

THE WATCHTOWER

ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM



THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH

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THIS MAGAZINE, *The Watchtower*, honors Jehovah God, the Ruler of the universe. It comforts people with the good news that God's heavenly Kingdom will soon end all wickedness and transform the earth into a paradise. It promotes faith in Jesus Christ, who died so that we might gain everlasting life and who is now ruling as King of God's Kingdom. This magazine has been published continuously since 1879 and is nonpolitical. It adheres to the Bible as its authority.

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The Search for Truth

Knowing the truth can be a matter of life and death. For example, consider how our lives have been affected by the answer to the following question, How do infectious diseases spread?



For thousands of years, no one really knew the answer to that question. Meanwhile, plagues and epidemics took millions of lives. Eventually, scientists learned the truth. They discovered that diseases were often caused by germs—microorganisms, such as bacteria or viruses. Finding out that one truth has helped people prevent and treat many diseases, which has led to billions of people living longer and healthier lives.

What about other important questions? How do you think the search for truth about the following questions could affect you?

Who is God?

Who is Jesus Christ?

What is the Kingdom of God?

What does the future hold?

Millions of people have found the answers to those questions and have improved the quality of their life. You too can benefit from the answers.

CAN YOU FIND TRUTH?

You may wonder, ‘How is it possible to find out the truth about anything?’ After all, finding out the truth about many things seems to be getting more and more difficult. Why?

Many people do not trust governments, businesses, or the media to tell them the truth. They find it difficult to distinguish facts from opinions, half-truths, and outright lies that are presented as reliable information. In this climate of distrust and misinformation, people disagree not only on how to interpret the facts but also on what the actual facts are.

Despite such challenges, it is possible to find truthful answers to life’s most important questions. How? By applying skills you use in everyday life.

YOUR SEARCH FOR TRUTH

To some extent, you search for truth every day. Consider Jessica’s situation. “My daughter’s peanut allergy is so severe,” she says, “that even a trace amount of peanut protein can be fatal.” Jessica needs to know that the food she buys will be safe for her daughter. “My first step is to read food labels carefully to check the ingredients. Then I do further research and even contact the manufacturer to confirm that there is no risk of cross contamination. I also consider other reliable sources that can vouch for the company’s reputation for following safe food practices.”

Your daily search for truth may not be as critical as Jessica’s, but like Jessica, you may use the following approach to find answers to questions you have:

Get the facts.

Do additional research.

Make sure your sources are credible.

This same process can help you find truthful answers to life’s big questions. How?



A UNIQUE BOOK OF TRUTH

When searching for Bible truth, Jessica used a similar approach to the one she uses when researching her daughter's food allergies. She says, "Careful reading and diligent research helped me find the truth in the Bible." Like Jessica, millions of people have learned what the Bible says about these questions:

Why are we here?

What happens at death?

Why is there suffering?

What is God doing to end all suffering?

How can we have a happy family life?

You can find truthful answers to these and other questions by reading the Bible and doing additional research online at www.jw.org.

This issue of
The Watchtower
will examine the
following questions:

Who is God?

Who is Jesus Christ?

What is the
Kingdom of God?

What does the
future hold?

First, though, let us begin by considering why we can trust the Bible as a reliable source of truth.



The Bible —A Reliable Source of Truth

Throughout history, people from many backgrounds have considered the Bible to be a reliable source of truth. Today, millions follow its teachings. Yet others dismiss the Bible as being irrelevant or fictitious. What do you think? Can you find truth in the Bible?

WHY YOU CAN TRUST THE BIBLE

How can you determine if the Bible merits your trust? Consider an illustration: If a friend consistently told you the truth over many years, you would likely consider him trustworthy. Has the Bible, like a trustworthy friend, consistently told the truth? Note some examples.



Truthful Writers

Bible writers were very honest, often revealing their own mistakes and failings. For example, the prophet Jonah wrote about his own disobedience. (Jonah 1:1-3) In fact, he concluded his Bible book by revealing how God chastised him, yet he made no mention of how he corrected his own attitude. (Jonah 4:1, 4, 10, 11) The honesty of all the Bible writers indicates their sincere concern for truth.

Practical Truth

Does the Bible always give sound advice about practical matters? It certainly does. For example, note what the Bible says about maintaining healthy relationships: “All things, therefore, that you want men to do to you, you also must do to them.” (Matthew 7:12) “A mild answer turns away rage, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” (Proverbs 15:1) Yes, Bible truths remain as practical today as the day they were written.



Historical Truth

Many archaeological discoveries over the years verify the existence of various peoples and places and the accuracy of events mentioned in the Bible. As an example, consider the evidence for one minor detail. The Bible states that in the time of Nehemiah, Tyrians (Phoenicians from Tyre) who lived in Jerusalem “were bringing in fish and all kinds of merchandise.”—Nehemiah 13:16.

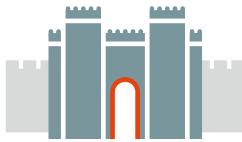
Is there any evidence to support this Bible verse? Yes, there is. Archaeologists have discovered Phoenician goods in Israel, suggesting trade between the two ancient nations. Furthermore, in Jerusalem, the remains of Mediterranean fish have been unearthed. Archaeologists believe that the fish were brought from the distant coast by merchants. After analyzing the evidence, one scholar concluded: “The statement in Neh[emiah] 13:16 that the Tyrians sold fish in Jerusalem is quite plausible.”



Scientific Truth

The Bible is primarily a religious and historical book. But when it touches on scientific matters, it harmonizes with true science. Note one example.

About 3,500 years ago, the Bible stated that the earth is suspended “upon nothing.” (Job 26:7) This differed greatly from the myths that described the earth as floating on water or being carried by a giant tortoise. Some 1,100 years after the book of Job was written, people continued to believe that the earth could not just hang in midair; it had to have something to rest upon. Only three hundred years ago, in 1687, Isaac Newton published his work on gravity and explained that the earth is held in orbit by an invisible force. This scientific milestone confirmed what the Bible had stated more than 3,000 years earlier!



Prophetic Truth

How accurate are the Bible's many prophecies? Consider one example: Isaiah's prophecy about the fall of Babylon.

The Prophecy: In the eighth century B.C.E., the Bible writer Isaiah declared that Babylon—which was only later to become the capital of a powerful empire—would be overthrown and eventually become uninhabited. (Isaiah 13:17-20) Isaiah even named the man who would carry this out—Cyrus. He also described Cyrus' strategy, stating that rivers would “dry up.” And he foretold that the city gates would be left open.—Isaiah 44:27-45:1.

The Fulfillment: Some 200 years after Isaiah's prophecy, a Persian king attacked Babylon. His name? Cyrus.

Because Babylon was heavily fortified, Cyrus turned his attention to the Euphrates River, which ran through the city. His men dug a canal upstream to divert the river into a marshland. This dropped the river level enough to make it possible for Cyrus' army to march through the thigh-deep water of the riverbed, which adjoined the city walls. Incredibly, the Babylonians had left the gates that faced the river open! Cyrus' army entered Babylon through the open gates and overthrew it.

However, one detail remained: Did Babylon become uninhabited? For some centuries, people continued living there. But today, Babylon's ruins—near Baghdad, Iraq—testify to the prophecy's complete fulfillment. Yes, the Bible is reliable even when it discusses future events.

A RELIABLE SOURCE OF TRUTH

These are only a few of numerous examples that have led many to consider the Bible to be not just trustworthy but “just as it truthfully is, as the word of God.”—1 Thessalonians 2:13.

