

## WEEK STARTING APRIL 7

Song 15 and Prayer

### □ Congregation Bible Study:

*cl* chap. 5 ¶19-17 (30 min.)

### □ Theocratic Ministry School:

**Bible reading:** Exodus 7-10 (10 min.)

**No. 1:** Exodus 9:20-35 (4 min. or less)

**No. 2:** *In What Manner Will Jesus Return, and How Will Every Eye See Him?*—*rs* p. 342 ¶14–p. 343 ¶15 (5 min.)

**No. 3:** *Abishai—Be Loyal and Ready to Help Your Brothers*—*it-1* p. 26 (5 min.)

### □ Service Meeting:

Song 124

**10 min: Offer the Magazines During April.** Discussion. Start by demonstrating how the magazines may be offered, using the two sample presentations on this page. Then analyze the sample presentations from beginning to end. Conclude by briefly encouraging all to become well-acquainted with the magazines and to share enthusiastically in offering them.

**10 min: Do Not Forget Hospitality. (Heb. 13: 1, 2)** Talk by an elder. Review local arrangements for the Memorial. Suggest ways that all can show hospitality to visitors and inactive publishers who will be in attendance. Have a brief two-part demonstration. First, show a publisher before the program begins welcoming someone who received an invitation during the campaign. Then, show the publisher after the program concludes making arrangements to follow up on the interest shown by the visitor.

**10 min: How Did We Do?** Discussion. Invite publishers to comment on how they benefited by applying points from the article “Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Responding to Potential Conversation Stoppers.” Ask the audience to relate good experiences.

Song 20 and Prayer

## Announcements

■ Literature offer for **March and April:** *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. **May and June:** *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* or one of the following tracts: *How Do You View the Bible?*, *How Do You View the Future?*, *What Is the Key to Happy Family Life?*, *Who Really Controls the World?*, or *Will Suffering Ever End?*

■ The Memorial will be held on Monday, April 14, 2014. If your congregation normally has a meeting on Monday, it should be switched to another day of the week if the Kingdom Hall is available. If the Service Meeting must be canceled, the coordinator of the body of elders may make ad-

justments to the schedule so that parts that are particularly applicable to your congregation are considered during the month.

■ The title of the public talk to be given by the circuit overseer during the second half of the 2014 service year is “Rescue From World Distress.”

## Sample Presentations

### For the Memorial Invitation Campaign

“We’re distributing an invitation to a very important event. On April 14, millions around the world will gather to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ and hear a free Bible discourse about how his death benefits us. This invitation shows the location and time of the meeting being held in our community.”

THE WATCHTOWER® April 1  
ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM

“We’re visiting briefly to discuss something that most people have in common. Almost everyone, regardless of his religion, has prayed. Do you think that prayers are answered by God, or do you think they just make us feel better about our problems? [Allow for response.] Notice what the Bible says about prayer. [Read 1 John 5:14.] This magazine explains how prayer benefits us.”

### Awake!® April

“We’re here to provide help for a problem that is becoming all too common. Some people feel so overwhelmed by their situation in life that they have considered suicide. When a person is that distressed, do you think he really wishes to die, or do you think he just wants relief from his suffering? [Allow for response.] Here’s a Bible promise that has helped many to maintain a positive viewpoint. [Read Revelation 21:3, 4.] This magazine outlines three good reasons for a person to keep on living despite his present problems.”

## Field Service Highlights

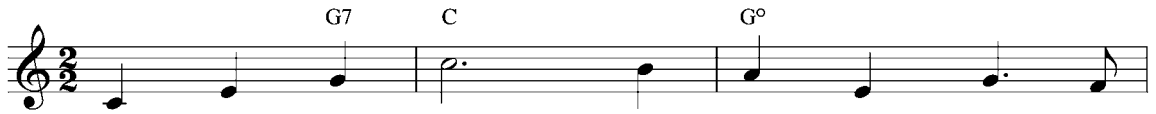
We are happy to report five new peaks in regular pioneers during the month of September 2013: 208 in the Bahamas, 84 in Bermuda, 34 in the British Virgin Islands, 3,151 in Puerto Rico, and 159,659 in the United States. This represents a total increase of 5,023 over the previous peaks. How Jehovah delights when we praise him with our “whole being!”—Ps. 103:22.



# 15

# Creation Reveals Jehovah's Glory

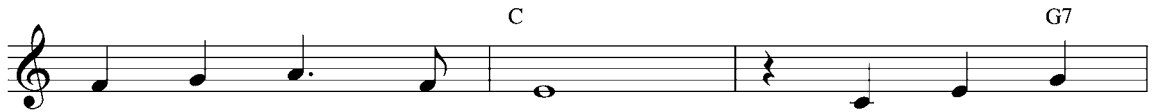
(Psalm 19)



Je - ho - vah God, my soul is well a -  
 For you have made the sun and moon and  
 Your laws are pure, and your com - mands are



ware.  
 stars.  
 true.  
 A Great Day host o - ceans af - ter stars, stop day, your where re -

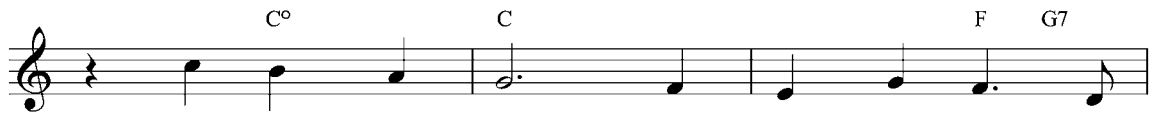


glo - ry does de - clare. From day to  
 you have set their bars. We lift our  
 mind - ers come from you. They make us

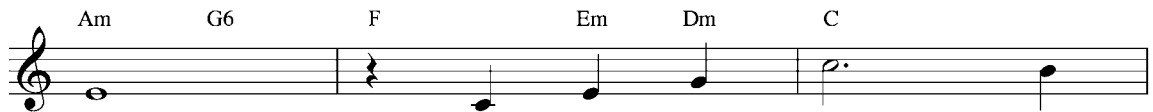


day and night to night they speak  
 eyes and see your heav - ens grand.  
 wise, are bet - ter than fine gold.

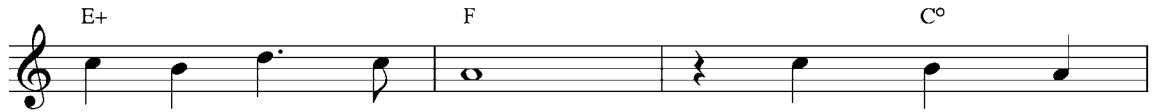
# Creation Reveals Jehovah's Glory



And with - out words bring knowl - edge to the  
 We stand in awe that you re - mem - ber  
 Oh, may we keep them, al - ways to them



meek. From day to day and  
 man. We lift our eyes and  
 hold. They make us wise, are



night to night they speak And with - out  
 see your heav - ens grand. We stand in  
 bet - ter than fine gold. Oh, may we



words bring knowl - edge to the meek.  
 awe that you re - mem - ber man.  
 keep them, al - ways to them hold.

