- Song 74 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (3 min. or less)

#### TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

"Jehovah Blesses Humility and Punishes Arrogance": (10 min.)

Page 7

JEREMIAH 49-50



#### 50:4-7

- Repentant Israelites would weep for joy when Jehovah released them from captivity
- They would acknowledge their covenant with him anew and make the long journey back to Jerusalem to restore true worship



50:29, 39

- Arrogant Babylon would not go unpunished for its excessive cruelty to Jehovah's people
- As prophesied, Babylon became an uninhabited wasteland

Jer 50:4-7—A remnant of repentant, humbled Israelites would be released from captivity and would return to Zion

(Jeremiah 50:4-7) 4 "In those days and at that time," declares Jehovah, "the people of Israel and the people of Judah will come together. They will weep as they walk, and together they will seek Jehovah their God. 5 They will ask the way to Zion, with their faces turned in that direction, saying, 'Come and let us join ourselves to Jehovah in an everlasting covenant that will not be forgotten.' 6 My people have become a flock of lost sheep. Their own shepherds caused them to stray. They led them away onto the mountains, roaming from mountain to hill. Thev have forgotten their resting-place. 7 All those finding them have devoured them, and their enemies have said, 'We are not guilty, because they sinned against Jehovah, against the dwelling place of righteousness and the hope of their forefathers, Jehovah.""

Our Christian Life and Ministry

**MEETING WORKBOOK** 

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

Jer 50:29-32—Babylon would be destroyed for acting arrogantly against Jehovah (it-1 54)

(Jeremiah 50:29-32) 29 Summon archers against Babylon, All who are bending the bow. Camp all around her; let no one escape. Repay her according to her activity. Do to her just as she has done. For she has acted arrogantly against Jehovah, Against the Holy One of Israel. 30 So her young men will fall in her public squares, And all her soldiers will perish in that day," declares Jehovah. 31 "Look! I am against you, O defiant one," declares the Sovereign Lord, Jehovah of armies, "For your day must come, the time that I will call you to account. 32 You, O defiant one, will stumble and fall, With no one to raise you up. And I will set your cities on fire, And it will consume everything around you."

## \*\*\* it-1 p. 54 Adversary \*\*\*

When God's people were unfaithful he allowed their adversaries to plunder and defeat them. (Ps 89:42; La 1:5, 7, 10, 17; 2:17; 4:12) The enemy, however, drew wrong conclusions from these victories, taking credit for themselves and praising their gods or feeling that they would not be called to account for the way they treated Jehovah's people. (De 32:27; Jer 50:7) Jehovah was therefore obliged to humble these proud and boasting adversaries (Isa 1:24; 26:11; 59:18; Na 1:2); and this he did for his holy name's sake.—Isa 64:2; Eze 36:21-24.

- (Psalm 89:42) You have made his adversaries victorious; You have caused all his enemies to rejoice.
- (Lamentations 1:5) Her adversaries are now her master; her enemies are carefree. For Jehovah has brought grief to her because of her many transgressions. Her children have gone into captivity before the adversary.

- (Lamentations 1:7) In the days of her affliction and her homelessness, Jerusalem remembers All the precious things that were hers in the days of long ago. When her people fell into the hand of the adversary and she had no helper, The adversaries saw her and laughed over her collapse.
- (Lamentations 1:10) The adversary has laid his hands on all her treasures. For she has seen nations enter her sanctuary, Those whom you commanded should not enter into your congregation.
- (Lamentations 1:17) Zion has spread out her hands; she has no one to comfort her. Jehovah has given an order against Jacob to all his adversaries around him. Jerusalem has become to them an abhorrent thing.
- (Lamentations 2:17) Jehovah has done what he intended; he has carried out his saying, What he commanded long ago. He has torn down without compassion. He has let the enemy rejoice over you; he has exalted the strength of your adversaries.
- (Lamentations 4:12) The kings of the earth and all the inhabitants of the productive land did not believe That the adversary and the enemy would enter the gates of Jerusalem.
- (Deuteronomy 32:27) If not for my dread of the enemy's reaction, Because the adversaries might misconstrue it. They might say: "Our power has triumphed; It was not Jehovah who did all of this."
- (Jeremiah 50:7) All those finding them have devoured them, and their enemies have said, 'We are not guilty, because they sinned against Jehovah, against the dwelling place of righteousness and the hope of their forefathers, Jehovah.'"

