

**Congregation Bible Study / Theocratic Ministry School / Service Meeting**  
**Week of February 15, 2010 – WBR: Judges 15 - 18**

**Song 54–We Must Have the Faith**  
*(Hebrews 10:38,39)*

**CONGREGATION BIBLE STUDY**  
**“Building Up Yourselves on Your  
Most Holy Faith”**  
*(Iv chap. 17 ¶1-10)*

*But YOU, beloved ones, by **building up yourselves on  
YOUR most holy faith**, and praying with holy spirit,  
<sup>21</sup> keep yourselves in God’s love, while YOU are waiting  
for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ with everlasting life  
in view. (Jude 20-21)*

**Paragraph 2**

**(Jude 20-21)** But YOU, beloved ones, by building up yourselves on YOUR most holy faith, and praying with holy spirit, <sup>21</sup> keep yourselves in God’s love, while YOU are waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ with everlasting life in view.

**Keep Building Faith in Jehovah’s  
Righteous Requirements**

**Paragraph 3**

**(Genesis 3:1-6)** Now the serpent proved to be the most cautious of all the wild beasts of the field that Jehovah God had made. So it began to say to the woman: “Is it really so that God said YOU must not eat from every tree of the garden?” <sup>2</sup> At this the woman said to the serpent: “Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat. <sup>3</sup> But as for [eating] of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘YOU must not eat from it, no, YOU must not touch it that YOU do not die.’” <sup>4</sup> At this the serpent said to the woman: “YOU positively will not die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that in the very day of YOUR eating from it YOUR eyes are bound to be opened and YOU are bound to be like God, KNOWING good and bad.” <sup>6</sup> Consequently the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was something to be longed for to the eyes, yes, the tree was desirable to look upon. So she began taking of its fruit and eating it. Afterward she gave some also to her husband when with her and he began eating it.

**Paragraph 4**

**(1 Peter 5:8)** Keep YOUR senses, be watchful. YOUR adversary, the Devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking to devour [someone].

**Paragraph 5**

**(Ephesians 6:11)** Put on the complete suit of armor from God that YOU may be able to stand firm against the machinations of the Devil;

**(James 1:25)** But he who peers into the perfect law that belongs to freedom and who persists in [it], this [man], because he has become, not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, will be happy in his doing [it].

**Paragraph 6**

**(Galatians 6:2)** Go on carrying the burdens of one another, and thus fulfill the law of the Christ.

**(Matthew 28:19-20)** Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded YOU. And, look! I am with YOU all the days until the conclusion of the system of things.”

**(Hebrews 10:24-25)** And let us consider one another to incite to love and fine works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the gathering of ourselves together, as some have the custom, but encouraging one another, and all the more so as YOU behold the day drawing near.

**(Matthew 6:5-8)** “Also, when YOU pray, YOU must not be as the hypocrites; because they like to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the broad ways to be visible to men. Truly I say to YOU, They are having their reward in full. <sup>6</sup> You, however, when you pray, go into your private room and, after shutting your door, pray to your Father who is in secret; then your Father who looks on in secret will repay you. <sup>7</sup> But when praying, do not say the same things over and over again, just as the people of the nations do, for they imagine they will get a hearing for their use of many words. <sup>8</sup> So, do not make yourselves like them, for God YOUR Father knows what things YOU are needing before ever YOU ask him.

**(1 Thessalonians 5:17)** Pray incessantly.

**Paragraph 7**

**(Isaiah 48:17-18)** This is what Jehovah has said, your Repurchaser, the Holy One of Israel: “I, Jehovah, am your

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God, the One teaching you to benefit [yourself], the One causing you to tread in the way in which you should walk.  
<sup>18</sup> O if only you would actually pay attention to my commandments! Then your peace would become just like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

**Paragraph 8**

**(Psalm 55:22)** Throw your burden upon Jehovah himself, And he himself will sustain you. Never will he allow the righteous one to totter.