But what truths does the Bible contain? Can these benefit you? The rest of this magazine will discuss some important Bible truths. We will begin with what the Bible reveals about its author—God.

The Truth About God and Christ

Although humans worship many gods, there is only one true God. (John 17:3) He is “the Supreme One,” the Creator of everything and the Source of all life. He alone is worthy of our worship.—Daniel 7:18; Revelation 4:11.

Who Is God?

What Is God’s Name? God himself says: “I am Jehovah. That is my name.” (Isaiah 42:8) The personal name of God appears some 7,000 times in the Bible. However, many Bible translations improperly substitute this name with a title, such as “Lord.” God wants you to be his friend, so he encourages you to “call on his name.”—Psalm 105:1.

Jehovah’s Titles. The Bible refers to Jehovah by such titles as “God,” “Almighty,” “Creator,” “Father,” “Lord,” and “Sovereign.” Many prayers are recorded in the Bible in which Jehovah is addressed by both a respectful title and his personal name, Jehovah.—Daniel 9:4.



God's Form. God is an invisible spirit. (John 4:24) The Bible confirms that “no man has seen God.” (John 1:18) The Bible reveals his feelings. People can cause him grief, or they can “bring pleasure to him.”—Proverbs 11:20; Psalm 78:40, 41.

God's Wonderful Attributes. God is impartial toward people of all nations and backgrounds. (Acts 10:34, 35) He is also “merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth.” (Exodus 34:6, 7) However, four attributes of God are especially appealing.

Power. Since he is “God Almighty,” he has unlimited power to accomplish whatever he promises.—Genesis 17:1.

Wisdom. God’s wisdom surpasses that of anyone else. In that sense the Bible says that he “alone is wise.”—Romans 16:27.

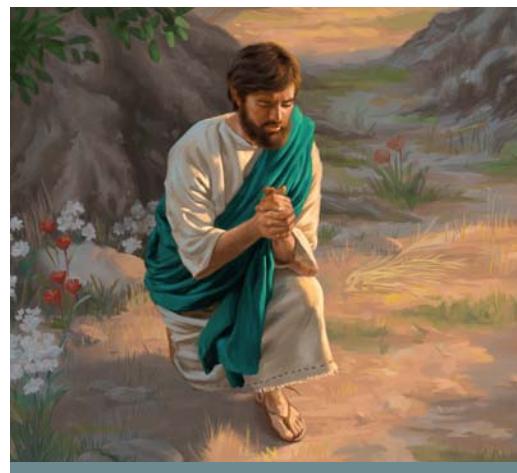
Justice. God always does what is right. His actions are “perfect,” and he “is never unjust.”—Deuteronomy 32:4.

Love. The Bible says that “God is love.” (1 John 4:8) Not only does God show love—he is the very personification of love. His superlative love influences everything he does, and it benefits us in many ways.

God's Friendship With Humans. God is our loving heavenly Father. (Matthew 6:9) If we put faith in him, we can be his friends. (Psalm 25:14) In fact, God invites you to draw close to him in prayer and to “throw all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.”—1 Peter 5:7; James 4:8.

What Is the Difference Between God and Christ?

Jesus Is Not God. Jesus is unique—he is the only person created directly by God. That is why the Bible calls him God’s Son. (John 1:14) After creating Jesus, Jehovah used his firstborn as “a master worker” to create everything and everyone else.—Proverbs 8:30, 31; Colossians 1:15, 16.



Jesus Christ never claimed to be God. Instead, he explained: “I am a representative from [God], and that One sent me.” (John 7:29) When speaking to one of his disciples, Jesus called Jehovah “my Father and your Father” and “my God and your God.” (John 20:17) After Jesus died, Jehovah resurrected him to life in heaven and gave him great authority at His right hand.—Matthew 28:18; Acts 2:32, 33.

Jesus Christ Can Help You Draw Close to God

Jesus came to the earth to teach us about his Father. Jehovah himself said about Jesus: “This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him.” (Mark 9:7) Jesus knows God better than anyone else. He said: “No one knows who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son is willing to reveal him.”—Luke 10:22.

Jesus reflects God’s qualities perfectly. Jesus imitated his Father’s qualities so closely that he could say: “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father also.” (John 14:9) Jesus drew people to God by reflecting his Father’s love in his own words and deeds. He said: “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6) He also said: “True worshippers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for indeed, the Father is looking for ones like these to worship him.” (John 4:23) Imagine that! Jehovah is looking for people like you who want to know the truth about him.



The Truth About the Kingdom of God

Jesus taught his followers to pray: “Our Father in the heavens, let your name be sanctified. Let your Kingdom come. Let your will take place, as in heaven, also on earth.” (Matthew 6:9, 10) What is God’s Kingdom? What does it do? And why should we pray for it?

Jesus is the King of God’s Kingdom.

Luke 1:31-33: “You are to name him Jesus. This one will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and Jehovah God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule as King over the house of Jacob forever, and there will be no end to his Kingdom.”

The Kingdom was the central theme of Jesus’ preaching.

Matthew 9:35: “Jesus set out on a tour of all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the good news of the Kingdom and curing every sort of disease and every sort of infirmity.”

Jesus gave his disciples a sign to help them know when the Kingdom was about to come.

Matthew 24:7: “For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be food shortages and earthquakes in one place after another.”

Jesus’ disciples now preach about the Kingdom earth wide.

Matthew 24:14: “And this good news of the Kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”



God's Kingdom—The Facts

Location. God's Kingdom is a real government set up by God in heaven.
—DANIEL 2:44; MATTHEW 4:17.

Purpose. God's Kingdom will transform the earth into a paradise home where all humans will live in peace and harmony and never get sick or die.—PSALM 37:11, 29.

Rulers. God appointed Jesus as the King to rule in heaven along with 144,000 coroners, who are bought from the earth.—LUKE 1:30-33; 12:32; REVELATION 14:1, 3.

Subjects. The subjects of the Kingdom will live on earth and willingly submit to Jesus' rulership and obey the Kingdom's laws.
—MATTHEW 7:21.

Why Jesus Is Best Qualified to Rule Mankind

While on earth, Jesus proved that he would be a capable and loving ruler because he

Showed concern for the poor.—LUKE 14:13, 14.

Hated corruption and injustice.—MATTHEW 21:12, 13.

Controlled the forces of nature.—MARK 4:39.

Fed thousands of people.
—MATTHEW 14:19-21.

Felt pity for the sick and cured all who were suffering.
—MATTHEW 8:16.

Raised the dead back to life.
—JOHN 11:43, 44.

How God's Kingdom Can Benefit You Now

You can live a happier life now if you become a subject of God's Kingdom. For example, subjects of the Kingdom

"Pursue peace with all people."
—HEBREWS 12:14.

Enjoy peace and unity in the family because marriage mates love and respect each other.
—EPHESIANS 5:22, 23, 33.

Have a happy and fulfilling life because of being "conscious of their spiritual need."—MATTHEW 5:3.

The Truth About the Future

Have you ever wondered what the future holds? The Bible shows that significant events just ahead of us will affect all people on earth.

Jesus explained how we would “know that the Kingdom of God is near.” (Luke 21:31) He prophesied that, among other things, there would be great wars, major earthquakes, food shortages, and pestilences—the very things we are witnessing today.
—Luke 21:10-17.

