

- Song 16 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Evidence of Jehovah’s Blessing”:** (10 min.)
Le 8:6-9, 12—Moses installed the priesthood (*it-1* 1207)
Le 9:1-5—The nation was present when the priesthood offered the first animal sacrifices (*it-1* 1208 ¶8)
Le 9:23, 24—Jehovah showed his approval of the priesthood (*w19.11* 23 ¶13)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (10 min.)
Le 8:6—What can we learn from the requirement that Israel’s priesthood be physically clean? (*w14* 11/15 9 ¶6)

Le 8:14-17—During the installation of the priesthood, why did Moses offer the sacrifices and not Aaron? (*it-2* 437 ¶13)

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) Le 8:31–9:7 (5)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (3 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Then refer to something specific in the public edition of *The Watchtower* No. 2 2020, and offer the magazine. (6)
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Then direct the householder to our website, and leave a jw.org contact card. (4)
- **Bible Study:** (5 min. or less) *bhs* 84 ¶6-7 (11)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS


- Song 58
- **“Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Witnessing by Telephone”:** (15 min.) Discussion by the service overseer. Play and discuss the video.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min. or less) *rr* chap. 1 ¶8-14, box 1A
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 40 and Prayer

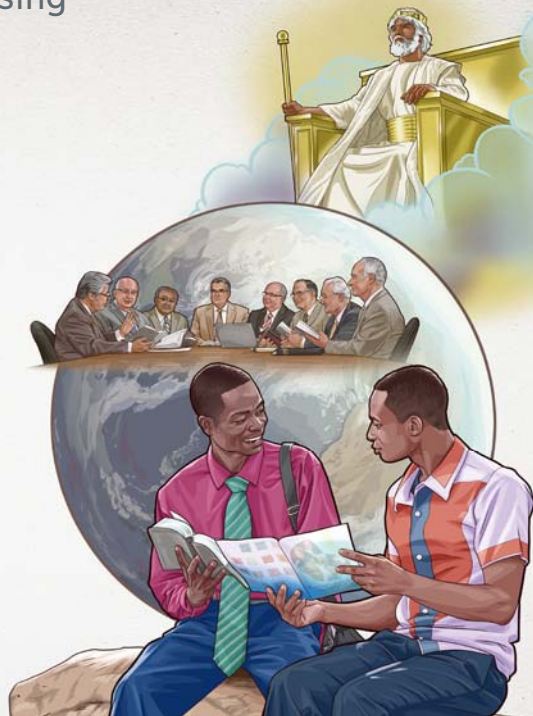
LEVITICUS 8-9 | Evidence of Jehovah’s Blessing

8:6-9, 12; 9:1-5, 23, 24

Jehovah caused fire to consume the first burnt offering of the newly installed Aaronic priesthood. This demonstrated Jehovah’s support and approval of this arrangement. Jehovah thus encouraged the assembled nation of onlookers to give the priesthood its full support. Today, Jehovah is using the glorified Jesus Christ as the greater High Priest. (Heb 9:11, 12) In 1919, Jesus appointed a small group of anointed men as “the faithful and discreet slave.” (Mt 24:45) What evidence is there that the faithful slave has Jehovah’s blessing, support, and approval?

- Despite relentless persecution, the faithful slave has continued to supply spiritual food
- As prophesied, the good news is being preached “in all the inhabited earth.”—Mt 24:14

 **How can we give the faithful and discreet slave our full support?**



16 Praise Jah for His Son, the Anointed

(Revelation 21:2)

F B \flat E \flat /B \flat F/B \flat E \flat /B \flat B \flat F/A Gm7 B \flat /F E \flat B \flat /F

Je - ho - vah a - noint - ed his Son To rule o - ver ev - 'ry -
Christ's broth - ers are cho - sen and called. God gives them their own new

F Fsus4/G F/A F B \flat C/B \flat Csus4/B \flat C/B \flat F/A F

one. His throne is es - tab - lished on jus - tice, That
birth. This bride class will share in the King - dom And

C C7 Gm7/D C7/E Am/C C7/B \flat F/A C7/G F *Chorus* Gm Dm/F Gm/E

God's will on earth may be done. Praise Jah for his Son, the A -
bring Par - a - dise to this earth.

Dm/F Dm E \flat B \flat /D Cm7 B \flat /D Cm11 B \flat

noint - ed. Praise Je - sus, O you faith - ful sheep, Who

Praise Jah for His Son, the Anointed

E \flat B \flat /D Cm7 B \flat /D D7 Gm/D D7 Gm F/C Gm/C F/C Gm/C C7

loy - al - ly fol - low day af - ter day and all his com - mand - ments

F Fsus4 F Gm Dm/F Gm/E F/Dm Dm

keep. Praise Jah for his Son, the A - noint - ed, the

E \flat B \flat /D Cm7 B \flat /D Cm11 B \flat E \flat B \flat /D Cm7 B \flat /D

Rul - er of heav - en - ly fame, A - noint - ed with ex - ul -

D7 Gm/D D7 Gm E \flat m6/G \flat B \flat /F Cm/E \flat B \flat /D Cm7 F7 B \flat

ta - tion and might to hon - or God's ho - ly name.

of the communion sacrifices and the fat will have the right leg as his portion.^a **34** For I take the breast of the wave offering and the leg of the sacred portion from the communion sacrifices of the Israelites, and I give them to Aaron the priest and his sons as a lasting regulation for the Israelites.^b

35 "This was the portion from Jehovah's offerings made by fire to be set aside for the priests, for Aaron and his sons, on the day he presented them to serve as priests to Jehovah.^c **36** Jehovah commanded to give them this portion from the Israelites on the day he anointed them.^d It is a permanent statute for their generations."

37 This is the law concerning the burnt offering,^e the grain offering,^f the sin offering,^g the guilt offering,^h the installation sacrifice,ⁱ and the communion sacrifice.^j **38** just as Jehovah commanded Moses on Mount Si'nai^k in the day he commanded the Israelites to present their offerings to Jehovah in the wilderness of Si'nai.^l

8 Jehovah continued to speak to Moses, saying: **2** "Take Aaron and his sons with him,^m the garments,ⁿ the anointing oil,^o the bull of the sin offering, the two rams, and the basket of unleavened bread,^p **3** and make all the assembly gather together at the entrance of the tent of meeting."

4 Then Moses did just as Jehovah had commanded him, and the assembly gathered together at the entrance of the tent of meeting. **5** Moses now said to the assembly: "This is what Jehovah has commanded us to do." **6** So Moses brought Aaron and his sons near and washed them with water.^q **7** After that he put the robe^r on him, wrapped him with the sash,^s clothed him

CHAP. 7

- a De 18:3
- b Le 10:14
- c Ex 28:1
Ex 29:4, 7
Ex 40:13
- d Ex 40:15
Le 8:12
- e Le 6:9
- f Le 2:1
Le 6:14
- g Le 6:25
- h Le 5:6
Le 7:1
- i Ex 29:1
Le 6:20
- j Le 3:1
- k Ex 34:27
- l Le 1:2

CHAP. 8

- m Ex 28:1
- n Ex 28:4
Ex 39:33, 41
- o Ex 30:23-25
Ex 40:15
- p Ex 29:1, 2
- q Ex 29:4
Ex 40:12
- r Ex 28:39
- s Ex 39:27, 29

Second Col.

- a Ex 39:22
- b Ex 28:6
Ex 39:2
- c Ex 28:8
Ex 29:5
Ex 39:20
- d Ex 28:15
Ex 39:9
- e Ex 28:30
- f Ex 29:6
Ex 39:27, 28
- g Ex 28:36
Ex 39:30
- h Ex 30:26-28
- i Ex 29:4, 7
Ex 30:30
Ex 40:13
Le 21:10
Ps 133:2
- j Ex 28:40
Ex 29:8, 9
- k Ex 29:10-14
Le 4:3, 4
Le 16:6
- l Heb 9:21, 22
- m Le 4:8, 9

with the sleeveless coat,^a and put the eph'od^b on him and tied it with the woven belt^{*c} of the eph'od, binding it securely on him. **8** Next he placed the breastpiece^d on him and put the U'rim and the Thum'mim^e in the breastpiece. **9** Then he placed the turban^f on his head, and he put on the front of the turban the shining plate of gold, the holy sign of dedication,^{*g} just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.

