

- Song 148 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

**TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD**

- **“Stand Firm and See the Salvation of Jehovah”:** (10 min.)  
 Ex 14:13, 14—Moses expressed faith that Jehovah would deliver Israel (w13 2/1 4)  
 Ex 14:21, 22—Jehovah provided a miraculous deliverance (w18.09 26 ¶13)  
 Ex 14:26-28—Jehovah destroyed Pharaoh and his army (w09 3/15 7 ¶2-3)
  - **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (10 min.)  
 Ex 13:17—How did Jehovah show consideration for the Israelites when leading them out of Egypt? (it-1 1117)
- Ex 14:2—Where was the Red Sea possibly parted to allow Israel to cross over? (it-1 782 ¶2-3)

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

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ex 13:1-20 (5)

**APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY**

- **Apply Yourself to Reading and Teaching:** (10 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Effective Conclusion*, and then discuss study 20 of the *Teaching* brochure.
- **Talk:** (5 min. or less) w07 12/15 18-20 ¶13-16  
 —Theme: What Can We Learn From Israel’s Salvation at the Red Sea? (13)

**LIVING AS CHRISTIANS**

- Song 127
- **“Stand Firm as the End Approaches”:** (15 min.) Discussion. Play the video *Future Events That Will Require Courage—Excerpt*.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.)  
 jy chap. 126
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 128 and Prayer


EXODUS 13-14 | “Stand Firm and See the Salvation of Jehovah”

**14:13, 14, 21, 22, 26-28**

Jehovah is a caring and considerate Savior. How did he show personal consideration for the Israelites during the Exodus from Egypt?

- He organized them.—Ex 13:18
- He provided guidance and protection.—Ex 14:19, 20
- He delivered all of his people, both young and old alike.—Ex 14:29, 30



 What confidence can you have as the great tribulation approaches?—Isa 30:15

1. The living God, Jehovah, you have proved to be;  
 Your mighty works abound  
 in earth and sky and sea.  
 No rival god can equal what you have done  
 —there is none.  
 Our foes will be consumed.

*(CHORUS)*

*Jehovah provides escape for the loyal.  
 His servants will see what a mighty Crag is he.  
 So with courage and faith in our God,  
 we spread the fame  
 Of Jehovah, our Source of escape,  
 and praise his name.*

2. Though ropes of death encircle me, I call to you,  
 “Jehovah, give me strength,  
 and give me courage too.”  
 From your own temple dwelling, you hear my plea,  
 “Shelter me;  
 Rescue me, O my God.”

*(Chorus)*

3. From heaven you will thunder  
 and give forth your voice.  
 Your enemies will quake;  
 your servants will rejoice.  
 You prove to be whatever you need to be;  
 all will see  
 How you provide escape.

*(Chorus)*

## Exodus 13-14

**13** Jehovah spoke further to Moses, saying: <sup>2</sup> “Sanctify to me every firstborn male among the Israelites. The first male to be born, of both human and animal, belongs to me.”

<sup>3</sup> Then Moses said to the people: “Remember this day on which you went out of Egypt, from the house of slavery, because with a mighty hand Jehovah brought you out of here. So nothing leavened may be eaten. <sup>4</sup> You are going out on this day, in the month of A'bib. <sup>5</sup> When Jehovah has brought you into the land of the Ca'naan-ites, the Hit'tites, the Am'or-ites, the Hi'vites, and the Jeb'u-sites, which he swore to your forefathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, then you must keep this observance in this month. <sup>6</sup> Seven days you are to eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day, there will be a festival to Jehovah.

<sup>7</sup> Unleavened bread is to be eaten for the seven days; and nothing leavened is to be found with you, and no sourdough is to be found with you within all your territory. <sup>8</sup> And you must tell your son on that day, ‘It is because of what Jehovah did for me when I came out of Egypt.’ <sup>9</sup> And this will serve for you as a sign on your hand and as a memorial on your forehead, so that Jehovah’s law may be in your mouth, for with a mighty hand Jehovah brought you out of Egypt.

<sup>10</sup> You must keep this statute at its appointed time from year to year.

<sup>11</sup> “When Jehovah brings you into the land of the Ca'naan-ites, which he has sworn to you and to your forefathers to give to you, <sup>12</sup> you must devote to Jehovah

every firstborn male, as well as every male firstling of the livestock that you acquire. The males belong to Jehovah.

<sup>13</sup> Every firstling donkey you are to redeem with a sheep, and if you do not redeem it, then you must break its neck. And every firstborn male of your sons you are to redeem.

<sup>14</sup> “In case your son should ask you later on, ‘What does this mean?’ then you should say to him, ‘With a mighty hand Jehovah brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

<sup>15</sup> When Phar'aoh stubbornly refused to send us away, Jehovah killed every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of man to the firstborn of beast. That is why I am sacrificing to Jehovah all the firstborn males, and I redeem every firstborn of my sons.’ <sup>16</sup> This must serve as a sign on your hand and as a headband on your forehead, for with a mighty hand Jehovah brought us out of Egypt.”

<sup>17</sup> Now when Phar'aoh sent the people away, God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Phi-lis'tines, although it was near. For God said: “The people may change their minds when they are confronted by war and will return to Egypt.” <sup>18</sup> So God made the people go around by the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. But it was in battle formation that the Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt. <sup>19</sup> Moses also took Joseph's bones with him, because Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear: “God will not fail to turn his attention to you, and you must take my bones up out of here with you.” <sup>20</sup> They departed from Suc'coth and encamped at E'tham, at the edge of the wilderness.