**Press On to Maturity**

**Paragraph 9**

**(Hebrews 6:1)** For this reason, now that we have left the primary doctrine about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying a foundation again, namely, repentance from dead works, and faith toward God,

**Paragraph 10**

**(John 4:23)** Nevertheless, the hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshipers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for, indeed, the Father is looking for suchlike ones to worship him.

**(Romans 8:5)** For those who are in accord with the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those in accord with the spirit on the things of the spirit.

**(1 Timothy 1:11)** according to the glorious good news of the happy God, with which I was entrusted.

**(Proverbs 27:11)** Be wise, my son, and make my heart rejoice, that I may make a reply to him that is taunting me.

**(James 1:2-3)** Consider it all joy, my brothers, when YOU meet with various trials, <sup>3</sup> knowing as YOU do that this tested quality of YOUR faith works out endurance.

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**THEOCRATIC MINISTRY  
SCHOOL**

**Feb. 15 Bible reading: Judges 15-18**

**No. 1:** Judges 16:1-12

**No. 2:** What Is the ‘Fiery Gehenna’ to Which Jesus Referred? (*rs* p. 173 ¶1-3)

**No. 3:** Why Jesus Called the Devil “the Father of the Lie” (John 8:44)

**BIBLE HIGHLIGHTS – *Judges 15 - 18***

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**ASSIGNMENT NO. 1**

*Judges 16:1-12*

**16** Once Samson went to Ga'za and saw a prostitute woman there and came in to her. <sup>2</sup> And report was made to the Ga'zites, saying: "Samson has come in here." So they surrounded him and lay in wait for him all night long in the city gate. And they kept quiet the whole night, saying: "As soon as the morning gets light, we must also kill him."

<sup>3</sup> However, Samson kept lying till midnight and then rose at midnight and grabbed hold of the doors of the city gate and the two side posts and pulled them out along with the bar and put them upon his shoulders and went carrying them up to the top of the mountain that is in front of He'bron.

<sup>4</sup> And it came about after that that he fell in love with a woman in the torrent valley of So'rek, and her name was De-li'l'ah. <sup>5</sup> And the axis lords of the Phi-lis'tines proceeded to come up to her and to say to her: "Fool him and see in what his great power is and with what we can prevail over him and with what we are certain to tie him so as to master him; and we, for our part, shall give you each one thousand one hundred silver pieces."

<sup>6</sup> Later De-li'l'ah said to Samson: "Do tell me, please, In what is your great power and with what can you be tied for one to master you?" <sup>7</sup> Then Samson said to her: "If they tie me with seven still-moist sinews that have not been dried out, I must also grow weak and become like an ordinary man." <sup>8</sup> So the axis lords of the Phi-lis'tines brought up to her seven still-moist sinews that had not been dried out. Later she tied him with them. <sup>9</sup> Now the ambush was sitting in the interior room of hers, and she began to say to him: "The Phi-lis'tines are upon you, Samson!" At that he tore the sinews in two, just as a twisted thread of tow is torn in two when it smells fire. And his power did not become known.

<sup>10</sup> Subsequently De-li'l'ah said to Samson: "Look! You have trifled with me that you might speak lies to me. Now tell me, do please, with what you can be tied." <sup>11</sup> So he said to her: "If they tie me tight with new ropes with which no work has been done, I must also grow weak and become like an ordinary man." <sup>12</sup> So De-li'l'ah took new ropes and tied him with them and said to him: "The Phi-lis'tines are upon you, Samson!" All the while the ambush was sitting in the interior room. At that he tore them in two from off his arms like a thread.

**ASSIGNMENT NO. 2**

*What Is the 'Fiery Gehenna' to Which Jesus Referred?* (rs p. 173 ¶1-3)

Reference to Gehenna appears 12 times in the Christian Greek Scriptures. Five times it is directly associated with fire. Translators have rendered the Greek expression ge'en-nan tou py-ros' as "hell fire" (KJ, Dy), "fires of hell" (NE), "fiery pit" (AT), and "fires of Gehenna" (NAB).

