11 What, then, is this change to a "pure language"? It is a turning to the message of truth, the refreshing "good news," the "pattern of healthful words," that speaks in praise of Jehovah and his righteous purposes by Christ Jesus. (2 Tim. 1:13) This "pure language" unifies them. And it testifies that, in the epoch-marking year 1914, "the kingdom of the world did become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will rule as king forever and ever." (Rev. 11:15) Taking this message upon their lips, true Christians worldwide "call upon the name of Jehovah" in dedication, harmoniously rendering him "sacred service." As the only truly united people on earth, they go to the homes of the people, heralding forth the "good news" of Jehovah's established kingdom. Thus they serve Jehovah "shoulder to shoulder." (Matt. 24:14; Rom. 12:1) Are you one who has thus separated yourself from the world, to serve God zealously in dedication to Him? It is by thus working along with Jehovah's organized people that you may "get away safe."—Joel 2:32; see also Hosea 14:1, 2; Hebrews 13:15.

13 The "change to a pure language" has been hard for some to make. It is not easy to come out of the world, with its easy-going, permissive ways, and to make the sacrifices necessary for "calling upon the name of Jehovah." It has required our getting rid of wrong thoughts, bad habits and self-seeking, loose ways of life, in order to conform to the clean, worthwhile standards of God's own people. (Eph. 4:17, 18, 29; 1 Pet. 4:3) It has required our giving proper recognition to the one organization that Jehovah is using in the earth today, and this by our associating with the "faithful and discreet slave." It has required meekness, in our "carefully examining" God's Word with the aid of that 'slave's' publications, in order to fortify our faith.—Matt. 24:45; Acts 17:11.

14 In serving Jehovah "shoulder to shoulder," we need, as Zephaniah so often emphasizes, to cultivate the quality of meekness. When we make mistakes, as all imperfect humans do, let us be ready to acknowledge them, even as the "faithful and discreet slave," made up of imperfect fleshly men, has had to make corrections. However, let us never be critical of the grand body of truth that Jehovah has built up among his united people over the past 100 years, and which, by correction and adjustment, has come to shine ever more brightly on "the path of the righteous ones."—Prov. 4:18.

15 From time to time, there have arisen from among the ranks of Jehovah's people those who, like the original Satan, have adopted an independent, faultfinding attitude. They do not want to serve "shoulder to shoulder" with the worldwide brotherhood. (Compare Ephesians 2:19-22.) Rather, they present a "stubborn shoulder" to Jehovah's words. (Zech. 7:11, 12) Reviling the pattern of the "pure language" that Jehovah has so graciously taught his people over the past century, these haughty ones try to draw the "sheep" away from the one international "flock" that Jesus has gathered in the earth. (John 10:7-10, 16) They try to sow doubts and to separate unsuspecting ones from the bounteous "table" of spiritual food spread at the Kingdom Halls of Jehovah's Witnesses, where truly there is "nothing lacking." (Ps. 23:1-6) They say that it is sufficient to read the Bible exclusively, either alone or in small groups at home. But, strangely, through they have reverted to the traditions of the men of old, and some celebrating Christ such as the Roman 25!/ Jesus: against such laws 13; Acts 20:28-3

16 Through his Jehovah tells His people who sh to the voice of the Lord. "I shall remove the haughtly exultant again be haughty In happy contras: "I shall certainly le with a humble spirit actually take refuge (Zeph. 3:11, 12)

Yes, these are the "shoulder to shoulder" (the holy work o 15:15, 16) They the lowly work of house after the ciples learned fr 10:5-13; Luke 9: refuge in Jehovah that glorious na vindicate it by the his Christ. (Ezek 50, Jehovah's people to his righteou that "there will tremble." (Zep. peace of mind!

A TIME FOR

17 Zephaniah hi

18 (a) What "pure language" is heard today? (b) How extensively is this "language" being spoken? (c) How do those speaking it "call upon the name of Jehovah," and with what result?

12, 13. (a) What problems may be involved in learning this "language"? (b) Why is meekness required in serving "shoulder to shoulder"? (c) How may we cultivate the quality of meekness?

28
strangely, through such ‘Bible reading,’ they have reverted right back to the apostate doctrines that commentators by Christendom's clergy were teaching 100 years ago, and some have even returned to celebrating Christendom's festivals again, such as the Roman Saturnalia of December 25! Jesus and his apostles warned against such lawless ones.—Matt. 24:11-13; Acts 20:28-30; 2 Pet. 2:1, 22.

Through his prophet Zephaniah, Jehovah tells His people how He will dispose of those who shamelessly try to sow discord in His earthly organization, saying: "I shall remove from the midst of you your haughtily exultant ones; and you will never again be haughty in my holy mountain.” In happy contrast, Jehovah says: "I shall certainly let remain in the midst of you a people humble and lowly, and they will actually take refuge in the name of Jehovah." (Zeph. 3:11, 12)

Yes, these are the meek ones, who work "shoulder to shoulder" as they engage in "the holy work of the good news." (Rom. 15:15, 16) They are not too proud to do the lowly work of calling from house to house after the pattern that Jesus’ disciples learned from the Master. (Matt. 10:5-13; Luke 9:2-6; Acts 5:42) Taking refuge in Jehovah’s name, they proclaim that glorious name and his purpose to vindicate it by the triumphant kingdom of his Christ. (Ezek. 38:23; Dan. 2:44) As Jehovah’s people serve and live according to his righteousness, they are confident that “there will be no one making them tremble.” (Zeph. 3:13) They enjoy true peace of mind!

A TIME FOR JOYFUL ACTIVITY

Zephaniah himself is made glad by such assurance from Jehovah, so that he calls on God’s people, saying: “Joyfully cry out, O daughter of Zion! Break out in cheers, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! Jehovah has removed the judgments upon you. He has turned away your enemy. The king of Israel, Jehovah, is in the midst of you. You will fear calamity no more.” (Zeph. 3:14, 15)

Since 1919, when they were released from spiritual captivity to Babylon the Great, the anointed witnesses of Jehovah have served him “shoulder to shoulder” in giving joyful public testimony. Jehovah has judged and approved these children of the heavenly Jerusalem. (Gal. 4:26; 1 Pet. 4: