my schoolmates knew where I stood, for I spoke up at every opportunity.

During my school years I applied myself to studies, for I knew that typing, English grammar and history would always be valuable. Good literature appealed to me too. But with all this I could not seem to reach any conclusion about a vocation. A thought that frequently came to me was: Where does God's will enter the picture?

MY DECISION MADE

Developing world conditions helped me to make up my mind. In 1938 there were already premonitions of war in Europe. At times we heard over the radio the rantings and ravings of Hitler. Things looked dark. Dad, who had been involved in World War I, asked us boys what we would do in event of another war. He reasoned out the matter with us, but left it to us to supply our own answers. Both my brother Harold and I decided that we would be strictly neutral.

Soon I figured out that there was only one direction for me. Jehovah's reminders were what I wanted to follow. So, I dedicated my life to Jehovah and at sixteen was baptized in symbol of that dedication. Soon after, Dad took us all to Cleveland to hear the talk "Face the Facts" by J. F. Rutherford, then president of the Watch Tower Society, broadcast from the Royal Albert Hall, in London, England, to forty-nine other convention cities in the English-speaking world. The speaker fearlessly exposed the Catholic-Nazi-Fascist combine, and when he got through I knew exactly what I wanted to do. I have never since then missed any large assembly of Jehovah's people, nor have I resisted being guided by Jehovah's wonderful reminders.

One such reminder came around December 1939 in the monthly paper called "Informant." Its article "Can You Be a Pioneer by Springtime?" seemed to be directed especially to one in my circumstances. When I mentioned the matter to my parents, they were all for it. So I left school and started out as a "pioneer" or full-time preacher of the Kingdom on January 13, 1940.

ADJUSTING TO A NEW LIFE

That first year was admittedly difficult. I was anxious to acquit myself as a good representative of God's kingdom at the doors. From the start I prepared my Bible so that I had a chain of scriptures for just about every vital topic. This helped me over many of the rough spots. I varied my introductions to fit the persons met at the doorsteps. At the end of each day I was all talked out, but supremely happy at being able to answer questions and explain God's Word to inquirers.

During World War II it was difficult to obtain part-time secular employment in

order to maintain myself in the pioneer ministry. However, at times fellow Witnesses offered me free accommodations. My parents and others took it upon themselves from time to time to supply me items of clothing. False pride might have taken me out of the pioneer ministry, but I kept in mind the apostle Paul's words: "The workman is worthy of his wages." (1 Tim. 5:18) As a result, though I have never had to ask for anything, I have certainly never lacked anything necessary.

'COME OVER AND HELP US'

In harmony with the apostle Paul's vision and invitation to enter new fields in Macedonia, I often wondered about parts of the field where there were no workers. (Acts 16:9, 10) Several of us pioneers got together and obtained assignment of entire counties where little had ever been done to preach the good news. Lawrence County, Tennessee, and Potter County, Pennsylvania, were covered in turn. I recall that while in Tennessee I got to thinking about volunteering for service at the Watch Tower Society's headquarters or "Bethel." I took the matter to Jehovah in prayer and put it in such a way that I would follow whatever path opened up for me. I would do the walking, but I wanted Jehovah to do the directing.—Prov. 4:25, 26.

What next happened? I received an invitation to be a special pioneer, spending 150 hours per month in the ministry and receiving modest monetary assistance from the Society. That was in 1943. Two other Witnesses and I were assigned to Canandaigua, New York. There in due time we organized a small congregation. We operated out of a three-room apartment. Each took his turn on cooking duty. We did our wash in the bathtub, using a "plumber's friend" to stomp out our clothes. How fine it was on a cold winter

day to come in from our field ministry to our warm room and catch up on personal Bible study while the cook for the day busied himself over our three-burner kerosine stove!

FARTHER HORIZONS

Then came another memorable experience. I was seated in the bathtub when my partners burst into the room waving a fat letter from the Society addressed to me. Anything from Bethel was big news to us, and this was particularly good news—an invitation for me to fill out an application for enrollment in the Society's missionary school of Gilead. That following March 1944 I attended the Third Class of Gilead, and since then my life has been one grand experience after another.

My first assignment after graduation was not exactly a foreign one, but it excited me as much as though it were. I was assigned to visit and assist congregations in California and Nevada as a "servant to the brethren" (now known as circuit servant). I was a bit nervous about giving talks to congregations in the Bay area of San Francisco. Indeed, my first talk was supposed to be one hour and a half long, and it took only forty-five minutes to give it. Of course, improvement came with practice.

