

MODEL STUDY

No. 3



MODEL STUDY

Number 3

Questions and Answers
on the following
recorded lecture series:

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Religion	3
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REFERENCE KEY

NOTE: Watch Tower publications are herein referred to under the following symbols:

c — Creation	p — Prophecy
ch — Riches	pp — Preparation
d — Deliverance	pr — Preservation
en — Enemies	r — Reconciliation
go — Government	rg — Religion
jh — Jehovah	s — Salvation
lt — Light	v — Vindication

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Suggestions on Conducting Model Studies

All of Jehovah's witnesses should be prepared to conduct model studies in the Bible. This booklet, *Model Study No. 3*, as well as *No. 1* and *No. 2*, is so arranged as to help a publisher of the Kingdom to do that very thing. This booklet you will find very helpful in conducting model studies on the lectures "Religion" (Records P-231 to P-248) and "The End" (Records P-219 to P-230) with the booklet *Conspiracy Against Democracy*. All publishers should be diligent in assisting in every way possible the people of good-will showing interest in the Kingdom message. Back-calls should be made on these persons, answering various questions through other records we have, such as "The Dead" (Record P-8), "The Soul" (Record P-7), and then begin a model study on these series or any others as soon as you possibly can.

Each one present should have a copy of this booklet. Run the record or group of records designated, read the questions, and let one (the chairman or someone else present who reads well) read the answers. The scriptures cited should be looked up and read. References are made to other publications, which should also be on hand, and the paragraphs cited should be read as a concluding sum-up. If it seems necessary or advisable to make clearer some statements made by the speaker on the record, portions of the booklet *Conspiracy Against Democracy* may also be read. The reading of this booklet is not always necessary in the final sum-up, as the material has been presented by the speaker originally on the records. Proceed with the study, taking up each question in order, and consider same in like manner, until an hour is occupied. If all points in the record or group of records run are covered before the hour is up, then take up the next record or group of records and follow as suggested above.

All model study meetings should close promptly at the end of an hour. The call should be made once every week. If the individuals you are visiting wish to study another series of records by themselves at their own home, lend them another set of records and another *Model Study* booklet. People of good-will should be given all the assistance possible to gain information concerning The Theocracy.

Questions and Answers on the booklet

Conspiracy Against Democracy

Records Nos. P-231—P-234 "Religion"

Q. 1. What motive prompts those who conspire against democracy or self-government? (Page 3, ¶ 1)

A. Democracies, granting and recognizing the right of freedom of speech, press, assembly and worship, are an obstacle to those who desire to exploit the people through ignorance and to rule them by force. Hence those who seek to take advantage of their fellow-men seek to destroy democracy.—Isaiah 8:9-13, *A.R.V.*; John 3:20. rg, 68, ¶ 1.

Q. 2. What do the advocates of "more religion" expect to gain thereby? (Page 3, ¶ 2)

A. They expect to gain greater power over the people through the religious leaders, who co-operate with political and commercial rulers to that end.—2 Peter 2:3, 12. rg, 238, ¶ 3.

Q. 3. Why is it necessary to give thoughtful consideration to the evidence presented on this subject? (Page 3, ¶ 3)

A. Because only by so doing can one come to a proper decision.—Proverbs 14:15; 18:13; Isaiah 1:18; 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Peter 2:12; Psalm 25:9. rg, 238, ¶ 3.

Q. 4. How could the prophets of old foretell present conditions? (Page 4, ¶ 1, 2)

A. They were inspired by Almighty God, Jehovah, and wrote as His spirit or invisible power moved them to write.—Isaiah 46:9, 10; 2 Samuel 23:2; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21. p, 10, 24, ¶ 1; rg, 333, ¶ 2; s, 12, ¶ 1.

Q. 5. How did Jehovah's Word plainly foretell the rise of totalitarian dictators? (Page 4, ¶ 2)

A. Both in plain phrase and by means of prophetic

dramas.—Daniel 11:31; 12:11; Matthew 24:15, 16; 1 Samuel 17:1-11. s, 118, ¶ 2, 3.

Q. 6. What support is there for the statement that the founders of the American nation believed in Almighty God and the Bible as the Word of God? (Page 4, ¶ 3)

A. The first paragraph of the American Declaration of Independence mentions "the laws of Nature and Nature's God". (Romans 1:20) The second paragraph states that all men were created equal by their Creator. (Acts 17:26; Malachi 2:10) The last paragraph appeals to "the Supreme Judge of the World" for rectitude. (Genesis 18:25; Hebrews 12:23) The concluding statement expresses "a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence". (Psalm 145:16; Proverbs 29:25) (The Bible is used in courts to solemnize oaths, and the first president, George Washington, at his inauguration, took his oath of office upon the Bible, as do presidents since.)

Q. 7. What scriptures prove the existence of Satan, the Devil, and his angels or associate devils? What is the proof that he rules the world? (Page 5, ¶ 1)

A. Satan is called the chief of devils, at Matthew 12:24-26. The physical facts prove that the Scriptures rightly call him the "god of this world".—2 Corinthians 4:4; Galatians 1:4; John 14:30; 1 John 5:19, A.R.V.; Luke 4:5, 6; Matthew 25:41; Luke 9:1; Ephesians 2:2; 6:12; Revelation 12:9; Proverbs 29:2. rg, 12, ¶ 2; 18, ¶ 1.

Q. 8. Who made the Devil, or what is his origin? (Page 5, ¶ 1)

A. He was created perfect, one of God's creatures and sons, and was entrusted with the protection and guidance of man in Eden. He became the Devil because of rebellion.—Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:11-15; Luke 10:18. rg, 12, ¶ 2.

Q. 9. Why is religion "the doing of anything that is contrary to the will of Almighty God"? (Page 5, ¶ 2)

A. Because doing contrary to God's will means exalting either self or another creature above the Almighty God, thereby rendering worship to that one.—Romans 1:20-25; 1 Samuel 15:23; 1 Corinthians 10:14, 20, 21; Galatians 5:19, 20; Colossians 3:5.

Q. 10. What Scriptural record shows that "Satan challenged God to put men on earth who would be faithful to the great Creator"? (Page 5, ¶ 6)

A. Satan's claim that he could turn even God's most faithful servant away from his service of God.—Job 1:8-11; 2:3-5. s, 48, ¶ 1, 2; rg, 13-15.

Q. 11. How has Satan chiefly used religion in fighting against God? (Page 6, ¶ 1)

A. He has resorted to fraud and deception to blind the people to God's truth. As the "mimic god" he causes men to worship him or his associate demon-spirits or gods under one guise or another—genii, demigods, tutelary gods, demons, "spirits of dead persons," "saints," and "angels".—2 Corinthians 4:4; 11:13-15; Colossians 2:18; 1 Corinthians 10:20. ch, 100; rg, 30, 81.

