

Ephphatha, 1hat is, Be opened.

MARK 7:34

# Volume 53

# DECEMBER 1961

Number 12



Glory to God in the highest!

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These ministers preach in more than 275 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 50 city and state schools for the Deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The Deaf need God's Word.

#### THE DEAF LUTHERAN

#### Official Paper of the Board for Missions to the Deaf The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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# Japan, the Deaf, and the Lutheran Church

Executive Secretary William F. Reinking has supplied the DEAF LU-THERAN with several photographs taken in Japan during his survey of the Far East. As space becomes available in the DEAF LUTHERAN, some of these pictures will be presented to its readers to acquaint them with some of the people and some of the customs of Japan. As was reported in the June issue of the DEAF LUTHERAN, work among the Deaf in Hong Kong has already begun, primarily because of the encouragement given to such a project by Executive Secretary Reinking when he visited the Crown Colony of Hong Kong. It is the hope of Pastor Reinking and of every Christian who is concerned about the salvation of the Deaf in the Far East that the Lutheran Church may begin work also in Japan in the not-too-distant future.

One of the men whom Pastor Reinking met is a young Japanese man named Kumabe-san. A deaf



Mr. Kumabe-san

graduate of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church Seminary, Kumabe-san has no hearing at all in one ear and uses a hearing aid in the other. He lost his hearing later in life, and so speaks quite well. Mr.



Active lay leaders of the Lutheran Church in Japan

Kumabe is a very gifted young man, and after graduating from the Deaf middle school he was able to attend a hearing high school. After graduation from high school he went to the Bible College at Kobe and then to the Seminary in Japan. Mr. Kumabe was graduated in April of 1960 and has taken a teacher training course at Tokyo Teachers College. It is his hope to enter the ministry and spread the precious Gospel of Jesus Christ among the Deaf of his country.

The Lutheran Church in Japan is interested in the possibility of bringing the Gospel to the Deaf and looks to our Deaf Mission in the United States for guidance and leadership. It is the intention of the Board for Missions to the Deaf that eventually the work among the Deaf in Japan will be carried on by the Japanese themselves. However, financial help will be needed for a long time. The Deaf Mission Society may prove to be an important phase of the total program of bringing Christ to the Japanese Deaf.

Japanese Christians look forward to the lessons in Christian doctrine which they may study in their homes. However, such Bible study is available only to hearing people at the present time. Very few Japanese Deaf have such an opportunity to study God's Word. A ministry to the Japanese Deaf will also involve the preparation of study material for the Deaf to teach the Life of Jesus, the Teachings of Jesus, and important Christian doctrines. The family pictured with this article is a family of hearing people. Patience, praver, and Christian service may lead to the day when, on the pages of the DEAF LUTHERAN, a Deaf family may be pictured with these Words of Life from the Holy Scriptures in



Bible Study in a Japanese home



Deaf pupils at the only Christian school for the Deaf in Japan

their home as they learn the way of salvation through Jesus Christ.

There is one Christian Deaf School in Japan. It is located in Tokyo and has 160 pupils enrolled there. There are 22,000 Deaf children in Japan attending schools where they have no opportunity to learn the good news that Jesus loves them and died for them.

There are about 180,000 Deaf in

Japan. Pastor Reinking estimates that fewer than 200 of them are members of a Christian congregation. Most of them have never heard the teachings of the Christian church explained to them or listened to a sermon by a Christian minister to the Deaf. This is the challenge of Japan which is presented to the Lutheran Church of the Deaf in the United States.

# Great Lakes Regional Conference

The Great Lakes Regional Conference was held Sept. 23 and 24, 1961, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Delavan, Wis. Participating Deaf Mission fields in the conference were Chicago, Ill., and Madison, Delavan, and Milwaukee, Wis. Rev. William F. Reinking, Rev. M. E. A. Mueller, Rev. E. Scheibert, and Rev. M. Kosche acted as counselors or advisers.

