

- Song 150 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Now You Will See What I Will Do to Pharaoh”:** (10 min.)
 Ex 6:1—Moses would witness Jehovah’s “mighty hand”
 Ex 6:6, 7—Israel would be rescued (*it-2* 436 ¶3)
 Ex 7:4, 5—Pharaoh and the Egyptians would come to know who Jehovah is (*it-2* 436 ¶1-2)
 - **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (10 min.)
 Ex 6:3—In what sense did Jehovah not make his name known to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? (*it-1* 78 ¶3-4)
- Ex 7:1—How was Moses “like God” to Pharaoh, and how did Aaron become Moses’ “prophet”? (*it-2* 435 ¶5)

What spiritual gems from this week’s Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah God, the field ministry, or something else?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ex 6:1-15 (10)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Apply Yourself to Reading and Teaching:** (10 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Effort to Reach the Heart*, and then discuss study 19 of the *Teaching* brochure.
- **Talk:** (5 min. or less) *w15* 1/15 9 ¶6-7—Theme: Give Thanks to Jehovah Every Day. (19)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 45
- **Local Needs:** (15 min.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *jy* chap. 122
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 42 and Prayer

EXODUS 6-7 | “Now You Will See What I Will Do to Pharaoh”



6:1, 6, 7; 7:4, 5

Before bringing the plagues on Egypt and delivering the Israelites from slavery, Jehovah told the Israelites what he was about to do. They would see Jehovah’s power demonstrated in ways that they had not previously witnessed, and the Egyptians would certainly know who Jehovah is. When God’s promises came true, the faith of the Israelites was strengthened, and this helped to counteract the false religious influences they had been exposed to in Egypt.



 **How does this Bible account strengthen your faith that God’s promises for the future will be fulfilled?**

Seek God for Your Deliverance

(Zephaniah 2:3)

Bm Gm6 Bm/F# Gm/E Bm/D Em Bm/D F#7/C# Bm Gm6/Bb D/A Gm6

Na - tions a - lign as one, Op - pos - ing Je - ho - vah's
 Peo - ple on earth now choose, Re - spond - ing to this good

R.H. R.H.

D/F# F#/E Bm/D C/E Bm/F# Em/G C#/G# C#

Son. Their time of hu - man rul - er - ship By God's de - cree now is
 news. We of - fer to all men the choice To hear or proud - ly re -

F# /E /D /C# Bm Gm6 Bm/F# Gm/E Bm/D C#m11 Bm A D Gm/Bb D/A Gm6

done. Rul - ers have had their day; God's King - dom is here to
 fuse. Tri - als, al - though se - vere, Need not fill our hearts with

R.H. R.H.

D/F# A7/E D C° Em/B A° Em/G F#m11 Em /D /C# Em7/B

stay. Soon Christ will crush earth - ly en - e - mies. No
 fear. Je - ho - vah cares for his loy - al ones; Our

Seek God for Your Deliverance

Chorus

F#/A# G#m11 C#7/G# F# A7/E A7 D A/C# Bm7 D/A

more will there be de - lay. Seek God for your de -
cries for help he will hear.

G Em7 A Bm D/A G D/F# Em7 A A/G F#m G A7 Bm A7

liv - er - ance, Yes, look to him with con - fi - dence. Seek his righ - teous - ness, Show your

G B7/F# Em Em/D C# B/D# C#/E# F# E/G# F#/A# Bm Gm/Bb

faith - ful - ness, For his sov - 'reign - ty, take your stand. Then

D/A A/G D/F# Bm7 G Em7 D/A A7sus4 A7 D

see our God de - liv - er you By his might - y hand.

R.H.

(See also 1 Sam. 2:9; Ps. 2:2, 3, 9; Prov. 2:8; Matt. 6:33.)

and gather straw for themselves. **8** But you must still impose on them the same quota of bricks as they made in the past. Do not reduce it for them, for they are relaxing.* That is why they are crying out, 'We want to go, we want to sacrifice to our God!' **9** Make them work harder, and keep them busy so that they will not pay attention to lies."

10 So the taskmasters^a and their foremen went out and said to the people: "Here is what Phar'aoth has said, 'I am giving you no more straw. **11** Go and get your own straw for yourselves wherever you can find it, but your work will not be reduced at all.'" **12** Then the people scattered throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw. **13** And the taskmasters kept urging them: "You must each finish your work every day, just as when straw was provided." **14** Also the foremen of the Israelites, whom Phar'aoth's taskmasters had appointed over them, were beaten.^b They asked them: "Why did you not reach the quota of bricks that you used to make? It happened both yesterday and today."

15 So the foremen of the Israelites went in and complained to Phar'aoth: "Why are you treating your servants this way? **16** No straw is given to your servants, yet they are saying to us, 'Make bricks!' Your servants are beaten, but your own people are at fault." **17** But he said: "You are relaxing,* you are relaxing!*" That is why you are saying, 'We want to go, we want to sacrifice to Jehovah.'^d **18** So now go, get back to work! No straw will be given to you, but you must still produce your quota of bricks."

19 Then the foremen of the Israelites saw that they were in

5:8, 17 *Or "are lazy."

CHAP. 5

a Ex 1:11

b Ex 2:11

c Ex 5:7, 8

d Ex 5:3

Second Col.

a Ex 6:9

b Ex 5:1

c Ex 5:6, 9

d Ex 3:8

CHAP. 6

e Ex 14:13

f Ex 9:3
Ex 11:1
Ex 12:29, 31

g Ge 17:1
Ge 35:10, 11

h Ps 83:18
Lu 11:2
Joh 12:28
Ac 15:14
Re 15:3

i Ge 12:8
Ge 28:16
Jer 32:20

j Ge 15:18
Ge 28:4

k Ge 17:1, 7
Ex 2:24

l De 4:20

serious trouble because of the order: "You must not reduce your daily quota of bricks at all." **20** After that they met up with Moses and Aaron, who were standing there to meet them as they came out from Phar'aoth. **21** At once they said to them: "May Jehovah look upon you and judge, since you have made Phar'aoth and his servants despise us* and you have put a sword in their hand to kill us."^a **22** Then Moses turned to Jehovah and said: "Jehovah, why have you afflicted this people? Why have you sent me? **23** From the time that I went in before Phar'aoth to speak in your name,^b he has dealt worse with this people,^c and you have certainly not rescued your people."^d

6 So Jehovah said to Moses: "Now you will see what I will do to Phar'aoth.^e A mighty hand will force him to send them away, and a mighty hand will force him to drive them out of his land."^f

2 Then God said to Moses: "I am Jehovah. **3** And I used to appear to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty,^g but with regard to my name Jehovah^h I did not make myself known to them.ⁱ **4** I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Ca'naan, the land in which they lived as foreigners.^j **5** Now I myself have heard the groaning of the people of Israel, whom the Egyptians are enslaving, and I remember my covenant.^k

6 "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am Jehovah, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians and rescue you from their slavery,^l and I will reclaim you with an outstretched* arm and with

5:21 *Or "have made us smell offensive to Pharaoh and to his servants." 6:6 *Or "a powerful."

great judgments.^a **7** And I will take you in as my people, and I will be your God,^b and you will certainly know that I am Jehovah your God who is bringing you out from under the burdens of Egypt. **8** And I will bring you into the land that I swore with an oath* to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and I will give it to you as something to possess.^c I am Jehovah."^d

9 Moses later gave this message to the Israelites, but they did not listen to Moses because of their discouragement and because of the harsh slavery.^e

10 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying: **11** "Go in and tell Phar'aoh, Egypt's king, that he should send the Israelites away out of his land." **12** However, Moses replied to Jehovah: "Look! The Israelites have not listened to me;^f how will Phar'aoh ever listen to me, as I speak with difficulty?"^g **13** But Jehovah again told Moses and Aaron what commands to give to the Israelites and to Phar'aoh, Egypt's king, in order to bring the Israelites out of the land of Egypt.