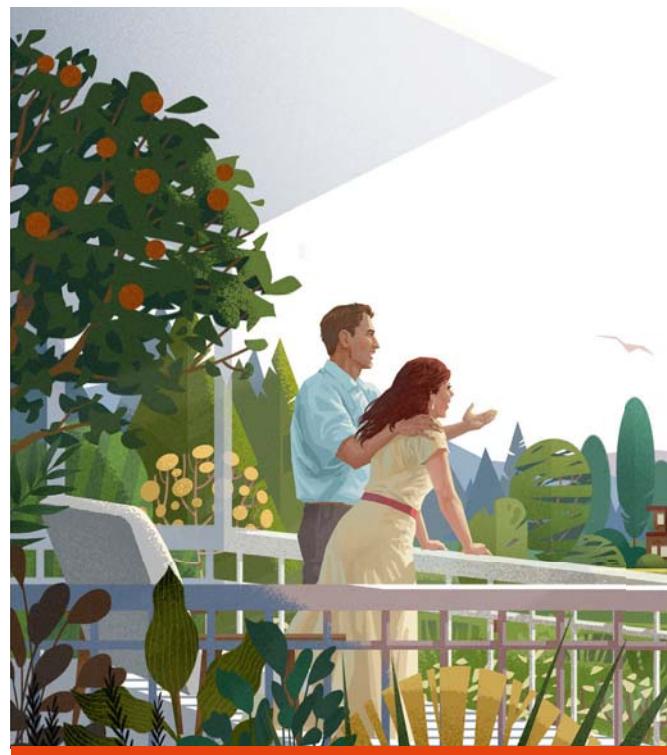
The Bible further shows that the “last days” of human rulership would be identified by the way people behave or, more precisely, misbehave. You can read the description at 2 Timothy 3:1-5. When you see these attitudes and actions today, no doubt you agree that this Bible prophecy closely matches what is happening now.

What does this mean? The time is near for God’s Kingdom to make big changes that will significantly affect life on earth for the better. (Luke 21:36) In the Bible, God promises good things for the earth and for the people who will live on it. Here are a few examples.

GOOD RULERSHIP

“And to him [Jesus] there were given rulership, honor, and a kingdom, that the peoples, nations, and language groups should all serve him. His rulership is an everlasting rulership that will not pass away, and his kingdom will not be destroyed.”—**DANIEL 7:14.**

What this means: You can enjoy life under a superior global government that God sets up with his Son as King.



GOOD HEALTH

“No resident will say: ‘I am sick.’”—**ISAIAH 33:24.**

What this means: You will never get sick or be disabled; you will be able to live without ever dying.



THE EARTH WILL BE FILLED WITH GOOD PEOPLE

“The wicked will be no more . . . The meek will possess the earth.”—**PSALM 37:10, 11.**

What this means: There will be no more evil people, only people eager to obey God.

TOTAL PEACE

“He is bringing an end to wars throughout the earth.”—**PSALM 46:9.**

What this means: There will be no more threat of war and all the suffering it causes.



THE EARTH WILL BE A GLOBAL PARADISE

“They will build houses and live in them, and they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit-age.”—**ISAIAH 65:21, 22.**

What this means: The whole earth will be made beautiful. God will fulfill our prayer that his will be done “on earth.”—Matthew 6:10.



WHAT THE TRUTH CAN DO FOR YOU

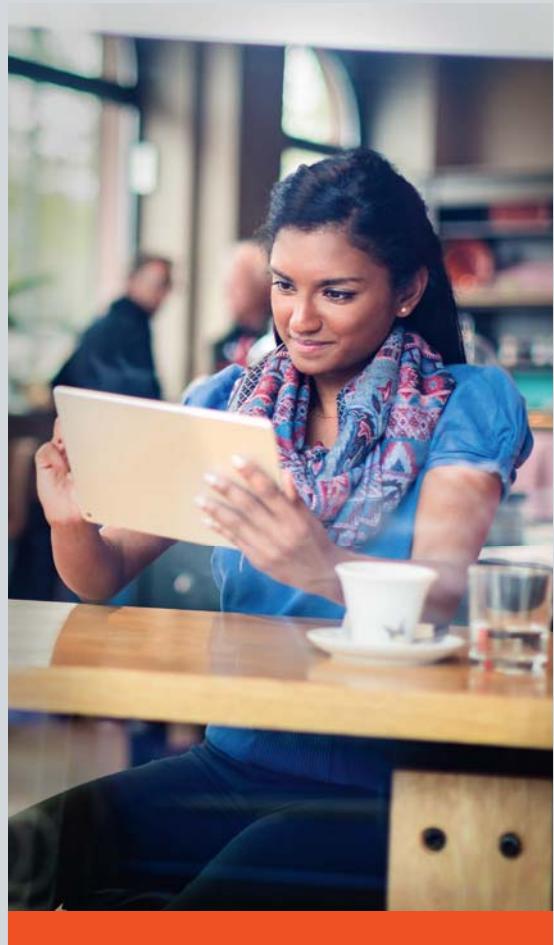
God, who can only ever speak truth, offers you the hope of “everlasting life.”—John 3:16.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

- Learn what God’s Word of truth says.—John 17:3, 17.
- Choose to obey God.—Deuteronomy 30:19, 20.
- Apply God’s practical guidance in your life.—James 1:25.

Jehovah’s Witnesses all over the world are experiencing the benefits of learning the truth from the Bible. They will be happy to share what they are learning with you.

To learn more about God’s purpose for humans, see chapter 3 of the book *What Can the Bible Teach Us?* published by Jehovah’s Witnesses and available online at www.jw.org.



PLEASE SEND ME A COPY OF *What Can the Bible Teach Us?*

For more information about how to draw close to God, see chapter 1 of this book, published by Jehovah’s Witnesses and available online at www.jw.org

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THE WATCHTOWER

ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM

WHAT IS GOD'S KINGDOM?



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“Thy Kingdom Come”

A PRAYER REPEATED BY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE

Have you ever prayed for God's Kingdom to come? Over the centuries, millions have repeated the words “Thy kingdom come.” Why have they prayed that way? Because Jesus told his followers to pray for God's Kingdom.

At first, Jesus' followers did not understand everything he said about the Kingdom. They once asked him: “Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?” They were probably surprised when Jesus did not give them a direct answer. (Acts 1:6, 7) Does that mean we cannot find out what God's Kingdom is and when it will come? Not at all!

This issue of *The Watchtower* will help you find answers to the following questions:

Why do we need God's Kingdom?
Who is the King of God's Kingdom?

When will God's Kingdom rule the earth?

What will God's Kingdom accomplish?

Why choose to support God's Kingdom now?

What is God's Kingdom?

Why Do We Need God's Kingdom?

At the start of human history, our Creator, whose name is Jehovah, was the only Ruler. He governed in a loving way. He made a beautiful home—a garden in Eden—for humans to live in. He also provided an abundance of food for them. In addition, he gave humans meaningful work to do. (Genesis 1:28, 29; 2:8, 15) Mankind would have enjoyed peace if they had remained under God's loving rulership.

The Bible reveals that a rebellious angel, later called Satan the Devil, challenged God's right to rule. He implied that humans would be happier without God's direction and rulership. Sadly, our first parents, Adam and Eve, followed Satan's course and rebelled against God.—Genesis 3:1-6; Revelation 12:9.

Because Adam and Eve rejected God as their Ruler, they lost their Paradise home and the hope of living forever in perfect health. (Genesis 3:17-19) Their decision also affected the children they eventually had. The Bible says that because Adam sinned, “sin entered into the world and death through sin.” (Romans 5:12) Sin led to another tragic result: “Man has dominated man to his harm.” (Ecclesiastes 8:9) In other words, when hu-

mans rule themselves, problems are bound to come.