<sup>8</sup> Our awe can only increase when we contemplate the size of galaxies. The Milky Way galaxy has been estimated to measure some 100,000 light-years across. Picture a beam of light traveling at the tremendous speed of 186,000 miles each second. It would take that beam 100,000 years to traverse our galaxy! And some galaxies are many times the size of ours. The Bible says that Jehovah is "stretching out" these vast heavens as if they were mere fabric. (Psalm 104:2) He also orders the movements of these creations. From the smallest speck of interstellar dust to the mightiest galaxy, everything moves according to physical laws that God has formulated and put into effect. (Job 38:31-33) Thus, scientists have likened the precise movements of the celestial bodies to the choreography of an elaborate ballet! Think, then, of the One who has created these things. Do you not stand in awe of the God having such immense creative power?

### **"The Maker of the Earth by His Power"**

<sup>9</sup> Jehovah's creative power is evident in our home, the earth. He has placed the earth very carefully in this vast universe. Some scientists believe that many galaxies might prove inhospitable to a life-bearing planet like ours. Much of our Milky Way galaxy was evidently not designed to accommodate life. The galactic center is packed with stars. Radiation is high, and close encounters between stars are common. The fringes of the galaxy lack many of the elements essential to life. Our solar system is ideally situated between such extremes.

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8. (a) How would you explain the size of the Milky Way galaxy?  
(b) By what means does Jehovah order the movements of celestial bodies?

9, 10. How is Jehovah's power evident in connection with the positioning of our solar system, Jupiter, the earth, and the moon?

<sup>10</sup> Earth benefits from a distant but giant protector—the planet Jupiter. More than a thousand times the size of Earth, Jupiter exerts a tremendous gravitational influence. The result? It absorbs or deflects objects that speed through space. Scientists figure that if not for Jupiter, the rain of massive projectiles striking the earth would be 10,000 times more severe than at present. Closer to home, our earth is blessed with an unusual satellite—the moon. More than an object of beauty and a “night-light,” the moon holds the earth at a constant, steady tilt. That tilt gives the earth its stable, predictable seasons—another important boon to life here.

<sup>11</sup> Jehovah’s creative power is evident in every facet of the earth’s design. Consider the atmosphere, which serves as a protective shield. The sun emits healthful rays and deadly ones. When the lethal rays strike the earth’s upper atmosphere, they cause ordinary oxygen to turn into ozone. The resulting ozone layer, in turn, absorbs most of those rays. In effect, our planet is designed with its own protective umbrella!

<sup>12</sup> That is just one aspect of our atmosphere, a complex mix of gases ideally suited to supporting the creatures living on or near the earth’s surface. Among wonders of the atmosphere is the water cycle. Every year the sun lifts up by evaporation over 100,000 cubic miles of water from the earth’s oceans and seas. The water forms clouds, which are circulated far and wide by atmospheric winds. This water, now filtered and purified, falls as rain, snow, and ice, replenishing water supplies. It is just as Ecclesiastes 1:7 says: “All the winter torrents are going forth

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11. How is earth’s atmosphere designed to serve as a protective shield?

12. How does the atmospheric water cycle illustrate Jehovah’s creative power?

to the sea, yet the sea itself is not full. To the place where the winter torrents are going forth, there they are returning so as to go forth." Only Jehovah could set such a cycle in motion.

<sup>13</sup> Wherever we see life, we see evidence of the Creator's power. From the mighty redwoods that tower higher than 30-story buildings to the microscopic plant life that teems in the oceans and provides much of the oxygen we breathe, Jehovah's creative power is evident. The very soil is packed with living things—worms, fungi, and microbes, all working together in complex ways that help plants to grow. Fittingly, the Bible speaks of the soil as having power.—Genesis 4:12.

<sup>14</sup> Without a doubt, Jehovah is "the Maker of the earth by his power." (Jeremiah 10:12) God's power is evident even in his smallest creations. For instance, a million atoms laid side by side would not span the thickness of a human hair. And even if an atom were expanded until it was as tall as a 14-story building, its nucleus would be the size of a mere grain of salt located on the seventh floor. Yet, that infinitesimal nucleus is the source of the awesome power unleashed in a nuclear explosion!

### **"Every Breathing Thing"**

<sup>15</sup> Another vivid proof of Jehovah's creative power lies in the abundance of animal life on the earth. Psalm 148 lists many of the things that praise Jehovah, and verse 10 includes "you wild animals and all you domestic animals." To show why man should be in awe of the Creator,

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13. What evidence of the Creator's power do we see in the earth's vegetation and its soil?

14. What latent power exists even in the tiny atom?

15. By discussing various wild animals, what lesson did Jehovah teach Job?

Jehovah once spoke to Job about such animals as the lion, the zebra, the wild bull, Behemoth (or, hippopotamus), and Leviathan (evidently the crocodile). The point? If man stands in awe of these mighty, fearsome, and untamable creatures, how should he feel about their Creator? —Job, chapters 38-41.

<sup>16</sup> Psalm 148:10 also mentions “winged birds.” Just think of the varieties! Jehovah told Job of the ostrich, which “laughs at the horse and at its rider.” Indeed, this eight-foot-tall bird may be flightless, but it can run 40 miles per hour, covering up to 15 feet in a single stride! (Job 39:13, 18) On the other hand, the albatross spends most of its life in the air over the seas. A natural glider, this bird has a wingspan of some 11 feet. It may soar for hours at a stretch without flapping its wings. By way of contrast, at only two inches in length, the bee hummingbird is the smallest bird in the world. It may flap its wings up to 80 times in a second! Hummingbirds, glittering like little winged gems, can hover like helicopters and even fly backward.

<sup>17</sup> Psalm 148:7 says that even the “sea monsters” praise Jehovah. Consider what is often thought to be the largest animal ever to live on this planet, the blue whale. This “monster” of the deep may reach a length of 100 feet or more. It may weigh as much as a herd of 30 adult elephants. Its tongue alone weighs as much as one elephant. Its heart is the size of a small car. This huge organ beats only 9 times per minute—in contrast with the hummingbird’s heart, which may beat some 1,200 times per minute. At least one of the blue whale’s blood vessels is so large that a child could crawl inside it. Surely our hearts move us to echo the exhortation that concludes the

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16. What impresses you about some of the birds that Jehovah has created?

17. How large is the blue whale, and what conclusion should we naturally reach after contemplating Jehovah’s animal creations?

