

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

On July 16, 2012, we received the following comment and inquiry:

“My question to you is being that I am DF'd and you are in support of the WTBTS (albeit with the hope of them readjusting their doctrines) is it your encouragement and understanding that I would need to seek reinstatement into the WTBTS to truly have God's favor? If you have an opinion or can shed light on this for me I would deeply appreciate it. I long to be pleasing to God and to express my love for Him and my neighbor, but do not have a platform to express such love. Therefore I find myself drawn back to the organization if for no other reason than to have a platform to express my faith and love. However if I were to express my faith, it would not be in agreement with current WT doctrine and would lead me to being labeled an apostate of the WTBTS.

I again am very grateful for your work. May Jehovah bless your continued efforts to shed light on the real good news and may He bless your efforts to reach the GB and effect a return to the original and only message of Jesus. Rev 14:4 says the anointed is virgin men. How can woman also have the hope?

To the author, we thank you for your kind words. We are pleased to respond to your question.

The first thing we want to tell you (which we are sure you know) is that the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society **is not** equivalent to Jehovah. They are separate and distinct. Truly, what group of men can accurately represent God? Jesus is the only authorized representative of the Father.

“No man has seen God at any time; the only-begotten god who is in the bosom [position] with the Father is the one that has explained him.” – **John 1:18**

“Jesus said to him: “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” – **John 14:6**

“Furthermore, there is no salvation in anyone else, for there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved.” – **Acts 4:12**

“In answer Peter and the [other] apostles said: ‘We must obey God as ruler rather than men.’” – **Acts 5:29**

“What, then, is Apollos? Yes, what is Paul? **Ministers through whom you became believers**, even as the Lord granted each one. I planted, Apollos watered, but God kept making [it] grow; **so that neither is he that plants anything nor is he that waters**, but God who makes [it] grow. Now he that plants and he that waters are one, but each [person] will receive his own reward according to his own labor. **For we are God’s fellow workers**. You people are **God’s field under cultivation, God’s building.**” – *1 Corinthians 3:5-9*

As such, you can very easily return to the Father – there are no procedural requirements and no hoops to jump through. You simply approach the Father in prayer, share your heartfelt concerns, and accept His love and forgiveness.

When we sin, **we** are the ones who separate from the Father. The Father does not leave us. When the scripture says: “I will by no means leave you nor by any means forsake you” (*Hebrews 13:5*), it is unconditional. It is **we** who have closed the door. The Father stands ever ready to forgive “in a large way.” (*Isaiah 55:7*) We commented on the Father’s love and forgiveness in **response to a question on April 7, 2012, “I’ve sinned so much. Could I really be a son?”** You might find it helpful. So you see, you do not need acceptance by any man or organization to have the Father’s favor.

At the same time, the Father allows a religious association to set their own rules for governance and conduct. But there is a difference between our spiritual relationship with the Father and our social relationship with our brothers. We read:

“Truly I say to you men, Whatever things you may bind on earth will be things bound in heaven, and whatever things you may loose on earth will be things loosed in heaven.” – *Matthew 18:18*

Obviously, this only pertains to procedural matters and not matters of worship since only the Father and the Christ establish those requirements. So if you wish reinstatement in the WTBTs, you will have to follow their procedures. And given what you now know to be true, by conducting yourself wisely, you can have a positive effect on the congregation. Many who are waking up to their true hope are doing so.

We certainly understand your need for a platform to express yourself, and “field service” is an excellent platform. Keep in mind, too, that nothing prevents you from approaching people informally and sharing your hope. No one can stop you from making ‘public declaration of your faith.’ (*Hebrews 10:23*) You will note that several religious groups engage in the door-to-door ministry as well. So, you see, Jehovah’s Witnesses do not have a patent on preaching and teaching.

The challenge is making sure you have the right message. We are doing what we can to provide subject matters for discussion among the brotherhood as well as in the ministry. We have been told that many of our brothers and sisters use only the Bible in their ministry because they cannot in good faith promote the content of many of the Watchtower magazines and publications. Whatever you decide, nothing prevents you from speaking about your faith. Remember the words of the apostles:

“But in reply Peter and John said to them: ‘Whether it is righteous in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves. But as for us, we cannot stop speaking about the things we have seen and heard.’ – *Acts 4:19-20*

Finally, please know that our work is causing a stir within the organization – in a good way. So please stay tuned and feel free to write us again.

“Elaia Luchnia”