Q. 12. How is Satan's statement to Eve, "Ye shall not surely die," associated with all religion? (Page 6, ¶ 1)

A. It is the basis of all formalistic, doctrinal and practical religion, as the claim is made that no one actually dies, but continues to live on after what appears to be death, whereas the Scriptures make the resurrection the basis or means of future life.—John 8:44; Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:13-21. s, 36.

Q. 13. In what way did those who lived before and those after the flood turn to religion? (Page 6, ¶ 3; 7, ¶ 1, 2)

A. In that they adopted a form of godliness, but denied the power (supremacy) thereof.—Genesis 4:26, *margin*; 10:8, 9; 1 Samuel 15:23; 2 Timothy 3:5. ch, 103; rg, 29, ¶ 1.

Q. 14. Why did Jehovah set aside the Israelites as his people? (Page 7, ¶ 3)

A. For His name's sake, and of his own free and sovereign will, and for their forefather's sake, and to use them to make examples or patterns or types showing the development of his coming world-wide Theocracy.—Deuteronomy 7: 7, 8; Psalm 147: 19, 20; 2 Samuel 7: 23, 24; Amos 3: 2; Romans 9: 15; 1 Corinthians 10: 11; Hebrews 10: 1. ch, 169; en, 91.

Q. 15. Why is Jesus called "Christ", the anointed? (Page 9, ¶ 2)

A. All of Israel's kings and high priests, and some of her prophets, were inducted into office by having an anointing oil poured upon the head. Jesus is the great anointed Prophet, Priest and King of whom these others were merely types. The terms "Christ", "Messiah" and "Anointed" mean the same.—Exodus 28: 41; 1 Samuel 16: 13; 1 Kings 19: 16; Psalm 2: 6, margin; Acts 10: 38. en, 109.

Q. 16. Are Jehovah's witnesses the only Christians? (Page 9, ¶ 2, 3)

A. Jehovah's witnesses are not a sect. All Christians are Jehovah's witnesses and commissioned to be such. Failure to be a witness would be an evidence of unfaithfulness.—Isaiah 43: 12-14; 1 Corinthians 9: 16; 1 John 2: 27; Revelation 22: 17. ch, 127, ¶ 2; 128, ¶ 1.

Q. 17. Why are traditions of men objectionable? (Page 10, ¶ 1)

A. Because they turn men from God's Word of Truth and make his commandments of no effect.—Matthew 15: 3, 6, 9, 13, 14; Colossians 2: 8; 2 Peter 1: 18, 19.

Q. 18. While it is true of heathen religions that they are demonism, how can it be said that the so-called "Christian religion" is also demonism? (Page 11, ¶ 2)

A. There is no such thing possible as "Christian RELIGION". Christianity is not religion. The traditional

doctrines and practices of so-called "Christian religion" prove that it is demonism which has falsely assumed the name "Christian" in order to reproach God's name and to deceive and seduce men and blind them to real Christianity. 'By their fruits ye shall know them.' The "Christian religion" is the greatest opposer of the message of Jehovah's Theocratic Government by Christ as proclaimed by Jehovah's witnesses.—1 John 4: 1-3; 2: 18, 19; Matthew 24: 5; 2 Thessalonians 2: 3-12; 1 Timothy 4: 1. rg, 55, ¶ 1, 2; 79-84.

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Q. 19. How was religion substituted for Christianity? (Page 11, ¶ 3)

A. Wolfish men entered the early Christian companies and they, together with unfaithful ones in these companies, speaking perverse things, overthrew the faith of many and turned them to fables.—Matthew 13: 24, 25; Acts 20: 29, 30; 2 Timothy 4: 3, 4; Colossians 2: 8. en, 152, 153.

Q. 20. Why is the "purgatory" doctrine an example outstanding among teachings contrary to the Scriptures? (Page 11, ¶ 3)

A. Because there is not a single Scriptural statement to support it and because it flatly contradicts the Scriptures.—Proverbs 30: 5, 6. rg, 100; en, 171-175.

Q. 21. How is the substitution of religion for Christianity described in the Scriptures? (Page 12, middle)

A. As the turning of a "noble vine" into a "degenerate plant", and the sowing of a wheat field with tares, and as a failure to continue in the words of Christ.—Jeremiah 2: 21; Matthew 13: 24-30, 37-43; John 8: 31; 15: 6; 1 John 2: 19.

Q. 22. What happened to the nation of Israel because of the practice of religion? (Page 13, ¶ 1)

A. The nation suffered complete destruction and lost

Jehovah's favor because of its falling away to religion.—Deuteronomy 7: 2, 3, 4, 16; Jeremiah 52: 1-16; Matthew 23: 37, 38, rg, 29, ¶ 2; 31, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 23. Why did the religious leaders of Israel persecute Jesus and his followers? (Page 13, ¶ 2)

A. Because religious leaders have been and are the special instruments of the Devil, having his spirit.—Acts 4: 1-3; 5: 17, 18; 12: 1-3; John 8: 42-44; 15: 18-21; 16: 2, 3; Matthew 5: 10, 11, rg, 67, ¶ 2; 76, ¶ 1; 78, ¶ 1; en, 88, ¶ 1.

Q. 24. What fact alone precludes the Roman Catholic Hierarchy from being considered Christian? (Page 13, ¶ 2)

A. Their opposition to and persecution of those who could not conscientiously agree with their teachings, both in the past and in the present.—2 Corinthians 10: 4; Matthew 7: 20; Galatians 5: 19-23, en, 165, ¶ 1; rg, 286, ¶ 1.

Q. 25. What is some of the evidence that the Hierarchy acts in harmony with the dictators? (Page 14, ¶ 1)

A. Mussolini restored the temporal power of the Papacy. Hitler entered into an understanding with the Vatican. Moral, financial and military assistance was rendered Franco by the Hierarchy. Hitler and Mussolini to destroy democracy in Spain. Backing was given Hitler by Cardinal Innitzer of Austria, Priest Joseph Tizo of Czechoslovakia, and others. The bishops of Germany (Roman Catholic) have fully endorsed Hitler's program of terrorism and conquest. Catholic Hitler's evident understanding with Stalin brings the Russian dictator into the picture.

Q. 26. Does not the publication of these facts stir up hatred against men? (Page 14, ¶ 2)

A. No. Rather, it exposes the virulent hatred of religionists for God, his truth and his people. (Proverbs 10: 18; 26: 26; John 15: 23-25) These facts are now called to the attention of the people that all may be

advised as to Jehovah's purpose to destroy the wicked and deliver those of good-will toward Him.—John 3: 15, 16; Ezekiel 3: 11, 17-19; Psalms 96: 10; 145: 20, rg, 275; 138, ¶ 1.