<sup>21</sup> Now Jehovah was going ahead of them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day and by night. <sup>22</sup> The pillar of cloud would not move away from before the people during the day, nor the pillar of fire at night.

**14** Jehovah now said to Moses: <sup>2</sup> “Tell the Israelites that they should turn back and encamp before Pi-ha-hi'roth, between Mig'dol and the sea, within view of Ba'al-ze'phon. You are to encamp facing it by the sea. <sup>3</sup> Then Phar'aoh will say about the Israelites, ‘They are wandering in confusion in the land. The wilderness has closed in on them.’ <sup>4</sup> I will allow Phar'aoh’s heart to become obstinate, and he will chase after them, and I will glorify myself by means of Phar'aoh and all his army; and the Egyptians will certainly know that I am Jehovah.” So that is what they did.

<sup>5</sup> Later it was reported to the king of Egypt that the people had run away. Immediately, Phar'aoh and his servants had a change of heart regarding the people, and they said: “Why did we do this and release Israel from serving as slaves for us?” <sup>6</sup> So he made his war chariots ready, and he took his people with him. <sup>7</sup> He took 600 chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt, with warriors on every one of them. <sup>8</sup> Thus Jehovah allowed the heart of Phar'aoh king of Egypt to become obstinate, and he chased after the Israelites, while the Israelites were going out with confidence. <sup>9</sup> The Egyptians chased after them, and all the chariot horses of Phar'aoh and his cavalymen and his army were catching up

with them while they were camping by the sea, by Pi-ha-hi'roth, facing Ba'al-ze'phon.

<sup>10</sup> When Phar'aoh got closer, the Israelites raised their eyes and saw the Egyptians pursuing them. The Israelites became terrified and began to cry out to Jehovah. <sup>11</sup> They said to Moses: "Is it because there are no burial places in Egypt that you have brought us here to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us by leading us out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt when we said, 'Let us alone, so that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it is better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." <sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to the people: "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and see the salvation of Jehovah that he will perform for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you will never ever see again. <sup>14</sup> Jehovah himself will fight for you, and you will keep silent."

<sup>15</sup> Jehovah now said to Moses: "Why do you keep crying out to me? Tell the Israelites that they should break camp. <sup>16</sup> As for you, lift up your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, so that the Israelites may go through the midst of the sea on dry ground. <sup>17</sup> As for me, I am allowing the hearts of the Egyptians to become obstinate, so that they will go in after them; thus I will glorify myself by means of Phar'aoh and all his army, his war chariots, and his cavalrymen. <sup>18</sup> And the Egyptians will certainly know that I am Jehovah when I glorify myself by means of Phar'aoh, his war chariots, and his cavalrymen."

<sup>19</sup> Then the angel of the true God who was going ahead of the camp of Israel departed and went to their rear, and the pillar of cloud that was in front of them moved to the rear and stood behind them. <sup>20</sup> So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. On the one side, it was a dark cloud. On the other side, it was lighting up the night. So the one camp did not come near the other camp all night long.

<sup>21</sup> Moses now stretched out his hand over the sea; and Jehovah drove the sea back with a strong east wind all night long, turning the sea basin into dry ground, and the waters divided. <sup>22</sup> So the Israelites went through the midst of the sea on dry ground, while the waters formed a wall on their right hand and on their left. <sup>23</sup> The Egyptians pursued them, and all Phar'aoth's horses, his war chariots, and his cavalrymen began going after them into the midst of the sea. <sup>24</sup> During the morning watch, Jehovah looked at the camp of the Egyptians from within the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw the camp of the Egyptians into confusion. <sup>25</sup> He kept taking wheels off their chariots so that they were driving them with difficulty, and the Egyptians were saying: "Let us flee from any contact with Israel, because Jehovah is fighting for them against the Egyptians."

<sup>26</sup> Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may come back over the Egyptians, their war chariots, and their cavalrymen."

<sup>27</sup> Moses at once stretched out his hand over the sea, and as morning approached, the sea returned to its normal

condition. As the Egyptians fled from it, Jehovah shook the Egyptians off into the midst of the sea.<sup>28</sup> The returning waters covered the war chariots and the cavalrymen and all of Phar'aoh's army who had gone into the sea after them. Not so much as one among them was allowed to survive.

<sup>29</sup> But the Israelites walked on dry ground in the midst of the seabed, and the waters formed a wall on their right hand and on their left.<sup>30</sup> Thus Jehovah saved Israel on that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.<sup>31</sup> Israel also saw the great power that Jehovah wielded against the Egyptians, and the people began to fear Jehovah and to put faith in Jehovah and in his servant Moses.



- Song 148 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

**TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD**

- **“Stand Firm and See the Salvation of Jehovah”:** (10 min.)  
 Ex 14:13, 14—Moses expressed faith that Jehovah would deliver Israel (w13 2/1 4)  
 Ex 14:21, 22—Jehovah provided a miraculous deliverance (w18.09 26 ¶13)  
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What spiritual gems from this week’s Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah, the field ministry, or something else?