10 Moses then took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and all that was in it^h and sanctified them. **11** After that he spattered some of it seven times on the altar and anointed the altar and all its utensils and the basin and its stand in order to sanctify them. **12** Finally he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head and anointed him in order to sanctify him.ⁱ

13 Moses then brought Aaron's sons near and clothed them with robes and wrapped them with sashes and put^{*} headgear on them,^j just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.

14 Then he brought the bull of the sin offering, and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the bull of the sin offering.^k **15** Moses slaughtered it and took the blood^l with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar on all sides, and he purified the altar from sin, but the rest of the blood he poured at the base of the altar, in order to sanctify it to make atonement on it. **16** After that he took all the fat that was on the intestines, the appendage of the liver, and the two kidneys and their fat, and Moses made them smoke on the altar.^m **17** Then he had the rest of the bull, its skin, its flesh, and its dung, burned with fire

8:7 *Or "waistband." 8:9 *Or "the holy diadem." 8:13 *Or "wrapped."

outside the camp,^a just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.

18 He now brought the ram of the burnt offering near, and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram.^b **19** Moses then slaughtered it and sprinkled the blood on all sides of the altar. **20** He cut the ram into its pieces, and Moses made the head, the pieces, and the suet* smoke. **21** He washed the intestines and the shanks with water, and Moses made the entire ram smoke on the altar. It was a burnt offering as a pleasing* aroma. It was an offering made by fire to Jehovah, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.

22 Then he brought the second ram, the ram of the installation,^c and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the ram's head.^d **23** Moses slaughtered it and took some of its blood and put it on Aaron's right earlobe and on the thumb of his right hand and on the big toe of his right foot. **24** Next Moses brought Aaron's sons forward and put some of the blood on their right earlobe and on the thumb of their right hand and on the big toe of their right foot; but Moses sprinkled the rest of the blood on all sides of the altar.^e

25 Then he took the fat, the fat tail, all the fat that was on the intestines, the appendage of the liver, the two kidneys and their fat, and the right leg.^f **26** He took out of the basket of unleavened bread that was before Jehovah one unleavened ring-shaped loaf,^g one ring-shaped loaf of oiled bread,^h and one wafer. He then placed them on the pieces of fat and the right leg. **27** After that he put all of

8:20 *Or "the fat around the kidneys."
8:21, 28 *Or "appeasing; soothing."
Lit., "restful."

CHAP. 8

a Le 4:11, 12
Le 16:27

b Ex 29:15-18
Le 1:4

c Le 8:33

d Ex 29:19, 20

e Ex 24:6

f Ex 29:22-25

g Le 2:4

h Ex 29:1, 2

Second Col.

a Le 7:29, 30

b Ex 29:26, 27
Le 7:34, 35

c Ex 30:30

d Nu 3:2, 3

e Ex 29:21

f Le 6:28

g Ex 29:31, 32
1Co 9:13

h Ex 29:34

i Ex 29:30, 35
Nu 3:2, 3

j Ex 29:36
Le 17:11

k Ex 29:37

l Nu 1:53

them on the palms of Aaron and the palms of his sons and began to wave them back and forth as a wave offering before Jehovah. **28** Then Moses took them from their hands and made them smoke on the altar on top of the burnt offering. They were an installation sacrifice as a pleasing* aroma. It was an offering made by fire to Jehovah.

29 Moses then took the breast and waved it back and forth as a wave offering before Jehovah.^a From the installation ram it became the portion for Moses, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.^b

30 And Moses took some of the anointing oil^c and some of the blood that was on the altar and spattered it on Aaron and his garments and on his sons and the garments of his sons who were with him. Thus he sanctified Aaron and his garments and his sons^d and their garments.^e

31 Then Moses said to Aaron and his sons: "Boil^f the flesh at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and you will eat it there with the bread that is in the installation basket, just as I was commanded, 'Aaron and his sons will eat it.'^g **32** What is left over of the flesh and the bread you will burn with fire.^h **33** You must not go out from the entrance of the tent of meeting for seven days, until the days for completing your installation are over, because it will take seven days to install you as priests.^{i,j}

34 Jehovah commanded that we do what we have done today in order to make atonement for you.^j **35** You will stay at the entrance of the tent of meeting day and night for seven days^k and carry out your obligation to Jehovah,^l so that you may not die; for so I have been commanded."

8:33 *Lit., "fill your hand."

36 And Aaron and his sons did all the things that Jehovah had commanded by means of Moses.

9 On the eighth day,^a Moses called Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel. **2** He said to Aaron: "Take for yourself a young calf for a sin offering^b and a ram for a burnt offering, sound ones, and present them before Jehovah. **3** But you will say to the Israelites, "Take a male goat for a sin offering and a calf and a young ram, each a year old, sound ones, for a burnt offering, **4** and a bull and a ram for communion sacrifices,^c to sacrifice them before Jehovah, and a grain offering^d mixed with oil, for today Jehovah will appear to you."^e

5 So they took what Moses had commanded before the tent of meeting. Then the whole assembly came forward and stood before Jehovah. **6** And Moses said: "This is what Jehovah has commanded you to do, so that the glory of Jehovah may appear to you."^f **7** Then Moses said to Aaron: "Approach the altar and present your sin offering^g and your burnt offering, and make atonement in your own behalf^h and in behalf of your house; and present the offering of the people,ⁱ and make atonement in their behalf,^j just as Jehovah has commanded."

8 Aaron immediately approached the altar and slaughtered the calf of the sin offering that was for him.^k **9** Then Aaron's sons presented the blood^l to him, and he dipped his finger in the blood and put it on the horns of the altar, and he poured the rest of the blood at the base of the altar.^m **10** He made the fat and the kidneys and the appendage of the liver from the sin offering smoke on the altar, just as Jehovah had commanded

CHAP. 9

a Le 8:35

b Le 4:3

c Le 3:1

d Le 2:4
Le 6:14

e Ex 29:43

f Ex 16:10
Ex 24:16
Ex 40:34

g Le 4:3

h Heb 7:27

i Heb 5:1-3

j Le 16:33

k Le 4:3, 4

l Heb 9:22

m Le 4:7
Le 8:14, 15

Second Col.

a Le 4:8-10

b Le 4:11, 12
Heb 13:11

c Le 1:5

d Le 1:3
Le 6:9

e Le 2:1, 11, 13

f Ex 29:39

g Le 3:1, 2

h Le 3:3, 4

i Le 3:9, 10

j Le 7:29-31

k Ex 29:27, 28

l Nu 6:23-27
De 10:8
De 21:5
1Ch 23:13

Moses.^a **11** And he burned the flesh and the skin with fire outside the camp.^b

12 Then he slaughtered the burnt offering, and Aaron's sons handed him the blood, and he sprinkled it on all sides of the altar.^c **13** They handed him the pieces of the burnt offering along with the head, and he made them smoke on the altar. **14** Further, he washed the intestines and the shanks and made them smoke on the burnt offering on the altar.

15 He then presented the offering of the people and took the goat of the sin offering that was for the people and slaughtered it and made a sin offering with it like the first one. **16** And he presented the burnt offering and handled it according to the regular procedure.^d

17 He next presented the grain offering,^e filling his hand with some of it and making it smoke on the altar, in addition to the burnt offering of the morning.^f

18 After that he slaughtered the bull and the ram of the communion sacrifice that was for the people. Then Aaron's sons handed him the blood, and he sprinkled it around on all sides of the altar.^g **19** As for the pieces of fat of the bull,^h the fat tail of the ram, the fat covering the internal organs, the kidneys, and the appendage of the liver,ⁱ **20** they placed all those pieces of fat on the breasts, after which he made the pieces of fat smoke on the altar.^j **21** But the breasts and the right leg Aaron waved back and forth as a wave offering before Jehovah, just as Moses had commanded.^k

22 Then Aaron raised his hands toward the people and blessed them^l and came down from making the sin offering and the burnt offering and the com-

munion sacrifices. **23** Finally Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting and came out and blessed the people.^a

Jehovah's glory now appeared to all the people,^b **24** and fire came out from Jehovah^c and began consuming the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they started shouting and they fell with their faces to the ground.^d

10 Later Aaron's sons Na'dab and A-bi'hu^e each took his fire holder and put fire in it and placed incense^f on it. Then they began offering before Jehovah unauthorized fire,^g which he had not commanded them to do. **2** At this a fire came out from before Jehovah and consumed them,^h so that they died before Jehovah.ⁱ **3** Then Moses said to Aaron: "This is what Jehovah has said, 'I will be made holy among those near to me,^j and I will be glorified before all the people.'" And Aaron kept silent.