Q. 27. Why are many now separating themselves from religious systems? (Page 14, ¶ 3)

A. Sincere people see that these systems are worldly or political organizations, and that the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, being in the lead, is out to rule or ruin the world.—James 4: 4; 1 Timothy 4: 1-3; 1 Corinthians 10: 21, 22; John 8: 32; Revelation 18: 4, en, 357, 358.

Q. 28. Why are millions of people held in captivity by the religious systems? (Page 14, ¶ 3)

A. Because of fear of men and looking to creatures for salvation.—Proverbs 29: 25; Psalm 146: 3, s, 250, ¶ 2; 251, ¶ 1; rg, 46, ¶ 1.

Q. 29. What is proved by the fact that men of the Catholic organization are urged to and do fully take part in the politics of this world? (Page 16, ¶ 1)

A. It proves that they are not for God's Kingdom, but support man's efforts to rule contrary to God's purpose.—James 4: 4; Matthew 6: 24; Titus 1: 16; Romans 6: 16, rg, 17, ¶ 1; 64, ¶ 2; en, 286.

Q. 30. What is seen in the statement of Priest O'Brien? (Page 16, ¶ 3)

A. That there is a conspiracy between leading religionists and political rulers to control the people and fight democracy in order to destroy those who represent The Theocracy.—Psalms 83: 3-5; 2: 2, 3, rg, 275, ¶ 2.

Q. 31. What is some of the abundant evidence that the Hierarchy is doing as Priest O'Brien intimated as to 1940? (Page 17, ¶ 1)

A. Diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vatican have been attempted. Freedom of speech, of press, of assembly and of worship are increasingly trampled upon, and regimentation of the

59; 14: 19; 16: 19-23; 18: 12; 21: 27-31. rg, 74, ¶ 2; 75, ¶ 1-5.

Q. 41. Does the Bible state what shall be the end of those engaging in mob violence against God's people? (Page 24, ¶ 1)

A. Yes, it shows that those who persist in such persecution shall be destroyed at Armageddon, never to live again.—Genesis 19: 4-13, 24; 2 Peter 2: 6; Luke 18: 8; Psalm 145: 20; Jeremiah 26: 8, 12-15. s, 221; en, 321, ¶ 3.

Q. 42. Why is it that Jehovah's witnesses receive such cruel treatment? (Page 25, ¶ 1)

A. It is because the Devil is desperately seeking to keep the message of Jehovah's witnesses from the people.—Ephesians 6: 12; John 15: 18-21; John 8: 44; Luke 23: 20-23; 2 Timothy 3: 12. rg, 49, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 43. What is proved by the statement of facts concerning dictators and the Roman Catholic Hierarchy? (Page 25, ¶ 2; 26, ¶ 1)

A. They prove the conspiracy between these elements to rule the earth in place of God's kingdom.—Matthew 24: 15; Daniel 11: 31; Revelation 16: 13, 14; Isaiah 23: 15-17. rg, 92, ¶ 1.

Q. 44. Why may it be said that God will show some special favor to England, a part of this world, because of its treatment of Jehovah's witnesses? (Page 26, ¶ 2)

A. Because "mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good".—Proverbs 14: 22; Matthew 25: 40; 10: 40-42; Mark 9: 41; Luke 6: 38.

Q. 45. How has the Reformation been a blessing to humankind? (Page 27, ¶ 1)

A. It freed men from the tyranny of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy and caused increased study and appreciation of the Bible.—John 8: 32.

Q. 46. What is seen in the action taken by state officials in regard to holding the Theocratic convention in Columbus, Ohio? (Page 27, ¶ 2)

A. Another evidence of Catholic Action aimed at destroying the fundamental rights of the people, preventing a peaceable assembly of Christians.—Hebrews 10: 25. (For details see *Consolation* No. 545.)

Q. 47. What is meant by the scripture, "The wicked shall be turned into hell"? (Page 28, ¶ 1)

A. In the Revised Version this text reads, "The wicked shall be turned back unto Sheol." (Psalm 9: 17) It means their complete defeat and destruction. The Hebrew word "Sheol" is translated "hell" 31 times, "grave" 31 times, and "pit" three times, in our Common Version Bibles, proving that hell is not a place of torment of souls after death.

Q. 48. Where has God commanded that his faithful servants must now tell the people that religion is a snare of the Devil, etc.? (Page 28, ¶ 2)

A. In His Word, where God commands them to declare his judgments written against religion and the day of his vengeance against it, and to show the professed worshipers their transgression against God and that their worship is of no power with God while they teach commandments of men and have a form of godliness without its power.—Psalm 149: 9; Isaiah 61: 2; 59: 1-3; 29: 13; Matthew 15: 3-9; 2 Timothy 4: 2-4; 3: 1-5; Matthew 10: 26, 27. rg, 115.

Q. 49. Who will be held accountable for the persecution of Jehovah's witnesses? (Page 28, ¶ 3; 29)

A. The religious, political and commercial elements, together with all their supporters and associates.—Joel 3: 19; Isaiah 24: 5, 6; Matthew 23: 35; Luke 11: 51. rg, 348.

Q. 50. How long have Jehovah's witnesses been on the earth? (Page 30, ¶ 1)

A. From the time of Abel. All who are faithful in obeying Jehovah's commandments, bearing testimony or witness to His supremacy, are Jehovah's witnesses.—Hebrews 11: 4-40; 12: 1.

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Q. 51. What is meant by "witnesses to his name"? (Page 31, ¶ 1)

A. A witness is one who gives testimony concerning another with regard to a question at issue. Satan's having reproached Jehovah's name for centuries has called in question the honor of that name. Jehovah's witnesses bear testimony in vindication of the name of Jehovah. Isaiah 43:10-12; 44:8; 42:8; Exodus 9:16; John 18:37; Acts 1:8, 22; 15:14; 1 Chronicles 29:11-13; 1 Peter 2:9, rg, 109, ¶ 1; jh, 28, ¶ 1.

Q. 52. Why will God "avenge his own elect"? (Page 31, ¶ 1, 2)

A. Because God is the righteous judge of all, and vengeance belongs to Him. His elect witnesses have committed their cause to Him.—Hebrews 12:23; Romans 12:19; 1 Peter 2:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9, s, 278, ¶ 1.

