

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

On November 2, 2012, we received the following comments and inquiries:

“Responding to your answer to someone who referred to you as apostates. First, I am not on the Governing Body and have never been to Bethel.

“This was your comment, “Do not stumble over the fact that the Governing Body has not yet accepted our work. We hope and pray that their silence is temporary and that soon we will be serving the Father together, spreading the good news to the most distant parts of the earth.”

“First Problem, the good news has and is being spread to the most distant parts of the earth, by the direction of the Governing Body. Being so busy in that scriptural duty, they don't accept any false worship. Nor join any other religious group. Just like you said you don't have time to read Franz book because you are busy in the work. They are simply doing the same thing you said you do.

“Compare results, the Governing Body said we had over 18 million at the Memorial two years ago. We don't even know where you meet. Same applies to baptism, we have a number, but I don't see yours. Words are cheap, but results have actions that happened. So any reasonable person knowing the end is near would say show me your results.

“My other problem with your opening statement which I started with is where you hope and pray that they accept your work and start serving the Father together, spreading the good news. Right there shows you are not working with the Governing Body. Ps 133:1 1 Cor 1:10

“So you can understand how God and His Son have guided the preaching work for a long time covering the earth, and now some internet start up says they are going to do it. Where I come from the saying is, A Day Late, And A Dollar Short!

“When I received the truth I realized there would be many false anointed ones who mislead. But the record of works has no comparison!

“Diaglott Mat 24:24, “Shall be raised for false anointed ones and false prophets, and shall give signs great and wonders, so as to deceive, if possible even the chosen.

“Thank you for your time and I'm going to see if you post this to your readers.”

To the author, we respect your passion and your honesty about what you believe to be true. We also commend your attempt to defend what you perceive to be an attack on the Governing Body. However, we believe you are mistaken on many fronts. Let us reason together.

You state: [T]he good news has and is being spread to the most distant parts of the earth, by the direction of the Governing Body. Being so busy in that scriptural duty, they don't accept any false worship. Nor join any other religious group. It is true that a ‘certain sort of good news’ (*Galatians 1:6*) is being spread to the most distant parts of the earth at the direction of the Governing Body. But it is not the good news that Jesus and the apostles taught, and it is not the good news that is expounded on in the Christian Greek Scriptures. The Governing Body teaches that all, except a few thousand Christians, have the hope of living forever on the earth under paradise conditions. Neither Jesus nor any of the Christian Bible writers preached or taught such a hope. For a discussion of the true good news, see our article **What is the Good News?**

This ‘other sort of good news’ did not even come into the thoughts of Christianity until nearly 1900 years after Christ's death and resurrection when a handful of Christians attempted to interpret the prophecies in the Book of Revelation. Their limited spiritual vision led them to conclude that the Father's purpose is for a ‘great crowd’ of people to live forever on earth. And they accepted this view, even though it is in direct conflict with what is taught in the Bible, namely:

“Stop storing up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break in and steal. Rather, **store up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust consumes, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**”
– *Matthew 6:19-21*

“For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, should be dissolved, we are to have a building from God, a house not made with hands, everlasting in the heavens. For in this dwelling house we do indeed groan, **earnestly desiring to put on the one for us from heaven.**” – *2 Corinthians 5:1-2*

“As for us, **our citizenship exists in the heavens**, from which place also we are eagerly waiting for a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will refashion our humiliated body to be conformed to his glorious body according to the operation of the power that he has, even to subject all things to himself.” – *Philippians 3:20-21*

“We thank God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ always when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in connection with Christ Jesus and the love you have for all the holy ones **because of the hope that is being reserved for you in the heavens.** This [hope] you heard of before by telling of the truth of that good news which has presented itself to you, even as it is bearing fruit and increasing in all the world just as [it is doing] also among you, from the day you heard and accurately knew the undeserved kindness of God in truth.” – *Colossians 1:3-6*

“If, however, you were raised up with the Christ, go on seeking the things above, where the Christ is seated at the right hand of God. **Keep your minds fixed on the things above not on the things upon the earth.**” – *Colossians 3:1-2*

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for according to his great mercy he gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an incorruptible and undefiled and unfading inheritance. **It is reserved in the heavens for you**, who are being safeguarded by God’s power through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last period of time.” – *1 Peter 1:3-5*

The Apostle Paul went so far as to tell us that if we are not pursuing the heavenly hope, we should pray about it and God will correct our thinking:

“I am pursuing down toward the goal for **the prize of the upward call of God** by means of Christ Jesus. Let us, then, as many of us as are mature, be of this mental attitude; and if you are mentally inclined otherwise in any respect, **God will reveal the above [attitude] to you.**” – *Philippians 3:14-15*

For a further discussion and clarification of this matter, see the articles **What is the Good News? Who Are Led by Spirit? Moving Forward in Faith, Holding Fast to the Sacred Secret, Foreordained from the Founding of the World.** We believe you will find them truly enlightening.