The conference theme was "Pray

and Work." Interesting lectures were delivered by Mr. Ray Lager on "Prayer," Mr. Carver Loeve on "What a Deaf Layman Expects from a Pastor," and Rev. E. Scheibert on "What a Pastor Expects from a Member." The lectures portrayed the greatness of the Savior, Jesus Christ, and the life of a Christian person reflecting the glory of Christ to others.

Rev. William F. Reinking, Execu-

tive Secretary to the Board for Missions to the Deaf, of St. Louis, Mo., was the guest speaker for the Sunday morning worship service. The topic of his sermon was "Go Ye and Teach." One hundred fifty-five persons attended.

Mr. Albert Arneson of Milwaukee served as chairman of the conference for the business meeting. The following were elected as officers for the coming year: president, Mr. Albert Arneson of Milwaukee; vicepresident, Mr. Arnold Walsvik of Madison; secretary, Mr. Robert Schneider of Milwaukee; and treasurer, Mr. Warren Riege of Milwaukee. The program committee consisted of Mrs. Raymond Krause, Mr. Richard Nelson, and Mr. Royal Ecklof.

A fellowship banquet was held Saturday evening, Sept. 23, at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Eightyfour persons attended. Rev. Reinking presented a lecture and colored slides on his recent trip to Japan, Formosa, Hong Kong, the Philippine Islands, and Hawaii.

The 1962 conference of the Great Lakes Region will be held in Milwaukee, Wis., at a date yet to be determined.

Total attendance for the 1961 conference was 151.

> Mrs. Margaret Krause Milwaukee, Wis.

# Northwest Deaf Laymen's Conference

The 1961 Northwest Conference for Lutheran Deaf laymen was held at Camp Luther on Lake Hatzig in Canada. Guest speaker was Rev. G. W. Gaertner of Oakland, Calif., Regional Representative for the West Coast. The theme of the 1961 camp was "Pray Earnestly."

The Spokane group won the volleyball tournament and took the trophy home for keeps because this was their third year to win the tournament.

Mr. Charles Raymond was elected president of the Northwest Deaf Lay Conference. Mr. Alfred Schindell served as president last year.

The 1962 conference will be held in Spokane.

Rev. George Ring Portland, Oreg.

# Midwest Regional Conference

The 1961 conference of the Midwest Region met at Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp, Story City, Iowa, Sept. 8 to 10. Delegates to the conference accepted the invitation of Prince of Peace Congregation, Saint Paul, Minn., to hold the annual meeting in the Twin Cities area in 1962. In accepting the invitation the delegates indicated that they liked the idea of a camp-type conference since the 1961 conference hosted by Calvary Congregation of Des Moines, Iowa, proved to be so satisfactory.

New officers elected to prepare for next year's conference are: Roy Klein, Minneapolis, chairman; William Bressly, Omaha, vice-chair-



Messrs. Roy Klein, William Bressly, and LeRoy Rickabaugh are installed as officers of the Midwest Regional Conference for 1962 by Rev. A. L. Hauptman, Regional Counselor

man; and LeRoy Rickabaugh, Des Moines, secretary-treasurer. They will meet in Minneapolis on Dec. 30 with the Regional Counselor, Pastor A. Hauptman, to set the date and prepare the program for the 1962 conference.

Four papers were delivered at Story City, Iowa, on "Faith at Work." The papers were delivered by lay delegates. Rev. W. F. Reinking gave a report on our Deaf churches in the United States and Canada. Officers conducting the 1961 conference were Vernon Jones, Ed Doering, and LeRoy Rickabaugh.

The conference closed with the Sunday morning worship service in the beautiful chapel on the camp grounds. Rev. Robert A. Bauer of Edmonton, Alta., Canada, served as preacher with Rev. A. L. Hauptman, St. Paul, as liturgist.

There were eighty-three registered in attendance at the 1961 conference.

Rev. A. L. HAUPTMAN St. Paul, Minn.