14 These are the heads of the house of their fathers: The sons of Reu'ben, Israel's firstborn,^h were Ha'noch, Pal'lu, Hez'ron, and Car'mi.ⁱ These are the families of Reu'ben.

15 The sons of Sim'e-on were Jem'u-el, Ja'min, O'had, Ja'chin, Zo'har, and Sha'ul, the son of a Ca'naan-ite woman.^j These are the families of Sim'e-on.

16 These are the names of the sons of Le'vi,^k according to their family descents: Ger'shon, Ko'hath, and Me-rar'i.^l The length of Le'vi's life was 137 years.

17 The sons of Ger'shon were Lib'ni and Shim'e-i, according to their families.^m

6:8 *Lit., "I raised my hand." 6:12 *Lit., "I am uncircumcised in lips."

CHAP. 6

a De 26:8
1Ch 17:21
Ac 13:17

b Ex 29:45
De 7:6
2Sa 7:24
Ps 33:12

c Ge 15:18
Ge 26:3
Ge 35:12
Ex 32:13

d Ex 20:2
Isa 42:8

e Ex 5:21

f Ex 5:21
Ex 6:9

g Ex 4:10
Ac 7:22

h Ge 49:3

i Ge 46:9

j 1Ch 4:24

k Ge 29:34

l Ge 46:11
Nu 26:57

m Nu 3:18

Second Col.

a Nu 3:19

b Nu 3:20

c Ex 2:1
Nu 26:59

d 1Ch 23:13

e Nu 16:1, 32
Nu 26:10

f Le 10:4
Nu 3:30

g Ru 4:19-21
Mt 1:4

h Nu 3:2

i Nu 26:10, 11

j Nu 26:58
1Ch 9:19

k Nu 3:32

l Nu 25:7
Nu 31:6
Jos 22:31
Jg 20:28

m Ex 6:19

n Ex 7:2, 4
Ex 12:41
Ac 7:35

o Ps 77:20

18 The sons of Ko'hath were Am'ram, Iz'har, Heb'ron, and Uz'zi-el.^a The length of Ko'hath's life was 133 years.

19 The sons of Me-rar'i were Mah'li and Mu'shi.

These were the families of the Levites, according to their family descents.^b

20 Now Am'ram took Joch'e-bed, his father's sister, as his wife.^c She bore him Aaron and Moses.^d The length of Am'ram's life was 137 years.

21 The sons of Iz'har were Kor'ah,^e Ne'pheg, and Zich'ri.

22 The sons of Uz'zi-el were Mish'a-el, El-za'phan,^f and Sith'ri.

23 Now Aaron took Eli'she-ba, Am-min'a-dab's daughter, the sister of Nah'shon,^g as his wife. She bore him Na'dab, A-bi'hu, El-e-a'zar, and Ith'a-mar.^h

24 The sons of Kor'ah were As'sir, El-ka'nah, and A-bi'a-saph.ⁱ These were the families of the Kor'ah-ites.^j

25 El-e-a'zar,^k Aaron's son, took one of the daughters of Pu'ti-el as his wife. She bore him Phin'e-has.^l

These are the heads of the paternal houses of the Levites, according to their families.^m

26 This is the Aaron and Moses to whom Jehovah said: "Bring the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt, company by company."ⁿ **27** It was they who spoke to Phar'aoh, Egypt's king, to bring the people of Israel out of Egypt. It was this Moses and Aaron.^o

28 On that day when Jehovah spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, **29** Jehovah told Moses: "I am Jehovah. Speak to Phar'aoh, king of Egypt, everything I am speaking to you." **30** Then Moses said before Jehovah:

6:26 *Lit., "according to their armies."

"Look! I speak with difficulty,* so how will Phar'aoh ever listen to me?"^a

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.^b **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,^c and I will multiply my signs and my miracles in the land of Egypt.^d **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.^e **5** And the Egyptians will certainly know that I am Jehovah^f 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.^g

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."^h **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 Egyptⁱ also did the same thing with their magic.*^j **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,^a and he did not listen to them, just as Jehovah had said.

14 Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Phar'aoh's heart is unresponsive.^b 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.^c **16** And you must say to him, 'Jehovah the God of the Hebrews has sent me to you,^d 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.^e 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."^f"

19 Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Say to Aaron, 'Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt,^f over its rivers, over its canals,^g over its marshes,^g 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.^a **21** And the fish that were in the river died,^b and the river began to stink, and the Egyptians were unable to drink water from the Nile,^c 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,^d so that Phar'aoth's heart continued to be obstinate, and he did not listen to them, just as Jehovah had said.^e **23** Then Phar'aoth 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'aoth and say to him, 'This is what Jehovah says: "Send my people away so that they may serve me."^f **2** If you keep refusing to send them away, I will plague all your territory with frogs.^g **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."^h **4** On you, on your people, and on all your servants, the frogs will come up."ⁱ

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.^a **8** Phar'aoth then called Moses and Aaron and said: "Plead with Jehovah to remove the frogs from me and my people,^b as I want to send the people away so that they may sacrifice to Jehovah."^c **9** Then Moses said to Phar'aoth: "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."^d **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."^e **11** The frogs will depart from you, your houses, your servants, and your people. They will be left only in the Nile."^d

12 So Moses and Aaron went out from Phar'aoth, and Moses pleaded with Jehovah about the frogs that He had brought upon Phar'aoth.^e **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'aoth saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart^f 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.^g **18** The magic-

8:3 *Or "bowls."

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 Ex 6:1—Moses would witness Jehovah’s “mighty hand”
 Ex 6:6, 7—Israel would be rescued (*it-2* 436 ¶3)
 Ex 7:4, 5—Pharaoh and the Egyptians would come to know who Jehovah is (*it-2* 436 ¶1-2)
 - **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (10 min.)
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6:1, 6, 7; 7:4, 5

Before bringing the plagues on Egypt and delivering the Israelites from slavery, Jehovah told the Israelites what he was about to do. They would see Jehovah’s power demonstrated in ways that they had not previously witnessed, and the Egyptians would certainly know who Jehovah is. When God’s promises came true, the faith of the Israelites was strengthened, and this helped to counteract the false religious influences they had been exposed to in Egypt.



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July 6-12 / Exodus 6-7

Treasures From God's Word

"Now You Will See What I Will Do to Pharaoh": (10 minutes)

Exodus 6:1—Moses would witness Jehovah's "mighty hand"

Exodus 6:1: So Jehovah said to Moses: "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh. A mighty hand will force him to send them away, and a mighty hand will force him to drive them out of his land."

Exodus 6:6, 7—Israel would be rescued

Exodus 6:6, 7: "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am Jehovah, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians and rescue you from their slavery, and I will reclaim you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. And I will take you in as my people, and I will be your God, and you will certainly know that I am Jehovah your God who is bringing you out from under the burdens of Egypt.'

it-2 436 paragraph 3

There was a marked change in the men of Israel also. They had at first accepted Moses' credentials, but after experiencing harder working conditions at the order of Pharaoh, they complained against him to the point that Moses in discouragement appealed to Jehovah. (Exodus 4:29-31; 5:19-23) The Most High at that time strengthened him by revealing that He was now going to fulfill that for which Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had looked, namely, the full revealing of the meaning of his name Jehovah in delivering Israel and establishing it as a great nation in the land of promise. (Exodus 6:1-8) Even then the men of Israel did not listen to Moses. But now, after the ninth plague, they were solidly behind him, cooperating so that, after the tenth plague, he could organize them and lead them out in an orderly way, "in battle formation."—Exodus 13:18.

