

No. 14 Jehovah's Celestial Chariot Is on the Move—Are You?

Note to the speaker:

Talk with audience participation and videos. Emphasize the importance of prayer and personal study to keep up with organizational adjustments and our current understanding of the Scriptures

A GLIMPSE INTO THE HEAVENS (4 min.)

Just prior to receiving his commission “as a watchman to the house of Israel,” Ezekiel saw a magnificent vision of the heavenly part of Jehovah's organization (Eze 1:1-28; 3:17; *w13* 4/15 23-24 ¶6)

Jehovah's celestial chariot can move swiftly and change direction instantly (Eze 1:12-19)

Jehovah is the glorious Rider of the chariot and directs its movement with his powerful holy spirit (Eze 1:20-28)

Just as the heavenly part of Jehovah's organization is directed by holy spirit, so also is the earthly part (*w10* 4/15 9-10 ¶12)

Jehovah had this vision recorded in his Word for our benefit

What effect should this vision have on us?

As we fulfill our responsibilities, we must never forget that we have the support of the heavenly part of Jehovah's organization (2Ki 6:15-17)

Meditating on Jehovah's dynamic organization should move us to action (Isa 6:1, 8)

HOW IS JEHOVAH ACCOMPLISHING HIS WILL TODAY? (5 min.)

Today, Jehovah is not keeping his will secret [**Read 1 Timothy 2:3, 4**]

In response, the earthly part of his organization is working diligently to preach the good news “in all the inhabited earth” (Mt 24:14)

To that end, Kingdom publishers have used a variety of innovative methods, including newspapers, information marches, picture presentations, testimony cards, phonographs, radio, and the Internet

In recent years, historic changes have also been made in theocratic organization (*kr* 171-179)

In 2009, the organization emphasized the importance of family worship by adjusting the schedule of midweek meetings (*kr* 175, box)

In 2014, the Governing Body directed that a Local Design/Construction Department be formed in each branch office to coordinate the construction of Kingdom Halls and Assembly Halls (*kr* 202-208 ¶1-18)

In some countries, congregations may be relocated or even merged in order to make better use of existing Kingdom Halls

Since September 1, 2014, in harmony with the Scriptural pattern, circuit overseers have been entrusted with the weighty responsibility of appointing and deleting elders and ministerial servants (Acts 14:23; *w14* 11/15 pp. 28-29)

As organizational adjustments are received and implemented, the congregations are made firm and continue to increase (Ac 15:28, 29; 16:4, 5)

As Jehovah's chariot continues to move, we should expect that changes in theocratic organization will continue to be made

By giving our whole-hearted support to these changes, we show our firm faith that Jehovah is directing the earthly part of his organization

KEEP ADVANCING WITH JEHOVAH'S ORGANIZATION (3 min.)

Meaningful personal study helps us keep pace with refinements in our understanding of Scriptural truth [**Read Proverbs 4:18**]

Personal study and meditation deepen our understanding of and appreciation for Jehovah's superior ways and qualities (Isa 55:9)

They inspire unwavering loyalty to Jehovah's channel of instruction (Mt 24:45-47)

Daily Bible reading and regular personal study help us to recognize the important but relatively small role we play in Jehovah's grand organization (De 17:19, 20)

VIDEO INTERVIEWS (10 min.)

We would now like to introduce you to two faithful servants of Jehovah who have been endeavoring to keep up with the celestial chariot for decades—Brother Joel Adams and Brother Claudius Johnson. Take note of what these faithful men have done to keep moving with Jehovah's organization

<<**PLAY VIDEO [4 min. 55 sec.]**>>

Question: What did you learn from these brothers about keeping pace with Jehovah's celestial chariot?

ENCOURAGE OTHER BROTHERS TO KEEP PACE WITH THE CELESTIAL CHARIOT
(10 min.)

The rapid movement of the celestial chariot has produced tremendous growth in Jehovah's organization

In many congregations, more needs to be done to train brothers—younger and older—to help care for the flock

While elders have the primary responsibility to train others in the congregation, your good example and positive attitude can do much to help others reach out (1Ti 4:12, 13)

Note in the following video how Jesus showed an interest in training others

<<**PLAY VIDEO [1 min. 50 sec.]**>>

Questions:

1. What challenge did this conscientious elder face?
2. What did he learn from Jesus when it comes to training? [Jesus showed trust in others by giving them assignments and the tools they needed to accomplish them]
3. How does it show modesty on our part to train and delegate?

What can ministerial servants do to encourage baptized brothers to reach out?

With input from the elders, identify a brother—perhaps in your field service group—who has potential

Do not overlook teenagers or newly baptized brothers (*od* 54 ¶14)

Show genuine interest in him and his spiritual progress (Php 2:3, 4; *w14* 6/15 30 ¶9-10)

Spend time in the ministry together, explain organizational matters, impart practical wisdom and thinking ability, and discuss spiritual goals (Pr 3:21; *w15* 4/15 10 ¶5)

The brother may wish to reach out but may not know how to qualify or be hesitant to ask

Encourage him to read the *Organized* book and to do research in our publications that explains the qualifications to serve as a ministerial servant or elder [Refer to chapters 5 and 6 of *Organized*] (*w14* 9/15 3-6)

Mention specific areas for advancement (1Ti 4:15)

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Express appreciation for well-handled assignments or praiseworthy efforts

Young ones and others whose circumstances permit should be encouraged to prayerfully consider serving as auxiliary or regular pioneers

Full-time service can deepen a person's spirituality, broaden his experience in helping others, and strengthen his trust in Jehovah (*mwb16.07* 4, 8)

Brothers who desire to be used and who are reliable can be given assignments by the elders (*km 7/13* 2-3)

Be generous in giving commendation, as this often motivates brothers to make progress (Pr 12:25; 25:11; Mt 3:17)

Help them to set theocratic goals and to keep in step with Jehovah's celestial chariot

A THOUSAND YEARS AND BEYOND! (2 min.)

The changes now taking place in Jehovah's organization pale in comparison to the earth-shaking events soon to come (2Pe 3:10-13)

New scrolls will be opened in the new world (Re 20:12)

Jehovah will always be in control of his celestial chariot

At the end of the Thousand Year Reign of Christ, Jehovah will continue to exercise loving dominion over all creation (1Co 15:28)

May it remain our heartfelt resolve to move ahead with Jehovah's organization!

[Introduce the next part on the program]