

THE WATCHTOWER SOCIETY'S SOFT UNDERBELLY

Christians and others are confronted by the Watchtower Society's (WTS) message, which it causes to be spread through its Jehovah's Witness followers.

Point-by-point refutations

To counter what they consider to be the WTS's false teachings, defenders of the respective Faiths produce point-by-point refutations. Carefully considered responses are prepared on WTS teachings such as on the Trinity, Christ's Coming, Blood transfusion, and so on.

Because people respond reactively, the WTS dictates what Witnesses and the populace will fend over. The WTS sets out the territory and it provides its followers with the answers for each argument they will encounter.

"God's sole channel"

Jehovah's Witnesses accept the WTS's answers because of what the WTS claims to be - the "sole channel" used by God today to communicate with humankind.

A Witness will not heed any presentation that refutes a WTS teaching, no matter how rational, because of **who** is speaking to them. The Witness heeds the WTS because of **who** it is, the only means of communication used by Jehovah God. To question the Organisation is to question God.

Over the years, Christians have made some headway by showing that the WTS misrepresents and misquotes authorities, that the WTS falsely asserts authorities support some point being promoted by the Society. Factual evidences are not subject to interpretation but must be accurately and precisely reported. Unfortunately, the Society does not heed such principles.

The Christian contends that the WTS must behave honestly at all times. When a Witness is shown that WTS is consistently less than honest when it reports facts and statements, the Witness has a seed of doubt sown. The intention is to replace faith in a human organisation with faith in the Living Saviour (whether they continue to fellowship within any organisation or not).

Salvation doctrine

The significance to a Witness of their total faith in the WTS organisation is demonstrated through the Society's doctrine of Salvation. There are two clearly distinct elements in their doctrine. They have a small group that is known variously as the "Brethren (of Christ)", "Elect", "Spirit-begotten", and so on. Jesus Christ died for this group only. They are the only ones to receive the Spirit of God, they alone have the hope of Ruling from Heaven. They alone can partake of the Memorial Wine. Virtually all scriptural promises in the Christian Scriptures apply only to this group. Today this group is very small in number.

The remaining millions of WTS followers have to earn their salvation through faithful obedience to carrying out the organisation's instructions (meetings, door-to-door selling of publications, and so on). They hope they will live through the imminent battle of Armageddon, following which they will rule the earth, and the former mighty Princes will come pleading to them, to learn from them about the Kingdom of God. Those who are now reviled as they take Jehovah God's message to people's doors will, during Christ's forthcoming Millennial Rule, become keenly sought after - provided they remain faithful to God's organisation and survive the Battle of God, which could happen even today.

Deciding which teaching to counter

Which WTS teaching should a Christian counter, if that is what they want to do?

As we have shown, the WTS's position is eroded when they are shown to be less than candid with authorities they claim to be citing. This is true whichever WTS position is being discussed (Trinity, Blood, Coming, etc.).

This happens because of whom the WTS claims to be – the sole representative on Earth of God's Kingdom, which has been set up in heaven. God's Kingdom has supposedly been ruling Earth from heaven through the Watchtower Society since October 1914, two months after the Great War erupted.

Little wonder the WTS does not want the Holy Spirit to be a Person, one who can speak to any and every heart. The WTS claims it is God's sole representative, not Christ nor the Holy Spirit. The antichrist does not oppose Christ; the antichrist says he represents Christ, standing in his place, able to perform miracles.

Little is thus gained by attempting to refute a Watchtower interpretation. It is the organisation's integrity that must always be brought into question. Since a Witness has expressed unquestioning loyalty, usually for many years, they do not accept any such exposure easily. It is probable that exposure of WTS dishonesty only touches a Witness's deep-seated but suppressed prior doubts.

It is thus necessary to undermine the WTS's mental stranglehold, so that it can be replaced with the freedom of a living, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. A Witness needs to have their organisational focus replaced with a personal knowledge of Jesus Christ. To a Witness, Christ is little more than a shadowy figure, almost an irrelevancy.

The key issue

The most direct and fundamental issue that should be addressed is "the Kingdom of God". The heavenly "rule of the Kingdom" through the Watchtower Society results in total control of Witness thinking and behaviour.

The Witness equates "the Kingdom of God" with government and administration. When the Lord's Prayer speaks of "Thy Kingdom Come" the Witness believes this is speaking of its organisation coming and representing God upon earth..

Although Jesus spoke mostly about the Kingdom of God (Heaven), most Christians have little understanding of Jesus' message. The kingdom of God, in its primary sense, is the rulership of God; it belongs to Him, not man. It is not a territory, a region, a church or a people; it is God's rule. God's rule creates a people, but the people are not the Kingdom. These people transcend time and place, just as God's Kingdom (Rulership) does.

The Kingdom does not come in irresistible power, sweeping all before it, but it is a man sowing seed, it can be resisted, it is a man casting out his net, it is a lump of yeast hidden inside a lump of dough. It is God working; it is God in action. It is not bound by man's walls and buildings or by man's theologies. It did not, as the disciples thought it would, remove the Roman invaders from the land of Israel.

The Christian needs to understand the true meaning of the Kingdom, for it exposes the soft underbelly of the Watchtower Society. The Society claims to represent the heavenly Kingdom of God. Understanding Jesus' message about the Kingdom shows this cannot be.

© 2000 Doug Mason
doug_mason1940@yahoo.com.au

KINGDOM OF GOD, OF HEAVEN (From the *Zondervan NIV Dictionary*)

The sovereign rule of God manifested in Christ to defeat His enemies, creating a people over whom He reigns, and issuing in a realm or realms in which the power of His reign is experienced.

All they are members of the kingdom of God who voluntarily submit to the rule of God in their lives.

Entrance into the kingdom is by the new birth ([Jn 3:3-5](#)); two stages in the kingdom of God; present and future in an eschatological sense; Jesus said that his ability to cast out demons was evidence that the kingdom of God had come among men ([Mt 12:28](#)).

“Kingdom of heaven” is used exclusively in Matthew (33 times). It is likened to:

- a man who sowed good seed ([Mt 13:24-30, 38-43](#); [Mk 4:26-29](#))
- a grain of mustard seed ([Mt 13:31-32](#); [Mk 4:30-31](#); [Lk 13:18-19](#))
- leaven ([Mt 13:33](#); [Lk 13:21](#))
- a treasure ([Mt 13:44](#)), a pearl ([Mt 13:45](#))
- a net ([Mt 13:47-50](#))
- a king who called his servants to a reckoning ([Mt 18:23-35](#))
- a house owner ([Mt 20:1-16](#))
- a king who made a marriage feast for his son ([Mt 22:2-14](#); [Lk 14:16-24](#))
- ten virgins ([Mt 25:1-13](#))
- a man traveling into a far country, who called his servants, and delivered to them his goods ([Mt 25:14-30](#); [Lk 19:12-27](#)).

“My kingdom is not of this world” ([Jn 18:36](#)).

Children of the kingdom ([Mt 18:3](#); [19:14](#); [Mk 10:14](#); [Lk 18:16](#)).

Rich cannot enter the kingdom ([Mt 19:23-24](#); [Mk 10:23-25](#); [Lk 18:24-25, 29-30](#)).

Keys of the kingdom ([Mt 16:19](#)).

Glad tidings of the kingdom ([Lk 8:1](#)).

Mysteries of the kingdom ([Lk 8:10](#)).

The kingdom is not eating and drinking ([Ro 14:17](#)).