Q. 53. Why has not God sooner avenged the wrongs done his people? (Page 31, ¶ 1, 2)

A. It would defeat God's purpose to punish the wicked before His due time. Jehovah's witnesses must prove their integrity under adversity and the wicked must be permitted to completely manifest their opposition to God and His kingdom. Those who are of "good-will to God" must be given opportunity to take their stand and those who are ungodly theirs, before Jehovah destroys the wicked as "goats" and rewards the righteous as "sheep" and so clears the record.—Matthew 25:31-46; John 10:16; Luke 19:27, 28; Ecclesiastes 3:17; Psalm 2:9; Zephaniah 3:8, rg, 308, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 54. How do we know that Armageddon is near? (Page 31, ¶ 2)

A. By the Scriptures and the "signs"—physical facts in fulfillment.—Matthew 24:3-18, 37; Revelation 11:15-18; 16:13-16; Luke 21:25-28, rg, 15, ¶ 2; 72, ¶ 1.

Q. 55. What must one do to escape Jehovah's vengeance in Armageddon? (Page 31, ¶ 3)

A. One must be of good-will toward God, give a hearing ear to the message of God's kingdom, accept Christ as Savior and King, forsake religion, and bear witness to the Kingdom.—Luke 2:14, *A.R.V.*, margin; John 3:16; Jeremiah 51:6, 7, 9; Psalm 110:3; Revelation 18:4; 22:17; Psalm 45:14; 2 Timothy 3:12; Micah 6:8; Zephaniah 2:2, 3, s, 29, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 56. What is the law mentioned as empowering the president "at will to declare an emergency, seize control of all industries and commandeer everything in the land"? (Page 32, ¶ 2)

A. Two measures have this objective: (1) Industrial Mobilization Plan; (2) The National Defense Act. All that is needed is an emergency to put them into effect. (See *Consolation* No. 508, page 25; also *The American Mercury* of July, 1938.)

Q. 57. If the stage was all "set for 1940", why did not the Hierarchy and Catholic Action act and seize the government in 1940 in fulfillment of their published and declared threats? (Page 32, ¶ 3)

A. Evidently because they were able to keep their political favorites in power and office by the use of non-violent, organized political methods in spite of the more than 21,000,000 voters who expressed themselves at the polls against the third-term candidate. Judge Rutherford's suggestion was that action by the Hierarchy politicians to seize the government *might* occur if they were unable to put across their third-term scheme peaceably by means of their strong political organizations and their vast political patronage and power. He was correct in his expectation that the Hierarchy and Catholic Action would determine their line of action according to the way the political outcome would be, particularly the third-term issue.

Q. 58. How can it be said that the Theocratic Kingdom is here? (Page 33, top)

A. On the basis of the 2nd and 110th Psalms it is clear that Christ's reign as Jehovah's King would begin *before* the final end of Satan's organization (the kingdoms of this world), and that He would rule in the midst of his enemies to their destruction.—Daniel 2:44; Revelation 11:18. ch, 172, ¶ 2.

Q. 59. How is the Lord now dividing the obedient ones from the disobedient? (Page 33, ¶ 1)

A. He is using his people to proclaim his name, his Theocracy under Christ, and his purposes as revealed in the Bible, including his judgments against religion, thus enabling men to take their stand for or against Jehovah and His righteous government.—Ezekiel 9:3, 4; Matthew 24:14; Revelation 22:17; Romans 10:14, 15. ch, 92, ¶ 1; 343, ¶ 1.

Q. 60. Where is the Scriptural proof that the "great multitude" surviving Armageddon will fill the earth with a righteous race? (Page 33, ¶ 2)

A. It is Jehovah's purpose to have the earth inhabited. This means, not a temporary, but a permanent habitation for righteous human creatures. (Ecclesiastes 1:4; Isaiah 45:18; Psalms 72:7; 115:16) The mandate to "fill the earth" could not be carried out by fallen men, but will be fulfilled by restored men in the "new earth" of the "world to come". This was foreshadowed by the repeating of the divine mandate to Noah and his family immediately after the great flood. (Genesis 9:1)—2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1. s, 314-316, 327.

Q. 61. Of what is the assembly of upward of 40,000 servants of the Most High God in Detroit, in the face of great opposition, an evidence? (Page 34, ¶ 1)

A. It is an evidence of Jehovah's blessing, and of the gathering of the Lord's "other sheep", and of the fearlessness of God's people, and of the defeat of the opposers of God's purpose.—John 10:16; Ezekiel 36:8-11; Joel 2:2, 7; Jeremiah 1:19.

Q. 62. What motive prompted those who tried to prevent the holding of the convention? (Page 35, ¶ 1)

A. The desire to prevent the proclamation of the Kingdom message, which exposes the wickedness of the Hierarchy. Their purpose is to keep the people in ignorance and bring them under the control of dictators.—Luke 11:52; John 3:20; 8:32.

Q. 63. What is shown by the kind reception given Jehovah's witnesses in Detroit by the residents? (Page 36, ¶ 1)

A. The common people heard Jesus gladly (Mark 12:37) until the religious leaders poisoned their minds against Him. It is the same today: multitudes of the honest-hearted have read the literature and observed the zealous, unselfish, educational-campaign activities of his true followers, and easily recognize them as the friends of the people.

Q. 64. How does Jehovah regard kindness and consideration shown his people? (Page 36, ¶ 1)

A. He regards with favor those who show kindness and consideration to his people, and will not let them go unrewarded.—Psalm 41:1, 2; Matthew 10:42; 25:40. en, 325.

Q. 65. Why do so many newspapermen and politicians lie about Jehovah's witnesses? (Page 36, ¶ 2)

A. Because they fear the religious leaders, particularly the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, and are supporters thereof or under its influence, and they hate the light of God's Word and try to suppress those who publish it, exposing their wickedness.—Matthew 24:9; John 3:19-21; 5:19; 7:47, 48; 8:44; 1 John 5:19. rg, 306, top.

Q. 66. Why are persons of good-will pictured as "sheep", and the wicked as "goats"? (Page 37, ¶ 2)

A. Sheep are harmless, docile, meek and obedient; goats are self-willed, stubborn and given to butting.—John 10:3-5, 16; Zechariah 10:3. s, 160, 161.

Q. 67. What is meant by "everlasting fire"? (Page 38, top)

A. "Everlasting fire" is used in the Scriptures as a fitting symbol of the everlasting destruction and consumption of the wicked.—Psalm 37:20; Matthew 25:41, 46, *Diaglott*; 2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9; Isaiah 66:24.

