The love of the greater number will grow cold

Thursday, February 1 – Love one another just as I have loved you.—John 15:12.

What does today's text mean? As Jesus went on to explain, this is self-sacrificing love—love that moves a Christian even to die for a fellow believer if necessary. God's Word places a lot of emphasis on love. Many people include among their favorite Bible verses the following: "God is love." (1 John 4:8) "You must love your neighbor as yourself." (Matt. 22:39) "Love covers a multitude of sins." (1 Pet. 4:8) "Love never fails." (1 Cor. 13:8) These verses and others should make it plain to anyone how important it is to cultivate and display this beautiful quality. Genuine love comes from Jehovah—from having his spirit and blessing on a group of worshippers. (1 John 4:7) Is it any wonder, then, that Jesus said that unselfish love would identify his true followers? Just as Jesus foretold, many have recognized his true followers by the genuine love they show among themselves. w23.03 27-28 ¶5-8

If Jehovah's Witnesses are identified by the genuine love they show, who are those of whom Jesus spoke when he said the love of the greater number will grow cold? Surely, Jesus was not saying that the love of the unbelievers of the world would grow cold. If we read the context of Jesus' words it ought to be clear that he was speaking of the love of Christians for God and for each other will grow cold. And why will this happen? Jesus explained it: "Then people will hand you over to tribulation and will kill you, and you will be hated by all the nations on account of my name. Then, too, many will be stumbled and will betray one another and will hate one another. Many false prophets will arise and mislead many; and because of the increasing of lawlessness, the love of the greater number will grow cold."

The apostle Peter forewarned Christians that there would be false teachers among us. The very foundation of the Watchtower is built upon the falsity that Christ came in 1914, that he has been ruling as King and an invisible parousia has been ongoing for over a century. And oh, there will not be another world war. As it stands the millions of Jehovah's Witnesses and many others besides, do not realize that 1914 is a fraud, that it is the operation of Satan that Paul warned about. However, what will happen when all the things the Watchtower has affixed to 1914 suddenly begin happening in real-time — War, food shortages, pandemics, earthquakes and terrifying sights in the heavens? Then the false prophets will come to the fore. They will issue their life-saving instructions or whatever.

Over the decades the Watchtower has stumbled untold numbers of JWs and interested persons. There is no need to recount all of the issues. Yet, the main stumbling block lies in the path ahead. JWs that have unquestioningly followed the Watchtower will find that they have been led down a dead-end road. Then what? Many will be stumbled and betray one another and hate one another.

How will you flee from the judgment of Gehenna?

Friday, February 2 – Your sins are forgiven.—Luke 7:48.

Do you need to be more forgiving of others? You might begin by reading about and meditating on Bible examples of those who freely forgave others and those who did not. Consider Jesus' example. He willingly forgave others. (Luke 7:47) He also looked past their faults and saw their potential. By contrast, the Pharisees in Jesus' day "considered others as nothing." (Luke 18:9) After meditating on these examples, ask yourself: 'What do I see in others? Which of their qualities do I choose to focus on?' If you are struggling to forgive someone, try writing down as many of that individual's good qualities as you can. Then ask yourself: 'How does Jesus view this person? Would he forgive him?' Such a study project could help to readjust our thinking. At first, we may have to work hard to forgive someone who has offended us. But if we keep working at it, in time we will become more willing to forgive. w22.04 23 ¶6

Jesus was forgiving and merciful, but not toward all. Forgiveness of sins is always based upon repentance. The notorious woman to whom Jesus said "Your sins are forgiven" wetted his feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. The Pharisees at the table were offended by the fact that Jesus allowed her to even touch him. The Gospel accounts show that Jesus' most hardened enemies were the Jewish religious leaders. Although some priests and Pharisees put faith in Jesus most did not and Christ told them straight-out that they were liable to receive the judgment of Gehenna. Being the most knowledgeable, the Pharisees should have readily accepted Jesus as the Messiah. Instead, they lied and distorted the truth and punished any Jew who did accept Jesus as the Christ and they even conspired to have the Son of God put to death.

The leaders of the Watchtower are in a similar position as the Pharisees. For as long as the Watchtower has existed it has promoted a lie, the lie that Christ has already become King. The question is, how will they respond when it becomes undeniable that 1914 is a fraud? Will they repent and accept the Son of man when he comes in the glory of his Father? Some will. And some will not.

Personally, I do not harbor ill will towards anyone. I do not judge individuals. When it comes to the Watchtower though, I do not forgive it. Neither will Christ. It has lied and stolen and murdered. As an institution, it must be destroyed. (I have never been a reformer, as some people imagine I am.) As soon it is determined that the good news of the Kingdom has been preached to God's satisfaction, then that's it for the earthly organization. It will be a "stop the presses" moment.

By the way, the Watchtower is fond of saying that Ezekiel's vision of the celestial chariot symbolizes Jehovah's invisible organization that is leading the earthly part and we have to keep pace. However, if you read the 10th chapter of Ezekiel please note that the man in linen who had the secretary's inkhorn and marked those who were sighing over the detestable things being done in Jehovah's temple was ordered to go into the flaming wheelwork of the massive chariot and gather up burning coals and toss them over the city, the city being Jerusalem, the place where Jehovah caused his name to reside.