HUMAN RULERSHIP APPEARS

The first human ruler mentioned in the Bible was Nimrod. And he rebelled against Jehovah's rulership. Ever since Nimrod's day, powerful men have abused their positions of authority. Some 3,000 years ago, King Solomon wrote: “I saw the tears of the oppressed, and there was no one to comfort them. And their oppressors had the power.”—Ecclesiastes 4:1.

Things are no different today. In 2009, a United Nations publication said that bad rulership is increasingly being viewed as “one of the root causes of all evil within our societies.”

TIME FOR ACTION!

The world needs better rulers and a better form of government. And that is what our Creator has promised!

God has set up a Kingdom, or government, that will replace all human rule, and “it alone will stand forever.” (Daniel 2:44) This is the Kingdom for which millions have been praying. (Matthew 6:9, 10) But God will not rule this government himself. Instead, he has appointed someone who lived as a human to be the Ruler. Whom has God chosen?



Under God's rulership,
all creation was united
and at peace



The first humans
rejected God as
their Ruler



Nimrod rebelled against
Jehovah



Even the best human
governments have
failed to solve mankind's
serious problems



Who Is the King of God's Kingdom?

God had several Bible writers record details identifying the One who would become the King of God's Kingdom. This Ruler would be

Chosen by God. "I myself have installed my king . . . I will give nations as your inheritance and the ends of the earth as your possession."—Psalm 2:6, 8.

An heir of King David. "A child has been born to us, a son has been given to us . . . To the increase of his rulership and to peace, there will be no end, on the throne of David and on his kingdom in order to establish it firmly."—Isaiah 9:6, 7.

Born in Bethlehem. "O Bethlehem . . . , from you will come out for me the one to be ruler . . . His greatness will reach the ends of the earth."—Micah 5:2, 4.

Rejected by men and executed. "He was despised, and we held him as of no account. . . . He was pierced for our transgression; he was crushed for our errors."—Isaiah 53:3, 5.

Raised from the dead and glorified. "You will not leave me in the Grave. You will not allow your loyal one to see the pit. . . . There is happiness at your right hand forever."—Psalm 16:10, 11.



Jesus Christ Ideally Qualified

In all human history, only one person has fit the description of an ideal Ruler; that person is Jesus Christ. In fact, an angel had told Mary, Jesus' mother: "God will give him the throne of David his father, . . . and there will be no end to his Kingdom."—Luke 1:31-33.

Jesus never became a ruler on earth. Rather, he is to rule mankind from heaven as King of God's Kingdom. What makes him an ideal Ruler? Consider what Jesus did while on earth.



- **Jesus cared for people.** Jesus helped men and women, young and old, regardless of their background or status. (Matthew 9:36; Mark 10:16) When a leper pleaded: “If you just want to, you can make me clean,” Jesus was moved with pity and cured him.—Mark 1: 40-42.
- **Jesus taught us how to please God.** He said: “You cannot slave for God and for Riches.” He also said that we must treat others as we would like others to treat us—a principle that has come to be called the Golden Rule. In addition, he showed that God is interested not only in what we do but also in how we think and feel. So to please God, we must control what we feel in our heart. (Matthew 5:28; 6:24; 7:12) Jesus emphasized that for us to be truly happy, we

must learn what God wants us to do and then do it.—Luke 11:28.

- **Jesus taught what it means to love.** Jesus’ words and actions were powerful and touched his listeners’ hearts. “The crowds were astounded at his way of teaching, for he was teaching them as a person having authority.” (Matthew 7:28, 29) He taught them: “Love your enemies.” He even prayed in behalf of some of those who were responsible for his death: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” —Matthew 5:44; Luke 23:34.

Jesus is perfectly qualified to be an effective world Ruler who is helpful and kind. But when does he begin to rule?

When Will God's Kingdom Rule the Earth?

Some of Jesus' faithful followers wanted to know when God's Kingdom would begin ruling. Jesus answered their question by saying that they would not know exactly when it would rule over the earth. (Acts 1:6, 7) But, earlier, he had told them that when his followers saw a certain group of events happening all at once, they would "know that the Kingdom of God [was] near" and that the time for it to rule the world had come.—Luke 21:31.

WHAT EVENTS DID JESUS SAY WOULD HAPPEN?

Jesus said: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in one place after another food shortages and pestilences." (Luke 21:10, 11) Like the lines that form a fingerprint, all these events together form an unmistakable sign. And just as a fingerprint identifies a person, these events happening at the same time identify that "the Kingdom of God is near." Have such events occurred together and become visible on a worldwide scale? Consider the evidence.



1 WARS

In 1914, war broke out on a scale never seen before in all human history! Historians often refer to the year 1914 as a turning point in history because it is when the first-ever world war began. That war introduced the first large-scale use of tanks, aerial bombs, machine guns, poisonous gas, and other deadly weapons. It was followed by the second world war, a war that gave birth to atomic weapons. Mankind has been fighting wars in one place or another ever since 1914, and those wars have killed millions of people.



2 EARTHQUAKES

Every year there are about 100 earthquakes that are large enough to cause "substantial damage," says *Britannica Academic*. And the United States Geological Survey reports that "according to long-term records (since about 1900), we expect about 16 major earthquakes in any given year." Though some might attribute the apparent increase in earthquakes to better detection, the fact is that great earthquakes around the world are causing suffering and loss of life on an unprecedented scale.



3 FOOD SHORTAGES

Food shortages occur worldwide because of war, corruption, economic collapse, poor management of agriculture, or lack of planning for extreme weather. The World Food Programme's "2018 Year in Review" states: "Across the world, 821 million people are going hungry—124 million acutely so." Malnutrition has contributed to the death of about 3.1 million children each year. In the year 2011, this was the cause of about 45 percent of all child deaths worldwide.



4 DISEASES AND EPIDEMICS

A World Health Organization publication states: "The 21st century has already been marked by major epidemics. Old diseases—cholera, plague and yellow fever—have returned, and new ones have emerged—SARS, pandemic influenza, MERS, Ebola and Zika." Even though scientists and doctors have learned much about sicknesses, they have not been able to find a cure for all diseases.



5 A WORLDWIDE PREACHING WORK

Jesus pointed out another part of the sign when he foretold: "This good news of the Kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:14) While the world is experiencing terrible problems, over eight million people from all nations are declaring the good news of God's Kingdom in 240 lands and in over 1,000 languages. This has never happened before in human history.

WHAT DOES THE SIGN MEAN FOR US?

The events making up the sign Jesus gave are happening today. Why should we be interested in that fact? Because Jesus said: “When you see these things happening, know that the Kingdom of God is near.”—Luke 21:31.

The sign that Jesus gave, along with Bible chronology, helps us understand that God set up his Kingdom in heaven in the year 1914.* At that time, he installed his Son, Jesus Christ, as King. (Psalm 2:2, 4, 6-9)

* For details regarding the year 1914, see the book *What Can the Bible Teach Us?* published by Jehovah's Witnesses, endnote 22, pages 217-220.

Soon, God's Kingdom will rule the earth, and it will remove all rival rulerships and make the earth a paradise for humans to live in forever.

Shortly, the words of the model prayer that Jesus taught will be fulfilled: “Let your Kingdom come. Let your will take place, as in heaven, also on earth.” (Matthew 6:10) What, though, has the Kingdom been doing since it took power in 1914? And what can we look forward to when the Kingdom takes complete rulership of mankind?



Soon, the Kingdom
will ensure that
God's will is done
on earth

What Will God's Kingdom Accomplish?

Jesus taught his disciples to pray for the Kingdom to come. He knew that the terrible things happening on the earth are not what God wants and that God's Kingdom is the only government that can fix these problems. What will God's Kingdom accomplish?