Q. 68. What is The Theocratic Government? (Page 38, bottom)

A. It is the government of Jehovah, the Supreme One, the Almighty Theocrat. He is the Creator, builder and organizer of the Theocratic Government. His official capital organization, Zion, is also called the "new heavens" and is composed of Christ Jesus and the 144,000 selected "kings and priests" from among men. (Revelation 1:6; 20:4, 6) The Theocratic Government will have visible representatives on earth who shall perform the duties of "governors" (princes) under the supervision of the Theocratic King, Christ Jesus, the Messiah.—Psalm 45:16; Isaiah 32:1; Hebrews 11:2, 39; Revelation 14:1-3. s, 307, ¶ 2, 3; 309, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 69. What evidence is there in the "Statement" showing that Jehovah's witnesses do not "hate everybody"? (Page 38, bottom)

A. Reference to 'millions of sincere and honest Catholic persons fleeing and finding refuge in the Lord' addressed, sending them cordial greetings and bidding them God's blessing.

Q. 70. Why do Jehovah's servants and witnesses publicly and formally declare their devotion to God? (Page 39)

A. As a testimony to the vindication of Jehovah's name, which has been defamed by Satan's claim that he can turn all men away from God. Therefore it is necessary not only to believe, but also to confess this belief and prove it by obedience.—Romans 10:10;

Matthew 10:27, 32, 33; 1 Timothy 3:15; Isaiah 19:19, 20; 1 John 5:3; Joshua 24:15; Micah 6:8.

Records Nos. P-219—P-222 "The End"

Q. 1. Is the "end" here referred to the end of the earth? (Page 40, ¶ 1)

A. No. The earth abideth forever, and was made to be inhabited. (Ecclesiastes 1:4; Isaiah 45:18) The end here is the final end of Satan's organization.—Matthew 4:8, 9; 24:14; Daniel 2:44; 11:27; Nahum 1:8, 9. rg, 344, ¶ 1-348.

Q. 2. What is meant by God's "strange work" and his "strange act"? (Page 40, ¶ 2)

A. God's "strange work" is the proclamation by his witnesses of the message of judgment against supposedly Christian systems, while the "strange act" refers to the actual destruction at Armageddon of Satan's organization, including those systems.—Isaiah 10:12; 28:14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22; 29:13, 14; Acts 13:41. s, 23, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 3. What is meant by Armageddon? (Page 40, ¶ 2)

A. Armageddon means "the mount of the assembly of [Jehovah's] troops" for the final conflict between Jehovah with his forces and Satan with those on his side.—Revelation 16:13-16; 19:14-16, 20, 21; Psalm 2:6, 8, 9. s, 25, ¶ 1; It, Book 2, 55, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 4. What is the evidence that now strongly points to the fact that Armageddon is very near? (Page 40, ¶ 2)

A. See answer to question 54, page 14.

Q. 5. Why will the defeat of Satan and the vindication of Jehovah's name mean the beginning of endless joy, peace and life to all creation that love righteousness? (Page 40, bottom)

A. Because Jehovah's name will be exalted for ever and his righteous theocracy of peace will bless all obe-

dient ones, while all wars shall cease.—Revelation 21:1-5; Isaiah 2:4; Psalms 72:1-8; 85:10-12; 46:9. rg, 359, ¶ 1, 2; ch, 359, ¶ 1.

Q. 6. Why does the apostle say that the "brethren" have no need of his writing concerning the times and seasons? (Page 41, ¶ 1)

A. Because, as a result of walking in the light, they have a vision of Jehovah's purpose, understand the prophecies in course of fulfillment, and see the physical facts fulfilling them.—Ephesians 5:8, 17; Acts 2:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:3-5.

Q. 7. Why do the closing down of the "strange work" and the increased persecution not dismay Jehovah's witnesses and companions? (Page 41, ¶ 2)

A. They are not dismayed because they have faith in Jehovah God and His promise of protection, preservation and salvation. (2 Corinthians 4:8-11; Joshua 1:9; Psalm 13:5; Isaiah 12:2) They love God, and there is no fear in love. (1 John 4:17, 18) They know that their present work must end before the Kingdom's full victory can be realized.—Luke 6:23; 21:28; 12:32; Matthew 25:34.

Q. 8. What is meant by the presence of Christ Jesus at the temple of God? (Page 41, ¶ 3)

A. It means that the prophetic promise, "The Lord . . . shall suddenly come to his temple," has been fulfilled. The spiritual temple of God is the composite "body" of Christ's followers.—Malachi 3:1-3; John 2:21; Acts 7:48; 17:24; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 2:21, 22; Revelation 3:12; 1 Peter 2:9, en, 313-316.

Q. 9. What are some of the signs of the times showing we are at the end of the world? (Page 41, ¶ 3)

A. The searching to and fro in the Bible and attaining to greater knowledge of Jehovah's purposes (Daniel 12:4); the troubles and perplexities upon the world (Daniel 12:1; Luke 21:25-28; Matthew 24:7; Revelation 11:15-19); the wide proclamation of the

Kingdom message, over 337 million books and booklets concerning that Kingdom having been distributed in recent years (Matthew 24:14); the rise of the totalitarian "abomination of desolation", and the increased persecution of Jehovah's witnesses world-wide.—Matthew 24:9-13, 15, 16.

Q. 10. Who are the "remnant" with whom the "other sheep" must be found in full unanimity? (Page 42, ¶ 1)

A. The remnant are those members of the "body of Christ" that still remain on earth. The "other sheep" are those who are not of that anointed and fixed number, but those who are privileged to serve God in his temple, standing *before* the throne.—Romans 11:5; Revelation 12:17; 14:1; 3:21; John 10:16; Revelation 7:9-15. rg, 109, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 11. What is the distinction between the "day of Jehovah" and the "day of Christ"? (Page 42, ¶ 1)

A. The "day of Jehovah" began in 1914, when Jehovah enthroned Christ Jesus as King and sent him forth to rule. It marks the time when Jehovah's judgments began to be executed against Satan and his invisible organization. It is also referred to as "that day". The "day of Christ" began when Christ came to the temple to deal with his (anointed) servants and to gather his "other sheep".—Psalms 2:6; 110:2; Revelation 12:7; Joel 2:1, 2, 11; 3:18; 1 Corinthians 1:8; Philippians 1:6, 10; 2 Corinthians 1:14. en, 263; rg, 359, ¶ 3.

Q. 12. Why are the "ambassadors of peace" due to weep bitterly (Isaiah 33:7)? (Page 43, ¶ 1)

A. Because they are the leaders of the godless element and proclaim a false peace which will not be realized.—Isaiah 28:17, 18; Jeremiah 8:9-11, 15; Ezekiel 13:8, 10, 11, 16. en, 293.

Q. 13. What is it that troubles and disturbs those who say "Peace and safety"? (Page 43, ¶ 2)

A. They are disturbed by the wide publication of

the Truth of God's Word that exposes their wickedness.—Jeremiah 25:34, 36; James 5:1; John 3:20; Isaiah 28:19; Joel 2:6, 10. rg, 172, ¶ 1; 186, 187.