### Questions for Meditation

**Psalm 8:3-9** How can Jehovah’s creation teach us humility?

**Psalm 19:1-6** Jehovah’s creative power may incite us to do what, and why?

**Matthew 6:25-34** How can contemplating Jehovah’s creative power help us to fight anxiety and set proper priorities in life?

**Acts 17:22-31** How does Jehovah’s use of creative power teach us that idolatry is wrong and that God is not far off from us?

book of Psalms: “Every breathing thing—let it praise Jah.”  
—Psalm 150:6.

### Learning From Jehovah’s Creative Power

<sup>18</sup> What do we learn from Jehovah’s use of his creative power? We are awestruck by the diversity of creation. One psalmist exclaimed: “How many your works are, O Jehovah! . . . The earth is full of your productions.” (Psalm 104:24) How true! Biologists have identified well over a million species of living things on earth; yet, opinions vary as to whether there may be as many as 10 million, 30 million, or more. A human artist may find that his creativity runs dry at times. In contrast, Jehovah’s creativity—his power to invent and create new and diverse things—is obviously inexhaustible.

<sup>19</sup> Jehovah’s use of his creative power teaches us about his sovereignty. The very word “Creator” separates Jehovah from everything else in the universe, all of which is “creation.” Even Jehovah’s only-begotten Son, who served as “a master worker” during creation, is never called Creator or co-Creator in the Bible. (Proverbs 8:30; Matthew 19:4)

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18, 19. How diverse are the living things that Jehovah has made on this earth, and what does creation teach us about his sovereignty?



"Look! I speak with difficulty,\* so how will Phar'aoh ever listen to me?"<sup>a</sup>

**7** Jehovah then said to Moses: "See, I have made you like God\* to Phar'aoh, and Aaron your own brother will become your prophet.<sup>b</sup> **2** You are to repeat everything that I will command you, and Aaron your brother will speak to Phar'aoh, and he will send the Israelites away from his land. **3** As for me, I will allow Phar'aoh's heart to become obstinate,<sup>c</sup> and I will multiply my signs and my miracles in the land of Egypt.<sup>d</sup> **4** But Phar'aoh will not listen to you, and I will lay my hand upon Egypt and bring my multitudes,\* my people, the Israelites, out of the land of Egypt with great judgments.<sup>e</sup> **5** And the Egyptians will certainly know that I am Jehovah<sup>f</sup> when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out from among them." **6** Moses and Aaron did what Jehovah had commanded them; they did just so. **7** Moses was 80 years old and Aaron was 83 years old when they spoke to Phar'aoh.<sup>g</sup>

**8** Jehovah now said to Moses and Aaron: **9** "If Phar'aoh says to you, 'Perform a miracle,' then tell Aaron, 'Take your rod and throw it down before Phar'aoh.' It will become a big snake."<sup>h</sup> **10** So Moses and Aaron went in to Phar'aoh and did exactly as Jehovah had commanded. Aaron threw his rod down before Phar'aoh and his servants, and it became a big snake. **11** However, Phar'aoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and the magic-practicing priests of Egypt<sup>i</sup> also did the same thing with their magic.\*<sup>j</sup> **12** Each one

**6:30** \*Lit., "I am uncircumcised in lips."  
**7:1** \*Lit., "made you God."  
**7:4** \*Lit., "my armies."  
**7:11** \*Or "their magic arts."

CHAP. 6

a Ex 4:10  
Ex 6:12

CHAP. 7

b Ex 4:14-16  
Ex 4:30

c Ex 4:21  
Ex 7:13, 22  
Ex 8:15, 19  
Ex 9:12, 35  
Ex 10:20, 27  
Ex 11:10  
Ex 14:8  
Ro 9:17, 18

d Ex 3:19, 20  
Ps 105:26, 27  
Ac 7:36

e Ex 12:12, 51

f Ex 7:17  
Ex 8:9, 10  
Ex 8:22  
Ex 9:29  
Ex 14:4

g De 34:7  
Ac 7:22, 23

h Ex 4:2, 3

i Ge 41:8  
2Ti 3:8

j Ex 7:20, 22  
Ex 8:7, 18  
Ex 9:11

Second Col.

a Ex 7:3

b Ex 10:1

c Ex 4:2, 3

d Ex 3:18

e Ex 7:5  
Ex 8:9, 10  
Ex 8:22  
Ex 9:29  
Ex 14:4

f Ex 9:22  
Ex 10:12  
Ex 14:21

g Ex 8:5

threw down his rod, and they became big snakes; but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.

**13** Still, Phar'aoh's heart became obstinate,<sup>a</sup> and he did not listen to them, just as Jehovah had said.

**14** Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Phar'aoh's heart is unresponsive.<sup>b</sup> He has refused to send the people away. **15** Go to Phar'aoh in the morning. Look! He is going out to the water! And you should station yourself to meet him by the edge of the Nile River; and take with you in your hand the rod that turned into a serpent.<sup>c</sup> **16** And you must say to him, 'Jehovah the God of the Hebrews has sent me to you,<sup>d</sup> and he says: "Send my people away so that they may serve me in the wilderness," but you have not obeyed until now. **17** This is what Jehovah says: "By this you will know that I am Jehovah.<sup>e</sup> Here I am striking the water that is in the Nile River with the rod that is in my hand, and it will turn into blood. **18** And the fish that are in the Nile will die, and the Nile will stink, and the Egyptians will find it impossible to drink water from the Nile."<sup>f</sup>"

**19** Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Say to Aaron, 'Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt,<sup>g</sup> over its rivers, over its canals,<sup>h</sup> over its marshes,<sup>g</sup> and over all its reservoirs, that they may become blood.' There will be blood in all the land of Egypt, even in the wooden and stone containers." **20** Immediately Moses and Aaron did just as Jehovah had commanded. He lifted up the rod and struck the water that was in the Nile River before the eyes of Phar'aoh and his servants, and all the water that was in

**7:19** \*That is, canals from the Nile.

the river was turned into blood.<sup>a</sup> **21** And the fish that were in the river died,<sup>b</sup> and the river began to stink, and the Egyptians were unable to drink water from the Nile,<sup>c</sup> and there was blood throughout the land of Egypt.

**22** Nevertheless, the magic-practicing priests of Egypt did the same thing with their secret arts,<sup>d</sup> so that Phar'aoh's heart continued to be obstinate, and he did not listen to them, just as Jehovah had said.<sup>e</sup> **23** Then Phar'aoh returned to his house, and he did not take this to heart either. **24** So all the Egyptians were digging all around the Nile for water to drink, because they could not drink any water of the Nile. **25** And seven full days passed after Jehovah struck the Nile.