- **Bible Reading:** (4 min. or less) Ex 13:1-20 (5)

**APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY**

- **Apply Yourself to Reading and Teaching:** (10 min.)  
 Discussion. Play the video *Effective Conclusion*, and then discuss study 20 of the *Teaching* brochure.
- **Talk:** (5 min. or less) w07 12/15 18-20 ¶13-16  
 —Theme: What Can We Learn From Israel’s Salvation at the Red Sea? (13)

**LIVING AS CHRISTIANS**

- Song 127
- **“Stand Firm as the End Approaches”:** (15 min.)  
 Discussion. Play the video *Future Events That Will Require Courage—Excerpt*.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.)  
 jy chap. 126
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 128 and Prayer


EXODUS 13-14 | “Stand Firm and See the Salvation of Jehovah”

**14:13, 14, 21, 22, 26-28**

Jehovah is a caring and considerate Savior. How did he show personal consideration for the Israelites during the Exodus from Egypt?

- He organized them.—Ex 13:18
- He provided guidance and protection.—Ex 14:19, 20
- He delivered all of his people, both young and old alike.—Ex 14:29, 30



 What confidence can you have as the great tribulation approaches?—Isa 30:15

## **August 3-9 / Exodus 13-14**

- Song 148 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 minute)

### **Treasures From God's Word**

**“Stand Firm and See the Salvation of Jehovah”:** (10 minutes)

Exodus 14:13, 14, 21, 22, 26-28

Jehovah is a caring and considerate Savior. How did he show personal consideration for the Israelites during the Exodus from Egypt?

Picture: The Israelites crossing the Red Sea on dry land. A pillar of fire lights their way.

- He organized them.—Exodus 13:18
- He provided guidance and protection.—Exodus 14:19, 20
- He delivered all of his people, both young and old alike.—Exodus 14:29, 30

*What confidence can you have as the great tribulation*

*approaches?—Isaiah 30:15*

## **Exodus 14:13, 14—Moses expressed faith that Jehovah would deliver Israel**

**Exodus 14:13, 14:** Then Moses said to the people: “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and see the salvation of Jehovah that he will perform for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you will never ever see again. Jehovah himself will fight for you, and you will keep silent.”

### **w13 2/1 4**

Moses may have had little idea that God was about to part the Red Sea, thereby opening up an escape route for the Israelites. However, Moses was confident that God would do *something* to protect His people. And Moses wanted his fellow Israelites to have that same conviction. We read: “Moses said to the people: ‘Do not be afraid. Stand firm and see the salvation of Jehovah, which he will perform for you today.’” (Exodus 14:13) Did Moses succeed in fortifying the faith of his fellow Israelites? Indeed, for the Bible says

regarding not just Moses but all the Israelites: “By faith *they* passed through the Red Sea as on dry land.” (Hebrews 11:29) Moses’ faith benefited not only himself but everyone who learned from it.

### **Exodus 14:21, 22—Jehovah provided a miraculous deliverance**

**Exodus 14:21, 22:** Moses now stretched out his hand over the sea; and Jehovah drove the sea back with a strong east wind all night long, turning the sea basin into dry ground, and the waters divided. So the Israelites went through the midst of the sea on dry ground, while the waters formed a wall on their right hand and on their left.

### **w18.09 26 paragraph 13**

Read Exodus 14:19-22. Picture yourself there, trapped between Pharaoh’s forces and the Red Sea. Then God acts. The pillar of cloud moves to the rear of the camp, blocking the Egyptians and keeping them in darkness. Your vast camp, however, is bathed in miraculous light! Then you see Moses

stretch out his hand over the sea, and a strong east wind opens a wide path to the other side. In an orderly manner, you, your family, and your domestic animals walk out onto the seabed with the rest of the people. Immediately, you notice something odd. The seabed is not miry or frozen; it is dry and quite firm, making it easy to walk. As a result, even the slowest ones cross safely to the other side.

### **Exodus 14:26-28—Jehovah destroyed Pharaoh and his army**

**Exodus 14:26-28:** Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may come back over the Egyptians, their war chariots, and their cavalrymen." Moses at once stretched out his hand over the sea, and as morning approached, the sea returned to its normal condition. As the Egyptians fled from it, Jehovah shook the Egyptians off into the midst of the sea. The returning waters covered the war chariots and the cavalrymen and all of Pharaoh's army who had gone into the sea after them. Not so much as one among them was allowed to survive.

## **w09 3/15 7 paragraphs 2-3**

While the Egyptians struggled with their crippled war vehicles, all Israel reached the eastern shore. Moses now stretched out his hand over the Red Sea. At that, Jehovah made the walls of water forming the corridor collapse. Millions of tons of water roared in upon Pharaoh and his warriors, drowning them. None of those enemies survived. Israel was free!—Exodus 14:26-28; Psalm 136:13-15.

News of this event left surrounding nations with an enduring sense of dread. (Exodus 15:14-16) Forty years later, Rahab of Jericho told two Israelite men: “The fright of you has fallen upon us, . . . for we have heard how Jehovah dried up the waters of the Red Sea from before you when you came out of Egypt.” (Joshua 2:9, 10) Not even those pagan nations had forgotten how Jehovah delivered his people. Clearly, Israel had even more reasons to remember him.

### **Digging for Spiritual Gems**

**Exodus 13:17—How did Jehovah show consideration for the Israelites when leading them out of Egypt?**

**Exodus 13:17:** Now when Pharaoh sent the people away, God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines, although it was near. For God said: "The people may change their minds when they are confronted by war and will return to Egypt."