Q. 14. The assurance that God will have a righteous government on earth reminds us of what prayer? (Page 43, ¶ 3)

A. It reminds us of the prayer, called "the Lord's prayer", which Jesus taught his disciples to pray and which looks to the coming of such a government.—Matthew 6:9-13.

Q. 15. What is the origin of Satan? (Page 44, ¶ 1)

A. He was originally a perfect creature of God, a cherub, placed in a position of trust as the protector of man in Eden, and called Lucifer. He became Satan, the Devil, as a result of rebellion.—Ezekiel 28:11-15; Isaiah 14:12-14; Luke 10:18. rg, 12, ¶ 2.

Q. 16. What is Satan's purpose since his rebellion? (Page 44, ¶ 1)

A. He aspires to be equal to God and to rule the earth in defiance of God, to which end he has built up a mighty organization to reproach God's name and to turn all men against God; but God will destroy both him and his works.—Ezekiel 28:17; Genesis 3:15; Revelation 12:9; 20:1-3; Hebrews 2:14; Romans 16:20. en, 72, ¶ 2; 336, ¶ 1.

Q. 17. Who, instead of Satan, will be overlord of the world? and who will be the visible representatives of the invisible King? (Page 44, ¶ 2)

A. Christ has already been enthroned, and with the destruction of Satan's rule, he will reign without opposition. His visible representatives will be the resurrected faithful men of old who served Jehovah before Christ's first advent.—Isaiah 32:1; Psalms 2:6; 45:16; Hebrews 11:2-12:1; Matthew 8:11; Luke 13:28. s 309, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 18. What now is the real controversy affecting the everlasting destiny of mankind? (Page 44, ¶ 3)

A. The real controversy now is between Satan's

religio-totalitarian rule of the world against The Theocracy with Christ as earth's rightful King.—Revelation 12:12; 13:1, 7, 8; 17:14; Psalm 45:3, 4. rg, 92, ¶ 1; en, 31, ¶ 2.

Q. 19. Why are Jehovah's witnesses not a religious sect or cult? (Page 45, ¶ 1)

A. A *sect* is a group of religionists who follow some human leader or man-made creed and indulge in particular religious ceremonies. A *cult* is a system of formalistic worship. Jehovah's witnesses are Christians, and worship Jehovah in spirit and in truth, as Jesus stated and did. Their steps are ordered, not by men, but by God's Word.—John 4:23, 24; Psalm 119:105, 133; Acts 26:5; 1 Corinthians 7:23; 2 Peter 2:1-3. *Yearbook* 1939, page 7; *Theocracy*, page 17.

Q. 20. Who are the demons, and what is their origin? (Page 46, ¶ 2, 3)

A. They are angels, spirit creatures, formerly holy, but now fallen and associates of Satan.—Jude 6; 2 Peter 2:4. rg, 12, ¶ 2; 336, ¶ 2.

Q. 21. What is "the abomination of desolation"? (Page 47, ¶ 1)

A. It is a religious-political combine that claims to rule, or aspires to rule the world as instead of Jehovah's anointed King, Christ Jesus. The "abomination" was for a time represented in the League of Nations, but has now taken on the form of a totalitarian setup.—Matthew 24:15, 16; Mark 13:14; Daniel 11:31; 12:11; Revelation 13:14, 15; 17:3-14. s, 13, ¶ 1; 118, ¶ 3; rg, 124, ¶ 1.

Q. 22. Who are they "that are in Judea"? and to what "mountains" are they to flee for refuge? (Page 47, ¶ 1)

A. "Judea" is from "Judah", meaning "praise". Those "in Judea" represent the class in the land of "Christendom" who are disposed to praise Jehovah. The "mountains" to which they must flee are symbolical of God's kingdom under Christ.—Genesis

29:35; Isaiah 2:2,3; Zechariah 14:4,5; Daniel 2:35,44; Psalms 36:6; 72:3; 133:3; Joel 2:32. s, 13, ¶ 1; 28, ¶ 1, 2; rg, 271, ¶ 1, 2.

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Q. 23. Where do the Scriptures state that the whole world lies in darkness? (Page 48, ¶ 1)

A. At 1 Thessalonians 5:4-7; 1 John 5:19; and Isaiah 60:2. See also John 1:4,5; Ephesians 6:12; 1 Peter 2:9; and John 3:19-21.

Q. 24. How do the Scriptures foretell the attempt by world rulers to stop Jehovah's witnesses and put them to silence? (Page 48, ¶ 2)

A. In these words: "They have taken crafty counsel against thy people and consulted against thy hidden ones."—Psalm 83:3-5. See also Psalms 94:20,21; 2:2,3; 35:20. ch, 269, ¶ 2.

Q. 25. What are the invisible "heavens" and the visible "earth" of the present evil world? (Page 48, ¶ 3)

A. The invisible "heavens" are composed of Satan and his demon-angels, while the "earth" is the organization of men into tribes and governments.—Galatians 1:4; 2 Corinthians 4:4; John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11. en, 35, ¶ 1; 63, ¶ 2; 64, ¶ 1.

Q. 26. Is the destruction of democracy Satan's chief objective? (Page 49, ¶ 1-3)

A. No, his primary objective is to prevent the freedom of publication of The Theocracy and the victory thereof; but the destruction of democracy is a means to that end.—Psalm 2:2-4. See also answer to Q. 24.

Q. 27. Why should Almighty God permit the closing of the witness work by the enemy? (Page 49, ¶ 4)

A. It will permit the enemy to demonstrate their complete opposition to Jehovah, and will mark the conclusion of the work of sounding the warning, and the beginning of "Armageddon".—Matthew 24:14,21; Ezekiel 9:4,11. s, 23, ¶ 1,2.

Q. 28. Why does the Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church resort to arrest, imprisonment and other forms of persecution to silence Jehovah's witnesses? (Page 50, ¶ 1)

A. It does this because unable to refute the truth of the message proclaimed by the witnesses.—Acts 4:1-3, 16; 6:9-12; Luke 21:15. rg, 318, ¶ 1-320, ¶ 1.

Q. 29. Where do the Scriptures authorize Jehovah's witnesses to defend themselves in court, or otherwise, against the enemy? (Page 50, ¶ 1)

A. Jesus said (at John 18:36) that his servants would fight, if his kingdom were of *this world*. See also Luke 22:36-38. The Scriptures show, at Luke 21:12-15; Acts 5:25-29; 23:1-3,11; 25:10-12, that Jehovah's witnesses would be brought into court and would there be called upon to defend themselves. Self-defense is authorized in the Scriptures at Exodus 22:2, and illustrated at Nehemiah 4:13-18. rg, 292, 293.