Our Christian Life and Ministry MEETING WORKBOOK

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

 (Isaiah 1:24) Therefore the true Lord, Jehovah of armies, The Powerful One of Israel, declares: "Ah! I will rid myself of my adversaries, And I will take revenge on my enemies.

- (Isaiah 26:11) O Jehovah, your hand is raised, but they do not see it. They will see your zeal for your people and be put to shame. Yes, the fire for your adversaries will consume them.
- (Isaiah 59:18) He will reward them for what they have done: Wrath to his adversaries, retribution to his enemies. And to the islands he will repay their due.
- (Nahum 1:2) Jehovah is a God who requires exclusive devotion and takes vengeance; Jehovah takes vengeance and is ready to express his wrath. Jehovah takes vengeance against his foes, And he stores up wrath for his enemies.
- (Isaiah 64:2) As when a fire ignites the brushwood, And the fire makes the water boil, Then your name would be known to your adversaries, And the nations would tremble before you!
- (Ezekiel 36:21-24) So I will show concern for my holy name, which the house of Israel profaned among the where they have gone." nations 22 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord Jehovah says: "Not for your sakes am I acting, O house of Israel, but for my holy name, which you profaned among the nations where you have gone." 23 I will certainly sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the nations, which you profaned among them; and the nations will have to know that I am Jehovah,' declares the Sovereign Lord Jehovah, 'when I am sanctified among you before their eyes. 24 I will take you from the nations and gather you back

from all the lands and bring you into your land.

Jer 50:38, 39—Babylon would never again be inhabited (jr 161 ¶15; w98 4/1 20 ¶20)

(Jeremiah 50:38, 39) 38 There is a devastation on her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is a land of graven images, And because of their frightful visions they keep acting with madness. 39 Therefore, the desert creatures will dwell with the howling animals, And in her the ostriches will dwell. She will never again be inhabited, Nor will she be a place of residence throughout all generations."

\*\* jr chap. 13 pp. 161-162 par. 15 "Jehovah Has Done What He Had in Mind" \*\*\*

15 Jeremiah also prophesied about the end of Egypt's conqueror, Babylon itself. A century before it occurred, Jeremiah accurately predicted the sudden fall of Babylon. How? God's prophet foretold that her protective waters would be "dried up," and her mighty men would not fight. (Jer. 50:38; 51:30) These prophecies were fulfilled in detail when the Medes and the Persians diverted Euphrates River, waded across its bed, and then entered the city, taking the Babylonians by surprise. You would likely consider equally significant the declaration that the city would become an uninhabited wasteland. (Jer. 50:39: 51:26) To this day, the desolate condition of once-mighty Babylon testifies to the accuracy of divine prophecy.

- (Jeremiah 50:38) There is a devastation on her waters, and they will be dried up.
   For it is a land of graven images, And because of their frightful visions they keep acting with madness.
- (Jeremiah 51:30) The warriors of Babylon have quit fighting. They sit in

Our Christian Life and Ministry

**MEETING WORKBOOK** 

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

their strongholds. Their strength has failed. They have become like women. Her homes have been set on fire. Her bars have been broken.

- •
- (Jeremiah 50:39) Therefore, the desert creatures will dwell with the howling animals, And in her the ostriches will dwell. She will never again be inhabited, Nor will she be a place of residence throughout all generations."
- •
- (Jeremiah 51:26) "People will not take from you a cornerstone or a foundation stone, Because you will become desolate forever," declares Jehovah.

\*\*\* w98 4/1 p. 20 par. 20 A Book From God \*\*\*

20 Isaiah never lived to see Babylon become uninhabited. But true to prophecy, Babylon eventually became mere "piles of stones." (Jeremiah 51:37) According to Hebrew scholar Jerome (born in the fourth century C.E.), by his day Babylon was a hunting ground in which "beasts of every type" roamed, and it remains desolate to this day. Any restoration of Babylon as a tourist attraction might lure visitors, but Babylon's "progeny and posterity" are gone forever, as Isaiah foretold.—Isaiah 14:22.

- Paragraph 20
- (Jeremiah 51:37) And Babylon will become piles of stones, A lair of jackals, An object of horror and something to whistle at, Without an inhabitant.
- (Isaiah 14:22) "I will rise up against them," declares Jehovah of armies.
   "And I will wipe out from Babylon name and remnant and descendants and posterity," declares Jehovah.