4 So Moses called Mish'a-el and El-za'phan, the sons of Uz'zi-el,^k Aaron's uncle, and said to them: "Come here, carry your brothers from in front of the holy place to a place outside the camp." **5** So they came forward and carried the men away in their robes to a place outside the camp, just as Moses had told them.

6 Moses then said to Aaron and his other sons El-e-a'zar and Ith'a-mar: "Do not let your heads go ungroomed or tear your garments,^l so that you may not die and that God may not become indignant against all the assembly. Your brothers of the whole house of Israel will weep over those whom Jehovah has killed by the fire. **7** You must not go out from the entrance of the tent of meeting or you will die, for Je-

CHAP. 9

a 2Sa 6:18

2Ch 6:3

b Le 9:6

c Jg 6:21

1Ch 21:26

d 1Ki 18:38, 39

2Ch 7:1, 3

CHAP. 10

e Ex 6:23

1Ch 24:2

f Ex 30:34, 35

Le 16:12

g Ex 30:9

Le 10:9

Le 16:1, 2

h Nu 16:35

i Nu 26:61

j Ex 19:22

k Ex 6:18

l Le 21:10

Second Col.

a Ex 28:41

Le 8:12

Le 21:11, 12

b Eze 44:21

c Eze 44:23

d De 33:10

2Ch 17:8, 9

Ne 8:7, 8

Mal 2:7

e Le 6:14, 16

f Le 21:22

g Le 6:26

Nu 18:10

h Ex 29:26-28

Le 7:31, 34

Le 9:21

i Le 22:13

Nu 18:11

j 1Co 9:13

k Le 9:3, 15

hovah's anointing oil is upon you." ^a So they did according to Moses' word.

8 Then Jehovah said to Aaron: **9** "Do not drink wine or other alcoholic beverages, you and your sons with you, when you come into the tent of meeting,^b so that you will not die. It is a permanent statute for your generations. **10** This is to distinguish between the holy thing and the profane and between the unclean thing and the clean,^c **11** and to teach the Israelites all the regulations that Jehovah has spoken to them through Moses."^d

12 Then Moses spoke to Aaron and to El-e-a'zar and Ith'a-mar, his sons who were left: "Take what was left of the grain offering from Jehovah's offerings made by fire and eat it as unleavened bread near the altar,^e because it is something most holy.^f **13** You must eat it in a holy place,^g because it is your allowance and the allowance of your sons from Jehovah's offerings made by fire, for this is what I have been commanded. **14** You will also eat the breast of the wave offering and the leg of the sacred portion^h in a clean place, you and your sons and your daughters with you,ⁱ because these things have been given as your allowance and the allowance of your sons from the communion sacrifices of the Israelites. **15** They will bring the leg of the sacred portion and the breast of the wave offering along with the offerings of fat made by fire, in order to wave the wave offering back and forth before Jehovah; and it will serve as a permanent allowance for you and your sons with you,^j just as Jehovah has commanded."

16 And Moses diligently searched for the goat of the sin offering,^k and he discovered that

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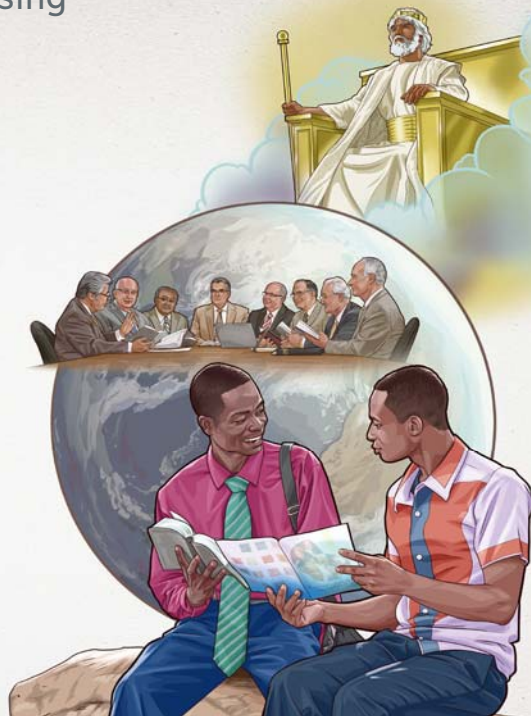
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- As prophesied, the good news is being preached “in all the inhabited earth.”—Mt 24:14

 **How can we give the faithful and discreet slave our full support?**



Treasures From God’s Word

“Evidence of Jehovah’s Blessing”: (10 minutes)

Leviticus 8:6-9, 12—Moses installed the priesthood

Leviticus 8:6-9: So Moses brought Aaron and his sons near and washed them with water. After that he put the robe on him, wrapped him with the sash, clothed him with the sleeveless coat, and put the ephod on him and tied it with the woven belt of the ephod, binding it securely on him. Next he placed the breastpiece on him and put the Urim and the Thummim in the breastpiece. Then he placed the turban on his head, and he put on the front of the turban the shining plate of gold, the holy sign of dedication, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.

Leviticus 8:12: Finally he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron’s head and anointed him in order to sanctify him.

it-1 1207

Moses washed Aaron and Aaron’s sons Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar (or, he commanded them to wash themselves) at the copper basin in the courtyard and put upon Aaron the glorious garments of the high priest. (Numbers 3:2, 3) Now clothed in beautiful apparel, Aaron was invested with the garments representing the qualities and responsibilities of his office. Moses then anointed the tabernacle, all its furnishings and utensils, and the altar of burnt offering, as well as the basin and the utensils used in connection with them. This sanctified them, set them aside for the exclusive use and service of God for which they would now be employed. Finally Moses anointed Aaron by pouring the oil upon his head.—Leviticus 8:6-12; Exodus 30:22-33; Psalm 133:2.

Leviticus 9:1-5—The nation was present when the priesthood offered the first animal sacrifices

Leviticus 9:1-5: On the eighth day, Moses called Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel. He said to Aaron: “Take for yourself a young calf for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering, sound ones, and present them before Jehovah. But you will say to the Israelites, ‘Take a male goat for a sin offering and a calf and a young ram, each a year old, sound ones, for a burnt offering, and a bull and a ram for communion sacrifices, to sacrifice them before Jehovah, and a grain offering mixed with oil, for today

Jehovah will appear to you.” So they took what Moses had commanded before the tent of meeting. Then the whole assembly came forward and stood before Jehovah.

it-1 1208 paragraph 8

On the eighth day, fully equipped and installed in office, the priesthood officiated (without Moses' assistance) for the first time, performing an atonement service for the nation of Israel, especially in need of cleansing not only because of their natural sinfulness but also because of their recent disobedience in connection with the golden calf, which had brought Jehovah's displeasure. (Leviticus 9:1-7; Exodus 32:1-10) At the conclusion of this first service by the newly installed priesthood, Jehovah manifested his approval and confirmation of them in office by sending miraculous fire, doubtless from the pillar of cloud above the tabernacle, devouring the remainder of the sacrifice on the altar.—Leviticus 9:23, 24.

Leviticus 9:23, 24—Jehovah showed his approval of the priesthood

Leviticus 9:23, 24: Finally Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting and came out and blessed the people. Jehovah's glory now appeared to all the people, and fire came out from Jehovah and began consuming the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they started shouting and they fell with their faces to the ground.

w19.11 23 paragraph 13

Fourth lesson: Jehovah is blessing the earthly part of his organization. Consider what happened in 1512 B.C.E. when the tabernacle was set up at the foot of Mount Sinai. (Exodus 40:17) Moses presided over a ceremony to install Aaron and his sons as priests. The nation of Israel assembled to witness the priests presenting their first animal sacrifices. (Leviticus 9:1-5) How did Jehovah show his approval of the newly installed priesthood? As Aaron and Moses blessed the people, Jehovah caused fire to consume the remainder of the sacrifice on the altar.—Read Leviticus 9:23, 24.