WHAT GOD'S KINGDOM HAS ALREADY DONE

In the preceding article, we considered the sign Jesus gave. That sign provides visible proof that God's Kingdom has been established in heaven with Jesus Christ as King.

The Bible says that on taking Kingdom power, Jesus would expel Satan and his demons from heaven. Their activity is now restricted to the earth, which is one of the reasons why things have become so bad since the year 1914.—Revelation 12:7, 9.

Despite worsening world conditions, Jesus, as King of God's Kingdom, has done things to help people around the earth. Thanks to the worldwide Bible educational work that Jesus foretold, many are learning and applying Bible principles in their daily life. (Isaiah 2:2-4) Millions have learned to have a balanced view of work, to improve their family life, and to enjoy material things without becoming slaves to them. These people are learning to benefit themselves now and are becoming the kind of people God wants as subjects of his Kingdom.



God's Kingdom will undo all the harm that millenniums of human rule have done. It will provide

PERFECT HEALTH



PEACE AND SECURITY



WHAT WILL GOD'S KINGDOM ACCOMPLISH NEXT?

Although Jesus is already ruling in heaven, human governments still rule on earth. However, God has directed Jesus: “Go subduing in the midst of your enemies.” (Psalm 110:2) Soon, Jesus will completely destroy all opposers and bring relief to those who are willing to obey God.

During that time, God’s Kingdom will take action to

- **Abolish false religion.** Religions that have taught lies about God and that have made life difficult for people will be gone. The Bible portrays false religion as a prostitute. Its destruction will come as a shock to many.—Revelation 17:15, 16.

- **End human rulership.** God’s Kingdom will take action to put an end to all human rulership.—Revelation 19:15, 17, 18.

- **Remove wicked people.** What about those who are determined to do what is bad and who refuse to obey God? “As for the wicked, they will be cut off from the earth.”—Proverbs 2:22.

- **Eliminate Satan and the demons.** Satan and the demons will be unable to “mislead the nations anymore.”—Revelation 20:3, 10.

What will all of this mean for those who accept God’s Kingdom?

MEANINGFUL WORK



A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT



WHAT GOD'S KINGDOM WILL DO FOR MANKIND

Ruling as King in heaven, Jesus will accomplish much more than any human ruler ever could. He will be assisted by 144,000 counselors, who are chosen from among mankind. (Revelation 5:9, 10; 14:1, 3) He will make sure that God's will is carried out here on earth. What will God's Kingdom do for earth's inhabitants?

- **Eliminate sickness and death.** “No resident will say: ‘I am sick,’” and “death will be no more.”—Isaiah 33:24; Revelation 21:4.
- **Ensure true peace and security.** “The peace of your sons will be abundant,” and “they will sit, each one under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one will make them afraid.”—Isaiah 54:13; Micah 4:4.

● **Provide meaningful work.** “The work of their hands my chosen ones will enjoy to the full. They will not toil for nothing.”—Isaiah 65:22, 23.

● **Solve environmental problems.** “The wilderness and the parched land will exult, and the desert plain will be joyful and blossom as the saffron.”—Isaiah 35:1.

● **Teach people what they need to do in order to live forever.** “This means everlasting life, their coming to know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ.”—John 17:3.

God wants you to enjoy those blessings. (Isaiah 48:18) The next article will explain what you can do now to be part of this wonderful future.

Choose to Support God's Kingdom Now!

Imagine that a devastating hurricane is approaching your area. Government agencies are broadcasting urgent warnings: "GET OUT! SEEK REFUGE NOW!" What would be the wise thing to do? Head for a safe place, certainly.

In a sense, all of us are living in the path of a devastating "storm," which Jesus called a "great tribulation." (Matthew 24:21) We cannot simply get out of the path of that tribulation. But we can do something to protect ourselves. What is that?

In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus Christ gave this direction: "Keep on, then, seeking first [God's] Kingdom and his righteousness." (Matthew 6:33) How do we do that?

Seek first the Kingdom of God. This means that we should view God's Kingdom as being more important than anything else. (Matthew 6:25, 32, 33) Why should we view it that way? Because humans are just not able to solve mankind's problems. Only God's Kingdom can accomplish that difficult job.

Seek his righteousness. We should try our best to live by God's righteous laws and principles. Why? Because if we decide for ourselves what is right and what is wrong, the results will be bad. (Proverbs 16:25) On the other hand, if we live by God's standards, we not only please God but also benefit ourselves.—Isaiah 48:17, 18.

Keep on seeking first God's Kingdom and his righteousness. Jesus warned that some might get sidetracked, thinking they can find security in making as much money as possi-

Around the world,
millions have taken
steps to support
God's Kingdom



1 > Listen to the Kingdom good news



2 > Carefully examine the Scriptures

ble. Others may let anxieties of life overwhelm them to the point that they have no time to seek God's Kingdom.—Matthew 6:19-21, 25-32.

However, Jesus promised that those who support God's Kingdom will have what they need now and enjoy endless blessings in the future.—Matthew 6:33.

Even though Jesus' disciples in the first century were seeking first God's Kingdom and his righteousness, they did not see the end of all pain and suffering in their lifetime. But they were protected. How?

They lived by God's righteous standards, and that protected them from the difficulties suffered by those who ignored what God said. Their strong faith that the Kingdom would come helped them to face even the severest of problems. And God gave them “the power beyond what is normal” so that they could cope.—2 Corinthians 4:7-9.

WILL YOU SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM?

Christians in the first century obeyed Jesus' command to seek first the Kingdom. They

preached the Kingdom good news throughout their part of the world. (Colossians 1:23) Is anyone doing that today?

Yes! Jehovah's Witnesses realize that the time left before God's Kingdom brings an end to this current system of things is short. So they do all they can to live by Jesus' words: “This good news of the Kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”—Matthew 24:14.

How will you respond to the good news? We urge you to imitate the first-century inhabitants of the Macedonian city of Beroea. When they heard the good news about the Kingdom from the apostle Paul, they accepted his message “with the greatest eagerness of mind.” Then they ‘carefully examined the Scriptures’ to verify what they had heard, and they acted on what they learned.—Acts 17:11, 12.

You can do the same. By seeking first God's Kingdom and his righteousness, you will find refuge and protection now and enjoy lasting peace and security in the future.



3 > Associate with those who support the Kingdom

4 > Show God that you want to serve him

To learn more about the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses, visit our website, jw.org.

Information is available there in over 1,000 languages.

GOD'S KINGDOM —WHAT IS IT?

Many people pray for God's Kingdom to come, but have you ever wondered what God's Kingdom is and what it will do?

CONSIDER WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS:

What is God's Kingdom?

It is a heavenly government ruled by Jesus Christ as King.—Isaiah 9:6, 7; Matthew 5:3; Luke 1:31-33.

What will God's Kingdom accomplish?

It will put an end to all bad things and bring lasting peace to people on earth.
—Daniel 2:44; Matthew 6:10.

What does it mean to seek first the Kingdom?

It means to support God's Kingdom and to trust that only it will make conditions on earth the way God wants them to be.—Matthew 6:33; 13:44.



PLEASE SEND ME A COPY OF *What Can the Bible Teach Us?*

What Can the
Bible Teach Us?



For more information about God's Kingdom, see chapter 8 of this book, published by Jehovah's Witnesses and available online at www.jw.org

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THE WATCHTOWER

ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM



**LASTING
BLESSINGS FROM
A LOVING GOD**



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What blessings has God promised mankind? Can you trust his written Word? The following articles will examine some divine promises, explain why you can believe in them, and reveal how you can be the happy recipient of these promised blessings.