### **it-1 1117**

From ancient times highways and roads, including several important trade routes, linked cities and kingdoms in the area of Palestine. (Numbers 20:17-19; 21:21, 22; 22:5, 21-23; Joshua 2:22; Judges 21:19; 1 Samuel 6:9, 12; 13:17, 18; see KING'S ROAD.) What is considered to have been the principal route led from Egypt to the Philistine cities of Gaza and Ashkelon and gradually bent northeastward in the direction of Megiddo. It continued to Hazor, North of the Sea of Galilee, and then led to Damascus. This route via Philistia was the shortest from Egypt to the Promised Land. But Jehovah kindly led the Israelites by another way so that they would not get disheartened by a Philistine attack.—Exodus 13:17.

## **Exodus 14:2—Where was the Red Sea possibly parted to allow Israel to cross over?**

**Exodus 14:2:** "Tell the Israelites that they should turn back and encamp before Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, within view of Baal-zephon. You are to encamp facing it by the sea.

### **it-1 782 paragraphs 2-3**

Where was the Red Sea parted to allow Israel to cross over?

It should be noted that, after reaching the second stage of their journey, Etham "at the edge of the wilderness," God ordered Moses to "turn back and encamp before Pihahiroth . . . by the sea." This maneuver would cause Pharaoh to believe the Israelites were "wandering in confusion." (Exodus 13:20; 14:1-3) Scholars favoring the el Haj route as the likely one point out that the Hebrew verb for "turn back" is emphatic and does not mean merely to "divert" or "turn aside," but has more the sense of returning or at least of a marked detour. They suggest that, upon reaching a point North of the head of the Gulf of Suez, the Israelites reversed their line of march and went around to the East side of Jebel



'Ataqah, a mountain range bordering the West side of the Gulf. A large host, such as the Israelites were, would find no effective way for swift exit from such a position if pursued from the North, and hence they would be bottled up with the sea blocking their way.

Jewish tradition of the first century C.E. conveys such a picture. (See PIHAHIROTH.) But, more importantly, such a situation fits the general picture portrayed in the Bible itself, whereas the popular views of many scholars do not. (Exodus 14:9-16) It seems evident that the crossing must have been far enough from the head of the Gulf (or western arm of the Red Sea) that Pharaoh's forces would not have been able simply to circle the end of the Gulf and easily come upon the Israelites on the other side.—Exodus 14:22, 23.

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

**Bible Reading:** (4 minutes or less) Exodus 13:1-20  
(th study 5)

- Song 148 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

**TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD**

- **“Stand Firm and See the Salvation of Jehovah”:** (10 min.)  
 Ex 14:13, 14—Moses expressed faith that Jehovah would deliver Israel (w13 2/1 4)  
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- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min.)  
 jy chap. 126
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 128 and Prayer


EXODUS 13-14 | “Stand Firm and See the Salvation of Jehovah”

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Jehovah is a caring and considerate Savior. How did he show personal consideration for the Israelites during the Exodus from Egypt?

- He organized them.—Ex 13:18
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- He delivered all of his people, both young and old alike.—Ex 14:29, 30



 What confidence can you have as the great tribulation approaches?—Isa 30:15

## Learn From Israel's Salvation

<sup>13</sup> What effect did this miraculous deliverance have on the survivors? Why, Moses and the sons of Israel spontaneously burst into song, praising Jehovah! They sang: "Let me sing to Jehovah, for he has become highly exalted. . . . Jehovah will rule as king to time indefinite, even forever." (Exodus 15:1, 18) Yes, their first thought was to exalt God. In that situation, Jehovah's sovereignty had been demonstrated.

<sup>14</sup> What instruction, comfort, and hope do we gain from these thrilling events? Surely we can see that Jehovah is ready for any trial that his people have to go through. He is equal to any situation that may confront them. The Red Sea was no barrier to Israel when Jehovah caused that strong east wind to blow. And he was able to cause that same Red Sea to become a watery grave for Pharaoh's armies. Contemplating this, we can echo the words of the psalmist who said: "Jehovah is on my side; I shall not fear. What can earthling man do to me?" (Psalm 118:6) We can also find comfort in Paul's words recorded at Romans 8:31: "If God is for us, who will be against us?" What confidence these inspired sayings give us! They quiet any fears and doubts that we may have and fill us with hope. How appropriate, then, is our yeartext for 2008: "Stand firm and see the salvation of Jehovah"!—Exodus 14:13.

<sup>15</sup> What else can we learn from Israel's Exodus from Egypt? That we must obey Jehovah no matter what he asks

us to do. The Israelites were obedient in carrying out the detailed preparations for the Passover. They obediently stayed indoors during the night of Nisan 14. When they finally left Egypt, they had to go “in battle formation.” (Exodus 13:18) Today, it is so important that we follow the guidance that comes to us through “the faithful and discreet slave”! (Matthew 24:45) We have to listen very carefully to God’s word behind us, saying: “‘This is the way. Walk in it, you people,’ in case you people should go to the right or in case you should go to the left.” (Isaiah 30:21) As we get nearer to the outbreak of the great tribulation, we may well receive some detailed instructions. Our safe journey through those troublesome days will depend on our keeping in step with other loyal servants of Jehovah.