Digging for Spiritual Gems

Leviticus 8:6—What can we learn from the requirement that Israel's priesthood be physically clean?

Leviticus 8:6: So Moses brought Aaron and his sons near and washed them with water.

w14 11/15 9 paragraph 6

The requirement that Israel's priesthood be physically clean has real meaning for Jehovah's people today. Those with whom we study the Bible often notice that our places of worship are clean and also how neat and well-dressed we are. Yet, the cleanness of the priesthood helps us to realize that anyone who ascends the elevated mountain of Jehovah's worship must have "a pure heart." (Read Psalm 24:3, 4; Isaiah 2:2, 3.) Our sacred service to God must be rendered with cleansed minds and hearts as well as with clean bodies. This calls for frequent self-examination, after which some may need to make significant changes so that they can be holy. (2 Corinthians 13:5) For instance, a baptized person who deliberately views pornography should ask himself, 'Am I proving myself holy?' Then he ought to get help to end that vile practice.—James 5:14.

Leviticus 8:14-17—During the installation of the priesthood, why did Moses offer the sacrifices and not Aaron?

Leviticus 8:14-17: Then he brought the bull of the sin offering, and Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the bull of the sin offering. Moses slaughtered it and took the blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar on all sides, and he purified the altar from sin, but the rest of the blood he poured at the base of the altar, in order to sanctify it to make atonement on it. After that he took all the fat that was on the intestines, the appendage of the liver, and the two kidneys and their fat, and Moses made them smoke on the altar. Then he had the rest of the bull, its skin, its flesh, and its dung, burned with fire outside the camp, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.

it-2 437 paragraph 3

God constituted Moses mediator of the Law covenant with Israel, an intimate position such as no man has ever held before God except Jesus Christ, the Mediator of the new covenant. With the blood of animal sacrifices Moses sprinkled the book of the covenant, representing Jehovah as one "party," and the people (no doubt the representative older men) as the other "party." He read the book of the covenant to the people, who replied, "All that Jehovah has spoken we are willing to do and be obedient." (Exodus 24:3-8; Hebrews 9:19) In his office of mediator, Moses was privileged to oversee the building of the tabernacle and the making of its utensils, the pattern of which God gave to him, and to install the priesthood in office, anointing the tabernacle and Aaron the high priest with the oil of special composition. Then he took oversight of the first official services of the newly consecrated priesthood.—Exodus chapters 25-29; Leviticus chapters 8, 9.

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) Leviticus 8:31–9:7 (th study 5)

- Song 16 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Evidence of Jehovah’s Blessing”:** (10 min.)
Le 8:6-9, 12—Moses installed the priesthood (*it-1* 1207)
Le 9:1-5—The nation was present when the priesthood offered the first animal sacrifices (*it-1* 1208 ¶8)
Le 9:23, 24—Jehovah showed his approval of the priesthood (*w19.11* 23 ¶13)
- **Digging for Spiritual Gems:** (10 min.)
Le 8:6—What can we learn from the requirement that Israel’s priesthood be physically clean? (*w14* 11/15 9 ¶6)

Le 8:14-17—During the installation of the priesthood, why did Moses offer the sacrifices and not Aaron? (*it-2* 437 ¶13)

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) Le 8:31–9:7 (5)

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

- **Initial Call:** (3 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Then refer to something specific in the public edition of *The Watchtower* No. 2 2020, and offer the magazine. (6)
- **Return Visit:** (4 min. or less) Begin with the sample conversation. Then direct the householder to our website, and leave a jw.org contact card. (4)
- **Bible Study:** (5 min. or less) *bhs* 84 ¶6-7 (11)

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS


- Song 58
- **“Improving Our Skills in the Ministry—Witnessing by Telephone”:** (15 min.) Discussion by the service overseer. Play and discuss the video.
- **Congregation Bible Study:** (30 min. or less) *rr* chap. 1 ¶8-14, box 1A
- Concluding Comments (3 min. or less)
- Song 40 and Prayer

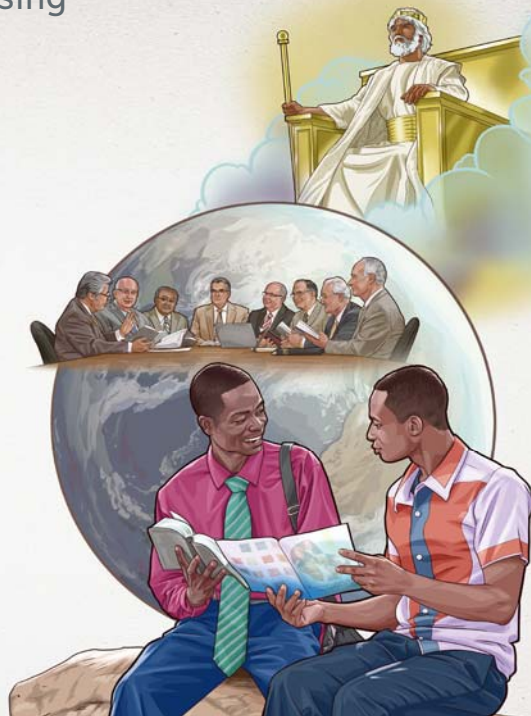
LEVITICUS 8-9 | Evidence of Jehovah’s Blessing

8:6-9, 12; 9:1-5, 23, 24

Jehovah caused fire to consume the first burnt offering of the newly installed Aaronic priesthood. This demonstrated Jehovah’s support and approval of this arrangement. Jehovah thus encouraged the assembled nation of onlookers to give the priesthood its full support. Today, Jehovah is using the glorified Jesus Christ as the greater High Priest. (Heb 9:11, 12) In 1919, Jesus appointed a small group of anointed men as “the faithful and discreet slave.” (Mt 24:45) What evidence is there that the faithful slave has Jehovah’s blessing, support, and approval?

- Despite relentless persecution, the faithful slave has continued to supply spiritual food
- As prophesied, the good news is being preached “in all the inhabited earth.”—Mt 24:14

 **How can we give the faithful and discreet slave our full support?**





Our Christian Life and Ministry

MEETING WORKBOOK

Sample Conversations

INITIAL CALL

Question: What is God's Kingdom?

Scripture: Mt 6:9, 10 or Isa 9:6, 7

Link: What will God's Kingdom accomplish?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:



• wp20.2 4, 6

RETURN VISIT

Question: What will God's Kingdom accomplish?

Scripture: Mt 14:19, 20 or Ps 72:16

Link: When will God's Kingdom rule the earth?

FIND THIS SCRIPTURE IN THE TEACHING TOOLBOX:



• bhs 35 ¶19

lords.” (1 Timothy 6:15) Jesus is able to do more good than **any** human ruler ever could, and he is more powerful than all human rulers put together.

⁵ Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus returned to heaven. Eventually, Jehovah appointed him as King of the Kingdom. (Acts 2:33) God’s government will rule over the earth from heaven. (Revelation 11:15) That’s why the Bible calls God’s Kingdom a “heavenly Kingdom.”—2 Timothy 4:18.

⁶ The Bible says that Jesus is greater than any human king because he is “the one alone having immortality.” (1 Timothy 6:16) All human rulers eventually die, but Jesus will never die. All the good that Jesus will do for us will last forever.

⁷ Bible prophecy says that Jesus will be a fair and compassionate King: “The spirit of Jehovah will settle upon him, the spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the spirit of counsel and of mightiness, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Jehovah. And he will find delight in the fear of Jehovah. He will not judge by what appears to his eyes, nor reprove [or, counsel] simply according to what his ears hear. He will judge the lowly [or, poor] with fairness.” (Isaiah 11:2-4) Would you want your king to be like that?

⁸ God has selected some humans to rule with Jesus in the heavenly government. For example, the apos-

-
5. Where does God’s government rule from? What will it rule over?
 - 6, 7. What makes Jesus better than any human king?
 8. How do we know that Jesus will not rule alone?

Searching for Friends of Peace

(Luke 10:6)

D Dsus4 D A

Je - sus com - mand - ed: 'Let the truth be heard.' In sum - mer
Time waits for no one, so the search goes on. A mil - lion

Bm7 D/G Gadd9

heat, on dust - y roads, He let all hear Je - ho - vah's word.
hearts, a mil - lion lives, We give our all to save just one.