Historical background: The Valley of Hinnom (Gehenna) was outside the walls of Jerusalem. For a time it was the site of idolatrous worship, including child sacrifice. In the first century Gehenna was being used as the incinerator for the filth of Jerusalem. Bodies of dead animals were thrown into the valley to be consumed in the fires, to which sulfur, or brimstone, was added to assist the burning. Also bodies of executed criminals, who were considered undeserving of burial in a memorial tomb, were thrown into Gehenna. Thus, at **Matthew 5:29, 30**, Jesus spoke of the casting of one's "whole body" into Gehenna. If the body fell into the constantly burning fire it was consumed, but if it landed on a ledge of the deep ravine its putrefying flesh became infested with the ever-present worms, or maggots. (**Mark 9:47, 48**) Living humans were not pitched into Gehenna; so it was not a place of conscious torment.

*(Matthew 5:29-30) If, now, that right eye of yours is making you stumble, tear it out and throw it away from you. For it is more beneficial to you for one of your members to be lost to you than for your whole body to be pitched into Ge-hen'na. <sup>30</sup> Also, if your right hand is making you stumble, cut it off and throw it away from you. For it is more beneficial to you for one of your members to be lost than for your whole body to land in Ge-hen'na.*

*(Mark 9:47-48) And if your eye makes you stumble, throw it away; it is finer for you to enter one-eyed into the kingdom of God than with two eyes to be pitched into Ge-hen'na, <sup>48</sup> where their maggot does not die and the fire is not put out.*

At **Matthew 10:28**, Jesus warned his hearers to "be in fear of him that can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna." What does it mean? Notice that there is no mention here of torment in the fires of Gehenna; rather, he says to 'fear him that can destroy in Gehenna.' By referring to the "soul" separately, Jesus here emphasizes that God can destroy all of a person's life prospects; thus there is no hope of resurrection for him. So, the



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**SERVICE MEETING**  
**Song 13 – A Prayer of Thanksgiving**  
*(Psalm 95:2)*

**5 Min: Announcements.**

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**15 Min: Prepare to Offer *The Watchtower and Awake!***

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**15 Min: “Come Be My Follower.”** (OKM, page 2)

**Paragraph 1**

(1 Peter 2:21) In fact, to this [course] YOU were called, because even Christ suffered for YOU, leaving YOU a model for YOU to follow his steps closely.

(Mark 10:21) Jesus looked upon him and felt love for him and said to him: “One thing is missing about you: Go, sell what things you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven, and come be my follower.”

**Paragraph 2**

(John 15:20) Bear in mind the word I said to YOU, A slave is not greater than his master. If they have persecuted me, they will persecute YOU also; if they have observed my word, they will observe YOURS also.

(Hebrews 12:2-3) as we look intently at the Chief Agent and Perfecter of our faith, Jesus. For the joy that was set before him he endured a torture stake, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Indeed, consider closely the one who has endured such contrary talk by sinners against their own interests, that YOU may not get tired and give out in YOUR souls.

(Proverbs 27:11) Be wise, my son, and make my heart rejoice, that I may make a reply to him that is taunting me.

(Matthew 28:20) teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded YOU. And, look! I am with YOU all the days until the conclusion of the system of things.”

**Paragraph 3**

(Luke 4:43) But he said to them: “Also to other cities I must declare the good news of the kingdom of God, because for this I was sent forth.”

(2 Corinthians 5:14) For the love the Christ has compels us, because this is what we have judged, that one man died for all; so, then, all had died;

**Paragraph 4**

(John 7:46) The officers replied: “Never has [another] man spoken like this.”

(Matthew 7:28-29) Now when Jesus finished these sayings, the effect was that the crowds were astounded at his way of teaching; <sup>29</sup> for he was teaching them as a person having authority, and not as their scribes.

(Luke 6:40) A pupil is not above his teacher, but everyone that is perfectly instructed will be like his teacher.

(Ephesians 3:19) and to know the love of the Christ which surpasses knowledge, that YOU may be filled with all the fullness that God gives.

**Song 82 – Imitate Christ’s Mildness**  
*(Matthew 11:28-30)*