<sup>16</sup> Remember, too, that Jehovah diverted the Israelites into a position where they appeared to be trapped between the mountains on the one side and the Red Sea on the other. It just did not seem to be the right move. But Jehovah had everything in hand, and all worked out to his praise and to the salvation of his people. Today, we may not clearly see why some organizational matters are handled in a certain way, but we have every reason to trust in Jehovah’s guidance through his faithful channel of communication. At times, our enemies may seem to be getting the upper hand. From our limited perspective, we may not be able to see the whole picture. Still, Jehovah is capable of maneuvering matters at the right moment, just as he did back there for the sons of Israel.—Proverbs 3:5.

# 127 *The Sort of Person I Should Be*

(2 Peter 3:11)

1. How can I repay you, what gift can I give

To thank you, Jehovah, for the life that I live?  
I look in my heart with your Word as my mirror;  
The person I see, may you help me see clearer.

*(BRIDGE)*

My life I have promised in service to you,  
But not from mere duty will I do what I do.  
Whole-souled and wholehearted I serve you by choice;  
May I be one more who makes you rejoice.

Help me to examine, and help me to see  
Just what sort of person you desire me to be.  
Those loyal to you, you will loyally treasure;  
May I be among those who bring your heart pleasure.

- Song 148 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

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- He organized them.—Ex 13:18
- He provided guidance and protection.—Ex 14:19, 20
- He delivered all of his people, both young and old alike.—Ex 14:29, 30



 What confidence can you have as the great tribulation approaches?—Isa 30:15

## Stand Firm as the End Approaches

**WHY IMPORTANT:** Awe-inspiring events will soon test our courage and trust in Jehovah as never before. The great tribulation will begin with the destruction of false religion. (Mt 24:21; Re 17:16, 17) During that tumultuous time, we may well deliver a hard-hitting judgment message. (Re 16:21) We will face an attack by Gog of Magog. (Eze 38:10-12, 14-16) In response, Jehovah will bring “the war of the great day of God the Almighty.” (Re 16:14, 16) To strengthen our courage for these future events, we need to stand firm during current tests of faith.

### HOW TO DO IT:

- Courageously uphold Jehovah’s high moral standards.—Isa 5:20
- Continue worshipping with fellow Christians.—Heb 10:24, 25
- Readily obey direction from Jehovah’s organization.—Heb 13:17
- Meditate on how Jehovah saved his people in the past.—2Pe 2:9
- Pray to Jehovah, and trust in him.—Ps 112:7, 8

**WATCH THE DRAMATIZATION *FUTURE EVENTS THAT WILL REQUIRE COURAGE—EXCERPT*, AND THEN ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**



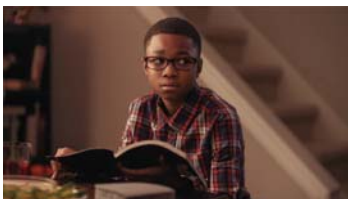
- What test of obedience did publishers face when the congregation they attended was merged with other congregations?

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- How are courage and obedience linked?

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- Why will courage be needed when Armageddon comes?

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- What Bible account can help us to strengthen our faith in Jehovah’s saving power?—2Ch 20:1-24

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**Prepare now for future events that will require courage**

## DENIALS AT THE HOUSE OF CAIAPHAS

MATTHEW 26:69-75    MARK 14:66-72  
LUKE 22:54-62    JOHN 18:15-18, 25-27

---

- PETER DENIES JESUS

---

Upon Jesus' being arrested in the garden of Gethsemane, the apostles abandon him, fleeing in fear. However, two of them stop their flight. They are Peter "as well as another disciple," evidently the apostle John. (John 18:15; 19:35; 21:24) They may catch up with Jesus as he is taken to the home of Annas. When Annas sends Jesus to High Priest Caiaphas, Peter and John follow at a distance. They are likely torn between fear for their own lives and concern for what will happen to their Master.

John is known to the high priest and is thus able to gain entrance into the courtyard at Caiaphas' house. Peter remains outside at the door until John returns and speaks to a servant girl who is acting as doorkeeper. Then Peter is allowed to enter.



It is cold this night, so those in the courtyard have a charcoal fire burning. Peter sits with them to keep warm as he waits “to see the outcome” of Jesus’ trial. (Matthew 26:58) Now, in the light of the fire, the doorkeeper who let Peter in gets a better look at him. “You are not also one of this man’s disciples, are you?” she demands. (John 18:17) And she is not alone in recognizing Peter and accusing him of being with Jesus.—Matthew 26:69, 71-73; Mark 14:70.

This greatly upsets Peter. He is trying to be inconspicuous, even withdrawing to the entryway. So Peter denies that he was with Jesus, at one point saying: “Neither do I know him nor do I understand what you are talking about.” (Mark 14:67, 68) He also starts to “curse and swear,” meaning that he is willing to take an oath that his words are true and to face calamity if they are not.—Matthew 26:74.

Meanwhile, Jesus’ trial is in progress, apparently in a part of Caiaphas’ house that is above the courtyard. Peter and the others waiting below may see the comings and goings of various witnesses who are brought in to testify.



Peter's Galilean accent is an indication that his denial is false. Moreover, one in the group is related to Malchus, whose ear Peter cut off. So the charge is leveled against Peter: "I saw you in the garden with him, did I not?" When Peter denies this for a third time, a rooster crows, as was foretold.—John 13:38; 18:26, 27.