D Dsus4 D A

He loved God's sheep and called to ev - 'ry - one. He searched the
Love is the force that makes us call a - gain. A wound - ed

Bm7 Em7 D/F# D/G Gadd9

land from the sun - rise 'til the day was done. From
heart can be healed, and bro - ken lives can mend. We

Searching for Friends of Peace

Em11 D/G A D/F# Gadd9 D/E

door to door and in the street, We share with ev - 'ry -
search the towns and cit - y squares, And when we find some -

A Bm7 Em11 D/G A Bm7

one we meet The news that soon man's trou - bles all will be
one who cares, The joy we feel in - spi - res us to go

Asus4 A Chorus D

gone.
on. Search - ing the world

A/C# D/F# Gadd9

For friends of peace in ev - 'ry na - tion,

- Song 16 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD’S WORD

- **“Evidence of Jehovah’s Blessing”:** (10 min.)
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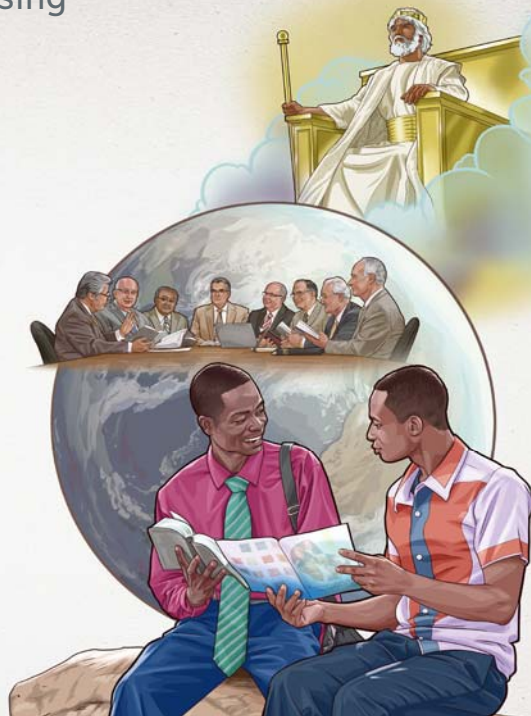
LEVITICUS 8-9 | Evidence of Jehovah’s Blessing

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- As prophesied, the good news is being preached “in all the inhabited earth.”—Mt 24:14

 **How can we give the faithful and discreet slave our full support?**



IMPROVING OUR SKILLS IN THE MINISTRY

Witnessing by Telephone



WHY IMPORTANT: Telephone witnessing is an important way to “bear thorough witness to the good news.” (Ac 20:24)* It enables us to witness to someone when circumstances do not allow us to visit him in person.

HOW TO DO IT:

- **Prepare.** Choose an appropriate topic. Then make an outline of what you wish to say. You might also prepare a short message that explains the purpose of your call in case you get an answering machine. It is helpful to sit at a table with the outline and other materials you will need, such as an electronic device open to *JW Library*® or *jw.org*®
- **Relax.** Talk naturally. Smile and gesture as if the person could see you. Avoid unnecessary pauses. It is helpful to work along with others. If the householder asks a question, repeat it out loud so that your partner can help you find the answer
- **Lay the groundwork for a return visit.** If the person shows interest, you could leave a question to answer on the next phone call. You might also offer to e-mail, personally deliver, or send a specific piece of literature. Or you can offer to text or e-mail one of our videos or articles. When appropriate, tell the person about our Online Bible Study Lessons or another item on our website

* If telephone witnessing is acceptable in your area, it must be compliant with relevant laws on personal data.



Improving Our Skills in the Ministry

“Witnessing by Telephone”

Husband (praying): Amen.

Wife (Carmen): Amen. Thanks for that prayer. Okay, before I make my first call, let me make sure I have everything. I have my Bible out, I have my tablet open to jw.library. And here’s what I plan to say.

Husband: Looks good. It’s similar to what I’m going to say.

Carmen: Okay, ready. My first call is to one of my workmates. (telephone rings at workmates home)

Allison (workmate): Hello.

Carmen: Hello. Is this Allison? This is Carmen from work.

Allison: Oh sure. How’re you doing?

Carmen: We’re doing well, thanks. Of course, the pandemic is causing challenges for everyone. So, I just wanted to make a brief call to check up on you. How are you and the family doing?

Allison: That’s so nice of you. Thank you for asking. My family is well but like most people we are struggling to make ends meet. As you know, we haven’t been going in to work. I’m worried about how long this pandemic will last.

Carmen: I can understand that. These words at **Isa 41:10** have helped me to stay calm. There it reads (she reads to coworker): **“Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be anxious, for I am your God. I will fortify you, yes, I will help you, I will really hold on to you with my right hand of righteousness.”** Isn’t that an encouraging verse?

Allison: It is!

Carmen: According to this, where can we go for help when we are anxious and afraid?

Allison: Well, God can help us to stay calm

Carmen: Yes. And one way he does that is by giving us hope that soon all sickness will end. May I call again to share that promise with you in the Bible? How about if I call about this time tomorrow?

Allison: Okay, that’ll be fine.

Carmen: In the meantime, I can text you where you can find this scripture in your own Bible.

Allison: Great.

Carmen: Enjoy the rest of your evening Allison. Goodbye.

Allison: Bye.

Husband: What a nice conversation. How would you answer that question about the end of sickness?

Carmen: I thought I'd read to her Rev. 21:3,4. Before I forget, let me text her that scripture in Isaiah. Should I include anything else.

Husband: You could include like one of our videos.

Carmen: Good idea. I think I'll send her the short version of "Why Study the Bible."

Husband: Perfect.

vah spoke from heaven at Jesus' baptism: "This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved." (Matt. 3:17) Perhaps Satan wanted to get Jesus to doubt whether his Father was trustworthy and truly cared about him. With the first temptation—to turn stones into bread—Satan, in effect, asked: 'Since you are God's Son, why does your Father not feed you in this barren wilderness?' With the second temptation—to jump off the battlement of the temple—Satan, in a sense, asked: 'Since you are God's Son, do you really trust your Father to protect you?'

4 Satan uses similar tactics today. (2 Cor. 2:11) The Tempter waits until true worshippers are weakened or discouraged, and then he attacks, often in subtle ways. (2 Cor. 11:14) He tries to deceive us into believing that Jehovah could never love us or approve of us. The Tempter also tries to get us to believe that Jehovah is not trustworthy, that he will not do as he has promised in his Word. But those are vicious lies. (John 8:44) How can we reject them?

5 Consider how Jesus responded to the first two temptations. He had no doubt about his Father's love for him, and he put absolute trust in his Father. Without hesitation, Jesus rejected Satan by quoting his Father's inspired Word. Fittingly, Jesus quoted scriptures that contain the divine name, Jehovah. (Deut. 6:16; 8:3) What better way for God's Son to show that he trusted in his Father than to use His name—the unique name that stands as a guarantee that Jehovah will fulfill all his promises?^[1]

6 We can resist Satan's subtle attacks by drawing on Jehovah's Word and by reflecting on the meaning of the divine name. If we apply to ourselves what the Scriptures say about Jehovah's love and concern for his worshippers, including the downhearted, we can reject the satanic lie that Jehovah could never love us or approve of us. (Ps. 34:18; 1 Pet. 5:8) And if we keep in mind that Jehovah always lives up to the meaning of his name, we will not doubt that the Fulfiller of promises is worthy of our complete trust.—Prov. 3:5, 6.

7 What, though, is Satan's primary goal? What does he really want from us? The answer became clear when Satan presented Jesus with a third temptation.

"Fall Down and Do an Act of Worship to Me"

8 Read Matthew 4:8-11. With the third temptation, Satan abandoned subtlety and revealed what he was after. Satan

5. How did Jesus respond to the first two temptations?

6, 7. How can we resist Satan's subtle attacks?

8. With the third temptation, how did Satan reveal the real issue?

FOOTNOTE

[1] The name Jehovah is understood by some to mean "He Causes to Become." It well fits Jehovah's role both as the Creator and as the Fulfiller of his purposes.

9. (a) What does Satan really want from true worshippers, and how does he try to tempt us? (b) What does our worship involve? (See the box “What Is Worship?”)