# Notes from Executive Secretary Reinking

# Madison Installs Rev. Corl

Rev. Robert Corl, formerly a pastor of The American Lutheran Church, has joined The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and has been installed as pastor of Silent Lutheran Church in Madison, Wis., and missionary to the Deaf in the North Wisconsin field on Sunday, Oct. 8. Rev. Corl trained for eight months under Dr. George Gaertner in Oakland, Calif., and attended five weeks of summer school at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. We welcome Rev. and Mrs. Robert Corl into our staff of missionaries and pray God's rich blessings be ever with them.

# Rochester Call Declined by Rev. Gyle

Pastor Frank Gyle of Miami, Fla., has declined a call from Alpha Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Rochester, N. Y., and the Board for Missions to the Deaf to become the missionary to the Deaf in the Rochester field.

## Deaf Work to Be Started In Formosa

Rev. Ronald Halamka, chairman of the Missionary Conference in Formosa, has written that the Chinese Lutheran pastors have resolved to begin work among the Deaf in Formosa. There has been interest in establishing Deaf work in Formosa ever since Pastor Reinking visited the island on a survey trip of the Orient in the early part of 1960. There are about 17,000 Deaf on the island and no Christian mission work except the work being done by the Southern Baptist Church at the schools in Tainan and Taipei.

The leaders of the Deaf in Formosa have shown a sincere interest in Christian mission work. In fact, the president of the Taiwanese Deaf Association has visited the offices of our Lutheran Church in Taipei several times since Pastor Reinking's visit to see what is being done for the Deaf. This interest was shown in several ways, including the number of Deaf who came out to the airport to bid good-by to Pastor Reinking after his visit and their urging him to make some arrangements to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Deaf.

Four of the Chinese pastors have now signified an interest in the work and have set about to learn the sign language. Once they have learned the language they will begin their actual work among the Deaf. Remember these men in your prayers that the Lord will bless their efforts



Rev. William Reinking visits with a group of Deaf on Taiwan, where Lutheran laymen have taken an active interest in Deaf work. There are several thousand Deaf people on Taiwan

in learning the language and will use them as His instruments to bring the story of our Savior Jesus Christ to the Deaf who have never heard this good news.

# What Are You Giving Christ For His Birthday?

Again this month we are busy preparing for the celebration of the birthday of our Savior Jesus. Many times we become so interested in the trimmings of Christmas, such as cards, gifts, trees, and the like, that we have forgotten the real meaning of Christmas. It is the birthday of God's Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. What are you giving Christ on His birthday? We have just written above about the beginning of the work in Taiwan. There is so much need all over the world for our church to bring the saving Gospel to people. The only way the church can do it is when you as members of the church support the mission program with your gifts. Christmas 1961 is a wonderful time for you to show your love for the Savior by bringing Him a gift. Why don't you put a one-dollar bill or a five-dollar bill, even a ten-dollar bill, into an envelope and on the back of the envelope write "My mission gift a birthday gift to Jesus."

God grant you all a very blessed Christmas as the joy of the newborn Savior fills your heart. See you next month.

> REV. W. F. REINKING St. Louis, Mo.



# He Comes-While Angels Sing

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'" (Luke 2:13, 14)

#### Read Luke Chapter 2.

If we had been asked to arrange for the coming of Jesus, God's Son, into the world, we would no doubt have done it differently. We would have arranged a great parade, the sound of trumpets, a band, and a great meeting of the mighty men on earth (an international conference). Certainly that would have been a proper celebration, knowing who it was that came.

But God has His own way of doing things. So there was no great excitement, no pomp or show, on that first Christmas. The Son of God, the King of Kings, was a baby; the most important family on earth was housed in a lowly stable.

However, there was one group that fully understood the coming of the Holy Child. The angels sang, a mighty army, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." They sang before a small audience, but their song to the few shepherds on the hills of Bethlehem had in it the most precious and glorious comfort: "Unto you is born this day . . . a Savior." They also knew that the words of their song and its meaning would go out beyond those shepherds into all corners of those Judean hills and later would spread in all the world. Did not the angels say, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people"? And the angels are still singing today. Our task, our joy, our privilege is to hear them sing again in our day. Above the noise and darkness of our time, above sin and shame, we hear them. Then in faith we hurry with the shepherds and "go and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto US."