Exodus 7:4, 5—Pharaoh and the Egyptians would come to know who Jehovah is

Exodus 7:4, 5: But Pharaoh 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. And the Egyptians will certainly know that I am Jehovah when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out from among them.”

it-2 436 paragraphs 1-2

Before Pharaoh of Egypt. Moses and Aaron were now key figures in a ‘battle of the gods.’ In the persons of the magic-practicing priests, the chiefs of whom were apparently named Jannes and Jambres (2 Timothy 3:8), Pharaoh summoned the power of all the gods of Egypt against the power of Jehovah. The first miracle that Aaron performed before Pharaoh at Moses’ direction proved Jehovah’s supremacy over the gods of Egypt, even though Pharaoh became more obstinate. (Exodus 7:8-13) Later, when the third plague occurred, even the priests were forced to admit, “It is the finger of God!” And they were so severely stricken by the plague of boils that they were altogether unable even to appear before Pharaoh to oppose Moses during that plague.—Exodus 8:16-19; 9:10-12.

Plagues do softening and hardening work. Moses and Aaron became the announcers of each of the Ten Plagues. The plagues came as announced, proving Moses’ commission as Jehovah’s representative. Jehovah’s name was declared and much talked about in Egypt, accomplishing both a softening and a hardening toward that name—softening the Israelites and some of the Egyptians; hardening Pharaoh and his advisers and supporters. (Exodus 9:16; 11:10; 12:29-39) Instead of believing that they had offended their gods, the Egyptians knew that it was Jehovah who was judging their gods. By the time nine plagues had been executed, Moses too had become “very great in the land of Egypt, in the eyes of Pharaoh’s servants and in the eyes of the people.”—Exodus 11:3.

Digging for Spiritual Gems

Exodus 6:3—In what sense did Jehovah not make his name known to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?

Exodus 6:3: And I used to appear to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty, but with regard to my name Jehovah I did not make myself known to them.

it-1 78 paragraphs 3-4

Jehovah used the title “God Almighty” (*‘eh Shaddai*) when making his promise to Abraham concerning the birth of Isaac, a promise requiring that Abraham have great faith in God’s power to

carry out that promise. It was thereafter used when God was spoken of as the one who would bless Isaac and Jacob as heirs of the Abrahamic covenant.—Genesis 17:1; 28:3; 35:11; 48:3.

In harmony with this, Jehovah could later say to Moses: "I used to appear to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as God Almighty [*be'El'eShaddai*'], but as respects my name Jehovah I did not make myself known to them." (Exodus 6:3) This could not mean that the name Jehovah was unknown to these patriarchs, since it was frequently used by them as well as by others before them. (Genesis 4:1, 26; 14:22; 27:27; 28:16) In fact, in the book of Genesis, which relates the lives of the patriarchs, the word "Almighty" occurs only 6 times, whereas the personal name Jehovah was written 172 times in the original Hebrew text. Yet, while these patriarchs had come to appreciate by personal experience God's right to and qualifications for the title of "the Almighty One," they had not had opportunity to appreciate the full meaning and implications of his personal name, Jehovah. In this regard, *The Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (Volume 1, page 572) comments: "The former revelation, to the Patriarchs, concerned promises belonging to a distant future; it supposed that they should be assured that He, Yahweh, was such a God ('*el*) as was competent (one possible meaning of *sadday*) to fulfill them. The revelation at the bush was greater and more intimate, God's power and immediate and continuing presence with them being all wrapped up in the familiar name of Yahweh."—Edited by J. D. Douglas, 1980.

Exodus 7:1—How was Moses "like God" to Pharaoh, and how did Aaron become Moses' "prophet"?

Exodus 7:1: Jehovah then said to Moses: "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your own brother will become your prophet.

it-2 435 paragraph 5

Moses not disqualified because of diffidence. But Moses showed diffidence, arguing that he was unable to speak fluently. Here was a changed Moses, quite different from the one who had, of his own accord, offered himself as Israel's deliverer 40 years earlier. He continued to remonstrate with Jehovah, finally asking Jehovah to excuse him from the task. Although this aroused God's anger, he did not reject Moses but provided Moses' brother Aaron as a mouthpiece. Thus, as Moses was representative for God, so Moses became as "God" to Aaron, who spoke representatively for him. In the ensuing meeting with the older men of Israel and the encounters with Pharaoh, it appears that God gave Moses the instructions and commands and Moses, in turn, relayed them to Aaron, so that Aaron did the actual speaking before Pharaoh (a successor of the Pharaoh from whom Moses had fled 40 years previously). (Exodus 2:23; 4:10-17) Later, Jehovah spoke of Aaron as Moses' "prophet,"

meaning that, as Moses was God's prophet, directed by him, so Aaron should be directed by Moses. Also, Moses was told that he was being made "God to Pharaoh," that is, given divine power and authority over Pharaoh, so that there was now no need to be afraid of the king of Egypt.—Exodus 7:1, 2.

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah God, the field ministry, or something else?

Bible Reading: (4 minutes or less) Exodus 6:1-15 (th study 10)

- Song 150 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Now You Will See What I Will Do to Pharaoh”:** (10 min.)
 Ex 6:1—Moses would witness Jehovah’s “mighty hand”
 Ex 6:6, 7—Israel would be rescued (*it-2* 436 ¶3)
 Ex 7:4, 5—Pharaoh and the Egyptians would come to know who Jehovah is (*it-2* 436 ¶1-2)
 - **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (10 min.)
 Ex 6:3—In what sense did Jehovah not make his name known to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? (*it-1* 78 ¶3-4)
- Ex 7:1—How was Moses “like God” to Pharaoh, and how did Aaron become Moses’ “prophet”? (*it-2* 435 ¶5)

What spiritual gems from this week’s Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah God, the field ministry, or something else?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ex 6:1-15 (10)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Apply Yourself to Reading and Teaching:** (10 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Effort to Reach the Heart*, and then discuss study 19 of the *Teaching* brochure.
- **Talk:** (5 min. or less) *w15* 1/15 9 ¶6-7—Theme: Give Thanks to Jehovah Every Day. (19)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

- Song 45
- **Local Needs:** (15 min.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *jy* chap. 122
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 42 and Prayer

EXODUS 6-7 | “Now You Will See What I Will Do to Pharaoh”



6:1, 6, 7; 7:4, 5

Before bringing the plagues on Egypt and delivering the Israelites from slavery, Jehovah told the Israelites what he was about to do. They would see Jehovah’s power demonstrated in ways that they had not previously witnessed, and the Egyptians would certainly know who Jehovah is. When God’s promises came true, the faith of the Israelites was strengthened, and this helped to counteract the false religious influences they had been exposed to in Egypt.



 **How does this Bible account strengthen your faith that God’s promises for the future will be fulfilled?**

Apply Yourself to Reading and Teaching—19 Effort to Reach the Heart

(Raw Transcript)

Jesus' teaching reached the heart. Luke 24:32 records the reaction of some of his disciples following a teaching session: "Were not our hearts burning within us "as he was speaking to us on the road, as he was fully opening up the Scriptures to us?" When we teach, how can we reach the heart?

We can (1) use rhetorical questions to help our listeners think,

(2) urge listeners to examine why they perform good works,

and (3) highlight how Bible principles and commands

reflect God's qualities and his love for us. In the following example, does the speaker help the audience to make a self-examination? What's one thing you must do to gain everlasting life? At Matthew 19:21, Jesus said to a rich young ruler: "Go sell your belongings and give to the poor, "and you will have treasure in heaven; and come be my follower." Clearly, you must cut out of your life anything that interferes with your worship of Jehovah. Were the words accurate? Yes. Were you moved from the heart? Probably not. Although the speaker told us what we needed to do, he didn't help us to examine our own feelings on the matter. Let's watch him try again. What's one thing we must do to gain everlasting life? At Matthew 19:21, we find Jesus' response to this question as posed by a rich young ruler: "Go sell your belongings and give to the poor, "and you will have treasure in heaven; and come be my follower." Although this man had kept the commandments of the Mosaic Law since his youth,

Jesus detected that something was missing. Each of us does well to ask himself: 'What might Jesus detect about me? 'Although Jehovah doesn't expect me to part with all of my belongings,

'is there anything in my life that interferes with my worship? 'Does my job prevent me from attending congregation meetings?