**8** Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Go in to Phar'aoh and say to him, 'This is what Jehovah says: "Send my people away so that they may serve me."<sup>f</sup> **2** If you keep refusing to send them away, I will plague all your territory with frogs.<sup>g</sup> **3** And the Nile River will swarm with frogs, and they will come up and enter into your house, into your bedroom, on your bed, into the houses of your servants and on your people, into your ovens, and into your kneading troughs."<sup>h</sup> **4** On you, on your people, and on all your servants, the frogs will come up."<sup>i</sup>

**5** Jehovah later said to Moses: "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your rod over the rivers, the Nile canals, and the marshes, and make the frogs come up over the land of Egypt.'" **6** So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs began to come up and to cover

CHAP. 7

a Ps 78:44

b Ps 105:29

c Ex 7:18, 24

d Ex 7:11, 12  
Ex 8:7, 18  
Ex 9:11  
2Ti 3:8

e Ex 3:19

CHAP. 8

f Ex 3:12

g Ps 78:45

h Ps 105:30

Second Col.

a Ex 7:11, 12  
Ex 7:20, 22  
Ex 8:17, 18  
Ex 9:11  
2Ti 3:8

b Ex 10:16-19

c Ex 9:14  
Ex 15:11  
Ps 83:18  
Ps 86:8  
Isa 46:9  
Jer 10:6, 7  
Ro 9:17

d Ex 8:3

e Ex 8:30, 31  
Ex 9:33

f Ex 4:21  
Ex 7:3

g Ps 105:31

the land of Egypt. **7** However, the magic-practicing priests did the same thing by their secret arts, and they too made the frogs come up over the land of Egypt.<sup>a</sup> **8** Phar'aoh then called Moses and Aaron and said: "Plead with Jehovah to remove the frogs from me and my people,<sup>b</sup> as I want to send the people away so that they may sacrifice to Jehovah." **9** Then Moses said to Phar'aoh: "I leave to you the honor of telling me when I should plead to have the frogs removed from you, your servants, your people, and your houses. Only in the Nile River will they be left." **10** To this he said: "Tomorrow." So he said: "It will be according to your word so that you may know that there is no one else like Jehovah our God."<sup>c</sup> **11** The frogs will depart from you, your houses, your servants, and your people. They will be left only in the Nile."<sup>d</sup>

**12** So Moses and Aaron went out from Phar'aoh, and Moses pleaded with Jehovah about the frogs that He had brought upon Phar'aoh.<sup>e</sup> **13** Then Jehovah did as Moses asked, and the frogs began to die in the houses, the courtyards, and the fields. **14** They were piling them up in countless heaps, and the land began to stink. **15** When Phar'aoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart<sup>f</sup> and he refused to listen to them, just as Jehovah had said.

**16** Jehovah now said to Moses: "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your rod and strike the dust of the earth, and it must become gnats in all the land of Egypt.'" **17** And they did this. Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod and struck the dust of the earth, and the gnats came on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats in all the land of Egypt.<sup>g</sup> **18** The magic-

8:3 \*Or "bowls."

practicing priests tried to do the same and produce gnats by their secret arts,<sup>a</sup> but they could not. And the gnats came on man and beast. **19** So the magic-practicing priests said to Phar'aoah: "It is the finger of God!"<sup>b</sup> But Phar'aoah's heart continued to be obstinate, and he did not listen to them, just as Jehovah had said.

**20** Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Get up early in the morning and station yourself in front of Phar'aoah. Look! He is coming out to the water! And you must say to him, 'This is what Jehovah has said: "Send my people away so that they may serve me. **21** But if you do not send my people away, I will send on you, your servants, and your people and into your houses the gadfly;"<sup>c</sup> and the houses of Egypt will be full of gadflies, and they will even cover the ground they<sup>d</sup> stand on. **22** On that day I will certainly set apart the land of Go'shen, where my people are dwelling. No gadflies will exist there,<sup>c</sup> and by this you will know that I, Jehovah, am here in the land."<sup>d</sup> **23** And I will make a distinction between my people and your people. Tomorrow this sign will take place.""<sup>e</sup>

**24** And Jehovah did so, and heavy swarms of gadflies began to invade the house of Phar'aoah and the houses of his servants and all the land of Egypt.<sup>e</sup> The land was ruined by the gadflies.<sup>f</sup> **25** Finally, Phar'aoah called Moses and Aaron and said: "Go, sacrifice to your God in the land." **26** But Moses said: "It is not proper to do so, because what we would sacrifice to Jehovah our God would be detestable to the Egyptians.<sup>g</sup> If we would make a sacrifice that was detest-

8:21 \*A type of fly that bites. <sup>#</sup>That is, the Egyptians.

#### CHAP. 8

a Ex 7:11, 12  
Ex 7:20, 22  
Ex 8:7  
Ex 9:11

b Ex 31:18  
Lu 11:20

c Ex 9:4, 26  
Ex 10:23  
Ex 12:13

d 1Sa 17:46  
1Ki 20:28  
2Ki 19:17, 19

e Ex 8:3

f Ps 78:45  
Ps 105:31

g Ge 46:33, 34  
Ex 10:25, 26

#### Second Col.

a Ex 3:18

b Ex 8:8  
Ex 9:28

c Ex 8:15

d Ex 9:33

#### CHAP. 9

e Ex 5:1  
Ex 8:1

f Ex 7:4

g Ex 9:15

h Ex 8:22  
Ex 10:23  
Ex 11:7  
Ex 12:13

able to the Egyptians right before their eyes, would they not stone us? **27** We will make a three-day journey into the wilderness, and there we will sacrifice to Jehovah our God, just as he has said to us."<sup>a</sup>

**28** Phar'aoah now said: "I will send you away to sacrifice to Jehovah your God in the wilderness. Only, you must not go so far away. Plead in my behalf."<sup>b</sup>

**29** Then Moses said: "Now I am going away from you, and I will plead with Jehovah, and the gadflies will depart from Phar'aoah, his servants, and his people tomorrow. But Phar'aoah must stop trifling<sup>c</sup> with us by refusing to send the people away to sacrifice to Jehovah."<sup>c</sup> **30** Moses then went out from Phar'aoah and pleaded with Jehovah.<sup>d</sup> **31** So Jehovah did according to Moses' word, and the gadflies departed from Phar'aoah, his servants, and his people. Not one was left. **32** However, Phar'aoah again hardened his heart and did not send the people away.

**9** So Jehovah said to Moses: "Go in to Phar'aoah and say to him, 'This is what Jehovah the God of the Hebrews has said: "Send my people away so that they may serve me."<sup>e</sup> **2** But if you refuse to send them away and you keep holding them, **3** look! Jehovah's hand<sup>f</sup> will come against your livestock in the field. On the horses, the donkeys, the camels, the herd, and the flock, there will be a devastating plague.<sup>g</sup> **4** And Jehovah will certainly make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt, and nothing that belongs to the Israelites will die."<sup>h</sup> **5** Moreover, Jehovah set an appointed time, saying: "Tomorrow Jehovah will do this in the land."