Even so, come, Lord Jesus; be born in us today. Amen.

Rev. E. MAPPES Omaha, Nebr.

# The Disciples of Jesus

#### Philip

1. From John 1:44 we learn that Philip came from the town of

- 2. This was also the home town of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. From John 1:43 we learn that \_\_\_\_\_\_ found Philip and said to him, "\_\_\_\_\_"
- 4. From John 1:45 we learn that Philip found \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. Philip said to him, "We have found Him of whom \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_ wrote."
- 6. Read John 6: 5-14, "The Feeding of the Five Thousand." Jesus asked Philip a question to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his faith. He asked him, "Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"
- 7. Philip did not think that Jesus might give them food by a mira-

cle. He answered, "The wages from 200 days of work will not buy \_\_\_\_\_\_ bread for each one to have even a little."

9. Philip said to Jesus, "Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ the Father and we shall be satisfied."

10. Jesus answered, "He who has seen \_\_\_\_\_ has seen the Father."

NOTE 1. Philip is a wonderful example for us to follow. When Jesus invited Philip to become His disciple, not only did Philip accept Jesus' invitation, but he also found a friend and invited him to "Come and see" Jesus. Are you a true disciple of Jesus, as Philip was? How many of your friends have you invited to come and see Jesus?

Note 2. God sometimes tests our faith just as Jesus tested Philip's faith. God tests our faith for two reasons: 1) to see if we trust Him and remember His power and His

# Your Church on the March

Over a billion people in the world are living in the darkness of unbelief. But this year our church is sending only 18 new missionaries to bring light to the Far East. Our total investment in preaching the Gospel across the Pacific calls for only \$2 million in 1961.

### India

Our oldest and largest field, with 32,000 members. Speed up the work!

# New Guinea

One of the pearls of the Pacific. In one month 600 adults were baptized in Papayuk. Plans were recently laid to send two missionaries into primitive areas now being opened by the government. The trumpet has blown!

#### The Philippines

Here we have 67 stations. The three new men going there this year will open many more. Make no small plans here. **God** is at work!

### Japan

Two new missionaries are going to this growing nation this year, making 30 American and 10 Japanese pastors in all. "Send us *more* men," they call to us.

# Formosa, Hong Kong, Macao

Christ's banners whip smartly in the trade winds of the China Sea. Formosa, with seven American and love, and 2) to make our faith stronger.

Note 3. Jesus came to show us God, our Father. Jesus shows us everything we need to know about our Father in heaven.

> Rev. Louis Jasper Answers on next page

13 Chinese pastors serving a republic. Hong Kong and Macao, with a dozen workers, and *we need many more!* 

# Korea

With so many heathen we have a task force of only four men in this, one of our newest overseas missions. Hurry, the hour is late!

## **Middle East**

*Two men* are starting in Lebanon now, many more must follow soon!

### Africa

Africa in ferment! New nations being born among 200 million people here! After 25 years of work we have 212 stations. Pioneering has begun in **Ghana** and in **Ogoja** province. Communism wants Africa. So does Jesus. Let the trumpet be blown!

#### Europe

The Old World becoming a new world for missions! **England's** dream of 20 congregations in 10 years is coming true. In **Germany** the cradle of Lutheranism rocks again as we this year help repair the old Oberursel seminary and consider a theological training center in the East Zone.

### Latin America

The Caribbean, where we will spend a quarter of a million dollars

this year in Cuba, Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, Venezuela, and Mexico — so little among so many! In the seven million square miles of South America we have 132,000 souls in Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Latin America is a fertile harvest field for Jesus.

### North America

In 1956 your convention delegates resolved to step up our *Home Missions* thrust by opening 1,350 new stations in ten years. In the first four years we were 128 *short* of *goal*. Will we now forge ahead this year, will we catch up, exceed this modest goal in the next few years? We must speed up our work.