'Do I catch myself thinking about material things 'when I'm engaged in sacred service? 'Material things may be valuable, but are they worth more than my everlasting life?' Well done! The rhetorical questions helped us to examine ourselves. Also, instead of using the personal pronoun "you,"

the speaker showed respect for his audience by including himself as one who needs to apply the counsel of God's Word. In order to reach the heart, we must also appeal to good motives. In other words, we should motivate our audience to act because they love Jehovah, fellow humans, and Bible teachings.

Does the Bible teacher do that in the following demonstration?

The question asks: “What do we need to avoid?” Bad habits, like smoking and abusing alcohol and drugs. That’s right, but I noticed you’re still smoking.

So, what do you need to do? I know I need to quit, but it’s not easy. Well, we’ve been studying for over a year. How much more time do you need? How much time do you think is left before the end comes?

Did the teacher appeal to proper motives? No. Instead, he tried to pressure and shame the student. Let’s watch a better way to motivate. The question asks: “What do we need to avoid?” Bad habits, like smoking and abusing alcohol and drugs. That’s right. Of course, it’s not always easy to give up bad habits. But what can be a powerful motivator? Well, I’ve got to stop smoking so I won’t be destroyed at Armageddon.

Actually, there’s a stronger motivation.

Why do you get up early every day to go to work? To provide for my family. I do it because I love them. Exactly! In the same way, strong love for Jehovah can help you to break habits in order to please him. And what does he provide that can help you win the battle against smoking? Holy spirit? Yes. Anytime you have the urge to smoke, you can freely call on Jehovah for his help to resist.

Let’s now consider five Bible principles that will help you further.

Not only did the teacher appeal to good motives but he also helped the student to think about how he could please Jehovah.

When we do our best to reach the heart of our listeners,

we’ll be appealing to the best of motives: love for God.

Love for Jehovah will move them to draw close to him and become his friends.

It will motivate them to praise him, not just for a short time but for all eternity!

video source: <https://www.jw.org/en/library/videos/reading-teaching-videos/19-reach-the-heart-video>

our precious relationship with Jehovah and for the blessings that we have received from him.—Ps. 106:7, 11-13.

³ Then, too, consider what can happen when we undergo difficult trials. At such times, we could easily become overwhelmed and lose sight of our blessings. (Ps. 116:3) Therefore, how can we cultivate a grateful heart and maintain it? And what will help us to remain positive even when we are undergoing severe trials? Let us see.

“HOW MANY THINGS YOU HAVE DONE, O JEHOVAH”

⁴ If we are to cultivate a grateful heart and maintain it, we must acknowledge and meditate appreciatively on our blessings from Jehovah and carefully consider his acts of loyal love. When the psalmist did so, he was awed by the many wonderful things that Jehovah had done.—**Read Psalm 40:5; 107:43.**

⁵ We can learn much from the apostle Paul about cultivating gratitude. Evidently, he meditated on his blessings, for he frequently expressed heartfelt thanks. Paul well knew that he had been “a blasphemer and a persecutor and an insolent man.” Hence, he gave thanks that despite his past sinful conduct, God and Christ had shown him mercy and had entrusted him with a ministry. (**Read 1 Timothy 1:12-14.**) Paul also deeply appreciated his fellow Christians and often thanked Jehovah for their fine qualities and faithful service. (Phil. 1: 3-5, 7; 1 Thess. 1:2, 3) And when Paul faced trialsome situations, he was quick to thank Jehovah for the timely support

4. How can we maintain a grateful heart?

5. What can we learn from the apostle Paul about cultivating gratitude?

that he received from his spiritual brothers. (Acts 28:15; 2 Cor. 7:5-7) It is not surprising, therefore, that Paul’s writings encourage Christians: “Show yourselves thankful . . . , encouraging one another with psalms, praises to God, spiritual songs sung with gratitude.”—Col. 3: 15-17.

MEDITATION AND PRAYER —KEYS TO MAINTAINING THANKFULNESS

⁶ How can we imitate Paul’s fine example in cultivating and expressing gratitude? Like Paul, we need to meditate on what Jehovah has done for us personally. (Ps. 116:12) If you were asked, ‘What blessings from Jehovah are you grateful for?’ how would you answer? Would you include your precious relationship with Jehovah? Or the forgiveness that you receive because of your faith in Christ’s ransom sacrifice? Would you relate the names of brothers and sisters who have stood by you during various difficult trials? Of course, your beloved marriage mate or your precious children would not escape your mention. Taking time to meditate on such beautiful blessings from your loving Father, Jehovah, will fill your heart with gratitude and will move you to give thanks every day.—**Read Psalm 92:1, 2.**

⁷ When we have our blessings firmly fixed in mind and heart, we are ready to pray to Jehovah and offer thanksgiving. (Ps. 95:2; 100:4, 5) Many view prayer as merely a way to ask God for things. We,

6. For what are you particularly grateful to Jehovah?

7. (a) Why should we offer prayers of thanksgiving? (b) How will you benefit from expressing gratitude in your prayers?



What blessings from Jehovah are you grateful for? (See paragraphs 6, 7)

however, know that Jehovah is pleased when we express thanks for what we have. The Bible contains numerous heartwarming prayers of thanksgiving, including those offered by Hannah and Hezekiah. (1 Sam. 2:1-10; Isa. 38:9-20) So imitate those faithful servants who showed a grateful spirit. Yes, thank Jehovah in prayer for the blessings that you have. (1 Thess. 5:17, 18) The benefits from doing so are many. Your spirits will be lifted, you will grow in love for Jehovah, and you will draw ever closer to him.—Jas. 4:8.

⁸ Why should we remain alert to the danger of losing our appreciation for Jehovah's goodness? Because we have inherited a tendency to be unthankful. Consider: Our original parents, Adam and Eve, were placed in a paradise garden. All their needs were filled, and they had the prospect of living forever in peace. (Gen. 1:28) But they did not appreciate their blessings. They greedily desired more. As a result, they lost everything. (Gen. 3:6, 7, 17-19) Sur-

8. What could cause us to lose appreciation for all that Jehovah has done for us?

rounded by an unthankful world, we too could begin to lose sight of all that Jehovah has done for us. We could begin to take our friendship with him for granted. We might lose appreciation for the privilege that we have to be part of our worldwide brotherhood. We could become absorbed in things of this world that will soon pass away. (1 John 2:15-17) To avoid that downward spiral, we want to meditate on our blessings and regularly thank Jehovah for the privilege we have of being his people.—**Read Psalm 27:4.**

WHEN COPING WITH TRIALS

⁹ Having a grateful heart can help us to cope with grievous trials. We may feel overwhelmed if we are suddenly confronted with life-altering circumstances, such as the unfaithfulness of a marriage mate, a life-threatening illness, the death of a loved one, or the devastating effects of a natural disaster. At such times, we will be comforted and strengthened by reflecting on our bless-

9. When confronted with grievous trials, why should we reflect on our blessings?

The Meditation of My Heart

(Psalm 19:14)

C Fm6/C C

The med - i - ta - tion of my heart, The
What - ev - er things are chaste and true, What -

C Gm/Bb A7sus4 A7

thoughts I pon - der through the day -
ev - er vir - tue there may be, May
What -

Dm Gm/Bb A7+5 Dm

they be pleas - ing to you, Lord, And keep me
ev - er things well - spo - ken - of - May thoughts of

Am7 D7 Dm11 G7 C Gm/Bb

stead - fast in your way. When wor - ries weigh up - on my
these bring peace to me. How pre - cious are your thoughts, O

The Meditation of My Heart

A7sus4 A7 Dm Gm/B \flat A7+5 Dm

mind God! And Be - yond make me rest - less in the night, Then So

D \sharp ° C/E F/A Fm/A \flat

may I med - i - tate on you And things I
may I pon - der your own words, Ab - sorbed in

C/G G7sus4 G7 C

know them to may be I be - come.

R.H.