8:29 \*Or "playing games."

6 And Jehovah did this on the very next day, and all sorts of livestock of Egypt began to die,<sup>a</sup> but not one of Israel's livestock died. 7 When Phar'aoh inquired, look! not so much as one of Israel's livestock had died. Nevertheless, Phar'aoh's heart continued to be unresponsive, and he did not send the people away.<sup>b</sup>

8 Jehovah then said to Moses and Aaron: "Fill both of your hands with soot from a kiln, and Moses must throw it into the air in front of Phar'aoh. 9 And it will become a fine dust on all the land of Egypt, and it will become festering boils on man and beast in all the land of Egypt."

10 So they took soot from a kiln and stood before Phar'aoh, and Moses tossed it into the air, and it became festering boils breaking out on man and beast. 11 The magic-practicing priests were unable to stand before Moses because of the boils, for they had developed on the magic-practicing priests and on all the Egyptians.<sup>c</sup> 12 But Jehovah allowed Phar'aoh's heart to become obstinate, and he did not listen to them, just as Jehovah had told Moses.<sup>d</sup>

13 Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Get up early in the morning and station yourself in front of Phar'aoh, and say to him, 'This is what Jehovah the God of the Hebrews has said: "Send my people away so that they may serve me. 14 For now I am directing all my blows to strike your heart, your servants, and your people, so that you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth."<sup>e</sup> 15 For by now I could have thrust my hand out to strike you and your people with a devastating plague, and you would have been wiped out\*

9:15 \*Or "effaced."

CHAP. 9

a Ps 78:48

b Ex 4:21

c Ex 7:11, 12  
Ex 7:20, 22  
Ex 8:7, 18  
2Ti 3:8

d Ex 4:21  
Ex 8:31, 32  
Ex 14:17

e Ex 8:9, 10  
2Sa 7:22  
Ps 83:18

Second Col.

a Ex 14:17  
Jos 2:9, 10  
1Ch 16:24  
Pr 16:4  
Isa 63:12  
Ro 9:17

b Ps 78:47  
Ps 105:32

c Ex 10:4, 5

d Ex 9:18

e Ps 105:33

from the earth. 16 But for this very reason I have kept you in existence: to show you my power and to have my name declared in all the earth.<sup>a</sup> 17 Are you still behaving arrogantly against my people by not sending them away? 18 Here I will cause a very great hail to rain down tomorrow about this time, such as has never occurred in Egypt from the day it was founded until now. 19 Therefore, send word to bring all your livestock and all that is yours in the field under shelter. Every man and beast caught in the field and not brought into the house will die when the hail comes down on them."<sup>b</sup>

20 Anyone among Phar'aoh's servants who feared Jehovah's word quickly brought his own servants and his livestock into the houses, 21 but whoever did not take Jehovah's word to heart left his servants and his livestock in the field.

22 Jehovah now said to Moses: "Stretch out your hand toward the heavens, so that hail may come down on all the land of Egypt,<sup>b</sup> on man and beast and all the vegetation of the field in the land of Egypt."<sup>c</sup> 23 So Moses stretched out his rod toward the heavens, and Jehovah sent thunder and hail, and fire\* fell down to the earth, and Jehovah kept making it rain down hail on the land of Egypt. 24 There was hail, and there was fire flashing in the midst of the hail. It was very heavy; there had never been any like it in the land since Egypt had become a nation.<sup>d</sup> 25 The hail struck everything in the field throughout the land of Egypt, from man to beast, and it struck down all the vegetation and shattered all the trees of the field.<sup>e</sup> 26 Only in

9:23 \*Perhaps describing powerful lightning.

the land of Go'shen, where the Israelites were, there was no hail.<sup>a</sup>

**27** So Phar'aoth sent for Moses and Aaron and said to them: "I have sinned this time. Jehovah is righteous, and I and my people are in the wrong. **28** Plead with Jehovah that there may be an end to God's thunder and hail. Then I will be willing to send you away, and you will not stay any longer."

**29** So Moses said to him: "As soon as I go out of the city, I will spread out my hands before Jehovah. The thunder will stop and the hail will not continue any longer, so that you may know that the earth belongs to Jehovah.<sup>b</sup> **30** But as for you and your servants, I know already that even then, you will not fear Jehovah God."

**31** Now the flax and the barley had been struck down, because the barley was in the ear and the flax had flower buds. **32** But the wheat and the spelt had not been struck down, because they were later crops.\* **33** Moses now went out of the city from Phar'aoth and spread out his hands before Jehovah, and the thunder and the hail stopped and the rain quit pouring down on the earth.<sup>c</sup>

**34** When Phar'aoth saw that the rain, the hail, and the thunder had stopped, he sinned again and hardened his heart,<sup>d</sup> he as well as his servants. **35** And Phar'aoth's heart continued obstinate, and he did not send the Israelites away, just as Jehovah had stated through Moses.<sup>e</sup>

**10** Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Go in to Phar'aoth, for I have allowed his heart and the hearts of his servants to become unresponsive,<sup>f</sup> so that I may display these signs of mine

9:32 \*Or "were seasonally late."

CHAP. 9

a Ex 8:22  
Ex 9:3, 4  
Ex 10:23  
Ex 11:7  
Ex 12:13

b Ex 7:5, 17  
Ex 8:9, 10  
Ex 8:22  
Ex 14:4  
De 10:14  
Ps 24:1

c Ex 10:17-19

d Ex 4:21  
Ex 8:13, 15

e Ex 7:4

CHAP. 10

f Ex 4:21  
Ex 9:34

Second Col.

a Ex 9:15, 16  
Ps 78:12  
Ro 9:17

b Ex 13:3, 8  
De 4:9  
De 6:20-22  
Ps 44:1

c Ex 9:17

d Ex 9:31, 32

e Ex 9:24

f Ex 10:25, 26

g Ex 3:18  
Ex 5:1

right before him,<sup>a</sup> **2** and in order that you may declare to your sons and your grandsons how severely I have dealt with Egypt and what signs I have performed among them;<sup>b</sup> and you will certainly know that I am Jehovah."