At that point, Jesus apparently is on a balcony overlooking the courtyard. The Lord turns and looks straight at Peter, which must pierce Peter to the core. He recalls what Jesus said only a few hours earlier in the upper room. Imagine how Peter feels as the realization of what he has done crashes down on him! Peter goes outside and weeps bitterly.—Luke 22:61, 62.

How could this happen? How could Peter—who was so certain of his spiritual strength and loyalty—deny his Master? Truth is being distorted, and Jesus is being depicted as a vile criminal. When Peter could have stood up for an innocent man, he turned his back on the very One who has "sayings of everlasting life."—John 6:68.

Peter's tragic experience shows that even a person of faith and devotion can be thrown off balance if he is not properly prepared for unexpected trials or temptations. May what Peter went through serve as a warning to all of God's servants!

- ◇ How do Peter and John gain entrance to the courtyard at Caiaphas' house?
- ◇ While Peter and John are in the courtyard, what is going on in the house?
- ◇ What does it mean that Peter curses and swears?
- ◇ Peter's experience contains what serious lesson?

1. God's Word and all its promises  
Give reason to endure.  
The things you've learned and come to love  
Are all well-founded and sure.  
  
Be stabilized in holy faith,  
Keeping God's day close in mind.  
Stand firm in your integrity;  
By tests you will be refined.
2. Maintain the love you had at first,  
Which somehow could be lost.  
Despite the trials you will meet,  
Endure no matter the cost.  
  
Whatever test may come your way,  
Never yield to doubt or fear.  
Jehovah will provide escape,  
Our God ever will be near.
3. All those enduring to the end  
Are those who will be saved.  
The book of life will list their names,  
A record clearly engraved.  
  
So let endurance be your aim;  
Let it have its work complete.  
Jehovah's favor you will know;  
With joy you will be replete.



JUNE 2020

THE  **WATCHTOWER**  
ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM

LARGE PRINT EDITION



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AUGUST 3-30, 2020

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### COVER PICTURE:

A shepherd in ancient Israel cares for a sheep that was lost  
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# 10            *Praise Jehovah Our God!*

(Psalm 145:12)

1. Praise our God! Praise Jehovah God!  
    Make his glorious name known to all!  
    Sound alarm, For his day is near,  
    Help all people hear his warning call.  
    Jehovah decreed that now is the time  
    For his Firstborn to rule as King.  
    Reach out to all people, tell them the news,  
    Tell what blessings our God will bring!

*(CHORUS)*

*Praise our God! Praise Jehovah God!  
    Make his greatness known in all the earth!*

2. Praise our God! Sing it loud and clear!  
    With a joyful song, laud his name!  
    From the heart, From a grateful heart,  
    All his glory boldly we proclaim.  
    Though grand is our God and great are his works,  
    He is humble and good to all.  
    Our merciful Father knows what we need;  
    He responds when he hears our call.

*(Chorus)*



# “Let Your Name Be Sanctified”

*“O Jehovah, your name endures forever.”*—PS. 135:13.

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## SONG 10

Praise Jehovah Our God!

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## PREVIEW

What important issue is facing all intelligent creation? What makes that issue so vital, and what role do we play in settling it? Understanding the answers to those and related questions will help us to strengthen our relationship with Jehovah.

VERY important issues are facing us today—sovereignty and vindication. As Jehovah’s Witnesses, we love discussing those fascinating subjects. However, it is not as if we would have to contrast God’s sovereignty and the sanctification of his name—as if they were separate matters.

<sup>2</sup> All of us have come to see that God’s name must be cleared of reproach. We have also learned that Jehovah’s sovereignty, or way of ruling, must be proved to be the best. Both issues merit our respect and attention.

<sup>3</sup> Actually, the name Jehovah involves everything about our God, *including* his way of ruling. So if we say that clearing Jehovah’s name of all reproach is the most important issue, we are also saying that Jehovah’s way of ruling must be proved to be the best way. Jehovah’s name is closely tied to the way he rules as the almighty Sovereign.—See the box “Facets of a Great Issue.”

<sup>4</sup> The name Jehovah is unique. (Read Psalm 135:13.) What makes God’s name so important? How

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1-2. What subjects fascinate Jehovah’s Witnesses?

3. What does the name Jehovah include?

4. How does Psalm 135:13 describe God’s name, and what questions will we answer in this article?

was it first slandered? How does God sanctify it? And how can we help to defend his name? Let us address those questions.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF A NAME

<sup>5</sup> “Let your name be sanctified.” (Matt. 6:9) That is what Jesus stated as a priority in prayer. But what do Jesus’ words mean? To sanctify something means to make it holy, clean, or pure. Some might wonder, though, ‘Is not Jehovah’s name already holy, clean, and pure?’ To answer, we need to think about what a name involves.

<sup>6</sup> A name is more than a collection of letters written on a page or spoken aloud. Notice what the Bible says: “A good name is to be chosen rather than great wealth.” (Prov. 22:1; Eccl. 7:1) Why does a name have such value? Because it involves a reputation, what others think of the one bearing that name. So the way a name appears on a page—or even the way it is pronounced—is not what matters most; what truly matters is whom and what that name stands for in the minds and hearts of others.

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5. What might we wonder about when considering the sanctifying of God’s name?