## **Digging for Spiritual Gems:**

Jer 49:1, 2—Why were the Ammonites rebuked by Jehovah? (it-1 94 ¶6)

(Jeremiah 49:1, 49 For 2) the Am'mon·ites, this is what Jehovah says: "Does Israel have no sons? Does he have heir? Why has Mal'cam taken possession of Gad? And why are his people living in Israel's cities?" 2 "'Therefore look! the days are coming,' declares Jehovah, 'When I will cause the alarm signal of war to be heard against Rab'bah of the Am'mon·ites. She will become a desolate mound. And her dependent towns will be set on fire.' 'And Israel will take possession of those who dispossessed him,' says Jehovah.

#### \*\*\* it-1 p. 94 Ammonites \*\*\*

It appears likely that, following the deporting of the people of the northern kingdom of Israel by Tiglath-pileser III and one of his successors (2Ki 15:29; 17:6), the Ammonites began occupying the territory of the tribe of Gad, for which they had unsuccessfully fought against Jephthah. (Compare Ps 83:4-8.) Thus, in prophetic Jehovah's message Jeremiah, the Ammonites are rebuked for seizing the Gadites' inheritance and are warned of a coming desolation upon Ammon and its god Malcam (Milcom). (Jer 49:1-5) The Ammonites went yet further by sending marauder bands to harass Judah under King Jehoiakim during the closing years of the Judean kingdom.—2Ki 24:2, 3.

 (2 Kings 15:29) In the days of King Pe'kah of Israel, King Tig'lath-pil·e'ser of As·syr'i·a invaded and captured l'jon, A'bel-beth-ma'a·cah, Ja·no'ah, Ke'desh, Ha'zor, Gil'e·ad, and Gal'i·lee, all the

# Our Christian Life and Ministry MEETING WORKBOOK

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

land of Naph'ta·li, and he took the inhabitants into exile in As·syr'i·a.

- •
- (2 Kings 17:6) In the ninth year of Ho·she'a, the king of As·syr'i·a captured Sa·mar'i·a. He then led the people of Israel into exile in As·syr'i·a and made them dwell in Ha'lah and in Ha'bor at the river Go'zan and in the cities of the Medes.
- (Psalm 83:4-8) They say: "Come, let us annihilate them as a nation, So that the name of Israel may be remembered no more." 5 They devise a unified strategy; They have made an alliance against you— 6 The tents of E'dom and the Ish'ma·el·ites, Mo'ab and the Hag'rites, 7 Ge'bal and Am'mon and Am'a·lek, Phi·lis'ti·a together with the inhabitants of Tyre. 8 As·syr'i·a too has joined them; They give support to the sons of Lot. (Selah)
- (Jeremiah 49:1-5) For the Am'mon ites, this is what Jehovah says: "Does Israel have no sons? Does he have no heir? Why has Mal'cam taken possession of Gad? And why are his people living in Israel's cities?" 2 "'Therefore look! the days are coming,' declares Jehovah, 'When I will cause the alarm signal of war to be heard against Rab'bah of the Am'mon·ites. She will become desolate mound, And her dependent towns will be set on fire.' 'And Israel will take possession of those who dispossessed him,' savs Jehovah. 3 'Wail, O Hesh'bon, for A'i has been destroyed! Cry out, O dependent towns of Rab'bah. Put on sackcloth. Wail and rove about among the stone pens, For Mal'cam will go into exile, Together with his priests and his princes. 4 Why do you brag about the valleys, About your flowing plain, O unfaithful daughter, Who trusts in her treasures And who says: "Who will

- come against me?"" 5 "'Here I am bringing something dreadful on you,' declares the Sovereign Lord, Jehovah of armies, 'From all those around you. You will be dispersed in every direction, And no one will gather those who flee.""
- (2 Kings 24:2, 3) Then Jehovah began to send against him marauder bands of Chal·de'ans, Syrians, Mo'ab·ites, and Am'mon·ites. He kept sending them against Judah to destroy it, according to Jehovah's word that he had spoken through his servants the prophets. 3 Surely it was by the order of Jehovah that this happened to Judah, to remove them from his sight because of all the sins that Ma·nas'seh had committed,

Jer 49:17, 18—How did Edom become like Sodom and Gomorrah, and why? (jr 163 ¶18; ip-2 351 ¶6)

(Jeremiah 49:17, 18) 17 "And E'dom must become an object of horror. Everyone passing along by her will stare in horror and whistle on account of all her plagues. 18 Just as in the overthrow of Sod'om and Go·mor'rah and of their neighboring towns," Jehovah says, "no one will dwell there, and no man will settle there.