**3** So Moses and Aaron went in to Phar'aoth and said to him: "This is what Jehovah the God of the Hebrews has said, 'How long will you refuse to submit to me?<sup>c</sup> Send my people away so that they may serve me. **4** For if you keep refusing to send my people away, here I am bringing locusts within your boundaries tomorrow. **5** And they will cover the surface of the earth, and it will not be possible to see the ground. They will eat up what escaped the hail and was left for you, and they will eat all your trees that are growing in the field.<sup>d</sup> **6** They will fill your houses, the houses of all your servants, and the houses of all Egypt to an extent that your fathers and your grandfathers never saw from the time they have been in this land until today."<sup>e</sup> With that he turned and went out from Phar'aoth.

**7** Then Phar'aoth's servants said to him: "How long will this man continue to menace\* us? Send the men away so that they may serve Jehovah their God. Do you not yet realize that Egypt has been ruined?" **8** So Moses and Aaron were brought back to Phar'aoth, and he said to them: "Go, serve Jehovah your God. But just who will be going?" **9** Then Moses said: "We will go with our young people, our old people, our sons, our daughters, our sheep, and our cattle,<sup>f</sup> because we will hold a festival to Jehovah."<sup>g</sup> **10** He said to them: "If I ever send you and your children away, then Jehovah is

10:7 \*Lit., "be a snare to."

indeed with you!<sup>a</sup> It is clear that you intend to do something evil.

**11** No! Only your men may go and serve Jehovah, for that is what you requested.” With that they were driven out from before Phar’aoth.

**12** Jehovah now said to Moses: “Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, so that they may come up over the land of Egypt and eat up all the vegetation of the land, everything that the hail has let remain.” **13** At once Moses stretched out his rod over the land of Egypt, and Jehovah caused an east wind to blow on the land all that day and all night. The morning came, and the east wind brought the locusts. **14** And the locusts came up over all the land of Egypt and settled down on the whole territory of Egypt.<sup>b</sup> It was extremely severe;<sup>c</sup> never before had there been so many locusts, nor would there ever be so many again. **15** They covered the surface of the entire land, and the land grew dark with them; they devoured all the vegetation of the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left; nothing green was left on the trees or on the vegetation of the field in all the land of Egypt.

**16** So Phar’aoth quickly called Moses and Aaron and said: “I have sinned against Jehovah your God and against you. **17** Now, please, pardon my sin just this once, and plead with Jehovah your God that he just remove this deadly plague from upon me.” **18** So he\* went out from Phar’aoth and pleaded with Jehovah.<sup>d</sup> **19** Then Jehovah caused the wind to shift, and it became a very stiff west wind, and it carried the locusts away and drove them into the Red Sea. Not a single lo-

10:18 \*Apparently Moses.

CHAP. 10

a Ex 12:31, 32

b Ps 78:46

c Ex 10:5  
Ps 105:34, 35

d Ex 8:30, 31

Second Col.

a Ex 7:3  
Ex 11:10  
Ro 9:17, 18

b Ps 105:28

c Ex 8:21, 22  
Ex 9:3, 6  
Ex 9:26  
Ex 11:7  
Ex 12:13

d Ex 8:28  
Ex 9:28

e Ex 3:18  
Ex 5:3

f Ex 4:21  
Ex 14:4

cust remained in all the territory of Egypt. **20** However, Jehovah allowed Phar’aoth’s heart to become obstinate,<sup>a</sup> and he did not send the Israelites away.

**21** Jehovah then said to Moses: “Stretch out your hand toward the heavens so that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness so thick that it can be felt.” **22** Moses immediately stretched out his hand toward the heavens, and there was a dense darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days.<sup>b</sup> **23** They did not see one another, and none of them got up from where they were for three days; but all the Israelites had light in their dwellings.<sup>c</sup> **24** Phar’aoth then called Moses and said: “Go, serve Jehovah.<sup>d</sup> Only your sheep and your cattle will remain behind. Even your children may go with you.” **25** But Moses said: “You yourself will also provide us with\* sacrifices and burnt offerings, and we will offer them to Jehovah our God.<sup>e</sup> **26** Our livestock will also go with us. Not an animal\* will be allowed to remain, because we will be using some of them to worship Jehovah our God, and we do not know what we will offer in worship to Jehovah until we arrive there.” **27** So Jehovah allowed Phar’aoth’s heart to become obstinate, and he did not consent to send them away.<sup>f</sup> **28** Phar’aoth said to him: “Get out of my sight! Make sure that you do not try to see my face again, for on the day you see my face, you will die.” **29** To this Moses said: “Just as you have spoken, I will not try to see your face again.”

**11** Then Jehovah said to Moses: “One more plague I am going to bring upon Phar’aoth and Egypt. After that he will

10:25 \*Or “allow us to have.” 10:26 \*Lit., “a hoof.”

and take them to heaven to be with him. They could see him because they would be spirit creatures as he is. But the world would not see him again. Compare 1 Timothy 6:16.)

Acts 13:34: “He [God] resurrected him [Jesus] from the dead destined no more to return to corruption.” (Human bodies are by nature corruptible. That is why 1 Corinthians 15:42, 44 uses the word “corruption” in parallel construction with “physical body.” Jesus will never again have such a body.)

John 6:51: “I am the living bread that came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread he will live forever; and, for a fact, the bread that I shall give is my flesh in behalf of the life of the world.” (Having given it, Jesus does not take it back again. He does not thereby deprive mankind of the benefits of the sacrifice of his perfect human life.)

See also pages 313, 314, under “Rapture.”

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***What is the meaning of Jesus’ coming “in the same manner” as he ascended to heaven?***

Acts 1:9-11: “While they [Jesus’ apostles] were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their vision. And as they were gazing into the sky while he was on his way, also, look! two men in white garments stood alongside them, and they said: ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus who was received up from you into the sky will come thus in the same manner as you have beheld him going into the sky.’” (Notice that this says “the same manner,” not the same body. What was the “manner” of his ascent? As verse 9 shows, he disappeared from view, his departure being observed only by his disciples. The world in general was not aware of what happened. The same would be true of Christ’s return.)

***What is meant by his ‘coming on the clouds’ and ‘every eye seeing him’?***

Rev. 1:7: “Look! He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, and those who pierced him; and all the tribes of the earth will beat themselves in grief because of him.” (Also Matthew 24:30; Mark 13:26; Luke 21:27)

*What is indicated by “clouds”?* Invisibility. When an airplane is in a thick cloud or above the clouds, people on the ground usually cannot see it, although they may hear the roar of the engines. Jehovah told Moses: “I am coming to you in a dark cloud.” Moses did not see God, but that cloud indicated Jehovah’s invisible presence. (Ex. 19:9; see also Leviticus 16:2; Numbers 11:25.) If Christ were to appear visibly in the heavens, it is obvious that not “every eye” would see him. If he appeared over Australia, for example, he would not be visible in Europe, Africa, and the Americas, would he?