6. What makes a name valuable?



## Facets of a Great Issue

There is a very great issue facing everyone: The *sanctification of the name Jehovah*. (Ezek. 36:23; Matt. 6:9) Is the one who bears the name Jehovah truly beyond all reproach? In other words, is he really holy, good, righteous, and loving in all his ways? There are related facets. Because Satan led a rebellion against God's rule, this question must be settled: Is Jehovah the *rightful Sovereign*, the one whose way of ruling is truly best? And because Adam, Eve, many of their descendants, and even some angels joined Satan in rebellion, another related issue must be settled: Who of Jehovah's intelligent creatures will *maintain integrity*, that is, will loyally defend God's holy name and serve Jehovah out of love for him? That last facet of the great issue came into sharp focus in the days of Job.—Job 2:3, 4; 27:5.

**7** When people tell lies about Jehovah, they are attacking his reputation. When they attack his reputation, they are trying to damage his name. The first attack on God’s name and reputation happened near the dawn of human history. Consider what we learn from this attack.

## **HOW THE NAME WAS FIRST SLANDERED**

**8** Adam and Eve knew Jehovah’s name, as well as vital truths about the One bearing that name. They knew him as the Creator, the One who gave them life, their lovely Paradise home, and a perfect mate. (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:18) However, would they continue to use their perfect minds to meditate on all that Jehovah had done for them? Would they keep building up their love and appreciation for the Person represented by that name? The answers became clear when God’s enemy tested them.

**9** Read Genesis 2:16, 17 and 3:1-5. Using a serpent as his mouthpiece, Satan asked Eve a question: “Did God really say that you must not eat

---

7. How have people attacked God’s name?

8. What did Adam and Eve know, and what questions arise?

9. According to Genesis 2:16, 17 and 3:1-5, what did Jehovah tell the first couple, and how did Satan twist the truth?

from every tree of the garden?” That question contained a subtle lie that was like hidden poison. What God had actually said was that they could eat from every tree, with one exception. The variety available to Adam and Eve must have been tremendous. (Gen. 2:9) Yes, Jehovah certainly is generous. However, God had forbidden Adam and Eve to eat the fruit of one tree that He had designated. So Satan’s question twisted the truth. Satan made it seem as if God were not generous. Eve may have wondered, ‘Is God withholding something good?’

<sup>10</sup> At that point, Eve still saw Jehovah as her Ruler. She answered Satan by reciting God’s clear direction. She added that they should not even touch the tree. She knew of God’s warning that disobedience would lead to death. But Satan replied: “You certainly will not die.” (Gen. 3:2-4) Satan was no longer subtle. He was now directly slandering God’s name, in effect telling Eve that Jehovah is a liar. Satan thus became a devil, or slanderer. Eve was thoroughly deceived; she believed Satan. (1 Tim. 2:14) She put more trust in him than in

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10. How did Satan directly slander God’s name, and with what effect?

Satan lied to Eve about Jehovah,  
and over the centuries the Devil  
has continued to slander God  
(See paragraphs 9-10, 15)



Jehovah. That made it easier for Eve to make the worst possible decision. She decided to disobey Jehovah. She began eating of the fruit that Jehovah had forbidden her to eat. Afterward, she gave some to Adam.—Gen. 3:6.

<sup>11</sup> Think for a moment about what Eve should have said to Satan. Imagine that she had said something like this: “I do not know who you are, but I know my Father, Jehovah, and I love and trust him. He has given Adam and me everything we have. How dare you say anything bad about

---

**11.** What could our first parents have done, but what did they fail to do?



him? Go away!” How delighted Jehovah would have been to hear such loyal words from a loving daughter! (Prov. 27:11) But Eve did not have loyal love for Jehovah; neither was Adam guided by that quality. Lacking such love for their Father, Adam and Eve failed to defend his name against slander.

<sup>12</sup> As we have noted, Satan started by sowing doubts in the mind of Eve. He got her to question the kind of Person who was represented by the name Jehovah. Then Adam and Eve failed to

---

12. How did Satan sow doubts in the mind of Eve, and what did Adam and Eve fail to do?



defend Jehovah's name and reputation. They left themselves open to Satan's suggestion to rebel against their Father. Satan uses similar tactics today. He attacks Jehovah's name by slandering it. People who believe Satan's lies are easily influenced to reject Jehovah's righteous rule.

## **JEHOVAH SANCTIFIES HIS NAME**

<sup>13</sup> Does Jehovah accept such slander without defending himself? No, he does not! The entire Bible record focuses on how Jehovah has acted to clear his name of the reproach heaped on it in Eden. (Gen. 3:15) In fact, we may summarize the core message of the Bible this way: Jehovah sanctifies his name by means of the Kingdom ruled by his Son and restores righteousness and peace to the earth. The Bible contains information that helps us to understand how Jehovah accomplishes the sanctifying of his name.—**Read Ezekiel 36:23.**

<sup>14</sup> Satan has done all he can to stop Jehovah from achieving His purpose. But Satan has failed again and again. The Bible record shows how Jeho-

---

13. How does Ezekiel 36:23 highlight the core message of the Bible?

14. How has Jehovah's response to the rebellion in Eden sanctified his name?

vah has acted, and it proves that there is no one like Jehovah God. True, the rebellion of Satan and all who take his side has caused Jehovah great pain. (Ps. 78:40) He has, though, handled this challenge with wisdom, patience, and justice. He has also shown his almighty power in countless ways. Above all, his love shines through in all that he does. (1 John 4:8) Jehovah has worked unceasingly to sanctify his name.