- \*\*\* jr chap. 13 p. 163 par. 18 "Jehovah Has Done What He Had in Mind" \*\*\*
- 18 Another prophecy was also fulfilled in the first century C.E. God foretold through Jeremiah that Edom was among the nations that would suffer from the Babylonian invasion. (Jer. 25:15-17, 21; 27:1-7) But the divine word went beyond that. Edom would become like Sodom and Gomorrah. You know what that meant—uninhabited for all time, ceasing to exist. (Jer. 49:7-10, 17, 18) That is exactly what happened. Where do you think the names

Our Christian Life and Ministry MEETING WORKBOOK

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

Edom and Edomites can be found today? On any modern maps? No. They are mainly found in books of ancient and Bible history or on maps reflecting that time. Flavius Josephus recounts that the Edomites were forced to accept Judaism in the second century B.C.E. Thereafter, with the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 C.E., they ceased to exist as a distinct people.

#### Paragraph 18

- (Jeremiah 25:15-17) For this is what Jehovah the God of Israel said to me: "Take this cup of the wine of wrath out of my hand, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. 16 And they will drink and stagger and act like madmen because of the sword that I am sending among them." 17 So I took the cup out of the hand of Jehovah and made all the nations to whom Jehovah sent me drink:
- (Jeremiah 25:21) E'dom, Mo'ab, and the Am'mon·ites;
- (Jeremiah 27:1-7) In the beginning of the reign of Je hoi'a kim son of Jo si'ah, the king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from Jehovah: 2 "This is what Jehovah has told me, 'Make for yourself straps and yoke bars, and put them on your neck. 3 Then send them to the king of E'dom, the king of Mo'ab, the king of the Am'mon ites, the king of Tyre, and the king of Si'don by the hand of the messengers who have Jerusalem to King Zed·e·ki'ah of Judah. 4 Give them this command for their masters: ""This is what Jehovah of armies, the God of Israel, says; this is what you should say to your masters, 5 'It is I who made the earth, mankind, and the beasts that are on the surface of

the earth by my great power and by my outstretched arm; and I have given it to whomever I please. 6 And now I have given all these lands into the hand of my servant King Neb·u·chad·nez'zar of Babylon; even the wild beasts of the field I have given him to serve him. 7 All the nations will serve him and his son and his grandson until the time for his own land comes, when many nations and great kings will make him their slave.'

- (Jeremiah 49:7-10) For E'dom, this is what Jehovah of armies says: "Is there no longer any wisdom in Te'man? Has good advice perished from those with understanding? Has their wisdom rotted? 8 Flee, turn back! Go and dwell down in the depths, O inhabitants of De'dan! For I will bring disaster on E'sau When the time comes to turn my attention to him. 9 If grape gatherers came in to you, Would they not leave some behind for gleaning? If thieves came in by night, They would cause only as much ruin as they wanted. 10 But I will strip E'sau bare. I will uncover his places of concealment, So that he cannot hide. His children and his brothers and his neighbors will all be destroyed, And he will be no more.
- (Jeremiah 49:17, 18) "And E'dom must become an object of horror. Everyone passing along by her will stare in horror and whistle on account of all her plagues. 18 Just as in the overthrow of Sod'om and Go·mor'rah and of their neighboring towns," Jehovah says, "no one will dwell there, and no man will settle there.

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

\*\*\* ip-2 chap. 24 p. 351 par. 6 Jehovah Makes a Beautiful Name for Himself \*\*\*

6 Why, though, is Jehovah returning from a battle in Edom? The Edomites, perpetuators of an animosity that began with their forefather, Esau, are age-old enemies of God's covenant people. (Genesis 25:24-34; Numbers 20:14-21) The depth of Edom's hatred for Judah became particularly evident during the desolation of Jerusalem when the Edomites cheered on the Babylonian soldiers. (Psalm 137:7) Jehovah takes such animosity as an offense against him personally. No wonder that he determined to unleash his sword of vengeance against Edom!—Isaiah 34:5-15; Jeremiah 49:7-22.