### On the March

Our work in Asia has only just begun. We must keep on marching to many more places and people in this vast continent. This should be one of our big years in Asia. Here, in the United States our 32 Districts will raise about \$5 million for new congregations in their home areas. Synod will add another \$1,700,000. Here is the heartthrob of missions right at your front door. "BLOW YE THE TRUMPET IN THE LAND." (Jeremiah 4:5)

["Your Church on the March" was taken from A Call to March, published by The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, Department of Stewardship, Mission Education, and Promotion.]

# Knowledge Is a Gift of God

The Bible is like a stream in which a child can wade safely and in which an elephant can swim.

The most important message in the Bible is the message of the grace of God in Jesus Christ. This message is told so plainly that anybody can understand it.

Some of the verses in the Bible are very difficult to understand. To understand some verses of the Bible one would have to study history and culture and languages. Still other verses are hard to understand because they tell of things that have not yet happened. We may not understand these prophecies until they are fulfilled.

But verses in the Bible that we cannot understand need not disturb us. One thing we know for sure: the verses which we do not understand do not change the message of salvation which we learn from the verses we do understand. This message is that God sent His Son to become our Savior.

And the more we read the Bible, the more God's Holy Spirit will give us knowledge and understanding. The Holy Spirit will teach us to understand many parts of the Bible that are now hard for us to understand.

Read your Bible every day.

REV. JOHN A. BEYER

	Answers
1.	Bethsaida
2.	Andrew Peter
3.	Jesus "Follow Me"
4.	Nathanael
5.	Moses prophets
6.	test (or prove)
7.	enough (or sufficient)
8.	My Father
9.	show us
10.	Ме



#### **Baptism in Memphis**

Memphis, Tenn. Miss Beverly Dean was baptized at Grace Lutheran Church in Memphis, Tenn., on Sunday, Sept. 3, Rev. Wayne Bottlinger officiating.

#### **Roster of Churches**

Washington, D. C. An attempt will be made in the not too distant future to include a roster of Lutheran churches for the Deaf in the DEAF LUTHERAN. Such a roster could not possibly list all the cities where services are held. Such a list would contain more than 275 locations. But it may be possible to list the names and addresses of all churches where services are held as often as twice monthly, with the time of service. At the present time Deaf who travel may use the roster of ministers to the Deaf in the DEAF LUTHERAN to learn the name of the pastor who serves the Deaf in that area. A telephone call will be enough to find out when and where services are held. But a roster of churches might be a desirable feature of the DEAF LU-THERAN and a study of such a possibility is under way.

### **Two Baptized in Detroit Field**

Detroit, Mich. Judy Marie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Petrowske, was baptized on July 30. Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Steven Klein.

Pamela Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Millard, was baptized on Aug. 27. Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lipkey.

#### **Baptism in Baltimore**

Baltimore, Md. Hugh Emil, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Downey, was baptized on Oct. 1, 1961, at Martini Lutheran Church in Baltimore, Pastor H. Hoemann officiating.

#### Vicar George Heidenrich

Newark, N. J. Seminarian George Heidenrich was formally inducted as vicar to the Deaf at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Newark, N. J., on Sept. 10, 1961.

Vicar Heidenrich is from Ottawa, Ill. Since March Vicar Heidenrich has been studying sign language at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., under Rev. George Kraus. For the two months prior to Sept. 10 he served the Indiana Deaf as a supply preacher during the vacancy in that field.

Mrs. Heidenrich is from Fort Wayne, Ind. Her father, Mr. Harold Panning, teaches at Concordia Lutheran High School in Fort Wayne.



Pastor Gerhold congratulates Vicar Heidenrich after the induction ceremonies



Vicar George Heidenrich and Mrs. Heidenrich

#### **Baptism** in Omaha

Omaha, Nebr. Delores JoAnn Reynolds, born July 9, 1961, was baptized in Omaha by Pastor Herman Graef on Sunday, Aug. 20.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Portland, Oreg. Hope Lutheran Church of Portland, Oreg., sponsored a vacation Bible school for deaf children June 19—23. Twentyfive children attended the sessions. The theme of the Bible school was "Jesus Our Savior."

