

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

On March 24, 2014, we received the following comment and inquiry:

“[Concerning **Question and Response 3/22/14**] Am I correct in understanding that you consider or allude to the Governing Body as "group of rebels"? As a group of rebels, would it be fair to assume that God the Father and the Christ have not blessed the work it has promoted over the decades, preaching of the good news in particular?

“As rebels, was there no instance that God's holy spirit guided the global preaching & bible education work, including perhaps millions of Jehovah's Witnesses who have prayed for guidance from the Father and His Son? What about the results the organization has yielded like transforming lives - from notorious/violent to more responsible citizens, kind and peace-loving individuals?

“When you said, "supporting a group of rebels", what does that exactly mean? Under what circumstances can a person be considered as supporting this group of rebels? Can you cite specific cases or activities?

“Thanks in advance for your reply.”

To the author, thank you for your email. To directly answer your question, yes, we view the Governing Body as a group of rebels because they blatantly rebel against the plain and open teachings of Christ. Most notoriously, they are attempting to ‘close the door to the heavens’ for all but a few thousand Jehovah’s Witnesses and they fight openly and brazenly with all who dare confess union with Christ Jesus as his brothers and heirs to the kingdom of the heavens. This specific action is expressly condemned by Jesus:

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut up the Kingdom of the heavens before men; for you yourselves do not go in, neither do you permit those on their way in to go in.” –
Matthew 23:13

Jesus said that we must ‘eat and drink of him’ in order to gain everlasting life. (***John 6:53***) The Governing Body teaches that we do not need to ‘eat and drink’ of Christ to gain life. The mainstay of their teachings are the ‘old wine’ of the Jewish religious system. (***Mark 2:22***) Their literature constantly honors the Hebrew prophets, but gives little time to the greatest prophet, Jesus Christ. They reject the heavens as the hope and destiny of mankind, and instead seek their ‘land of milk and honey’ here on earth. Jesus and the apostles taught one destiny. The Governing Body teaches ‘another sort of good news’ that effectively pushes aside the one destiny Jesus taught. These are examples of clear rebellion. (***Galatians 1:6-9***)

True, they have done some good works, but that does not excuse their notorious disrespect and persecution of Christ and ‘his brothers.’ (***Matthew 25:40, 45***) Many organizations, religious and non-religious, help people transform their lives – organizations such as Alcoholics Anonymous. Many religions engage in a Bible education work and produce responsible citizens, and kind and peace-loving individuals. These are examples of God’s blessings on the works of men. Jehovah’s Witnesses do not have a monopoly on producing good people, nor on receiving God’s blessings. And if God’s blessings are indicated by the number of people who adopt a certain religious view, then the Catholics must be the most blessed of all Christian denominations.

In fact, when it comes to good and charitable works alone, the Watchtower Society falls well behind other Christian groups. Have you ever heard of a hospital or a school or a shelter run by the Watchtower organization? No. All of their good works are reserved for their members alone, and even these are scarce. Any non-Witness who receives a benefit from the Watchtower Society receives it as a byproduct of helping a Witness or as part of their recruiting work. Yet, the Governing Body has no problem labeling these other religious organization as belonging to ‘Satan’s System.’ How presumptuous to view themselves as the only organization worthy of God’s blessings when they are doing very little in the way of good works toward mankind!

Nevertheless, the Father is not just looking for good people. He is looking for sons. He is looking for those who are willing to follow Christ Jesus’ example and pursue the heavenly kingdom. In this area, the Governing Body is failing miserably. Of the over 19 million who attend their Memorial ‘meetings,’ they profess to have only produced about 13,000 sons of the Father. And they are hoping that this number dies off soon so they can have their earthly paradise. So even in the matter of their preaching and teaching work, they are not very productive according to the Father’s standards.

The failure to produce sons of God and the blatant opposition of those who profess sonship, we believe, is the most reprehensible thing a Christian leadership can do and it outweighs and even nullifies all their ‘good works.’ The behavior of the Governing Body and the Watchtower Society illustrates most clearly why this interchange would occur:

“Not everyone saying to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter into the Kingdom of the heavens, but only the one doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens will. Many will say to me in that day: ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name?’ And then I will declare to them: ‘I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness!’” – *Matthew 7:21-23*

Yes, the Governing Body has been directing some good works, but they have also turned away from Jesus and they are dragging millions down with them. All those who choose to listen to the Governing Body instead of Jesus are ‘supporting this group of rebels.’ All those who choose to reject the Memorial emblems in obedience to the Governing Body are ‘supporting this group of rebels.’ We are doing what we can to open our brothers’ eyes to these most offensive acts by publishing articles on this website such as **A Memorial of Offense, A Tale of Two Suppers, The Cherished Earthly Hope, Lastly He Sent His Son, Waiting on Jehovah and Discerning the Time of Inspection.**

It is a sad thing to realize, but the Governing Body of Jehovah’s Witnesses is not on the side of Christ Jesus. They have taken an adversarial stance and are leading the sheep away from the true shepherd. (*John 10:1-16*) And no amount of good and powerful works will excuse them. Really, we believe the word ‘rebels’ is generous. A more appropriate word, and the word more suitable to their vocabulary, is ‘apostates.’

“Elaia Luchnia”