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THIS MAGAZINE, *The Watchtower*, honors Jehovah God, the Ruler of the universe. It comforts people with the good news that God's heavenly Kingdom will soon end all wickedness and transform the earth into a paradise. It promotes faith in Jesus Christ, who died so that we might gain everlasting life and who is now ruling as King of God's Kingdom. This magazine has been published continuously since 1879 and is nonpolitical. It adheres to the Bible as its authority.

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You Can Enjoy Eternal Blessings From a Loving God

Our loving God, the Creator of our beautiful planet, has promised to bless mankind with life in peaceful, happy conditions forever. This is not a dream.

In the following articles, we invite you to consider:

Do you long for a world free of warfare, violence, and strife?

Do you wish that there were no more sickness, suffering, and death?

Do you yearn to be free of worry and anxiety?

Do you wish to live in a place that does not get devastated by natural disasters?

How our Creator feels about mankind

What God's written Word reveals to us

What God's prophets revealed about his promised blessings

What we can do to be happy now and to receive eternal blessings in God's due time

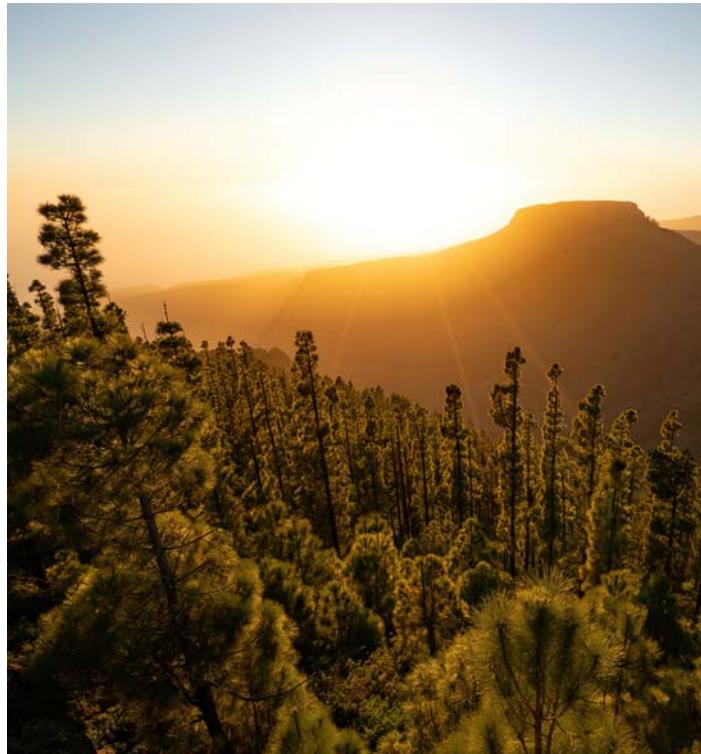
Let us begin by examining the Creator's loving concern for his human creation.

Our Loving Creator Cares About Us

1

OUR CREATOR MAKES THE SUN RISE

Can you imagine life on earth without sunlight? The sun provides energy for trees to produce leaves, flowers, fruit, nuts, and seeds. It also makes trees draw water from the soil through the roots and up to the leaves and then into the air as water vapor.



2

OUR CREATOR MAKES IT RAIN

Rain is a precious gift from God that enables the earth to produce food for us to eat. God gives us rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying us with food and filling our hearts with gladness.

3

OUR CREATOR PROVIDES FOOD AND CLOTHING

Many human fathers are anxious about getting enough food and clothing for their families. Note what the Scriptures say: “Observe intently the birds of heaven; they do not sow seed or reap or gather into storehouses, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth more than they are?”—Matthew 6:25, 26.

“Take a lesson from the lilies of the field, how they grow . . . ; but I tell you that not even [King] Solomon in all his glory was arrayed as one of these. Now if this is how God clothes the vegetation of the field . . . , will he not much rather clothe you?”—Matthew 6:28-30.

Since God can provide us with food and clothing, surely he can also help us find other necessities of life. If we seek to do God’s will, he can bless our efforts to grow food or he can help us find employment so that we can buy what we need.—Matthew 6:32, 33.



Truly, we have good reasons to love God when we consider the sun, rain, birds, and flowers. The following article will discuss how our Creator has communicated with mankind.

Our Creator “makes his sun rise . . . and makes it rain.”

—MATTHEW 5:45

Our Creator deeply loves and cares for us. Like a loving father, he looks after his family. The Holy Scriptures describe God as a generous Provider who “knows what you need even before you ask him.”—Matthew 6:8.

How the Creator Reveals His Loving Promises

Since the creation of mankind, our Creator has communicated with people through angels and prophets. In addition, he chose to have his message and promised blessings put in writing. These promises from God affect your future. So where can you find God's promises today?

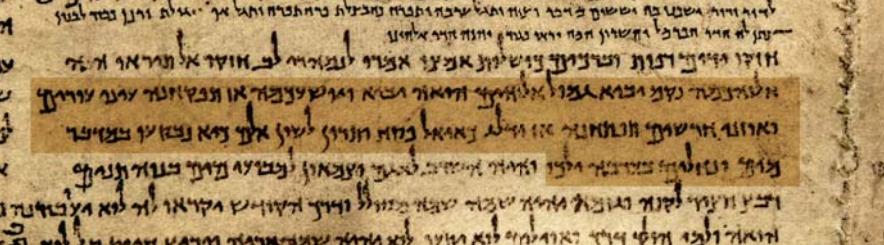
God's message to us is contained in the Holy Scriptures. (2 Timothy 3:16) How did God use prophets to write his message? (2 Peter 1:21) God put his thoughts in the minds of the writers, who then wrote them down. It is similar today. If a businessman uses a secretary to write a message on his behalf, we still acknowledge the businessman as the author of the message. Likewise, even though God used men to write his message, he is the real Author of the Sacred Writings.

Just as a businessman uses a secretary to write for him, God used some faithful humans to put the Holy Scriptures in writing

GOD'S WORD IS WIDELY AVAILABLE

God's message is so important that he wants all people to read and understand it. Today his "everlasting good news" is readily available to "every nation and tribe and language." (Revelation 14:6, footnote) With God's blessing, the Sacred Writings are available in whole or in part in over 3,000 languages, many more than any other book on earth.





A portion of the book of Isaiah from the Dead Sea Scrolls pictured above a modern translation of Isaiah in Arabic. The message of God's Word survives unchanged

وَجِلْصَمٌ
وَجِئَنَدْ تَفَقَّعُ عَيْنُ الْعَيْ وَأَذَانُ الْأَصْمَ تَفَقَّعُ ۚ جِئَنَدْ يَقْرُبُ الْأَعْرَجُ كَالْأَبْلِي
وَتَرَمْ لِسَانُ الْأَخْرَسُ لَأَنَّهُ قَدْ أَغْبَرَتْ فِي الْمَرْيَةِ مِيَاهُ وَأَهْمَارُ فِي الْفَغْرِ ۚ وَيَصِيرُ
السَّرَابُ أَجْهَمًا وَالْمَهْطَشَةُ بَنَائِعُ مَاءٍ فِي مَسْكِنِ الْذِئَابِ فِي مَرْيَضَهَا دَارُ الْنَّصَبِ
وَالْبَرْدَى ۖ وَتَكُونُ هُنَاكَ سِكَّةٌ وَطَرَيقٌ يُقَالُ لَهَا الْطَّرِيقُ الْمَقْدَسَةُ لَا يَعْبُرُ فِيهَا

Has God's Written Word Been Changed?