That Jehovah's reminders are a shield and protection was often impressed on me. For example, I rode a bus to catch a train at Elko, Nevada, heading for California. During the bus trip I had been reading the book *"The Kingdom Is at Hand."* When I reached the train it turned out to be mainly a troop train and it was more than full. Being on the small side, I crawled into the space between the back seat and the back of the car and lay down on some duffel bags. But sleep was impossible. The seat in front was occupied by two soldiers and a girl. The talk I had to

listen to much of that night was surely in contrast with the fine information I had been reading.

A SPANISH ASSIGNMENT

Time was slipping by. A year and a half had passed since I left Gilead School and I kept wondering about my foreign assignment. When would it come? Well, shortly after attending a special meeting of traveling representatives of the Society in Salt Lake City, Utah, a meeting conducted by the Society's president, N. H. Knorr, and one of the directors, T. J. Sullivan, I received my assignment for San José, Costa Rica. There I was to continue serving from congregation to congregation.

I remember one congregation had nothing for territory but jungle huts on both sides of the narrow-gauge railroad. Brother and Sister Spence and I took the train at early dawn for a few miles up the line, got off, and started our ministry work on foot back along the track. It was truly satisfying to be able to bring the message of the good news to those humble folk. And it was on one such occasion that I got my first taste of monkey meat for dinner. How heartwarming it was in later years to learn that Brother Spence attended Gilead School in 1961 for special advanced training in the ministry!

Next came an assignment to Honduras, a territory unworked by Witnesses as yet. Soon after I arrived in the capital, Tegucigalpa, in May 1946, President Knorr paid us a visit and announced the opening there of a new branch. I was to be branch servant, which meant that I must discharge all the services of an office and field staff on my own. A real challenge it was, but I rejoiced in the opportunity to serve.

Many are my happy memories of those days. For example, on one trip with some other missionaries to Roatán, Coxan Hole

and Utila, islands just offshore from the port of La Ceiba, we could stand on park benches and give Bible talks to the island people, a really appreciative audience. Soon four wonderful years had passed, and we had witnessed marvelous expansion of the Kingdom interests.

The next assignment came swiftly, unexpectedly. Dear Edwin Keller, Spanish instructor at Gilead School, had passed away. I was invited to return to Gilead, this time to teach Spanish. This assignment lasted for three and a half years, commencing in December 1950. It was during this period that I suggested to one of those missionary-minded girls that we team up and go to a missionary assignment as husband and wife. Louise Joubert accepted my proposal and we made our plans accordingly. President Knorr invited us to go to Peru, and finally we were married in Lima in November 1954.

FOLLOWING THROUGH WITH JEHOVAH'S REMINDERS

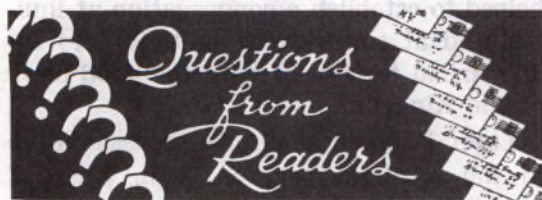
One of our first assignments was Iquitos, near the headwaters of the Amazon River. It was hot and humid jungle country, but by the time several months had passed we had slimmed down to where we could tolerate the climate. Here we learned that one can get used to almost anything provided one gives oneself enough time. We helped to establish a congregation at Iquitos, and at times even ventured into Indian tribal territories with the good news of the Kingdom.

Later I served as circuit representative in the southern part of Peru, where I served congregations located some 14,000 feet above sea level, and where at times we traversed in turn the hot, dry deserts on the coast and the scenes of torrential downpours in the interior. Louise and I have walked up and down mountains; I have ridden burros, horses, or jolted along

on homemade bus-trucks. We have forded rivers, come perilously close to the edge of dizzying precipices, and experienced sleepless nights in the rarefied atmosphere of the high Andes. We have fully appreciated the experiences of the apostle Paul as recorded at 2 Corinthians 11:26, 27.

One sleepless night I can well recall. We were visiting Urcos, just outside of Cuzco. We had run out of transportation. Inquiring for accommodations, we were directed to a one-story, thick-walled adobe room, called a "colectivo" hotel. It had four beds in it, one against each wall, each bed with its red clay pot underneath. There was no choice but to rent two cots. About 9 p.m. the other two beds were taken by two Indians. Between the chattering of Louise's teeth and the snoring of the Indians, sleep was a long time in coming and far too short. In the icy cold of the early morning we lined up at the spigot and waited our turn to brush our teeth and wash up.