<sup>15</sup> Satan is still slandering God's name today. He fools people into doubting that God is powerful, just, wise, and loving. For example, Satan tries to convince people that Jehovah is not the Creator. And if people do accept that God exists, Satan attempts to make them believe that God and His standards are restrictive and unfair. He even teaches people that Jehovah is a heartless and cruel God who burns people in a fiery hell. When they believe such slander, they are more likely to take the next step—rejecting Jehovah's righteous rule. Until Satan is completely defeated, he will continue his campaign of slander, and he will target you as well. Will he succeed?

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15. How is Satan slandering God's name today, and with what effect?



We want to help our Bible students come to understand Jehovah's kind, loving personality  
(See paragraphs 18-19)

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## YOUR ROLE IN THE GREAT ISSUE

**<sup>16</sup> Jehovah allows imperfect humans to have a share in sanctifying his name. In effect, you can do what Adam and Eve failed to do. Despite being in a world full of people who slander and blaspheme Jehovah's name, you have the opportunity to stand up and speak the truth—that Jehovah is holy, righ-**

---

**16.** What can you do that Adam and Eve failed to do?

teous, good, and loving. (Isa. 29:23) You can support his rule. You can promote it as the only way of ruling that is truly righteous and that will bring peace and happiness to all creation.—Ps. 37:9, 37; 146:5, 6, 10.

<sup>17</sup> When we defend Jehovah's name, we follow the example of Jesus Christ. (John 17:26) Jesus made his Father's name known not only by using that name but also by defending Jehovah's reputation. For example, he contradicted the Pharisees, who in various ways painted Jehovah as harsh, demanding, distant, and merciless. Jesus helped people to see his Father as being reasonable, patient, loving, and forgiving. He also helped people to see Jehovah by the way he perfectly imitated his Father's qualities in his daily life.—John 14:9.

<sup>18</sup> Like Jesus, we can share what we know about Jehovah, teaching people what a loving and kind God He is. As we do so, we overturn lies and slander about Jehovah. We sanctify Jehovah's name, making it holy in the minds and hearts of people. We can also imitate Jehovah. That is possible even though we are imperfect. (Eph. 5:1, 2) When our

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17. How did Jesus make his Father's name known?

18. How can we overturn lies and slander about Jehovah?

words and actions show people what Jehovah is truly like, we help to sanctify his name. We vindicate that name by helping to free people from the misconceptions they may have about it.\* We also prove that imperfect humans can maintain integrity.—Job 27:5.

<sup>19</sup> Consider another valuable lesson we may apply. When we teach Bible truths to others, we often emphasize God’s sovereignty, that Jehovah has the right to rule the universe, and this is perfectly true. However, while it is important to focus on God’s laws, our main goal is that of helping others come to love Jehovah, our Father, and to be loyal to him. We thus need to highlight Jehovah’s appealing qualities, emphasizing the kind of Person that the name Jehovah represents. (Read Isaiah 63:7.) As we teach in that way, we will help others

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\* On occasion our publications have taught that Jehovah’s name does not need to be vindicated because no one has called into question his right to bear that name. However, a clarified understanding was presented at the 2017 annual meeting. The chairman stated: “Simply put, it’s not wrong to say that we pray for the vindication of Jehovah’s name because his reputation certainly needs to be exonerated.”—See the January 2018 program on [jw.org](http://jw.org)<sup>®</sup>. Look under LIBRARY > JW BROADCASTING<sup>®</sup>.

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**19.** How does Isaiah 63:7 help us to see what the main purpose of our teaching should be?

to love Jehovah and to obey him because they want to be loyal to him.

<sup>20</sup> How, then, can we make sure that our conduct and our teaching reflect properly on Jehovah's name and draw others to him? The following article will take up that question.

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20. What will we consider in the following article?

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**PICTURE DESCRIPTIONS Pages 8-9:** The Devil slandered God, telling Eve that God is a liar. Over the centuries, Satan has promoted false ideas, such as the teaching that God is cruel and that He did not create humans. **Page 12:** As he conducts a Bible study, a brother emphasizes God's personality.

---

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- How do we know that the sanctification of Jehovah's name is vitally important?
- Why does something as holy as God's name need to be sanctified?
- What role can you play in sanctifying Jehovah's name?

## 2

# *Jehovah Is Your Name*

(Psalm 83:18)

1. The living and true God—  
The God of all creation  
In ev'ry generation—  
Jehovah is your name.  
We're honored and we're proud  
To be your congregation.  
In ev'ry tribe and nation,  
Your glory we proclaim.

*(CHORUS)*

*Jehovah, Jehovah,  
There is no God like you.  
There's no other in the heavens  
Or on the earth below.  
You alone are God Almighty,  
And this all men must know.  
Jehovah, Jehovah,  
We have no other God but you.*

2. You cause us to become  
Whatever you desire,  
To do as you require—  
Jehovah is your name.  
And Witnesses for you  
Is what you've kindly named us.  
We're honored you have claimed us—  
A people for your name.

*(Chorus)*

(See also 2 Chron. 6:14; Ps. 72:19; Isa. 42:8.)