

Dear {insert name of recipient}

I think that you know me to be a lover of truth and a loyal servant of our God Jehovah and his Son, Jesus Christ. It is my love of truth that moves me to write to you.

I've always been proud to think that I am in the truth. I know you feel the same. This is why I want to share some serious concerns that are troubling me. True brothers and sisters console and help each other.

MY FIRST CONCERN: Why was Watch Tower affiliated with the United Nations Organization for ten years?

You can imagine my shock when I learned from the web site of the United Nations (www.un.org) that the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York applied for and was granted association with the UN as an NGO, a non-governmental organization, for ten years.

This bothered me and so I did some research in the Watchtower Library to see what justification could be found to support this. I came across this article In *The Watchtower* of June, 1, 1991 called "Their Refuge—A Lie!" Here are some quotes from it that I agree with.

"Like ancient Jerusalem, Christendom looks to worldly alliances for security, and her clergy refuse to take refuge in Jehovah." (w91 6/1 p. 16 par. 8)

"Since 1945 she has put her hope in the United Nations. (Compare Revelation 17:3, 11.) How extensive is her involvement with this organization? A recent book gives an idea when it states: "No less than twenty-four Catholic organizations are represented at the UN.'" (w91 6/1 p. 17 pars. 10-11)

I wondered if maybe there was some difference between the Watchtower Society's affiliation and that of the twenty-four Catholic organizations this article refers to. I checked on the UN web site and found this: <https://www.un.org/en/civil-society/watchtowerletter/>

There is no difference in the eyes of the UN. Both organizations are registered as NGOs. Why is the Watchtower involved with the image of the wild beast of Revelation? If I joined a political party or the UN, I'd be disfellowshipped, wouldn't I? I don't understand this.

MY SECOND CONCERN: The Organization's failure to report known sexual predators to the Superior Authorities

Can you imagine how it would ruin your life to have been sexually abused as a child? I have had people in the preaching work confront me with the accusation that Jehovah's Witnesses don't protect our children from pedophiles. I was sure this was false. So, I did some research to be able to prove to them that we are different.

What I found out really shocked me. I found a news story that talked about child sexual abuse in religions in Australia that included Jehovah's Witnesses. This was a government news story that included this link. <https://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/case-studies/case-study-29-jehovahs-witnesses>. This link does not include a video, but does include the official transcript of the proceedings including the sworn testimony of the elders and branch committee members, even brother Geoffrey Jackson of the Governing Body.

Basically, these documents show that over 1,800 Witness children were abused for many years. The branch office kept files on over 1,000 brothers who were molesting children, but never reported a single one of them to the police, and some of these pedophiles never stopped serving in their congregation. Why did the branch office keep their names secret from the authorities?

Romans 13:1-7 tells us to obey the superior authorities, unless their orders conflict with God's commands. How does hiding the names of pedophiles from the superior authorities conflict with Jehovah God's commandments? I can't see any reason why they would not protect our children. What do you think about this?

Maybe you think it's not our responsibility to report rapists and sexual predators to the worldly authorities. I wondered about that as well, but then I remembered this scripture.

“If a bull gores a man or a woman and that one dies, the bull must be stoned to death and its meat is not to be eaten; but the owner of the bull is free from punishment. But if a bull was in the habit of goring and its owner had been warned but he would not keep it under guard and it killed a man or a woman, the bull is to be stoned and its owner is also to be put to death.”
(Exodus 21:28, 29)

Can we really believe that Jehovah would make a law like this that required a man to be stoned to death for failing to protect his neighbors from a bull he was responsible for, but would let a man slide unpunished for failing to protect the most vulnerable of his flock—little children—from a sexual predator? Though that was part of the Mosaic Law, doesn't the principle behind it continue to apply?

MY THIRD CONCERN: Where is the scriptural support for shunning someone who isn't sinning?

The report I mentioned above provides the official transcript of the sworn testimony of young women who had been abused as children by Witness men. My heart broke. These poor girls, whose lives had been ruined, were now so angry for not being protected by the elders that they felt their only option was to leave their congregation. In some cases, the abusers were actually still serving as elders and ministerial servants in the congregation. Can you imagine being a young girl or woman and having to sit in the audience listening to your abuser giving a talk?

So the problem is that when these victims wanted to leave the congregation, they were shunned and treated like sinners. Why do we shun people who haven't sinned? That seems so wrong. Is there something in the Bible that tells us to do this? I can't find it, and I'm really upset about this.

MY FOURTH CONCERN: Are we becoming like the money-loving Churches of Christendom?

I always took great pride in the belief that we were different from the churches of Christendom because we only give voluntary donations. Why do we have to make monthly donations based on the number of publishers in our congregation? Also, why has the Organization started to sell our Kingdom Halls that we built with their own hands, without even consulting us? And where does the money go?

I know people that have to drive long distances in all kinds of weather to attend a hall they never wanted to attend because their hall was sold out from under them. How is this a loving provision?

MY FIFTH CONCERN: I can't find the scriptural support for the Overlapping Generation

The generation of 1914 has died off. There was no overlapping generation in the first century, but just a simple generation as we all define the term. But now, the publications talk of two generations of anointed ones—one that was alive in 1914 but is now gone, and a second that will be alive when Armageddon comes. These two distinct generations of people overlap, based on their time of anointing to quote Brother Splane, to form some sort of “super generation,” but please tell me where is the scriptural evidence for this? If there isn’t any, then how can we know it is true? It really bothers me that the Organization doesn’t use scriptures to prove this complicated doctrine. The only scripture the publications have used to try to support this new light is Exodus 1:6, but that clear doesn’t refer to an overlapping generation, but just a simple generation like everyone understands a generation to be.

MY SIXTH CONCERN: Who are the Other Sheep?

I’ve always believed that I’m one of the other sheep of John 10:16. I understand this to mean that:

- I am a friend of God
- I’m not a child of God
- Jesus is not my mediator
- I’m not in the new covenant
- I’m not anointed
- I can’t partake of the emblems
- I’ll still be imperfect when I’m resurrected

I never thought to question any of this, because the publications convinced me it was all Bible based. When I actually started to look for the scriptural support for this, I couldn’t find any. What really bothers me is that this is my salvation hope. If I can’t find support for it in Scripture, how can I be sure it is true.

John tells us that anyone who puts faith in Jesus can be adopted as a child of God.

“However, to all who did receive him, he gave authority to become God’s children, because they were exercising faith in his name. And they were born, not from blood or from a fleshly will or from man’s will, but from God.” (John 1:12, 13)

In conclusion, I have carefully examined the Bible using the publications but I still can’t find the scriptural support for any of the things that concern me as I’ve explained in this letter.

If you can help me answer these concerns from the Bible, I’d really appreciate it.

With warm Christian love,

{your name}