- Song 150 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Now You Will See What I Will Do to Pharaoh”:** (10 min.)
 Ex 6:1—Moses would witness Jehovah’s “mighty hand”
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 Ex 7:4, 5—Pharaoh and the Egyptians would come to know who Jehovah is (*it-2* 436 ¶1-2)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (10 min.)
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- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ex 6:1-15 (10)

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- **Apply Yourself to Reading and Teaching:** (10 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Effort to Reach the Heart*, and then discuss study 19 of the *Teaching* brochure.
- **Talk:** (5 min. or less) *w15* 1/15 9 ¶6-7—Theme: Give Thanks to Jehovah Every Day. (19)

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- Song 45
- **Local Needs:** (15 min.)
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.) *jy* chap. 122
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 42 and Prayer

EXODUS 6-7 | “Now You Will See What I Will Do to Pharaoh”



6:1, 6, 7; 7:4, 5

Before bringing the plagues on Egypt and delivering the Israelites from slavery, Jehovah told the Israelites what he was about to do. They would see Jehovah’s power demonstrated in ways that they had not previously witnessed, and the Egyptians would certainly know who Jehovah is. When God’s promises came true, the faith of the Israelites was strengthened, and this helped to counteract the false religious influences they had been exposed to in Egypt.



 **How does this Bible account strengthen your faith that God’s promises for the future will be fulfilled?**

JESUS' CONCLUDING PRAYER IN THE UPPER ROOM

JOHN 17:1-26

Moved by deep love for his apostles, Jesus has been preparing them for his imminent departure. He now raises his eyes to heaven and prays to his Father: "Glorify your son so that your son may glorify you, just as you have given him authority over all flesh, so that he may give everlasting life to all those whom you have given to him."—John 17:1, 2.

Clearly, Jesus recognizes that giving God glory is of prime importance. But how comforting is the prospect that Jesus mentions—everlasting life! Having received "authority over all flesh," Jesus can offer the benefits of his ransom to all mankind. Yet, only some will be so blessed. Why only some? Because Jesus will impart the benefits of his ransom only to those who act in accord with what Jesus next mentions: "This means everlasting life, their coming to know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ."—John 17:3.

A person must come to know both the Father and the Son intimately, having a close bond with them. He must feel as they do about matters. Further, he must strive to imitate their matchless qualities in dealing with others. And he must appreciate that humans' receiving everlasting life is secondary to the glorification of God. Jesus now returns to this theme:

"I have glorified you on the earth, having finished the work you have given me to do. So now, Father, glorify me at your side with the glory that I had alongside you before the world was." (John 17:4, 5) Yes, Jesus asks to be restored to heavenly glory by means of a resurrection.

However, Jesus has not forgotten what he has accomplished in his ministry. He prays: "I have made your name manifest to the men whom you

gave me out of the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have observed your word." (John 17:6) Jesus did more than pronounce God's name, Jehovah, in his ministry. He helped his apostles to come to know what the name represents—God's qualities and his way of dealing with humans.

The apostles have come to know Jehovah, the role of his Son, and the things Jesus has taught. Jesus humbly says: "I have given them the sayings that you gave me, and they have accepted them and have certainly come to know that I came as your representative, and they have believed that you sent me."—John 17:8.

Jesus then acknowledges the distinction between his followers and the world of mankind in general: "I make request, not concerning the world, but concerning those whom you have given me, because they are yours . . . Holy Father, watch over them on account of your own name, which you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are one. . . . I have protected them, and not one of them is destroyed except the son of destruction," namely, Judas Iscariot, who is on his mission to betray Jesus.—John 17:9-12.

"The world has hated them," Jesus continues to pray. "I do not request that you take them out of the world, but that you watch over them because of the wicked one. They are no part of the world, just as I am no part of the world." (John 17:14-16) The apostles and other disciples are in the world, human society ruled by Satan, but they must remain separate from it and its badness. How?

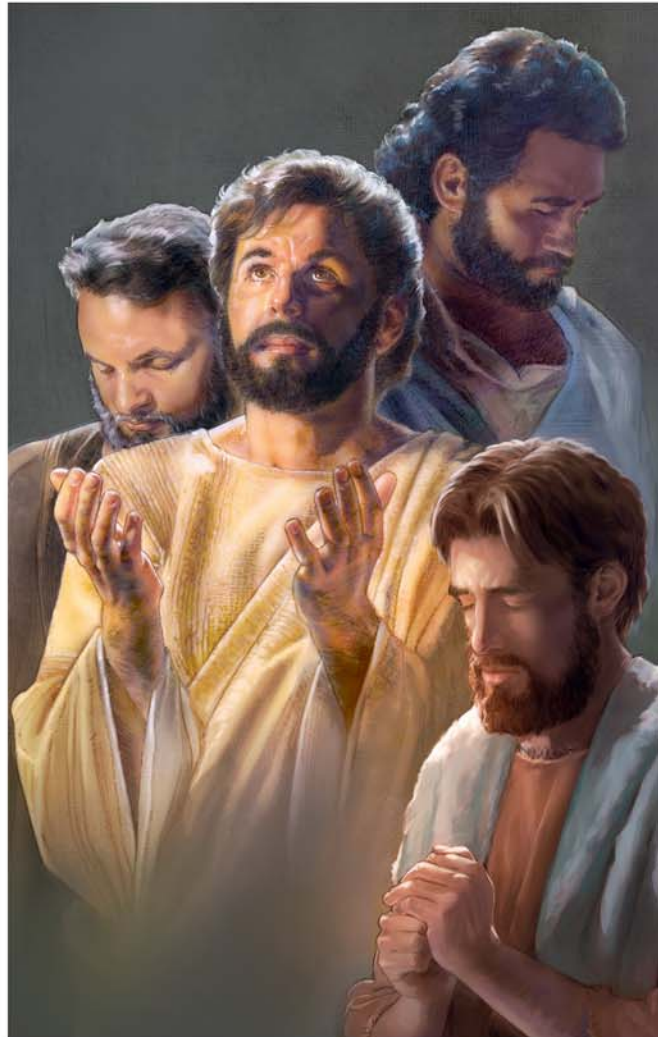
They must keep themselves holy, set apart to serve God, by applying the truths found in the Hebrew Scriptures and the truths that Jesus

himself has taught. Jesus prays: “Sanctify them by means of the truth; your word is truth.” (John 17:17) In time, some of the apostles will write inspired books that will also be part of “the truth” that can help to sanctify a person.

But there will in time be others who will accept “the truth.” Jesus thus prays “not concerning these only [those who are there], but also concerning those putting faith in [him] through their word.” What does Jesus request for all of them? “That they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in union with me and I am in union with you, that they also may be in union with us.” (John 17:20, 21) Jesus and his Father are not literally one person. They are one in that they are in agreement on all things. Jesus prays that his followers enjoy this same oneness.

Shortly before this, Jesus had told Peter and the others that he was going his way to prepare a place for them, meaning a place in heaven. (John 14:2, 3) Jesus now returns to that idea in prayer: “Father, I want those whom you have given me to be with me where I am, in order that they may look upon my glory that you have given me, because you loved me before the founding of the world.” (John 17:24) He thus confirms that long ago—before Adam and Eve conceived offspring—God loved his only-begotten Son, who became Jesus Christ.

Concluding his prayer, Jesus reemphasizes both his Father’s name and God’s love for the apostles and for others who will yet accept “the truth,” saying: “I have made your name known to them and will make it known, so that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in union with them.”—John 17:26.



- ◇ What does coming to know God and his Son mean?
- ◇ In what ways has Jesus made God’s name manifest?
- ◇ How are God, his Son, and all true worshippers one?

The Prayer of God's Servant

(Ephesians 6:18)

B \flat Eb/F F7 B \flat Cm7 F7 B \flat Eb/F F \sharp $^\circ$

Al - might - y God, Je - ho - vah, our Fa - ther, May your great name be
Thank you, dear God, for each dai - ly bless - ing, Gifts from your hand— good
While in this world, we have trib - u - la - tion. We look to you for

Gm Gm/F Gm/E Ebm6 B \flat /D Cm11 F7/C B \flat F/A

sanc - ti - fied and hon - ored. All that you wish you cause to be - come.
things be - yond as - sess - ing. Source of all life, Pro - vid - er of light,
hope and con - so - la - tion. Fa - ther, we throw our bur - den on you.