Vicar Andrew Harnack acted as superintendent of the program, with assistance from several teachers. Mrs. Phyllis Barrett taught the Nursery class, with Nona Sprader assisting. Mrs. Helen Drake taught the Kindergarten class, with Clifford Drake assisting. Mrs. Narcissa Eden taught the Primary class, with Elaina Pascua assisting. Mrs. Carol Harnack and Mrs. Fern Rife were in charge of the Junior class. The Junior High class was taught by Vicar Harnack.

The pupils brought their own lunch. Hope Church provided drinks and desserts. Mrs. Ruth Foss, Mrs. Elvira Hughes, and Mrs. Idella Jordan assisted in the kitchen.

Concordia College contributed a bus to provide transportation for some of the pupils. Vicar Harnack was the bus driver. Additional transportation was provided by Mrs. Elvira Hughes and Mrs. Harnack.

A closing program, at which pupils displayed their books and crafts, was held on June 23. Attendance certificates were awarded the pupils; special awards went to those who helped on the staff.

# Forty-fifth Anniversary Of Ordination

Oakland, Calif. On Sept. 24 members and friends of Lutheran Memorial Chapel for the Deaf in Oakland, Calif., gathered to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the ordination of their pastor, Rev. G. W. Gaertner, Ph. D.

Pastor Gaertner was ordained in Chicago, Ill., on Sept. 17, 1916, while Ephphatha Conference was meeting there. He studied sign language under the late Rev. Arthur Dahms and preached his first sermon on Oct. 1 of that year.

Rev. Gaertner arrived in Spokane, Wash., on Jan. 7, 1917. Rev. N. F. Jensen, the only Lutheran missionary to the Deaf on the Pacific Coast at that time, met him, and after a short stay in Spokane the two missionaries visited Portland, Oreg., and the schools for the Deaf in Vancouver, B. C., and Salem. Seattle, Wash., was then chosen to be his headquarters. On June 6, 1917, while on vacation in Illinois, Pastor Gaertner was united in marriage to Mabel Katherine Muskopf. Their marriage was blessed with two children, George, Jr., and Paul.

In 1931 Pastor Gaertner moved to Oakland, Calif., and since that time he has been serving the Deaf in the Bay Area. He is now the Regional Counselor for the West Coast Region.

## **TV** Team: Sustar-Wagenknecht

Pittsburgh, Pa. The news analysis by Col. J. J. Sustar, which is broadcast live by Television Station WQED, Pittsburgh, Channel 13, is being interpreted in sign language again this year by Rev. Frank Wagenknecht, Lutheran minister to the Deaf in Pittsburgh. Pastor Wagenknecht appears with Col. Sustar every Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

### Wedding

St. Paul, Minn. Miss Beverly Kenobbie and Mr. LeRoy Lachowitzer were united in marriage at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, St. Paul, Minn., on Oct. 28, Rev. A. Hauptman, officiating.

## Four Baptized at Miami, One Confirmed

Miami, Fla. Four persons were baptized into the Christian faith at Deaf Zion Lutheran Church, 5051 Biscayne Blvd., in Miami on Aug. 27: Mark Stephen Reinke Nola, William Dewey Metts, Velma Anne Murphy, and Lillian M. Gay Aldridge.

Margaret Jean Olson was confirmed.

Rev. Francis Gyle is pastor of Deaf Zion Congregation, which now numbers 14 communicant members.



"Light for Your Way" Daily Bible Readings for December

- Dec. 1 Lamentations 4:11-22 Dec. 2 — Lamentations 5:1-18
- Dec. 3 Lamentations 5: 19-22
- Dec. 4 Zechariah 1:7-17
- Dec. 5 Zechariah 2:1-13
- Dec. 6 Zechariah 3:1-10
- Dec. 7 Zechariah 4:1-14
- Dec. 8-Zechariah 5:1-11
- Dec. 9 Zechariah 6:1-15
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