Q. 30. The fanatical persecution of Jehovah's witnesses everywhere is proof of what fact? (Page 51)

A. It is one of the evidences that they are on the right side as Jehovah's witnesses and true Christians, and not of Satan's organization.—Mark 13:13; Matthew 24:9; Psalm 69:4,9; John 15:18. rg, 194, top.

Q. 31. Since their acts against Jehovah's witnesses are underhanded, mean and undeniably wicked, how can the Hierarchy and their allies still believe God is on their side? (Page 52)

A. They are deluded by the Devil, "deceiving and being deceived" by religion.—John 16:2; 2 Timothy 3:12,13; 2 Thessalonians 2:11,12; Micah 3:11.

Q. 32. Why does Jesus count the persecution of his faithful followers as done unto himself? (Page 53, ¶ 1)

A. Because his followers are in complete unity with him and are members of his body.—John 17:11,18,21,22; Acts 9:4,5; Matthew 25:41-46; Zechariah 2:8; 1 Corinthians 12:12,26,27.

Q. 33. Why will those who persist in following religious leaders be destroyed? (Page 53, ¶ 2)

A. Because, seeking to determine for themselves what is right, and also letting other religious men determine what is right for them, they reject God's provision, and show they are proud at heart and rebellious.—Matthew 15:14; Isaiah 9:16; Proverbs 14:12; 3:7; 12:15; 16:2; 21:2; Isaiah 5:21; Jeremiah 51:6. rg, 64, ¶ 1, 2.

Q. 34. What is the "everlasting fire" of Matthew 25:41? (Page 54, ¶ 1)

A. See answer to Question 67, page 18; also the *Emphatic Diaglott* translation of Matthew 25:46.

Q. 35. How are Jehovah's witnesses able to calmly endure the wicked persecutions now heaped upon them? (Page 55, ¶ 2)

A. By faith in Jehovah and His promises and by reliance upon His strength.—1 Corinthians 10:13; Psalms 34:7, 19; 37:39; Ezekiel 3:8, 9; Romans 8:31, 35, 39; 2 Chronicles 20:15; Matthew 10:28; Isaiah 41:10, 13, 14; 54:17.

Q. 36. Will only Jehovah's witnesses be carried through Armageddon? (Page 56)

A. Only Jehovah's witnesses survived the great Flood, which Jesus said was a type of Armageddon. (Matthew 24:37) Likewise a remnant of the spirit-begotten, anointed witnesses of Jehovah will be preserved through Armageddon (Micah 5:3, 7, 8; Zephaniah 2:9; Jeremiah 40:2-6), together with their earthly "companions", who must also bear witness to Jehovah and his Theocratic Government. There will be a "great multitude" of such that will be carried through Armageddon, from every nation, kindred and tongue, as pictured by Noah's family that survived the Flood and also as pictured by Lot who escaped the destruction of Sodom.—Revelation 7:9-17; Genesis 19:15-25; 7:23; 9:1. ch, 99, ¶ 1; 103, ¶ 1; 127, ¶ 1; rg, 270, ¶ 1.

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Q. 37. Why will "the slain of the Lord" "not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried"? (Page 56, ¶ 2)

A. Because the Lord's judgment is just and true (Revelation 15:3); he executes the wicked only after full warning, which they despise (Ezekiel 3:19; Malachi 2:2, 3, *margin*); and he has expressly forbidden lamentation for those whom he, the righteous judge, slays (Ezekiel 24:16; Leviticus 10:6). The righteous will rejoice as they witness the manifestation of Jehovah's justice (Revelation 18:20; 19:1-3; Isaiah 30:30; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10). The wicked will not be worthy of decent burial (Zephaniah 1:17) and many of their corpses will be devoured by beasts as recompense for the violation of God's everlasting covenant.—Isaiah 24:5, 6; Genesis 9:3-6, 9, 10; Jeremiah 15:3; 16:4, 5; Ezekiel 39:17-21; Deuteronomy 28:26. rg, 347.

Q. 38. What are some of the texts corroborating Jeremiah 25:33, 35, showing that everything in opposition to The Theocracy shall perish? (Page 56, ¶ 3)

A. The following are some of the many corroborative texts: Psalms 34:21; 68:1, 2; 11:6; 145:20; Nahum 1:2, 9. en, 339, ¶ 2; 340, ¶ 1.

Q. 39. Why will not Jehovah's faithful witnesses become weak or faint because of wicked opposition? (Page 57, ¶ 1)

A. Because they are strong in the Lord, trusting implicitly in Him.—Ephesians 6:10; Psalms 28:8; 13:5; 118:6-9; Nahum 1:7; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Romans 8:28. rg, 194, ¶ 1.

Q. 40. Why would Jehovah's witnesses have been disappointed if their experiences had been otherwise? (Page 57, ¶ 1)

A. Because it would have indicated a misunderstanding of the prophecies as to the matter at issue and as to "the times and the seasons".—Luke 6:22,

23, 26; John 15:20, 21; Matthew 10:22; 24:7-9; Mark 13:8-13; 2 Corinthians 4:7-10; Exodus 9:16; Matthew 24:14. s, 48, ¶ 1.

Q. 41. How is the Christian enabled to have courage, patience and joy even under present distressing circumstances? (Page 57, ¶ 2)

A. By relying on Jehovah and pressing forward in the Kingdom service with endurance.—1 John 4:17, 18; Psalm 27:14; Hebrews 13:6; 1 Peter 1:6, 7; Ezekiel 3:8, 9; 2 Timothy 2:3, 4; 2; Zephaniah 3:16.

Q. 42. What twofold obligation and duty has Jehovah laid upon his people? (Page 58, ¶ 1, 2)

A. That of declaring His name and exposing and warning the wicked.—Matthew 24:14; 10:27; Acts 20:20; Ezekiel 3:17; Isaiah 58:1; Jeremiah 1:5-10. rg (Author's Edition), 1.

Q. 43. What Scriptural and prophetic picture aptly illustrates the corpulent religious system and the effectiveness of "the sword of the spirit" in putting that system out of commission? (Page 58, ¶ 2)

A. The story of Ehud and King Eglon.—Judges 3:12-26; Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12; *The Watchtower*, September 15 and October 1, 1940.

Q. 44. Why do Jehovah's witnesses persist in pressing home the point of their unpopular message? (Page 58, ¶ 3)

A. They are in a covenant to do God's will and serve him as His witnesses. They must persevere in proclaiming the message so that all persons of good-will may escape. Failure or refusal to carry out this commission and to obey Jehovah's commandment to warn the wicked in His name would uphold the Devil's side of his challenge to Jehovah God and mean their own everlasting destruction as covenant breakers.—Ezekiel 3:17-21; Jeremiah 1:7-9; 1 Corinthians 4:1-3; 9:16. rg, 343, ¶ 1-3.