B \flat Ebm B \flat /F C9/G F/A B \flat F/A

Great God, in faith we pray for your King - dom. May it come when
You give us knowl - edge, wis - dom, and in - sight. May we thank you
Give us the will and strength to con - tin - ue. Help us, please, to

Gm Gm/E Ebm6 B \flat /D Ebm F7 B \flat

you de - cree, And its bless - ings may we see.
ev - 'ry day, As we praise your lov - ing way.
do your will, And our vows to you ful - fill.

MAY 2020

THE WATCHTOWER

ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM



STUDY ARTICLES FOR:
JULY 6–AUGUST 2, 2020

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COVER PICTURE:

At Armageddon, God's Kingdom, which is likened to a stone, will put an end to human rule, here represented by a giant image (See study article 20, paragraph 11)

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Seek God for Your Deliverance

(Zephaniah 2:3)

Bm Gm6 Bm/F# Gm/E Bm/D Em Bm/D F#7/C# Bm Gm6/Bb D/A Gm6

Na - tions a - lign as one, Op - pos - ing Je - ho - vah's
 Peo - ple on earth now choose, Re - spond - ing to this good

R.H. R.H.

D/F# F#/E Bm/D C/E Bm/F# Em/G C#/G# C#

Son. Their time of hu - man rul - er - ship By God's de - cree now is
 news. We of - fer to all men the choice To hear or proud - ly re -

F# /E /D /C# Bm Gm6 Bm/F# Gm/E Bm/D C#m11 Bm A D Gm/Bb D/A Gm6

done. Rul - ers have had their day; God's King - dom is here to
 fuse. Tri - als, al - though se - vere, Need not fill our hearts with

R.H. R.H.

D/F# A7/E D C° Em/B A° Em/G F#m11 Em /D /C# Em7/B

stay. Soon Christ will crush earth - ly en - e - mies. No
 fear. Je - ho - vah cares for his loy - al ones; Our

Seek God for Your Deliverance

Chorus

F#/A# G#m11 C#7/G# F# A7/E A7 D A/C# Bm7 D/A

more will there be de - lay. Seek God for your de -
cries for help he will hear.

G Em7 A Bm D/A G D/F# Em7 A A/G F#m G A7 Bm A7

liv - er - ance, Yes, look to him with con - fi - dence. Seek his righ - teous - ness, Show your

G B7/F# Em Em/D C# B/D# C#/E# F# E/G# F#/A# Bm Gm/Bb

faith - ful - ness, For his sov - 'reign - ty, take your stand. Then

D/A A/G D/F# Bm7 G Em7 D/A A7sus4 A7 D

see our God de - liv - er you By his might - y hand.

R.H.

(See also 1 Sam. 2:9; Ps. 2:2, 3, 9; Prov. 2:8; Matt. 6:33.)

SONG 150

Seek God for Your
Deliverance

PREVIEW

We are seeing evidence that Daniel's prophecy about "the king of the north" and "the king of the south" continues to be fulfilled. How can we be so sure? And why do we need to understand the details of this prophecy?

"The King of the North" in the Time of the End

"In the time of the end the king of the south will engage with him [the king of the north] in a pushing."—DAN. 11:40.

WHAT does the near future hold for Jehovah's people? We do not have to guess. Bible prophecy gives us a window through which we can see major events that will affect all of us. One prophecy in particular allows us to see what some of the most powerful governments on earth will do. That account, recorded in Daniel chapter 11, traces the history of two opposing forces, the king of the north and the king of the south. A large portion of that prophecy has already been fulfilled, so we can be confident that the rest of it will also come true.

² To understand the prophecy recorded in Daniel chapter 11, we need to keep in mind that it identifies only rulers and governments that have had a direct influence on God's people. And even though God's servants make up only a small portion of the world's population, they are often at the center of major world events. Why? Because Satan and his entire system have one prime objective—conquering those who serve Jehovah and Jesus. **(Read Genesis 3:15 and Revelation 11:7; 12:17.)** In addition, the prophecy recorded by Daniel must harmonize with other prophecies in God's Word. In fact, we can come to the right understanding of Daniel's prophecy only if we compare it with other portions of the Scriptures.

1. What does Bible prophecy reveal to us?
2. As indicated at Genesis 3:15 and Revelation 11:7 and 12:17, what facts must we keep in mind when studying Daniel's prophecy?

³ With those points in mind, we will now examine Daniel 11:25-39. We will see who the king of the north and the king of the south were from 1870 to 1991, and we will see why it is reasonable for us to clarify our understanding of a portion of this prophecy. In the following article, we will discuss Daniel 11:40-12:1, and we will clarify our understanding of what that part of the prophecy reveals about the period from the 1990's to the war of Armageddon. As you study these two articles, it will be helpful to consult the chart "Rival Kings in the Time of the End." First, though, we need to identify the two kings in this prophecy.

IDENTIFYING THE KING OF THE NORTH AND THE KING OF THE SOUTH

⁴ The titles "king of the north" and "king of the south" were initially given to political powers located north and south of the literal land of Israel. Why do we say that? Notice what the angel who delivered the message to Daniel said: "I have come to make you understand what will befall *your people* in the final part of the days." (Dan. 10:14) Until Pentecost 33 C.E., the literal nation of Israel was God's people. From then on, however, Jehovah made it obvious that he viewed Jesus' faithful disciples as his people. Therefore, much of the prophecy recorded in Daniel chapter 11 involves, **not the literal nation of Israel,**

but Christ's followers. (Acts 2:1-4; Rom. 9:6-8; Gal. 6:15, 16) And the identity of the king of the north and the king of the south changed over time. Even so, several factors remained constant. First, the kings interacted with God's people in a significant way. Second, they showed by their treatment of God's people that they hated the true God, Jehovah. And third, the two kings engaged in a power struggle with each other.

⁵ At some time during the second century C.E., the true Christian congregation began to be overrun by false Christians, who had adopted pagan teachings and who were hiding the truths found in God's Word. From that time until the late 19th century, there was no organized group of God's servants on earth. The weeds of false Christianity flourished and hid the identity of true Christians. (Matt. 13:36-43) Why is that fact significant? It indicates that what we read about the king of the north and the king of the south could not apply to rulers or kingdoms that held power from sometime in the 2nd century to the second half of the 19th century. There was no organized group of God's people for them to attack.* However, we can expect that the king of the north and the king of the south would reappear in

* For the reason stated here, it no longer seems appropriate to list Roman Emperor Aurelian (270-275 C.E.) as a "king of the north" or Queen Zenobia (267-272 C.E.) as a "king of the south." This updates what was published in chapters 13 and 14 of the book *Pay Attention to Daniel's Prophecy!*

3. What will we discuss in this article and the one that follows?

4. What three factors should we look for when identifying the king of the north and the king of the south?

5. Can we identify the king of the north and the king of the south from the 2nd century C.E. to the late 19th century? Explain.



The Anglo-American World Power in Bible Prophecy

The king of the south, the Anglo-American World Power, is depicted in a number of different ways in various Bible prophecies. It is described as . . .

the feet of iron and clay
(Dan. 2:41-43)



a horn that grew from the head of a fearsome beast
(Dan. 7:7, 8)



the seventh head of the wild beast
(Rev. 13:1)



the two-horned beast
(Rev. 13:11-15)



“the false prophet”
(Rev. 19:20)

the late 19th century. Why is that the case?

⁶ From 1870 onward, God’s people began to get organized as a group. It was in that year that Charles T. Russell and his associates formed a Bible study class. Brother Russell and his close associates acted as the foretold messenger who ‘cleared up a way’ before the Messianic Kingdom was established. (Mal. 3:1) God’s people could once again be identified! Were there any world powers on the scene that would have a significant impact on God’s servants? Consider the following facts.