Some people wonder if God's written Word has been changed. The prophet Isaiah stated that God's word "endures forever." (Isaiah 40:8) How can we be sure that God's promises have been preserved accurately?

God has the power to preserve his Word and to prevent it from being corrupted. In ancient times, when handwritten copies were made, careful copyists counted every letter of the holy text to be certain nothing was added, changed, or omitted. Still, humans are imperfect, and some copyists made slight errors.

HOW CAN WE BE SURE THAT TODAY'S HOLY SCRIPTURES CONTAIN GOD'S ORIGINAL MESSAGE?

There are thousands of copies of ancient manuscripts of the Holy Scriptures. If one copy has even the slightest difference, it can be compared with other copies to establish the truth.—To learn more, see the article "Has the Bible Been Changed or Tampered With?" on jw.org.

Consider, for example, the ancient documents called the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered by bedouins in caves near the Dead Sea in 1947. These ancient writings contain parts of the Holy Scriptures dating back over two thousand years. Experts compared these ancient manuscripts with the Holy Scriptures we have today. What did they find?

Scholars found that the contents of God's Word that we have today reflect the original writings.* A careful examination of older manuscripts confirms that what we read in the Holy Scriptures is God's original message. We can be sure that God has diligently preserved the accuracy of his Holy Writings for us today.

We can, therefore, read God's Word with complete trust and confidence in its accuracy. With that in mind, let us next examine what we can learn about God from his prophets.

* *The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English*, by Geza Vermes, page 16.

We Learn About God From His Prophets

In the past, God gave his prophets important messages for humankind. Can these messages show us how to receive God's blessing? Yes, they can. Let us see what we can learn from three faithful prophets.

ABRAHAM

God is impartial and wants to bless all humans.

God promised the prophet Abraham that "all the families of the ground will certainly be blessed by means of you."—Genesis 12:3.

What do we learn? God loves us very much and wants to bless all families—men, women, and children—who obey him.

MOSES

God is merciful and blesses those who make an effort to know him.

The Almighty gave the prophet Moses the power to perform great miracles. Yet, Moses prayed: "Make me know your ways, so that I may know you and continue to find favor in your eyes." (Exodus 33:13) God was pleased with Moses' request and blessed him with more knowledge and understanding of His ways and qualities. For example, Moses learned that the Creator is "a God merciful and compassionate."—Exodus 34:6, 7.

What do we learn? God wants to bless all of us—men, women, and children—if we strive to come to know him better. He shows us in the Holy Scriptures how to worship him and that he is eager to grant us his favor and blessing.



JESUS

We can enjoy God's everlasting blessings if we learn about Jesus and what he did and taught.

God's Word contains many details of Jesus' life and teachings. God gave Jesus the power to perform many powerful miracles, such as curing the blind, the deaf, and the lame. He even brought the dead back to life. Jesus thus demonstrated the blessings that God will bring to all mankind in the future. He explained how each of us can enjoy those blessings: "This means everlasting life, their coming to know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ." —John 17:3.

Jesus was compassionate, tender, and kind. Men and women, young and old, flocked to him in response to his warm invitation: "Learn from me, for I am mild-tempered and lowly in heart, and you will find refreshment for yourselves." (Matthew 11:29) Unlike others of his time who mistreated women, Jesus treated women with kindness, dignity, and respect.

What do we learn? Jesus showed profound love for people, and he set an outstanding example of how we should treat one another.



Jesus compassionately cured all kinds of ailments

JESUS IS NOT GOD

The Holy Scriptures teach that "there is actually to us one God" and that Jesus Christ was God's humble messenger. (1 Corinthians 8:6) Jesus stated clearly that God is superior to him and that God sent him to the earth. —John 11:41, 42; 14:28.*

* To learn more about Jesus Christ, see sections 8 and 9 of the brochure *Real Faith—Your Key to a Happy Life* available online at www.jw.org.

Keep Praying for God's Favor

God gave humans a unique gift—the ability to communicate with him and to express their feelings to him by means of prayer. The prophet David prayed: "O Hearer of prayer, to you people of all sorts will come." (Psalm 65:2) But how can we pray in order to be heard and blessed by God?

OFFER HUMBLE, HEARTFELT PRAYERS

Your personal prayers allow you to pour out your heart before God—to convey your true feelings. (Psalm 62:8) The Almighty cherishes sincere prayers from the heart.

ADDRESS GOD BY HIS PERSONAL NAME

Although God has many titles, he has only one personal name. "I am Jehovah. That is my name." (Isaiah 42:8) The name Jehovah appears some 7,000 times in the Holy Scriptures. Many prophets addressed God by his personal name. Abraham said: "Jehovah, please, . . . let me go on speaking [with you]." (Genesis 18:30) We too should use God's name, Jehovah, when we pray.

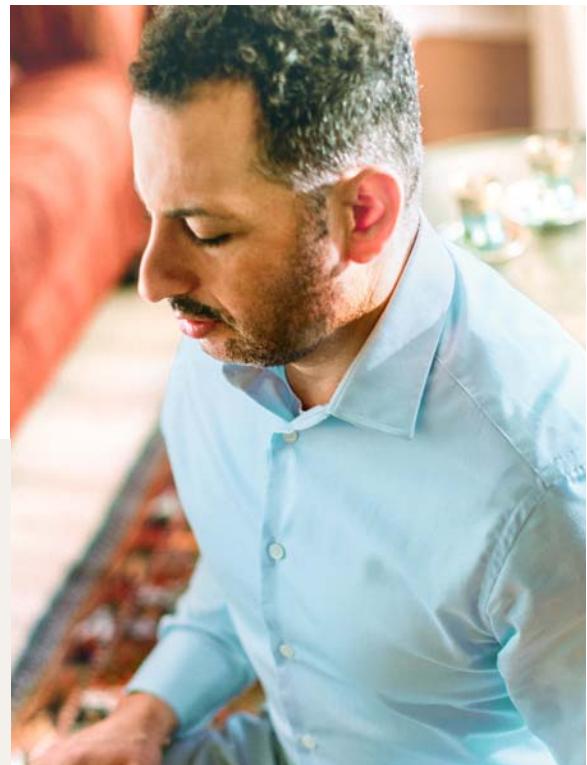
God, the "Hearer of prayer,"
is pleased to listen to us.

—PSALM 65:2

PRAY IN YOUR OWN LANGUAGE

God understands our thoughts and feelings no matter what language we speak. His Word assures us: "God is not partial, but in every nation the man who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him."—Acts 10:34, 35.

However, to be blessed by God, we need to do more than pray. In the following articles, we will examine what we need to do.





We can enjoy true
happiness by observing
God's commandments

Blessings for Those Who Obey God

The prophet Moses said that if we obey God's commandments, we will receive God's blessing. (Deuteronomy 10:13; 11:27) We do not obey God because we fear his punishment. God's beautiful qualities motivate us to obey him because we love him and want to avoid doing something that may sadden him. "This is what the love of God means, that we observe his commandments."—1 John 5:3.

But how does obedience to God result in his blessing? Consider two ways.

1. OBEDIENCE WILL MAKE US WISE

"I, Jehovah, am your God, the One teaching you to benefit yourself, . . . guiding you in the way you should walk."—ISAIAH 48:17.

Jehovah God, our Creator, knows us and provides the guidance we need. If we want his teachings to help us make wise decisions, we must learn from the Holy Scriptures what God wants us to do and then put those teachings into practice.

2. OBEDIENCE WILL MAKE US HAPPY

"Happy are those hearing the word of God and keeping it!"—LUKE 11:28.

