
www.AnointedJW.org

Christian Way
United States of America
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Governing Body
WATCHTOWER BIBLE
& TRACT SOCIETY
25 Columbia Heights
Brooklyn, NY 11201-2483

Collectively and individually as
Samuel Herd, David Splane, Anthony Morris,
Jeoff Jackson, Gerrit Losch, Guy Pearce,
Stephen Lett, and Mark Sanderson

Dear Brothers,

Yesterday, we published a new article entitled **Relative Subjection to Religious Authority**. A link to the article can be found on the **Update Page** of our site: www.AnointedJW.org. This article was not written in connection with any particular event, but it is quite timely in light of the November 15, 2013, Watchtower wherein you state:

“At that time, the lifesaving direction that we receive from Jehovah’s organization may not appear practical from a human standpoint. All of us must be ready to obey **any instructions** we may receive, **whether these appear sound from a strategic or human standpoint or not.**” –
Page 20, paragraph 17 [Emphasis added]

This statement is provoking an outcry by many within the association of Jehovah’s Witnesses, and rightly so. While we understand the need to ‘be obedient to those taking the lead,’ **unquestioned** obedience to an **impractical** directive is quite another matter and betrays a lack of appreciation for relative vs. absolute subjection.

Like the authority of governments, the authority of a religious organization is also relative. Unquestioned obedience is due only to God. Jesus explained in simple terms the error of blindly following another person. He said “If, then, a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit.” (*Matthew 15:14*) We are not saying you brothers are blind, but we have come to question your spiritual vision and insight.

Why is it you cannot see that all of your brothers are sons of God who have before them **the same hope you have** of everlasting life in heaven? Why is it you turn a deaf ear to the sons of God who are crying out within the congregations for support, encouragement and real spiritual food? Until this defect is corrected, it is hardly wise for our brothers to follow your directives, especially if they defy practical wisdom. Surely you can understand their dilemma.

Perhaps a reading of the article is in order. It not only discusses the difference between relative and absolute authority, it offers suggestions on how those in positions of oversight should handle their relative authority and how a proper view of relative subjection can safeguard us from spousal abuse, child sexual abuse, and religious abuse.

As always, we send these letters with love and in the hope that we will reach your ‘inner person of the heart’ who surely wants to please the Father above all else.

Your Brothers and Ambassadors for Christ,
www.AnointedJW.org