WHO IS THE KING OF THE SOUTH?

⁷ By 1870, Britain had become the largest empire on earth, and it had the most powerful military force. That empire was pictured as a small horn that vanquished three other horns—France, Spain, and the Netherlands. (Dan. 7:7, 8) And it filled the role of the king of the south well into World War I. During this same time, the United States of America had become the dominant economic power and was forming a close partnership with Britain.

⁸ During World War I, the United States and Britain were welded into a powerful military alliance. At that time, Britain and its former colony became the Anglo-American World Power. As Daniel foretold, this king had amassed

6. When could God’s people again be identified? Explain.

7. Who was the king of the south well into World War I?

8. Who has been the king of the south throughout the last days?

“an exceedingly large and mighty army.” (Dan. 11:25) Throughout the last days, the Anglo-American alliance has been the king of the south.* Who, though, has filled the role of the king of the north?

THE KING OF THE NORTH REAPPEARS

⁹ In 1871, the year after Russell and his associates formed their Bible study group, the king of the north reappeared. That year Otto von Bismarck was instrumental in establishing the German Empire. Prussian King Wilhelm I became its first emperor, and he appointed Bismarck as the first chancellor.[#] Over the next few decades, Germany became a colonial power, controlling countries in Africa and the Pacific Ocean, and began challenging the power of Britain. **(Read Daniel 11:25.)** The German Empire built a powerful army and the second-largest navy in the world. Germany unleashed them against its enemies in the first world war.

¹⁰ Daniel then points forward to what would happen to the German Empire and the military force that it had built. The prophecy states that the king of the north “will not stand.” Why not? “Because **they** will plot schemes against him. And **those** eating his delicacies will bring his downfall.” (Dan. 11:25b, 26a) Back in Daniel’s day, those eating “the king’s delicacies” included royal of-

* See the box “The Anglo-American World Power in Bible Prophecy.”

[#] In 1890, Kaiser Wilhelm II forced Bismarck out of power.

9. When did the king of the north reappear, and how was Daniel 11:25 fulfilled?

10. How was Daniel 11:25b, 26 fulfilled?

officials in “the king’s service.” (Dan. 1:5) To whom does the prophecy here refer? It refers to high-ranking officials of the German Empire—including the emperor’s generals and military advisers—who eventually helped bring down the monarchy.* The prophecy not only foretold the fall of the empire but also mentioned the outcome of the war with the king of the south. Speaking of the king of the north, it states: “As for his army, it will be swept away, and many will fall down slain.” (Dan. 11:26b) In the first world war, just as foretold, the German army was “swept away” and many did “fall down slain.” That war proved to be the deadliest in human history up until that time.

¹¹ Describing the time leading up to World War I, Daniel 11:27, 28 says that the king of the north and the king of the south would “sit at one table speaking lies.” It also says that the king of the north would accumulate “a great amount of goods.” Again, this is what happened. Germany and Britain told each other that they wanted peace, but those statements proved to be lies when the war broke out in 1914. And in the decades before 1914, Germany grew rich, becoming the second-largest economy in the world. Then, in fulfillment of Daniel 11:29 and the first part of verse 30, Germany fought with the king of the south but was defeated.

* They hastened the fall of the empire in a number of ways. For instance, they withdrew support for the kaiser, leaked sensitive information about losses in the war, and forced the kaiser to abdicate.

11. What did the king of the north and the king of the south do?

THE KINGS FIGHT GOD'S PEOPLE

¹² From 1914 onward, the two kings have intensified their conflict with each other and with God's people. For example, in the first world war, both the German government and the British government persecuted God's servants who refused to take up arms. And the U.S. government threw into prison those who were taking the lead in the preaching work. This persecution fulfilled the prophecy recorded at Revelation 11:7-10.

¹³ Then, in the 1930's and especially during the second world war, the king of the north attacked God's people without mercy. When the Nazi party took control of Germany, Hitler and his followers banned the work of God's people. The opposers killed hundreds of Jehovah's people and sent thousands more to concentration camps. Those events were foretold by Daniel. The king of the north was able to "profane the sanctuary" and "remove the constant feature" by severely restricting the freedom of God's servants to praise Jehovah's name publicly. (Dan. 11:30b, 31a) Its leader, Hitler, even vowed that he would exterminate God's people in Germany.

A NEW KING OF THE NORTH RISES

¹⁴ After the second world war, the Communist government of the Soviet Union took control of the vast terri-

12. In the first world war, what did the king of the north and the king of the south do?

13. In the 1930's and during the second world war, what did the king of the north do?

14. Who took on the role of the king of the north after the second world war? Explain.

tories it had captured from Germany, and it became the king of the north. Like the totalitarian Nazi regime, the Soviet Union showed great hostility toward anyone who put the worship of the true God ahead of absolute obedience to the state.

¹⁵ Soon after World War II ended, the new king of the north, the Soviet Union and its allies, launched his own assault on God's people. In harmony with the prophecy recorded at Revelation 12:15-17, this king banned our preaching work and sent thousands of Jehovah's people into exile. In fact, throughout the last days, the king of the north has poured out "a river" of persecution in an unsuccessful attempt to stop the work of God's people.*

¹⁶ **Read Daniel 11:37-39.** In fulfillment of that prophecy, the king of the north did not show any "regard for the God of his fathers." How so? The Soviet Union, with the goal of eliminating religion, tried to break the power of the traditional religious organizations. To achieve that goal, the Soviet government had already back in 1918 issued an order that laid the foundation for atheism to be taught in schools. How did this king of the north "give glory to the god of fortresses"? The Soviet Union spent an enormous amount of money building

* As indicated at Daniel 11:34, Christians living under the king of the north experienced some relief from persecution. This happened, for example, when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991.

15. What did the king of the north do after World War II ended?

16. How did the Soviet Union fulfill Daniel 11:37-39?

its army and producing thousands of nuclear weapons to fortify its realm. Both the king of the north and the king of the south eventually gathered enough firepower to kill billions of people!

A RARE ACT OF COOPERATION

¹⁷ The king of the north has supported the king of the south in one key endeavor; they “put in place the disgusting thing that causes desolation.” (Dan. 11: 31) That “disgusting thing” is the United Nations.

¹⁸ The United Nations organization is described as a “disgusting thing” because it claims to be able to do something that only God’s Kingdom can do—bring world peace. And the prophecy

17. What is “the disgusting thing that causes desolation”?

18. Why is the United Nations described as a “disgusting thing”?

says that the disgusting thing “causes desolation” because the United Nations will play a key role in the destruction of all false religion.—See the chart “Rival Kings in the Time of the End.”

WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW THIS HISTORY?

¹⁹ We need to know this history because it proves that from the 1870’s to the early 1990’s, Daniel’s prophecy about the king of the north and the king of the south has been fulfilled. So we can have faith that the remaining portion of the prophecy will also come true.

²⁰ In 1991, the Soviet Union collapsed. So who fills the role of the king of the north today? The next article answers that question.

19-20. (a) Why do we need to know this history? (b) What question will we answer in the next article?

HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER?

- What three factors help us identify “the king of the north” and “the king of the south”?
- Who fulfilled the roles of the king of the north and of the king of the south from the 1870’s to 1991?
- Why do we need to know this history?

Rival Kings in the Time of the End

The prophecies mentioned in this chart **overlap one another**. They prove in multiple ways that we are living in “the time of the end.”—Dan. 12:4.

CHART NOT TO SCALE 1870
▼

KING OF THE NORTH

2

GERMANY (1871, king of the north identifiable) →

KING OF THE SOUTH

GREAT BRITAIN (king of the south identifiable) →



STARTING IN THE 1870'S
Russell and his associates are the “messenger”



EARLY 1880'S
Zion's Watch Tower encourages its readers to preach the good news

1

1

Scripture(s) Rev. 11:7; 12:13, 17; 13:1-8, 12
Prophecy “The wild beast” roams the earth for many centuries. In the time of the end, its seventh head is wounded. Later, that head is healed and “all the earth” follows the beast. Satan uses that beast to “wage war with the remaining ones.”
Fulfillment After the Flood, human governments opposed to Jehovah emerge. Many centuries later, during World War I, the British Empire is severely weakened. It recovers when it is joined by the United States. Especially in the time of the end, Satan uses his entire political system to persecute God’s people.