"They will bow down before you, O Jehovah, and will give glory to your name. For you are great and are doing wondrous things; you are God, you alone. Instruct me, O Jehovah, about your way. I shall walk in your truth. Unify my heart to fear your name. I laud you, O Jehovah my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify your name to time indefinite."—Ps. 86:9-12.



● How are we to understand Hebrews 1:6, which says that all the angels are commanded to worship Jesus?—F. C., U.S.A.

Hebrews 1:6 reads: "But when he again brings his First-born into the inhabited earth, he says: 'And let all God's angels worship him.'" The writer of Hebrews is here quoting

The pleasure and satisfaction of serving our Christian brothers and aiding humble persons to a knowledge of God's grand purposes have always far outweighed every disadvantage. And perhaps one of the most thrilling moments was when the Society began to build its own branch office and missionary home in Lima. Since just before its completion in May 1961, I have been serving in this branch office, and now almost ten years later I can say that things are more exciting than ever. There are 13,000,000 people in this land, and an increasing crowd of them are thrilling to the sound of God's good news for all peoples. It is our fervent prayer that we can go on serving Jehovah and aiding his sheep until he has accomplished his purpose.

With our loyal fellow Witnesses around the world we hope to be able always to confess to our God: "In the way of your reminders I have exulted, just as over all other valuable things."—Ps. 119:14.

from Psalm 97:7, which reads (in part): "Bow down to him, all you gods." The *Septuagint Version*, from which this writer evidently quoted, reads: "Worship Him all ye His angels."—C. Thomson.

These texts seem to raise a problem because they appear to conflict with Jesus' plain statement to Satan the Devil: "It is written, 'It is Jehovah your God you must worship, and it is to him *alone* you must render sacred service.'"—Matt. 4:10.

The Greek word rendered "worship" at Hebrews 1:6 is *pro-sky-ne'o*. This Greek word is also used at Psalm 97:7 in the *Septuagint* to translate the Hebrew *sha'hah'ah*. What is the sense of these Hebrew and Greek terms?

Sha-hhah' means basically "to bow down." (Prov. 12:25) Such bowing might be done as an act of respect toward another human, as to a king (1 Sam. 24:8; 2 Sam. 24:20) or a prophet. (2 Ki. 2:15) Abraham bowed down to the Canaanite sons of Heth from whom he sought to buy a burial place. (Gen. 23:7) Isaac's blessing on Jacob called for national groups and Jacob's own "brothers" to bow down to him.—Gen. 27:29; compare 49:8.

From the above examples it is clear that this Hebrew term of itself does not necessarily have a religious sense or signify worship. Nevertheless, in a large number of cases it is used in connection with worship, either of the true God (Ex. 24:1; Ps. 95:6) or of false gods.—Deut. 4:19; 8:19.

Bowing down to humans as an act of respect was admissible, but bowing to anyone other than Jehovah as a deity was prohibited by God. (Ex. 23:24; 34:14) Similarly, the worshipful bowing down to religious images or to any created thing was positively condemned. (Ex. 20:4, 5; Lev. 26:1; Deut. 4:15-19) Thus, in the Hebrew Scriptures, when certain of Jehovah's servants prostrated themselves before angels, they only did so as recognizing that these were God's representatives, not as rendering obeisance to them as deities.—Josh. 5:13-15; Gen. 18:1-3.

The Greek *pro-sky-ne'o* corresponds closely with the Hebrew *sha-hhah'* as to conveying the thought of both obeisance to creatures and worship to God or a deity. While the manner of expressing the obeisance is perhaps not so prominent in *pro-sky-ne'o* as in *sha-hhah'*, where the Hebrew term graphically conveys the thought of prostration or bowing down, some lexicographers suggest that originally the Greek term did emphatically portray this idea.

As with the Hebrew term, the context must be considered to determine whether *pro-sky-ne'o* refers to obeisance solely in the form of deep respect or obeisance in the form of religious worship. Where reference is directly to God (John 4:20-24; 1 Cor. 14:25) or to false gods and their idols (Acts 7:43; Rev. 9:20), it is evident that the obeisance goes beyond that acceptably or customarily rendered to men and enters the field of worship. So, too, where the object of the obeisance is left unstated, its being directed to God being understood. (John 12:20; Acts 8:27; Heb. 11:21) On the other hand,

the action of those of the "synagogue of Satan" who are made to "come and do obeisance" before the feet of Christians is clearly not worship.—Rev. 3:9.