*In what sense will ‘every eye see him’?* They will discern from events on earth that he is invisibly present. Also referring to sight that is not physical, John 9:41 reports: “Jesus said to [the Pharisees]: ‘If you were blind, you would have no sin. But now you say, “We see.” Your sin remains.’” (Compare Romans 1:20.) Following Christ’s return, some persons show faith; they recognize the sign of his presence. Others reject the evidence, but when Christ goes into action as God’s executioner of the wicked, even they will discern from the manifestation of his power that the destruction is not from men but from heaven. They will know what is happening because they were warned in advance. Because of what is overtaking them, they will “beat themselves in grief.”

*Who are “those who pierced him”?* Literally, Roman soldiers did this at the time of Jesus’ execution. But they have long been dead. So this must refer to people who similarly mistreat, or ‘pierce,’ Christ’s true followers during “the last days.”—Matt. 25:40, 45.

***Can it really be said that a person has ‘come’ or that he is ‘present’ if he is not visible?***

The apostle Paul spoke of his being “absent in body but *present* in spirit” with the congregation in Corinth.—1 Cor. 5:3.

Jehovah spoke of his ‘going down’ to confuse the language of the builders of the tower of Babel. (Gen. 11:7) He also said that he would “go down” to deliver Israel from bondage to Egypt. And God assured Moses, “My own person will go along” to lead Israel to the



Promised Land. (Ex. 3:8; 33:14) But no human ever saw God.—Ex. 33:20; John 1:18.

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### **What are some of the events with which the Bible associates the presence of Christ?**

Dan. 7:13, 14: “With the clouds of the heavens someone like a son of man [Jesus Christ] happened to be coming; and to the Ancient of Days [Jehovah God] he gained access, and they brought him up close even before that One. And to him there were given rulership and dignity and kingdom, that the peoples, national groups and languages should all serve even him.”

1 Thess. 4:15, 16: “This is what we tell you by Jehovah’s word, that we the living who survive to the presence of the Lord shall in no way precede those who have fallen asleep in death; because the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a commanding call, with an archangel’s voice and with God’s trumpet, and those who are dead in union with Christ will rise first.” (So, those who will rule with Christ would be resurrected to be with him in heaven—first those who had died in years past and then those who would die following the Lord’s return.)

Matt. 25:31-33: “When the Son of man arrives in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit down on his glorious throne. And all the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will put the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on his left.”

2 Thess. 1:7-9: “To you who suffer tribulation, relief along with us at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with his powerful angels in a flaming fire, as he brings vengeance upon those who do not know God and those who do not obey the good news about our Lord Jesus. These very ones will undergo the judicial punishment of everlasting destruction from before the Lord and from the glory of his strength.”

Luke 23:42, 43: “He [the sympathetic evildoer impaled alongside Jesus] went on to say: ‘Jesus, remember me when you get into your

(c. 940-920 B.C.E.) some five centuries after Joshua's time, he laid Jericho's foundations. Abiram, his son, died, evidently prematurely as a historically recorded fulfillment of the prophecy.—1Ki 16:34.

**ABISHAG** (Ab'i-shag). A young virgin from the town of Shunem, N of Jezreel and Mount Gilboa, in the territory of Issachar. (Jos 19:17-23) She was "beautiful in the extreme" and was chosen by David's servants to become the nurse and companion of the king during his final days.—1Ki 1:1-4.

David was now about 70 years of age (2Sa 5:4, 5), and as a result of debilitation he had little body heat. Abishag waited on him during the day, doubtless brightening the surroundings with her youthful freshness and beauty, and at night she 'lay in the king's bosom' to give him warmth, but "the king himself had no intercourse with her." Nevertheless, the attitude later manifested by Solomon regarding her indicates that Abishag was viewed as being in the position of wife or concubine of David. As such, by a rule in the ancient East, she would become the property of David's heir at the time of his death.

The account concerning Abishag directly precedes the account of the attempt at gaining the crown by the one who was probably David's oldest surviving son, Adonijah, and would seem to be so placed to give understanding to Adonijah's subsequent action during Solomon's reign. Solomon, after ascending the throne, had placed Adonijah on conditional pardon. Now Adonijah persuaded Solomon's mother, Bath-sheba, to ask Solomon to give him Abishag as his wife. Solomon, convinced that Adonijah's request was not due alone to Abishag's beauty but, rather, indicated a subtle effort to strengthen Adonijah's claim to the throne, reacted angrily, revoked Adonijah's pardon, and ordered his death. (1Ki 2:13-25) No further mention is made of Abishag, but it is probable that she continued as one of Solomon's wives or concubines.—See ADONIJAH No. 1.

**ABISHAI** (A-bish'ai) [possibly, Father Is (Exists)]. The son of David's sister or half sister Zeruiah and brother of Joab and Asahel.—2Sa 2:18; 1Ch 2:15, 16.

Abishai came to be more distinguished for his prowess than the 30 mighty warriors over whom he served as chief, his reputation even rivaling those of David's three most mighty men, for he once struck down 300 of the enemy single-handed, but "to the rank of the first three he did not come."—2Sa 23:18, 19.

Abishai loyally supported his uncle David in all his military campaigns but tended to be impulsive and ruthless and on occasion had to be restrained. For example, when he and David stole into Saul's military camp by night he would have pinned sleeping Saul, "the anointed of Jehovah," to the earth with Saul's own spear had not David restrained him. (1Sa 26:6-9) When Absalom rebelled, Abishai had to be held back twice from executing king-cursing Shimei. However, David was not able to prevent Abishai from collaborating in the death of Abner.—2Sa 3:30; 16:9-11; 19:21-23.

Abishai was noted for his taking the lead in striking down 18,000 Edomites and, again, in leading in the rout of the Ammonites. He also cooperated in putting down the rebellion of Sheba, a good-for-nothing Benjaminite. In David's last recorded battle had it not been for Abishai, he would have lost his life at the hand of a Philistine of great stature.—1Ch 18:12; 19:11-15; 2Sa 20:1, 6; 21:15-17.

**ABISHALOM.** See ABSALOM.

**ABISHUA** (Abi-shu'a) [possibly, Father Is Help].

1. A Benjamite of the family of Bela. (1Ch 8:1-4) Though he appears to be a son of Bela, the variance between the accounts at Numbers 26:40, 1 Chronicles 7:7, and 1 Chronicles 8:1-4 causes some to believe the word "sons" may mean, rather, "descendants."

2. The son of Phinehas and a great-grandson of Aaron. He was the father of Bukki. (1Ch 6:4, 5, 50, 51) At Ezra 7:1-5 he is shown to have been one of Ezra's forefathers. Josephus (*Jewish Antiquities*, V, 361, 362 [xi, 5]; VIII, 12 [i, 3]) refers to Abishua (called Abiezer in Book V) as the high priest, which, if accepted, would make him the fourth high priest of Israel. This would harmonize with Jehovah's promise made to Abishua's father, Phinehas, that the priesthood would remain in his family.—Nu 25:11-13.