2

Scripture(s) Dan. 11:25-45
Prophecy Rivalry between the king of the north and the king of the south during the time of the end.
Fulfillment Germany and Anglo-American powers compete. In 1945 the Soviet Union and its allies become the king of the north. In 1991, the Soviet Union collapses, and in time, Russia and its allies take over the role of the king of the north.

3

Scripture(s) Isa. 61:1; Mal. 3:1; Luke 4:18
Prophecy Jehovah sends his “messenger” to “clear up a way” before the Messianic Kingdom is established. This group sets out to “declare good news to the meek.”
Fulfillment From the 1870’s onward, C. T. Russell and his associates work zealously to explain Bible truths. During the 1880’s, they begin to emphasize that God’s servants need to preach. They publish such articles as “Wanted 1,000 Preachers” and “Anointed to Preach.”

TIME OF THE END BEGINS

1914

1917

1918

1919

ANGLO-AMERICA →



**1914-1918
WORLD WAR I**



**DURING
WORLD WAR I**
Seventh head
is wounded



1917 ONWARD
Seventh head is healed,
and wild beast recovers



1914 ONWARD
Harvest season; weeds
separated from wheat



1917 ONWARD
The feet of iron and clay emerge

1919

Anointed Christians gathered into the restored congregation

1919 ONWARD
Preaching work intensifies



1914-1918 BRITAIN & GERMANY
Bible Students imprisoned

1918 UNITED STATES
Members from headquarters imprisoned



4

Scripture(s) Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43

Prophecy An enemy oversows a field of wheat with weeds that are allowed to grow and hide the wheat until the harvest time arrives; then the weeds are separated from the wheat.

Fulfillment From the late 1800's onward, true Christians begin to be distinguished from false Christians. During the time of the end, true Christians are gathered and separated from false Christians.

5

Scripture(s) Dan. 2:31-33, 41-43

Prophecy The feet of iron and clay belong to an image made of various metals.

Fulfillment Clay represents the radical and popular elements within the sphere of the Anglo-American World Power. These elements weaken the ability of this world power to act with ironlike strength.

6

Scripture(s) Matt. 13:30; 24:14, 45; 28:19, 20

Prophecy "The wheat" is gathered into the "storehouse" and "the faithful and discreet slave" is appointed over the "domestics." The preaching of the "good news of the Kingdom" begins to spread to "all the inhabited earth."

Fulfillment In 1919 the faithful slave is appointed over God's people. From that time onward, the Bible Students step up their preaching activities. Today, Jehovah's Witnesses preach in over 200 lands and produce Bible-based material in over 1,000 languages.

TIME OF THE END

CHART NOT TO SCALE



1920
League of Nations founded

1939-1945
WORLD WAR II

1945
UN founded

→ Kingdom-preaching work continues

1945
Over 156,000 publishers

1933-1945 GERMANY
Over 11,000 Witnesses imprisoned

1939-1945 BRITAIN
Nearly 1,600 Witnesses imprisoned

1940-1944 UNITED STATES
Over 2,500 mob attacks against Witnesses

1945-1950's SOVIET UNION
Thousands of Witnesses deported to Siberia

7
Scripture(s) Dan. 12:11; Rev. 13:11, 14, 15
Prophecy A two-horned wild beast takes the lead in creating “an image to the wild beast” and gives “breath to the image.”
Fulfillment The Anglo-American World Power takes the lead in creating the League of Nations. This organization is supported by other nations. Eventually, the king of the north joins the League as well—but only from 1926 to 1933. Like the United Nations (UN) after it, the League is given praise that is due God’s Kingdom.

8
Scripture(s) Dan. 8:23, 24
Prophecy A fierce-looking king brings “ruin in an extraordinary way.”
Fulfillment The Anglo-American World Power has caused vast ruin. For example, during World War II, the United States caused terrible ruin on an unprecedented scale when it dropped two atomic devices on an enemy of the dual world power.

9
Scripture(s) Dan. 11:31; Rev. 17:3, 7-11
Prophecy The “scarlet-colored” beast with ten horns ascends out of the abyss and is an eighth king. The book of Daniel refers to this king as “the disgusting thing that causes desolation.”
Fulfillment The League of Nations plunges into inactivity during World War II. After the war, the UN is “put in place.” The UN, like the League before it, is given glory that is due God’s Kingdom. The UN will attack religion.

1991

GREAT
TRIBULATION

ARMAGEDDON

RUSSIA & ITS ALLIES →



10

11

12

13

13

13

Remaining anointed ones
gathered to heaven

12

1991

Over 4,278,000 publishers

TODAY

Over 8,580,000 publishers



2017 RUSSIA

Authorities imprison Witnesses
and confiscate branch buildings

10 11

Scripture(s) 1 Thess. 5:3; Rev. 17:16

Prophecy The nations proclaim “peace and security,” and “the ten horns” and “the wild beast” attack “the prostitute” and destroy her. Thereafter, destruction befalls the nations.

Fulfillment The nations may claim that they have achieved peace and security. Then, the nations supporting the UN destroy the institutions of false religion. This marks the opening phase of the great tribulation. That tribulation will end with the destruction of the entire world system at Armageddon.

12

Scripture(s) Ezek. 38:11, 14-17; Matt. 24:31

Prophecy Gog invades the land of God’s people. Then, angels gather the “chosen ones.”

Fulfillment The king of the north, acting along with the rest of the world’s governments, attacks God’s people. Some time after the beginning of this attack, the remaining anointed ones are gathered to heaven.

13

Scripture(s) Ezek. 38:18-23; Dan. 2:34, 35, 44, 45; Rev. 6:2; 16:14, 16; 17:14; 19:20

Prophecy “The one seated” on a “white horse” completes “his conquest” by destroying Gog and his army. “The wild beast” is “hurled into the fiery lake,” and the giant image is crushed.

Fulfillment Jesus, the ruling King of God’s Kingdom, comes to the rescue. Together with his 144,000 corulers and his angelic armies, he destroys the coalition of nations, Satan’s entire political system.

Enduring to the End

(Matthew 24:13)

E♭ B♭7 E♭ B♭7/D E♭ E♭sus4 E♭ E♭/G Fm/A♭ A♭ B♭7 E♭

God's Word and all it prom - is - es Give rea - son to en - dure.
Main - tain the love you had at first, Which some - how could be lost.
All those en - dur - ing to the end Are those who will be saved.

B♭7 E♭ D°7 Cm/E♭ G7/D Cm Fm/A♭ A♭ma7 B♭ B♭7 E♭

The things you've learned and come to love Are all well - found - ed and sure.
De - spite the tri - als you will meet, En - dure no mat - ter the cost.
The book of life will list their names, A rec - ord clear - ly en - graved.

A♭ E♭/B♭ A♭/C A° E♭/B♭ B♭7 E♭ Fm/C C7 Fm E♭/G Fm/A♭ F7/A B♭

Be sta - bi - lized in ho - ly faith, Keep - ing God's day close in mind.
What - ev - er test may come your way, Nev - er yield to doubt or fear.
So let en - dur - ance be your aim; Let it have its work com - plete.

B♭7/D E♭ B♭7 E♭ B♭7/D E♭ E♭sus4 E♭ A♭ E♭/G Fm/A♭ E♭/B♭ B♭7 E♭

Stand firm in your in - teg - ri - ty; By tests you will be re - fined.
Je - ho - vah will pro - vide es - cape, Our God ev - er will be near.
Je - ho - vah's fa - vor you will know; With joy you will be re - plete.

(See also Heb. 6:19; Jas. 1:4; 2 Pet. 3:12; Rev. 2:4.)