FOOTNOTE

[2] Regarding Satan’s words, one Bible reference work says: “As in the very first account of testing, failed by Adam and Eve . . . , the question centers on a choice between the will of Satan or the will of God, which involves implicitly the rendering of worship to the one or the other. Satan indeed vaunts himself as god in place of the only God.”

showed Jesus (likely in a vision) “all the kingdoms of the world and their glory”—but without their corruption. He then told Jesus: “All these things I will give you if you fall down and do an act of worship to me.”^[2] Worship—that was the real issue! Satan wanted Jesus to abandon his Father and acknowledge the Tempter as his god. Satan offered Jesus what might seem an easy way out. He implied that Jesus would have all the power and wealth of the nations and would not need to suffer—no crown of thorns, no scourging, and no torture stake. The temptation was real. Jesus did not question Satan’s dominion over worldly governments! (John 12: 31; 1 John 5:19) Surely Satan would have given anything to turn Jesus away from the pure worship of his Father.

9 Today, too, Satan really wants us to give him our worship—either directly or indirectly. As “the god of this system of things,” he is the beneficiary of all the false worship offered up by the religions of Babylon the Great. (2 Cor. 4:4) But not content with billions of false worshippers, he wants to tempt true worshippers to go contrary to God’s will. He tries to lure us to seek wealth and power in his world rather than



**“GO AWAY,
SATAN!”**

SEE PARAGRAPH 10

pursue a Christian course that may involve suffering “for the sake of righteousness.” (1 Pet. 3:14) If we were to give in to the temptation to abandon pure worship and become part of Satan’s world, we would, in effect, be bowing down and doing an act of worship to Satan, making him our god. How can we resist such a temptation?

¹⁰ Note how Jesus responded to the third temptation. Showing his undivided loyalty to Jehovah, he immediately dismissed the Tempter, saying: “Go away, Satan!” As he did with the first two temptations, Jesus then quoted a scripture from Deuteronomy that contains the divine name: “It is written: ‘It is Jehovah your God you must worship, and it is to him alone you must render sacred service.’” (Matt. 4:10; Deut. 6:13) Jesus thus rejected the attraction of a prominent but short-lived worldly career and an easy life without suffering. He recognized that his Father alone deserves to be worshipped and that to perform even a single “act of worship” to Satan would signify submission to him. Jesus steadfastly refused to make the wicked Tempter his god. Having been rebuffed, “the Devil left him.”^[3]

¹¹ We can resist Satan and the temptations of his wicked world because, like Jesus, we have a choice. Jehovah has given us the precious gift of free will. Hence, no one—not even the powerful, wicked spirit Tempter—can force us to abandon pure worship. When we loyally take our “stand against [Satan], firm in the faith,” we are, in effect, saying: “Go away, Satan!” (1 Pet. 5:9) Remember, Satan left after Jesus firmly rejected him. Likewise, the Bible assures us: “Oppose the Devil, and he will flee from you.”—Jas. 4:7.

The Enemy of Pure Worship

¹² With the final temptation, Satan confirmed that he is the original enemy of pure worship. Thousands of years earlier, in the garden of Eden, Satan first revealed his hatred for worship of Jehovah. By seducing Eve who, in turn, persuaded Adam to disobey Jehovah’s command, Satan brought them under his leadership and control. (Read Genesis 3:1-5; 2 Cor. 11:3; Rev. 12:9) In reality, he became their god, and they became his worshippers, even though they may not have known the real identity of the one misleading them. Furthermore, by instigating that rebellion in Eden, Satan not only challenged Jehovah’s sovereignty, or right to rule, but also launched an attack on pure worship. How so?

10. How did Jesus respond to the third temptation, and why?

11. How can we resist Satan and his temptations?

12. In Eden, how did Satan reveal that he is the enemy of pure worship?

FOOTNOTE

[3] Luke’s Gospel lists the temptations in a different order, but Matthew’s account is evidently chronological. Consider three reasons why. (1) Matthew introduces the second temptation with the word “then,” suggesting that it was next in sequence. (2) It seems logical that the two subtle temptations—each beginning with the phrase, “If you are a son of God”—would be followed by the overt temptation to break the first commandment. (Ex. 20:2, 3) (3) Jesus’ words “Go away, Satan!” would more naturally have followed the third and final temptation. —Matt. 4:5, 10, 11.

13. How is pure worship involved in the issue of sovereignty?

14. Did Satan succeed in his attack on pure worship? Explain.

¹³ The issue of sovereignty involves pure worship. Only the true Sovereign, the One who “created all things,” is worthy of worship. (Rev. 4:11) When Jehovah created the perfect Adam and Eve and placed them in the garden of Eden, He purposed that eventually the entire earth would be filled with perfect humans who would willingly give Him their worship—pure worship from pure hearts. (Gen. 1:28) Satan challenged Jehovah’s sovereignty because he coveted that which rightly belongs only to the Sovereign Lord Jehovah—worship.—Jas. 1:14, 15.

¹⁴ Did Satan succeed in his attack on pure worship? He managed to turn Adam and Eve away from God. Ever since, Satan has waged war against true worship, seeking to turn as many as possible away from Jehovah God. Satan did not let up in his efforts to tempt Jehovah’s worshippers in pre-

1A

WHAT IS WORSHIP?

Worship may be defined as “the act of showing respect and love for a god.” In the Bible, the original-language words rendered “worship” may convey the idea of someone showing deep respect, or submission, to creatures. (Matt. 28:9) Those words may also describe a religious act to God or a deity. (John 4:23, 24) The context determines how the words are to be understood.

Only Jehovah, the Creator and Universal Sovereign, is worthy of our exclusive devotion. (Rev. 4:10, 11) We worship Jehovah by showing respect for his sovereignty and by honoring his name. (Ps. 86:9; Matt. 6:9, 10) These two themes—Jehovah’s sovereignty and his name—are featured prominently in the book of Ezekiel. The expression “Sovereign Lord Jehovah” is used 217 times in Ezekiel alone, and the statement “know that I am Jehovah,” 55 times.—Ezek. 2:4; 6:7.

Our worship, however, is not just a feeling; rather, genuine worship involves action. (Jas. 2:26) When we dedicate our life to Jehovah, we vow that in every aspect of our life, we will obey him as our Sovereign and show the deepest respect for his name.

Recall that in his reply to the third temptation, Jesus linked worship with “sacred service.” (Matt. 4:10) As worshippers of Jehovah, we are eager to serve him.^[a] (Deut. 10:12) We render sacred service to our God when we engage in activities that are directly related to our worship and that call for self-sacrifice. What activities?

Sacred service comes in many forms, all of which are precious to Jehovah. We perform sacred service when we witness to others, share in meetings at our Kingdom Hall, and care for and construct our meeting places. In addition, we render sacred service when we participate in family worship, support the relief work for needy fellow believers, volunteer at our conventions, or serve at Bethel. (Heb. 13:16; Jas. 1:27) When pure worship is foremost in our minds and hearts, we will render “sacred service day and night.” We delight in worshipping our God, Jehovah!—Rev. 7:15.

FOOTNOTE

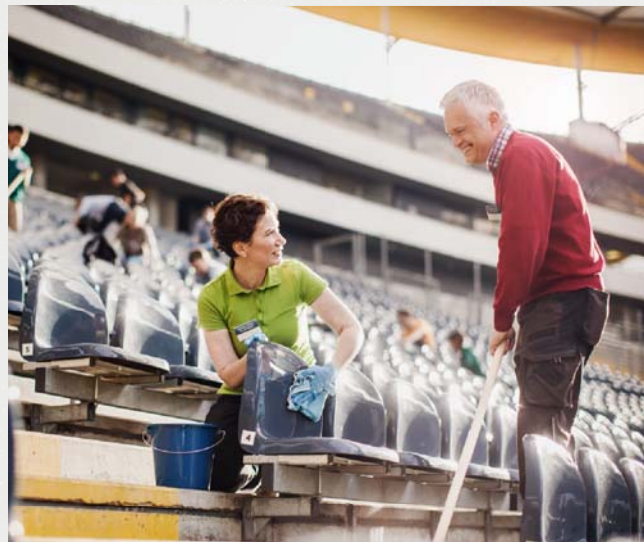
[a] One of the Hebrew words that can express the thought of worship also means “serve.” Worship thus involves service.—Ex. 3:12, ftn.

