QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

On April 22, 2015, we received the following inquiry:

"Please let me get this off my Chest!

"www.catholic.org/news. Slaughter of Ethiopian Christians is 'a testimony which cries out to be heard,' Pope Francis says.

"www.jw.org/en/news/ - Russian Witness Finds 6,000 Euros and Returns Money to Owner.

"Christians are being slaughtered!!! Do we pray for them? How do we help? What can we do on an individual level? These and more questions need to be addressed. I have spoken to many [Jehovah's Witnesses] and they tell me, "That is an easy answer.....They are not "TRUE CHRISTIANS" Do not believe me? Just ask a [Jehovah's Witness] in a private conversation. How do I know? I was a "SUPERSTAR" ELDER for many years. When the coals get red hot you know who really is a "Brother in Christ." I WILL NEVER go door to door again passing out silly magazines!!! NEVER! But I think we need to go "door to door" and wake up Christians and say "Your Brothers are being Slaughtered!!!!!" We can not keep quiet!! Thank you for your Contact Us section."

To the author, thank you for your email. We understand your distress. Of course, the comments by those whom you spoke with are heartless, judgmental and wrong. It is this type of superiority complex that will be the undoing of both the Watchtower organization and the individual publishers. There is no place in the kingdom for such prejudice and judgmentalism.

As for the atrocities being perpetrated on our brothers in other countries, we agree with you that this must stop. There are many people and organizations that are doing what they can to help, and do not forget that our celestial family is also actively protecting, consoling and saving those brothers and sisters. Many of them are being 'kept from the hour of test' by not being conscious of their painful ordeals, much as occurred in the 1st century.

We should never minimize the struggles of our brothers and sisters around the world, and at the same time, we must understand that by going through these trials, the hope of these brothers and sisters for the heavenly inheritance is assured. In this generation, we will likely all taste death. But until our own time comes, we should use this time in building one another up. Never have a defeatist attitude. Never give into despair.

To those undergoing these types of trial, we encourage you to never give up your hope. These trials are momentarily and light compared to the glory that awaits you. Some may have the opportunity to successfully flee from the danger. If you have the chance, seize it! Others who cannot flee, we encourage you to have faith that you, too, will be 'kept from the hour of test' and that your celestial family will never abandon you on this side, and will be waiting for you to welcome you into the real life.

And we would like to mention that our prayers also go out to all who were affected by the earthquake in Nepal – our brothers and sisters, as well as those who have yet to realize their relationship with the Father of All. Their tragedy arises from a 'natural disaster' – out of the control of humans. These things will from time to time occur, but nothing and no one can separate us from the love of the Father and the hope held out to all.

We pray that all the faith sons worldwide remember our brothers in your prayers, and we pray that those in the effected communities continue to be a source of comfort to your friends, family and countrymen.

"Elaia Luchnia"