Obeisance to a human king is found in Jesus' illustration at Matthew 18:26. It is also evident that this was the kind of obeisance the astrologers rendered to the child Jesus, "born king of the Jews," and also that Herod professed interest in expressing, and that the soldiers mockingly rendered to Jesus before his impalement. They clearly did not view Jesus as God or as a deity.—Matt. 2:2, 8; Mark 15:19.

While some translators use the word "worship" in the majority of cases where *pro-sky-ne'o* describes persons' actions toward Jesus, the evidence does not warrant one's reading too much into this rendering. Rather, the circumstances that evoked the obeisance correspond very closely with those producing obeisance to the earlier prophets and kings. (Compare Matthew 8:2; 9:18; 15:25; 20:20 with 1 Samuel 25:23, 24; 2 Samuel 14:4-7; 1 Kings 1:16; 2 Kings 4:36, 37.) The very expressions of those involved often reveal that, while they clearly recognized Jesus as God's representative, they rendered obeisance to him, not as to God or a deity, but as "God's Son," the foretold "Son of man," the Messiah with divine authority.—Matt. 14:32, 33; 28:5-10, 16-18; Luke 24:50-52; John 9:35, 38.

While earlier prophets and also angels had accepted obeisance, Peter stopped Cornelius from rendering such to him. And the angel (or angels) of John's vision twice stopped John from doing so, referring to himself as a "fellow slave" and concluding with the exhortation to "worship God."—Acts 10:25, 26; Rev. 19:10; 22:8, 9.

Evidently Christ's coming had brought in new relationships affecting standards of conduct toward others of God's servants. He taught his disciples that "one is your teacher, whereas all you are brothers . . . your Leader is one, the Christ." (Matt. 23:8-12) For it was in him that the prophetic figures and types found their fulfillment, even as the angel told John that "the bearing witness to Jesus is what inspires prophesying." (Rev. 19:10) Jesus was David's Lord, the greater than Solomon, the prophet greater than Moses. (Luke 20:41-43; Matt. 12:42; Acts 3:19-24) The obeisance rendered those

men prefigured that due Christ. Peter therefore rightly refused to let Cornelius make too much of him.

So, too, John, by virtue of having been declared righteous or justified by God as an anointed Christian, called to be a heavenly son of God and a member of his Son's kingdom, was in a different relationship to the angel(s) of the revelation than were the Israelites to whom angels earlier appeared. As the apostle Paul had written: "Do you not know that we shall judge angels?" (1 Cor. 6:3) The angel(s) evidently recognized this change of relationship when rejecting John's obeisance.

On the other hand, Christ Jesus has been exalted by his Father to a position second only to God, so that "in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground, and every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father."—Phil. 2:9-11; compare Daniel 7:13, 14, 27.

In view of all this, how are we to understand Hebrews 1:6, which shows that even the angels render "worship" to the resurrected Jesus Christ? While many translations of this text render *pro-sky-ne'o* as "worship," some render it by such expressions as "bow before" (*The Bible—An American Translation*) and "pay homage" (*The New English Bible*). No matter what English term is used, the original Greek remains the same and the understanding of

what it is that the angels render to Christ must accord with the rest of the Scriptures.

If the rendering "worship" is preferred, then it must be understood that such "worship" is only of a relative kind. For Jesus himself emphatically stated to Satan that "it is Jehovah your God you must worship [form of *pro-sky-ne'o*], and it is to him alone you must render sacred service." (Matt. 4:8-10; Luke 4:7, 8) True, Psalm 97, which the apostle evidently quotes at Hebrews 1:6, refers to Jehovah God as the object of the 'bowing down,' and still this text was applied to Christ Jesus. (Ps. 97:1, 7) However, the apostle previously had shown that the resurrected Christ became the "reflection of [God's] glory and the exact representation of his very being." (Heb. 1:1-3) Hence, if what we understand as "worship" is apparently directed to the Son by angels, it is in reality being directed through him to Jehovah God, the Sovereign Ruler, "the One who made the heaven and the earth and sea and fountains of waters."—Rev. 14:7; 4:10, 11; 7:11, 12; 11:16, 17; compare 1 Chronicles 29:20; Revelation 5:13, 14.

On the other hand, the renderings "bow before" and "pay homage" (instead of "worship") are in no way out of harmony with the original language, either the Hebrew of Psalm 97:7 or the Greek of Hebrews 1:6, for such translations convey the basic sense of both *sha-hhah'* and *pro-sky-ne'o*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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