Q. 45. What is meant by God's "city of refuge" to which those of good-will must flee? (Page 58, ¶ 3)

A. The "city of refuge" pictures God's organization as a place or condition of safety for the people of good-will from God's Avenger and Executioner during Armageddon, which people have been unwittingly involved in violating the everlasting covenant by being a part of "this world".—Numbers 35:9-12; Joel 2:32; Zephaniah 2:3; Matthew 24:16. ch, 106, ¶ 1; 118, ¶ 2; s, 76-83.

Q. 46. What provision has God made for those who faithfully serve him unto the end? (Page 60, ¶ 1, 2)

A. The apostles and other disciples who died faithful prior to 1918 and who slept in death have now been resurrected and are with the Lord, and the faithful remnant who yet "wake" on the earth now live united with the Lord in unity of faith and service. God has provided everlasting life in heaven for the "little flock" and everlasting life on earth for the "great multitude" of "other sheep".—Luke 12:32; John 14:2, 3; Matthew 5:12; Revelation 7:9; John 10:16; Matthew 25:34; Psalm 115:16. s, 305, ¶ 1; 316, ¶ 1; en, 354, ¶ 1.

Q. 47. How can there be "full assurance of life everlasting" if one (of the "little flock" or "great multitude") may die before or during Armageddon? (Page 60, ¶ 2)

A. As God raised up Jesus out of death, even so he has given his promise to raise up out of death, by Jesus, those who are faithful unto death.—1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; Revelation 20:6; 11:18; John 5:28, 29; Acts 24:15; 2 Timothy 4:1, 8.

Q. 48. Why is the book *Religion* a provision of the Lord? (Page 60, ¶ 3)

A. Because it is an aid to the understanding and the publication of the Truth now due to be known, and the warning now to be given.—Psalm 145:15; Mark 13:10; Exodus 9:16; Proverbs 4:18; 2:7.

Q. 49. Why is religion demonism? (Page 60, ¶ 3)

A. Because the Devil, the chief demon, is the orig-

inator of religion, and with him operates a horde of demons under whose influence and control religionists oppose God's Kingdom.—1 Timothy 4:1; 1 Corinthians 10:19-21; Genesis 3:1-5; John 8:44; Acts 17:22, *Am. Rev. Ver. and Emphatic Diaglott*, rg, 82, 83.

Q. 50. Why are Jehovah's people invited, "Enter thou into thy chambers," when the "sign" indicating the beginning of Armageddon clearly appears? (Page 61, ¶ 1)

A. Because the "strange work" in which God's people are engaged will then be completed and there will be no further opportunity for anyone to heed the warning, just as it was too late to enter the ark when the door was shut.—Isaiah 26:20, 21; Matthew 24:20; Psalm 27:5; Genesis 7:16; Luke 13:24, 25. s, 28, ¶ 1; ch. 317-320.

Q. 51. Why is the circulation of the "Message of Hope" appropriate and needful at this time? (Page 61, ¶ 4)

A. Religion has left the people in darkness and without hope. Imminent danger of destruction for all who do not find protection under The Theocracy makes the publication and circulation of the truth a matter of paramount importance. To gain salvation, knowledge and obedience are required, as pointed out in the "Message of Hope".—Zephaniah 2:2, 3. s, 29, ¶ 1.

Q. 52. What proof is there that the Bible is man's only true guide? (Page 61, ¶ 5)

A. The Bible itself contains abundant proof, while physical facts fulfilling its prophecies and confirming its precepts likewise furnish proof.—Psalm 19:7-14; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; Acts 15:18; John 17:17; Hebrews 4:12. en, 81, ¶ 2. (See also c, pages 105-124.)

Q. 53. What is the cause of the wickedness and the distressing conditions in the earth today? (Page 61, ¶ 6)

A. The Devil is putting forth his final effort to turn all men against the Almighty God, Jehovah.—Revelation 12:12; Job 1:9-11; 2:4, 5. See also Question 1, page 19.

Q. 54. What is meant by the statement, "The wicked shall be turned into hell" (Psalm 9:17)? (Page 62, ¶ 1)

A. See answer to Question 47, page 13.

Q. 55. How have the religious nations of "Christendom" forgotten Jehovah God? (Page 62, ¶ 1)

A. They have forgotten the Creator by ignoring his Word and purpose and by leaving him out of consideration when persecuting those who are ambassadors of His righteous Theocratic government.—Matthew 23:37; Proverbs 1:24, 28-30; Ezekiel 5:6-9; Zechariah 7:11-13. rg, 323, ¶ 1.

Q. 56. Who are "persons of good-will" (Luke 2:14, *Douay*) and how do they "gather together" (Zephaniah 2:1)? (Page 62, ¶ 3)

A. Persons of good-will are those who sincerely seek God and desire to do His will. They "gather together" by abandoning all religious organizations and practices, and political and commercial schemes for human improvement and world recovery, and taking refuge under God's kingdom (The Theocracy), associating themselves with Jehovah's witnesses and saying, "Come," to "whosoever will".—Jeremiah 29:13; Hebrews 11:6; John 7:17; Isaiah 1:16-20; Revelation 18:3, 4; Matthew 24:15, 16; Revelation 22:17. s, 27, ¶ 1.

Q. 57. How does one seek righteousness and meekness? (Page 62, ¶ 3)

A. By meekly studying the Scriptures with the aid of the "present truth" literature, provided by the Lord through his organization on earth, thus ascertaining his purposes and his will, and then gladly doing his will, which is righteous.—Proverbs 3:5; 22:17-21;

30:8, 9; James 1:21, 22; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:15-17; Revelation 22:17. s, 299.

Q. 58. Upon what evidence is it now declared that those of the "great multitude" will "multiply and fill the earth with a perfect and righteous race of people"? (Page 63, ¶ 2)

A. The creation of the earth and the placing of man upon it and God's command (divine mandate) to multiply and fill the earth clearly show the purpose of the Creator is that righteous man shall inhabit the earth, possessed of everlasting life. (Genesis 1:28) The same was foreshadowed in Jehovah's dealings with and his statements to Noah and his sons after they came forth from the ark.—Genesis 9:1, 7; Ecclesiastes 1:4; Isaiah 45:12, 18; Psalms 115:16-18; 41:1, 2; John 11:26; 8:51. s, 329; 341, ¶ 1. (See *Face the Facts*, page 34.)