Christian times. In the first century C.E., he wickedly stirred up an apostasy by means of which the Christian congregation became corrupted, and pure worship eventually seemed lost. (Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43; Acts 20:29, 30) Beginning in the second century C.E., worshippers entered a long period of spiritual captivity to Babylon the Great, the world empire of false religion. But Satan has *not* succeeded in defeating God's purpose regarding pure worship. Nothing can stop God from fulfilling his purpose. (Isa. 46:10; 55:8-11) His name is involved, and he always lives up to his name. Jehovah is the unfailing Fulfiller of his purpose!

The Champion of Pure Worship

¹⁵ Jehovah took immediate steps in Eden to deal with the rebels and to ensure that his purpose would be fulfilled.

15. What steps did Jehovah take in Eden to address the rebels and to ensure that his purpose would succeed?



To Whom Do We Belong?

(Romans 14:8)

F

To whom do you be - long? Which
 To whom do you be - long? Which
 To whom do I be - long? Je -

Gm F/A Bb C C/G

god do you now o - bey? Your
 god will you now o - bey? For
 ho - vah I will o - bey. My

C7 Bb/D C7/E C7/Bb F/A C/G F Dm7

mas - ter's the one to whom you bow. He
 one god is false and one is true, So
 Fa - ther in heav - en I will serve; I'll

G7 F/A Bb° G7/B C6 G7/D C7/E C

is your god; you serve him now. You
 make your choice; it's up to you. Will
 pay my vows with - out re - serve. He

To Whom Do We Belong?

F

can - not serve two gods; De -
 Cae - sar of this world Pos -
 bought me at great cost; De -

Cm7 F7 Bb D7/A Gm D

vo - tion can - not be shared. And
 sess your al - le - giance still? Or
 vot - ed to him I'll stay. To

Gm/Bb D/A Gm Bb6/G F A/E Dm Dm/C

so in the end your choice will de - pend On
 will you o - bey the true God to - day By
 him I will give each mo - ment I live. His

Gm/Bb G7/B C7 F

how - your heart is pre - pared.
 al - ways do - ing his will?
 name I'll hon - or each day.

(See also Josh. 24:15; Ps. 116:14, 18; 2 Tim. 2:19.)

SEPTEMBER 2020

THE WATCHTOWER

ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM



STUDY ARTICLES FOR:
NOVEMBER 2–DECEMBER 6, 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

Study Article 36: November 2-8	2
Are You Ready to Become a Fisher of Men?	
Study Article 37: November 9-15	8
“Do Not Let Your Hand Rest”	
Study Article 38: November 16-22	14
Act Wisely During a Time of Peace	
Study Article 39: November 23-29	20
Give Christian Women Your Support	
Study Article 40: November 30–December 6	26
“Guard What Has Been Entrusted to You”	
QUESTIONS FROM READERS	31

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EXPERIENCES

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YOUNG PEOPLE ASK

How Can I Lose Weight?

If you need to lose weight, do not think in terms of following a diet but in terms of adopting a healthy lifestyle.

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COVER PICTURE:

Our busy, zealous sisters participate at the meetings, share in the ministry, help maintain the Kingdom Hall, and show interest in fellow worshippers (See study article 39, paragraph 1)

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Living Up to Our Name

(Isaiah 43:10-12)

F C7 Bb/F F Gm/E A7 Dm9 Dm

Glo - rious Je - ho - vah, al - might - y, e - ter - nal,
Work - ing to - geth - er in your sa - cred ser - vice

Bb Bb6 D7/A Gm C G7/D C7/E

Per - fect in jus - tice, in pow - er, in love.
Binds us as broth - ers in love and in peace.

F C7 Bb/F F Gm/E A7 Dm9 Dm

Source of all truth and of in - fi - nite wis - dom,
Teach - ing the truth and re - flect - ing your glo - ry

B° E7/B B° F/C Gm C7 C7sus4 F

You rule as Sov - 'reign in heav - en a - bove.
Fill us with joy as your prais - es in - crease.

Living Up to Our Name

C C/E Dm7 Em/G G7 G#° E/G# G#° Asus4 Am

We as your peo - ple de - light in your ser - vice;
Known by your name, O Je - ho - vah, our Fa - ther,

F C/E F/A Ab7b5 C/G G7 C7sus4 C7

Your King - dom truth we de - light to pro - claim.
We have the hon - or to add to your fame.

Chorus
F F° F Bb/F F C7/G F/A Bb

Be - ing your Wit - ness - es, great is our priv - 'lege.

Gm D/A Gm/Bb F/C Gm7 C7 C7sus4 F

Oh, may we ev - er live up to our name!

SONG 29

Living Up to Our Name

PREVIEW

We have the great privilege of knowing the truth and teaching it to others. This article will help us to hold on to that privilege and never let it go.

“Guard What Has Been Entrusted to You”

“Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you.”

—1 TIM. 6:20.

WE OFTEN place our valuable things in the care of others. For instance, we may deposit our money in a bank. When we do, we expect that our funds will be kept secure and not be lost or stolen. So we understand what it means to entrust another person with something that we view as precious.

² **Read 1 Timothy 6:20.** The apostle Paul reminded Timothy that he had received something precious—accurate knowledge of God’s purpose for humankind. Timothy was also entrusted with the privilege to “preach the word” and to “do the work of an evangelizer.” (2 Tim. 4: 2, 5) Paul urged Timothy to guard what had been entrusted to him. Like Timothy, we have been entrusted with valuable things. What are they? And why must we safeguard the treasure that Jehovah has given to us?

ENTRUSTED WITH PRECIOUS TRUTHS

³ Jehovah has favored us with an accurate knowledge of the precious truths found in his Word, the Bible. These truths are precious because they teach us how to have a good relationship with Jehovah and they explain what brings real happiness in life. When we accept those truths and live by them, we are freed from enslavement to false teachings and immoral practices.—1 Cor. 6:9-11.

⁴ Another reason why the truths found in God’s Word are precious is that Jehovah reveals them only to humble ones who are “rightly disposed.” (Acts 13:48) Such

1-2. According to 1 Timothy 6:20, what had Timothy been given?

3-4. What are some reasons why Bible truths are precious?

individuals accept the channel he uses to dispense those truths today. (Matt. 11:25; 24:45) We cannot learn these truths on our own, and nothing else is anywhere near as valuable.—Prov. 3:13, 15.

⁵ Jehovah has also entrusted us with the privilege of teaching others the truth about him and his purposes. (Matt. 24:14) The message we bear is invaluable because it helps people become part of Jehovah’s family and gives them the opportunity to gain everlasting life. (1 Tim. 4:16) Whether our personal share in the ministry is large or small, we are supporting the most important work being done at this time. (1 Tim. 2:3, 4) What an honor it is to be God’s fellow workers! —1 Cor. 3:9.

HOLD ON TO WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN!

⁶ Some of Timothy’s contemporaries failed to appreciate their privilege of being fellow workers with God. Because Demas loved this system of things, he gave up his privilege of serving with Paul. (2 Tim. 4:10) Phygelus and Hermogenes apparently abandoned their ministry because they feared that they would suffer the kind of persecution that Paul faced. (2 Tim. 1:15) Hymenaeus, Alexander, and Philetus succumbed to apostasy and left the truth. (1 Tim. 1:19, 20; 2 Tim. 2:16-18) Apparently, all these people were once spiritually strong, but they lost their sense of what was truly valuable.

5. What else has Jehovah entrusted us with?
6. What happened to some who failed to stay on guard?



Timothy had to stand firm in the truth when others chose to deviate from it (See paragraph 6)

⁷ How does Satan try to make us give up the treasures that Jehovah has entrusted us with? Note some of Satan’s tactics. He uses entertainment and the media to promote values, thinking, and behavior that he hopes will cause us to loosen our grip on the truth. He attempts to intimidate us through peer pressure or persecution so that we will stop preaching. And he tries to entice us to listen to “the falsely called ‘knowledge’” of apostates so that we will abandon the truth.—1 Tim. 6:20, 21.