• (scriptures omitted due to length)

What has this week's Bible reading taught you about Jehovah?

What other spiritual gems have you discovered in this week's Bible reading?

Bible Reading: Jer 50:1-10 (4 min. or less)

(Jeremiah 50:1-10) 50 The word that Jehovah spoke concerning Babylon, concerning the land of the Chal de'ans, through Jeremiah the prophet: 2 "Declare it among the nations and proclaim it. Raise a signal and proclaim it. Do not hide anything! Say, 'Babylon has been captured. Bel has been put to shame. Mer'o dach has become terrified. Her images have been put to shame. Her disgusting idols have become terrified.' 3 For a nation has come against her from the north. It makes her land an object of horror; No one is dwelling in her. Both man and beast have taken flight; They have gone away." 4 "In those days and at that time," declares Jehovah, "the people of Israel and the people of Judah will come together. They will weep as they walk, and together they will seek Jehovah their God. 5 They will ask the way to Zion, with their faces turned in that direction, saying, 'Come and let us join ourselves to Jehovah in an everlasting covenant that will not be forgotten.' 6 My people have become a flock of lost sheep. Their own shepherds caused them to stray. They led them away onto the mountains, roaming from mountain to hill. They have forgotten their resting-place. 7 All those finding them have devoured them, and their enemies have said, 'We are not guilty, because they sinned against Jehovah, against the dwelling place of righteousness and the hope of their forefathers, Jehovah." 8 "Flee out of the midst of Babylon. Go out of the land of the Chal de'ans, And be like the leading animals before the flock. 9 For here I am raising up and bringing against Babylon An assembly of great nations from the land of the north. They will come against her in battle formation; From there she will be captured. Their arrows are like those of a warrior Causing bereavement of children; They do not come back without results. 10 Chal·de'a will become a spoil. All those taking spoil from her will be fully satisfied," declares Jehovah.

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

# APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

Initial Call: (2 min. or less) T-32—Lay the groundwork for a return visit.



• Return Visit: (4 min. or less) T-32— Discuss "To Think About." Lay the groundwork for the next visit..

#### TO THINK ABOUT

A young couple receive advice from a Christian elder; they read together from the Bible

How can you be a good husband, wife, or parent?

The Bible answers that question at EPHESIANS 5:1, 2 and COLOSSIANS 3:18-21

 (Ephesians 5:1, 2) Therefore, become imitators of God, as beloved children, 2 and go on walking in love, just as the Christ also loved us and gave himself for us as an offering and a sacrifice, a sweet fragrance to God.

(Colossians 3:18-21) You wives, be in subjection to your husbands, as it is becoming in the Lord. 19 You husbands, keep on loving your wives and do not be bitterly angry with them. 20 You children, be obedient to your parents in everything, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord. 21 You fathers, do not be exasperating your children, so that they do not become downhearted.

Talk: (6 min. or less) w15 3/15 17-18— Theme: In Recent Years, Why Have Our Publications Seldom Mentioned Types and Antitypes?

\*\*\* w15 3/15 Questions From Readers \*\*\*
QUESTIONS FROM READERS

In the past, our publications often mentioned types and antitypes, but in recent years they have seldom done so. Why is that?

• The Watchtower of September 15, 1950, defined a "type" and an "antitype" this way: "A type is an image or representation of something that will come to pass at some future time. The antitype is the reality of the thing which the type represents. The type may properly be called a shadow; the antitype, the reality."

Many years ago, our publications stated that such faithful men and women as Deborah, Elihu, Jephthah, Job, Rahab, and Rebekah, as well as many others, were really types, or shadows, of either the anointed or the "great crowd." (Rev. 7:9) For example, Jephthah, Job, and Rebekah were thought to represent the anointed, while Deborah and Rahab were said to foreshadow the great crowd. However, in

Our Christian Life and Ministry MEETING WORKBOOK Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

recent years we have not drawn such comparisons. Why not?

The Scriptures do indicate that some individuals mentioned in the Bible served as types of something greater. As recorded at Galatians 4:21-31, the apostle Paul mentions "a symbolic drama" involving two women. Hagar, Abraham's slave girl, represented or corresponded to literal Israel, which was bound to Jehovah by the Mosaic Law. But Sarah, "the free woman," symbolized God's wife, the heavenly part of his organization. In his letter to Paul links the Hebrews. king-priest Melchizedek to Jesus, highlighting specific similarities between the two. (Heb. 6:20; 7:1-3) Further, Paul compares Isaiah and his sons to Jesus and his anointed followers. (Heb. 2:13, 14) Paul was writing under inspiration; thus, we gladly accept what he says about these types.

