

October 12, 2014

Fenway Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
49 Winthrop Street,
Boston, MA. 02119

RE: Appeal to Watchtower Society & Governing Body to rescind the decision of the original judicial committee and the appeal committee who upheld the decision to disfellowship me on the grounds of apostasy.

Appeal committee members:

Chairman: Daniel Sideris
Elder: Anthony Gilmer
Elder: Lawyer Times

Dear Appeal Committee,

I am writing this letter requesting an appeal of your decision to uphold the charge of apostasy against me. Again, I believe a serious error in judgment occurred during the Appeal Hearing requiring a review by the Branch Office.

I first note that my request that the brothers sitting in appeal be 'anointed' brothers who have the 'witness of the spirit' and who are guided and 'led by spirit' was denied. Recall that Paul wrote that only God's sons are led by spirit. (Romans 8:14) Yet, of the six men who have, so far, sat in judgment of me, not one professes to be a son of God who is 'led by spirit.' Even in a worldly court, when a matter goes up on appeal, men of greater distinction, deeper knowledge and broader experience preside. Yet in this case, you brothers have no more spiritual insight than the three men who fumbled their way through a mock Judicial Hearing where they were too afraid to read the Bible or Watchtower publications. This is a grave injustice. It is just as what Paul was referring to:

“But a physical man does not accept the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot get to know them, because they are examined spiritually.” (1 Cor. 2:14)

If I had been charged with some fleshly sin, then perhaps physical men with fleshly and/or earthly hopes could rightly sit in judgment of me. But in this case, where the charge is of a spiritual matter, justice requires that anointed spirit-led men be brought in to examine the matter spiritually.

Therefore, I am requesting that the men in the Branch Office who review this appeal be 'spiritual men' who have the witness of the spirit, who profess to be brothers of Christ and sons of God so that justice can at least be attempted.

I wish to remind you that I am charged with **apostasy because I unqualifiedly believe what Jesus said** at John 6:53-56:

“So Jesus said to them: “Most truly I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in yourselves. 54 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has everlasting life, and I will resurrect him on the last day; 55 for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood remains in union with me, and I in union with him.”

Even Anthony Gilmer admitted that this command of Jesus applies to all, even though he chooses not to obey it. Then he directed me to information in the “Reasoning Book” in an attempt to show that Jesus words have nothing to do with the Memorial Supper. On page 268, it states that Jesus could not have been referring to the Memorial Supper because “That arrangement was not introduced until nearly a year later.” Instead it explains that ‘eating and drinking’ refers to “exercising faith in the redeeming power of Jesus’ flesh and blood laid down in sacrifice.” However, isn’t it true that Jesus did not lay down his flesh and blood in sacrifice until a year later either? In fact, isn’t it true that these two events occurred on the same night? Therefore, isn’t it possible that Jesus was giving all those who would believe in him some foreknowledge of what was to occur? Also, if we think about it, to “exercise faith” means that we would need to DO SOMETHING to show we have faith. So, isn’t it possible that the SOMETHING that we all need to do to show we have faith in the redeeming power of Jesus’ flesh and blood is to partake of the emblems at the Memorial Supper?

It appears, in spite of the circular statements in the Reasoning Book, when actually thought out, it appears we are in agreement. The Reasoning Book says that all, not just 144,000, should exercise faith in Jesus, and the Reasoning Book says that Jesus meant we exercise faith by ‘eating and drinking of him.’ So, I ask you men, where is the apostasy?

Anthony Gilmer then cited Titus 3:10-11 and inferred that by unqualifiedly believing what Jesus said at John 6:53-56, I was promoting a sect. However, Titus 3:9 shows otherwise. Here are those verses:

“9 But have nothing to do with foolish arguments and genealogies and disputes and fights over the Law, for they are unprofitable and futile. 10 As for a man who promotes a sect, reject him after a first and a second admonition, 11 knowing that such a man has deviated from the way and is sinning and is self-condemned.”

According to these verses, it is not I who is promoting a sect. I am not presenting foolish and defective arguments or disputing about ‘Law.’ I am merely **believing** what Jesus taught. Surely, in a religion that claims to be Christian, this **cannot** constitute apostasy. A better definition of an apostate would be one who **refuses** to believe what Jesus taught. That does not describe me. Therefore, a further appeal of this matter must be had.

I understand that I have no further opportunity to personally speak in my own defense at the appeal to the Branch Office. I know that I will be judged on the notes taken during the Judicial Committee Hearing, the notes taken during the Appeal Hearing, and my two appeal letters,

including this one which will serve as my last appeal for justice in the Watchtower Organization. Therefore, I sincerely and humbly ask this final question:

Imagine that I, and all seven brothers who were involved in this judicial matter – Les Fashank, Anthony Aguirre, Peter Husbands, Lance McBrayer, Daniel Sideris, Anthony Gilmer and Lawyer Times – were members of a 1st century Christian congregation. And imagine that this issue of ‘eating and drinking of the Christ’ arose and the Apostle Paul was sitting in judgment of this dispute. Which of us would he deem to be the apostate? The one who believes that all should ‘eat and drink of the Christ’ and ‘continue proclaiming the death of our Lord until he arrives’ or those who would expel such a believer from the congregation?

What is needed at this time are men with the spirit, the knowledge, the courage and the wisdom of Paul – men who are ‘led by spirit’ (Romans 8:14), who have sufficient knowledge of the Bible to be able to ‘explain and prove their point by scripture references’ (Acts 17:3), and who have trained their powers of discernment to be able to distinguish both right and wrong. (Hebrews 5:14) Only under these circumstances will the injustice already meted out against me be corrected.

Thank you,