⁸ If we are not careful, we could gradually lose our grip on the truth. Consider

7. What tactics does Satan use against us?
8. What do you learn from the experience of a brother named Daniel?

the experience of Daniel,* who loved video games. He explains: “I began playing video games when I was about ten years old. At first, I played games that were relatively harmless. But gradually I started to play games that were violent and demonic.” Eventually, he was playing video games for about 15 hours each day. “Deep down, I knew that the type of games I was playing and the amount of time I spent playing them were distancing me from Jehovah. However, my heart had become hardened into believing that Bible principles did not apply to me,” says Daniel. The subtle influence of entertainment could easily cause us to loosen our hold on the truth. If that happens, we might end up losing the valuable things Jehovah has given to us.

HOW WE CAN HOLD ON TO THE TRUTH

⁹ **Read 1 Timothy 1:18, 19.** Paul compared Timothy with a soldier and urged him to “go on waging the fine warfare.” That warfare was, not literal, but spiritual. In what ways are Christians like soldiers engaged in battle? What qualities do we need to cultivate as soldiers of Christ? Let us consider five lessons we can learn from Paul’s illustration. These lessons can help us to hold on to the truth.

¹⁰ **Develop godly devotion.** A good soldier is loyal. He will fight hard to protect someone he loves or something he

* Name has been changed.

9. According to 1 Timothy 1:18, 19, with whom did Paul compare Timothy?

10. What is godly devotion, and why do we need it?

values. Paul encouraged Timothy to develop godly devotion—that is, a loyal attachment to God. (1 Tim. 4:7) The deeper our love and devotion for God, the greater our desire to hold on to the truth.—1 Tim. 4:8-10; 6:6.

¹¹ **Cultivate self-discipline.** A soldier must discipline himself if he is to remain fit for duty. Timothy remained spiritually fit because he followed Paul’s inspired advice to flee from wrong desires, to pursue godly qualities, and to associate with fellow believers. (2 Tim. 2:22) That required self-discipline. We need self-discipline to win the war against our fleshly desires. (Rom. 7:21-25) In addition, we need self-discipline to keep working at stripping off the old personality and putting on the new. (Eph. 4:22, 24) And when we are tired at the end of a long day, we may need to push ourselves to attend a meeting.—Heb. 10:24, 25.

¹² A soldier needs to practice using his weapons. To be skillful, he needs to do so regularly. Similarly, we need to become skillful in handling God’s Word. (2 Tim. 2:15) We can learn some of these skills at our meetings. But if we are to convince others that Bible truth is truly valuable, we need to stick to a regular routine of personal Bible study. We need to use God’s Word to strengthen our faith. This involves more than just reading the Bible. It requires that we meditate on what we read and do research in our publications so that we can correctly understand and apply the Scriptures. (1 Tim. 4:13-15) Then we will be able to

11. Why do we need self-discipline?

12. In what ways can we improve in our use of the Bible?



After a long workday, we may need to push ourselves to attend a meeting. But we are blessed for doing it!
(See paragraph 11)



use God’s Word to teach others. Again, this involves more than just reading a Bible text. We want to help our listeners to understand the verse and how it applies to them. By sticking to a regular schedule of personal Bible study, we can improve in our ability to use God’s inspired Word to teach others.—2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

¹³ **Be discerning.** A soldier must be able to anticipate danger and avoid it. We too must learn to recognize situations that could harm us and then act to avoid the danger. (Prov. 22:3; **read Hebrews 5:14.**) For instance, we need to choose our recreation and entertainment wisely. Television shows and movies often portray immoral conduct. Such conduct offends God and will inevitably bring about harm. Accordingly, we avoid entertainment that could gradually undermine our love for God.—Eph. 5:5, 6.

¹⁴ Daniel, mentioned earlier, began to discern that playing violent and demon-

ic video games was a problem. He did research in *Watchtower Library* for material to help him deal with his problem. How did that affect him? He stopped playing inappropriate video games. He canceled his subscriptions to online games and broke off his association with other players. Daniel says, “Instead of playing video games, I began spending time doing things outdoors or associating with friends from the congregation.” Daniel is now serving as a pioneer and an elder.

¹⁵ Like Timothy, we must also discern the danger of false information spread by apostates. (1 Tim. 4:1, 7; 2 Tim. 2:16) For example, they might try to spread false stories about our brothers or raise doubts about Jehovah’s organization. Such misinformation could undermine our faith. We must avoid being fooled by this propaganda. Why? Because these types of stories are spread “by men who are corrupted in mind and deprived of the truth.” Their goal is to

13. In line with Hebrews 5:14, why must we be discerning?

14. How did discernment help Daniel?

15. Why are false stories dangerous?

start “arguments and debates.” (1 Tim. 6:4, 5) They want us to believe their slander and develop wicked suspicions about our brothers.

¹⁶ **Avoid distractions.** As “a fine soldier of Christ Jesus,” Timothy had to stay focused on the ministry rather than become sidetracked by secular or material pursuits. (2 Tim. 2:3, 4) Like Timothy, we cannot afford to become distracted by a desire for more material things. “The deceptive power of riches” could choke our love for Jehovah, our appreciation for God’s Word, and our desire to share it with others. (Matt. 13:22) We must keep our life simple and use our time and energy to “keep . . . seeking first the Kingdom.”—Matt. 6:22-25, 33.

¹⁷ **Be prepared to act quickly.** A soldier needs to plan in advance how he will act. If we are to safeguard the things that Jehovah has entrusted to us, we need to act quickly when we see danger. What can help us to respond promptly? We need to plan in advance how we will react to a threat.

16. What distractions must we avoid?

17-18. What can we do to avoid spiritual harm?

¹⁸ To illustrate, when attending an event, audience members are often asked to locate the nearest exit before the program begins. Why? So that they will be able to leave quickly if an emergency arises. In the same way, we can rehearse beforehand which “exit” we will take if we suddenly encounter an immoral scene, graphic violence, or apostate material while using the Internet or while watching a movie or TV program. If we prepare for what might happen, we can act quickly to escape spiritual harm and remain clean in Jehovah’s eyes.—Ps. 101:3; 1 Tim. 4:12.

¹⁹ We must guard the valuable things that Jehovah has given to us—precious Bible truths and the privilege of teaching them to others. When we do, we will have a clean conscience, a life that has real meaning, and the joy of helping others come to know Jehovah. With his help, we will be able to guard what has been entrusted to us.—1 Tim. 6:12, 19.

19. What blessings will we experience if we safeguard the valuable things that Jehovah has given to us?

HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER?

■ What valuable things have been entrusted to us?

■ How does Satan try to get us to loosen our grip on the truth?

■ How can we hold on to the truth?

The Sort of Person I Should Be

(2 Peter 3:11)

Db Bbm7 Gb Ebm7

How can I re-pay you, what gift can I give To

Gb/Ab Ab/Gb Db/F F7b9b13/A Bbm7 Eb13sus4 Eb7

thank you, Je-ho - vah, for the life that I live? I

Ebm Ab7/Eb Db/F Gb Ab Bbm9/11 Bbm

look in my heart with your Word as my mir - ror; The

Bridge

Gb Db/F Ebm11 Gb/Ab Ab7 Dbsus4 Db

per - son I see, may you help me see clear - er. My

The Sort of Person I Should Be

Chords: Gbma7, Ab/Gb, Gbma7, Ab/Gb, Fm7, Cb/Db

life I have prom - ised in ser - vice to you, But

Chords: Gbma7, Ab/Gb, Gbma7, Bbm/G, C7sus4, C7, Fm

not from mere du - ty will I do what I do. Whole -

Chords: D°, Ebm11, Ebm, Gbm/A

souled and whole - heart - ed I serve you by

Chords: Db/Ab, Bbm/G, Gb/Ab, Fm/Ab

choice; May I be one more who makes you re - jice.

The Sort of Person I Should Be

Ebm7/Ab Ab7 Db Bbm7 Gb Ebm7

Help me to ex-am-ine, and help me to see Just

Gb/Ab Ab/Gb Db/F F7b9b13/A Bbm7 Eb13sus4 Eb7

what sort of per-son you de-sire me to be. Those

Ebm Ab7/Eb Db/F Gb Ab Bbm9/11 Bbm

loy-al to you, you will loy-al-ly trea-sure; May

Gb Db/F Ebm11 Gb/Ab Ab7 Dbsus4 Db

I be a-mong those who bring your heart plea-sure.