Today, millions who heed the Word of God enjoy true happiness. For example, consider a man in Spain who had an explosive temper and treated others harshly—including his wife. One day he read in the writings of the prophet Moses about the mild character of Joseph, the son of Jacob. Joseph was sold as a slave and unjustly imprisoned; yet, he remained mild, peaceable, and forgiving. (Genesis, chapters 37-45) The man in Spain admits: "Thinking about Joseph's example motivated me to cultivate mildness, kindness, and self-control. As a result, I now enjoy a happy life."

The Holy Scriptures provide more guidance on how we should treat others. Consider this in greater detail in the next article.

How to Show Love to Our Fellow Man

As descendants of the first man, Adam, we are all one family. Even though members of a family are expected to love and respect one another, nowadays it is hard to find such love. This is not what our loving God wants.

WHAT THE HOLY SCRIPTURES SAY ABOUT LOVE

“You must love your fellow man as yourself.”—LEVITICUS 19:18.

“Continue to love your enemies.”—MATTHEW 5:44.

WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE FELLOW HUMANS

Note how God describes love in his Word at 1 Corinthians 13:4-7:

“Love is patient and kind.”

Consider: How do you feel when others are patient and kind with you and do not react angrily to your mistakes?

“Love is not jealous.”

Consider: How do you feel when others are overly suspicious or envious of you?

Love “does not look for its own interests.”

Consider: How do you feel when others are willing to respect your views and do not always insist on their own opinion?

Love “does not keep account of the injury.”

Consider: God is willing to forgive repentant people who have wronged him. “He will not always find fault, nor will he stay resentful.” (Psalm 103:9) We appreciate it when someone that we have offended forgives us. So we should be ready to forgive others when they offend us.—Psalm 86:5.

Love “does not rejoice over unrighteousness.”

Consider: When something bad happens to us, we do not like others to rejoice over our suffering. So we do not rejoice when others suffer hardship, even if they have mistreated us.

To enjoy God’s blessing, we must love others in these ways regardless of who they are. One practical way we can do this is by helping those in need.

Love compels us to put the interests of others ahead of our own





Can you help others regardless of their age, nationality, or religion?

Blessings for Those Who Help Someone in Need

Many people around the world live in need of food and shelter. Some simply need a hope for the future. How will our efforts to help such ones lead to God's approval and blessing?

WHAT THE HOLY SCRIPTURES SAY

"The one showing favor to the lowly is lending to Jehovah, and He will repay him for what he does."—PROVERBS 19:17.

WHAT IT MEANS TO HELP SOMEONE IN NEED

Jesus told a parable about a man who had been attacked by robbers and left for dead. (Luke 10:29-37) A helpful stranger stopped and cared for the badly injured man. He did this despite being from a different ethnic background.

This kind man not only gave the injured man first aid and material support but also comforted him and brought him relief from his distress.

What do we learn from this parable? Jesus was showing that we should help those in need in whatever way we can. (Proverbs 14:

31) The Holy Scriptures teach that God will soon put an end to poverty and suffering. We may wonder, though, how and when will God do that? The following article will discuss the blessings that your loving Creator has in store for you.

"GOD HAS NEVER ABANDONED ME"!

Told by an immigrant from Gambia

"When I arrived in Europe, I had nothing—no work, no money, and no home. The teachings from the Holy Scriptures have helped me to be resourceful, to work hard, and to help others instead of simply asking for help. God has never abandoned me, and I have experienced his blessing!"

Enjoy Our Creator's Blessings Forever

God promised the prophet Abraham that one of his descendants would bring blessings to “all nations of the earth.” (Genesis 22:18) Who would that descendant be?

Almost 2,000 years ago, God gave Jesus, who was a descendant of Abraham, the power to perform powerful miracles. Those miracles indicated that the promise made to Abraham would come to the nations by means of Jesus.—Galatians 3:14.

The miracles Jesus performed helped identify him as the one whom God has chosen to bless mankind, and they also demonstrated how God will use him to bless mankind eternally. Notice how Jesus’ miracles highlight some of his appealing qualities.

Tenderness—Jesus healed the sick.

Once, a leper begged Jesus to heal him. Jesus touched him and responded: “I want to!” Immediately, the leprosy vanished.—Mark 1: 40-42.

Generosity—Jesus fed the hungry.

Jesus did not want people to go hungry. On more than one occasion, he miraculously fed thousands of people by multiplying a few loaves and a few small fish. (Matthew 14:17-21; 15:32-38) After eating, all were satisfied and an abundance of food was left over.

Compassion—Jesus raised the dead.

“Moved with pity,” Jesus raised from the dead the only son of a grieving widow who had no one else to look after her.—Luke 7: 12-15.



“The earth will give its produce; God, our God, will bless us.”—PSALM 67:6



ETERNAL BLESSINGS ON EARTH

Jesus has already demonstrated that God has the power to bring blessings to mankind. Soon, when Jesus returns, as he promised, the Almighty will use him to perform even greater miracles earth wide!

What will life on earth be like when God fulfills the promise he made to Abraham? Those who love and respect God “will pos-

sess the earth” and will find “exquisite delight in the abundance of peace.” (Psalm 37:11) “Death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore.”—Revelation 21:4.

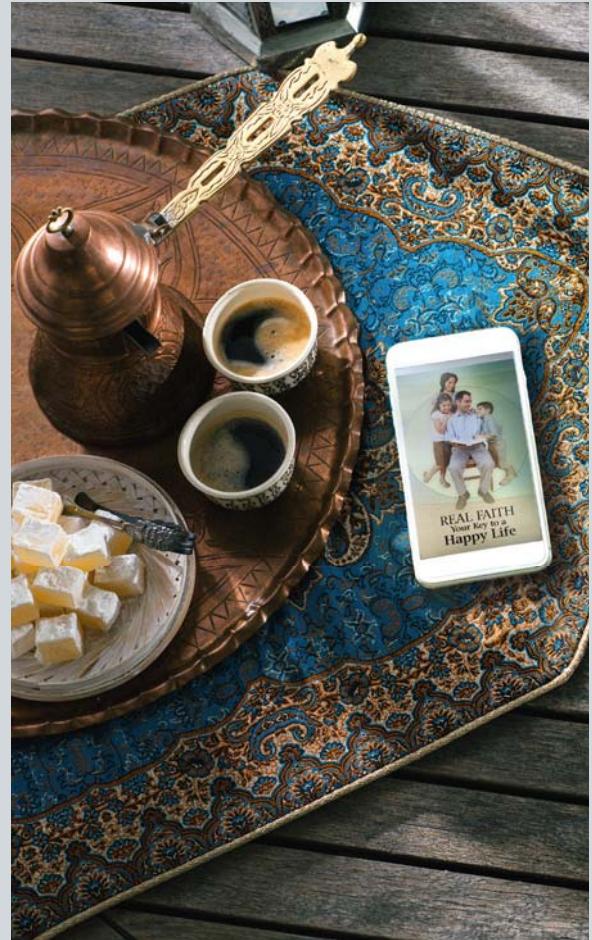
What a blessing it will be to live forever in peace on earth! We invite you to learn more about the blessings God’s rulership will soon bring by going to www.jw.org.

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

- Why are there so many problems in the world?
- How can you find the wisdom to face life's problems?
- Does God care about you as an individual?—1 Peter 5:6, 7.
- How can you know more about God and his will?

Millions of people have found satisfying answers to these questions by studying the Holy Scriptures. You can too.

If you would like further information, please request the brochure *Real Faith—Your Key to a Happy Life* free of charge from the publishers of this magazine or read it online at www.jw.org.



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