You commented: [Compare results, the Governing Body said we had over 18 million at the Memorial two years ago. We don't even know where you meet. Same applies to baptism, we have a number, but I don't see yours. Words are cheap, but results have actions that happened. So any reasonable person knowing the end is near would say show me your results.](#) Brother, please know that we do not hold any meetings. We are not seeking disciples or followers. We are only trying to uplift the congregations and the spiritual conversation worldwide. We find it interesting, though, that you are impressed with the attendance of 18 million people at the Memorial celebration two years ago. Did you know that at the 2010 Memorial, only 11,202 out of 18 million, confessed sonship with God? What does that tell you about the Governing Body's fruit? It screams that their preaching work does not produce sons of the kingdom! Rather than being an example of fine works, the statistics you site tell a woeful story of much ado about nothing.

As for us, we receive reports from around the world that, on average, about 250-500 persons per week are being baptized into Christ as sons of the Kingdom as a direct result of our ministry and this website. For more information on our work, see the articles **The Powerful Message of Sonship, What Prevents Me?** and **Emails from Visitors.** Yet we do not 'claim' these people as our own. Instead, we encourage them to use their newfound relationship with the Father to help others 'become reconciled' to God (*2 Corinthians 5:20*) from wherever they are. As Jesus said to the Samaritan woman:

'Believe me, woman, The hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you people worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, because salvation originates with the Jews. Nevertheless, the hour is coming, and it is now, when the true worshipers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for, indeed, the Father is looking for suchlike ones to worship him. God is a Spirit, and those worshipping him must worship with spirit and truth.'” – *John 4:21-24*

That is the Christian ministry brother!

You commented: [My other problem with your opening statement which I started with is where you hope and pray that they accept your work and start serving the Father together, spreading the good news. Right there shows you are not working with the Governing Body. Ps 133:1 1 Cor 1:10.](#) Brother, if you will look at our **Open Letters** to the Governing Body and the Writing Department, you will see that we are making great effort to work with them, not against them. Every attempt to reach out to them has been prompted with and founded on brotherly love. But loving our brothers does not mean we look away when we see them taking a false path. Surely you remember this counsel:

“Brothers, even though a man takes some false step before he is aware of it, you who have spiritual qualifications try to readjust such a man in a spirit of mildness, as you each keep an eye on yourself, for fear you also may be tempted. Go on carrying the burdens of one another, and thus fulfill the law of the Christ.” – *Galatians 6:1-2*

You commented: [When I received the truth I realized there would be many false anointed ones who mislead. But the record of works has no comparison! Diaglott Mat 24:24, "Shall be raised for false anointed ones and false prophets, and shall give signs great and wonders, so as to deceive, if possible even the chosen."](#) This is an interesting comment. You first extol the Governing Body for giving great sign and wonders in their numbers and their works, and then you cite to Matthew 24:24 which says that false anointed ones will give signs and great wonders. We know you mean to direct that condemnation at us, but we caution you in this regard. As they say, when you point your finger, three of your fingers are pointing back at you. So, again, brother, be cautious.

Finally, you commented: [Thank you for your time and I'm going to see if you post this to your readers.](#) So you see, we posted your comments and our responses. We are not afraid to defend our hope or our ministry. Nor are we so self-involved that we cannot accept criticism. To the contrary, we welcome comments, even opposing ones.

While we can respect your zeal and your passion, your comments, brother, are based in emotion, not in truth. You were immediately offended at even the appearance of someone attacking the Governing Body. Yet you express no sensitivity to the blatant disrespect of Christ (as if he never came and had no message for us), for his teachings (as if they are insignificant to the majority of mankind), or for his brothers, not even the least of them.

We urge you to get your spiritual allegiance in the proper order. May you have peace.

"Elaia Luchnia"