**ABISHUR** (A-bi'shur) [Father Is a [Protective] Wall]. A descendant of Judah through the family line of Hezron, of the house of Jerahmeel. He was evidently the second son of Shammai and became the father of two sons by his wife Abihail.—1Ch 2:28, 29.

**ABITAL** (A-bi'tal) [Father Is Dew]. One of six wives through whom David had sons during the seven and a half years he reigned in Hebron (1077-1070 B.C.E.). Her son was named Shephatiah.—2Sa 3:4; 1Ch 3:3.

## 124

*Receive Them With Hospitality*

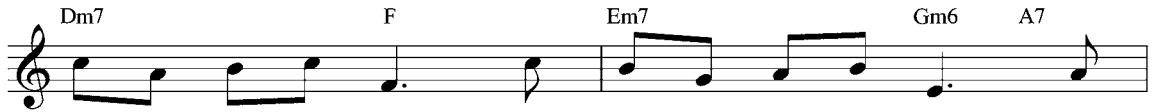
(Acts 17:7)



Je - ho - vah shows sin - cere hos - pi - tal - i - ty. He  
 We nev - er know the good that may come a - bout When



cares for all with - out par - ti - al - i - ty. He  
 we see those in need and we help them out. Though



gives both rain and sun, with - hold - ing these from none; He  
 strang - ers they may be, in hos - pi - tal - i - ty, We



fills our hearts with food and good cheer. When -  
 lend a hand to care for their needs. Like

## Receive Them With Hospitality



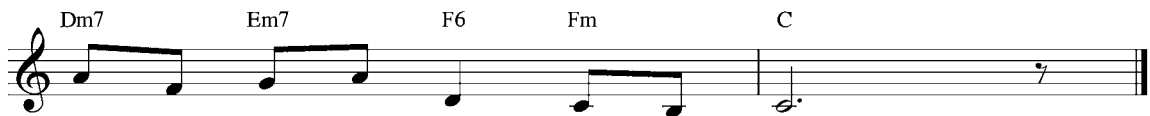
ev - er we show fa - vor to low - ly ones, We  
Lyd - i - a of old, we say: 'Be my guest.' When



im - i - tate our God as be - lov - ed sons. Our  
they come to our home, they find peace and rest. Our



Fa - ther will re - pay the good - ness we dis - play, Our  
Fa - ther is a - ware of all those ev - 'ry - where, Who



kind - ness that is tru - ly sin - cere.  
im - i - tate his mer - ci - ful deeds.

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

MARCH 2014

## WEEK STARTING MARCH 10

Song 1 and Prayer

### ❑ Congregation Bible Study:

*cl* chap. 4 ¶1-9 (30 min.)

### ❑ Theocratic Ministry School:

**Bible reading:** Genesis 40-42 (10 min.)

**No. 1:** Genesis 41:1-16 (4 min. or less)

**No. 2:** How Do the Rest of the Dead Come to Life on Earth?—*rs* p. 338 ¶2—p. 339 ¶2 (5 min.)

**No. 3:** Abihu—Prominence Does Not Excuse Disobedience—*it-1* p. 22 (5 min.)

### ❑ Service Meeting:

Song 88

**15 min:** Family Worship That Refreshes. Interview a family regarding their family worship. Of what does their program consist? How do they determine what to discuss? What tools available on [jw.org](http://jw.org) have they used? How has their program helped them in the ministry? How do they prevent other activities from disrupting their schedule? How have they benefited from their program of family worship?

**15 min:** “Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Responding to Potential Conversation Stoppers.” Discussion. Consider two or three potential conversation stoppers that publishers may encounter, and invite comments on how we might respond. Remind publishers that they will have an opportunity to relate experiences during the week of April 7.

Song 97 and Prayer

## Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Responding to Potential Conversation Stoppers

**Why Important:** Imagine that you know that a natural disaster is imminent. People will die unless they flee to safety. You go to a neighbor’s home to warn him, but he interrupts you, saying that he is busy. Surely, you would not quickly abandon your efforts to help him! Many in our territory turn us away, not realizing the life-saving value

of our message. At the time of our visit, perhaps they are preoccupied. (Matt. 24:37-39) Or maybe they have been prejudiced by untrue rumors. (Matt. 11:18, 19) They might assume that we are no different from the religions that have produced bad fruitage. (2 Pet. 2:1, 2) If the householder initially is not interested, we should not be quick to give up.

### How to Do It:

- Before preaching from house to house, take a few moments to think about potential conversation stoppers that you may encounter and consider how to respond.
- If the householder presents an objection, gently try to continue the conversation. Perhaps you can do that by commending him. For example, if he says that he has his own religion, you might reply, “I was hoping to find someone like you who has an interest in spiritual things.” Sometimes acknowledging the householder’s feelings or circumstances will enable you to continue giving a witness. For instance, if he says that he is busy, you might say: “I understand. But before I leave, I would like to give you this.” Another option is to ask a question if the householder says that he is not interested. You could say, “Do you mean that you are not interested in the Bible, or is it religion in general that does not interest you?”
- Use good judgment. Remember that Jehovah does not force people to listen. (Deut. 30:19) Everyone must carry his own load of spiritual responsibility. (Gal. 6:5) If the householder is adamant, it is best to take our leave. By demonstrating respect for his feelings, we may open the door for another publisher to give a witness in the future.—1 Pet. 3:15.

### Try This During the Month:

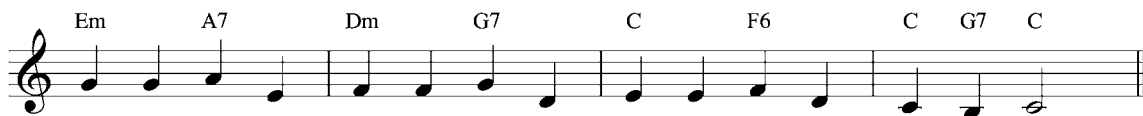
- When you encounter a potential conversation stopper, after leaving the householder, discuss with your partner how you might have responded in a better way.

# Bless Our Meeting Together

(Hebrews 10:24, 25)



Bless us as we meet to - geth - er, Great Je - ho - vah, we now pray.  
 Help us, Lord, re - fine our wor - ship; With your Word, oh, do us fill.  
 So, dear Fa - ther, bless our meet - ings; Grant us peace and u - ni - ty.



For our meet - ings we do thank you; May your spir - it with us stay.  
 Train our minds and tongues to wit - ness; Love with - in our hearts in - still.  
 May our words and may our ac - tions Mag - ni - fy your Sov - 'reign - ty.