However, even where the Bible indicates that someone is a type of someone else, we should not conclude that every detail or incident in the life of the type is a picture of something greater. For example, although Paul tells us that Melchizedek is a type of Jesus, Paul says nothing about the fact that on one occasion Melchizedek brought out bread and wine for Abraham to enjoy after he had defeated four kings. Hence, there is no Scriptural basis for finding a hidden meaning in that incident.—Gen. 14:1, 18.

Some writers in the centuries after Christ's death fell into a trap—they saw types everywhere. Describing the teachings of Origen, Ambrose, and Jerome, The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia explains: "They sought for types, and of course found them, in every incident and event, however trivial, recorded in Scripture. Even the most simple and commonplace circumstance was thought to conceal within itself the most recondite [hidden] truth . . . , even in the number of fish caught by the disciples on the night the risen Saviour appeared to them—how much some have tried to make of that number, 153!"

Augustine of Hippo commented extensively on the account where we read that Jesus fed about 5,000 men with five barley loaves and two fish. Since barley was considered to be inferior to wheat, Augustine concluded that the five loaves must represent the five books of Moses (the inferior "barley" representing the supposed inferiority of the "Old Testament"). And the two fish? For some reason he likened them to a king and a priest. Another scholar fond of looking for types and antitypes asserted that Jacob's purchase of Esau's birthright with a bowl of red stew represented Jesus' purchase of the heavenly inheritance for mankind with his red blood!

If such interpretations seem far-fetched, you can understand the dilemma. Humans cannot know which Bible accounts are shadows of things to come and which are not. The clearest course is this: Where the Scriptures teach that an individual, an event, or an object is typical of something else, we accept it as such. Otherwise, we ought to be reluctant to assign an antitypical application to a certain person or account if there is no specific Scriptural basis for doing so.

How, then, can we benefit from the events and examples found in the Scriptures? At Romans 15:4, we read the apostle Paul's words: "All the things that were written beforehand were written for our instruction, so that through our endurance and through the comfort from the Scriptures we might have hope." Paul was saying that his anointed brothers in the first century could learn powerful lessons from the events that were recorded in the Scriptures. However, God's people in every generation, whether of the anointed or of the "other sheep," whether living in "the last days" or not, could benefit—and have benefited—from the lessons taught in "all the things that were written beforehand."—John 10:16; 2 Tim. 3:1.

Assigned chapters: JEREMIAH 49-50

Instead of viewing most of these accounts as finding their application to only one class, whether the anointed or the great crowd, and to only one time period, God's people of either class and from any time period can apply to themselves many of the lessons the accounts teach us. Thus, for example, we need not limit the application of the book of Job to the experiences the anointed endured during World War I. Many of God's servants, both men and women, both of the anointed and of the great crowd, have undergone experiences such as Job faced and "have seen the outcome Jehovah gave, that Jehovah is very tender in affection and merciful."—Jas. 5:11.

Consider: In our congregations today, do we not find older women as loyal as Deborah, fine young elders as wise as Elihu, courageous pioneers as zealous as Jephthah, and faithful men and women as patient as Job? How grateful we are that Jehovah preserved the record of "all the things that were written beforehand," so that "through the comfort from the Scriptures we might have hope"!

So for these reasons our publications in recent years have emphasized the lessons we can learn from Bible accounts instead of trying to find typical and antitypical patterns and fulfillments.

## LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

Song 41

Remove the Rafter: (15 min.) Play the video Remove the Rafter. Then discuss the following questions: How did the brother demonstrate a proud, critical attitude? What helped him to adjust his thinking? How did he benefit?

# **Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**

Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.) kr chap. 13 ¶11-23

#### Paragraph 17

(2 Corinthians 2:17) We are, for we are not peddlers of the word of God as many men are, but we speak in all sincerity as sent from God, yes, in the sight of God and in company with Christ.

#### Paragraph 19

(Psalm 94:20) Can a throne of corruption be allied with you While it is framing trouble in the name of the law?

- Review Followed by Preview of Next Week (3 min.)
  - Song 148 and Prayer