Judas was personally chosen by Jesus to be one of the 12 apostles. And we know how that turned out. Jesus called him the son of destruction and said it would have been better for him to have never been born. In other words: Gehenna. Unfortunately, there is a Judas-like masonic cult among the leadership of Jehovah's Witnesses. This coven is similarly called the "son of destruction." There is no foregivness for them. When Christ comes they will be sentenced to everlasting death. The blackness of oblivion awaits them. "Also, they will greedily exploit you with counterfeit words. But their judgment, decided long ago, is not moving slowly, and their destruction is not sleeping." – 2 Peter 2:3

To the effect that the day of the Lord is here

Saturday, February 3 – He sent his angel and presented [the revelation] in signs. —Rev. 1:1.

In the book of Revelation, God's enemies are described symbolically. We see a number of wild beasts. For example, there is "a wild beast ascending out of the sea." It has "ten horns and seven heads." (Rev. 13:1) That beast is followed by "another wild beast ascending out of the earth." That beast speaks like a dragon and makes "fire come down out of heaven." (Rev. 13:11-13) Then we see a different beast, "a scarlet-colored wild beast," which is being ridden by a prostitute. These three wild beasts represent long-standing enemies of Jehovah God and his Kingdom. Therefore, it is important that we identify them. (Rev. 17:1, 3) We need to understand what this symbolic language means. The key to understanding it is to allow the Bible to explain itself. Many of the symbols found in Revelation are already explained in other books of the Bible. w22.05 8-9 ¶3-4

It has been 150 years since C.T. Russell organized his Alleghany Bible Study group. In the century and a half since then millions of hours have been spent reading, studying, and meditating on the Scriptures, Revelation included. Despite all the research on the part of even spirit-anointed Christians, Jehovah's Witnesses still do not understand the book of Revelation. Indeed, they cannot understand it. Of course, the Governing Body pretends to know and everyone pretends that they do too. The reason Jehovah's Witnesses do not understand Revelation is because of a fundamental error that is at the core of the Watchtower Society. Actually, it is not really an error. An error is a mistake.

The problem afflicting the Watchtower is a result of an intentional act of deception, not necessarily on the part of any individual human, but it is the foretold machinations of the wicked one, the Devil himself.

The Watchtower is under the influence of an operation of Satan. Paul explicitly warned Christians not to believe official sounding announcements and literature distributed as if from the apostles, declaring that the parousia has begun and the day of Jehovah is here. But there is more.

As is known, the YHWH does not appear in any extant Greek manuscript. Although it is highly unlikely that the original writers of the Christian scriptures omitted the YHWH when quoting from the Hebrew text where the Tetragrammaton appears, and it is unthinkable that Jesus would not pronounce his Father's name when he quoted from the Hebrew or Greek Septuagint, as he did on numerous occasions, we cannot dogmatically say with certainty that Paul and the other writers used the YHWH when not directly citing the Hebrew. And that brings up an interesting issue because the passage I alluded to uses the name of Jehovah but Paul was not directly quoting any Hebrew scripture. Here is the passage: "However, brothers, concerning the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you not to be quickly shaken from your reason nor to be alarmed either by an inspired statement or by a spoken message or by a letter appearing to be from us, to the effect that the day of Jehovah is here." – 2 Thessalonians 2:1,2

It is true, that there are many references in the Hebrew text to the day of Jehovah and similar expressions like "Jehovah's day." However, there is no indication Paul was quoting any specific passage. The Greek, of course, simply says "the day of the Lord." Paul also referred to "the day of the Lord" at 1 Corinthians 5:5. He also used variations of the expression such as "the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" and "the day of Christ Jesus" and "the day of Christ." Last, but not least, John referred to "the Lord's day" in the introduction to Revelation.

All things considered, it is apparent that the inspired apostle intended to warn his brothers not to be deceived by official-sounding proclamations that the day of the Lord has begun, or Lord's day as it is worded in Revelation. And that is why Jehovah's Witnesses cannot understand Revelation for the reason that the Watchtower's inspired statement has declared that the Lord's day is here, having begun in 1914. That this teaching is the operation of Satan ought to be clear since Paul connected this false proclamation that the Lord's day is here to the apostasy fomented by the man of lawlessness. (By the way, the Watchtower used to teach that the day of Jehovah began in 1914. It wasn't until around 1966 that they dropped it.)

Just a quick note to highlight the deception and trickery used to support the lie that the Lord's day has begun I now direct you to the Watchtower article from where the daily

text is derived, entitled: **Revelation—What It Means for God's Enemies**. The opening paragraph states:

THE book of Revelation reveals that God's heavenly Kingdom has been established and that Satan has been expelled from heaven. (Rev. 12:1-9) That expulsion brings relief to the heavens, but it creates challenges for us. Why? Because Satan's anger is focused on those who faithfully serve Jehovah here on earth.

The book of Revelation does not reveal that God's heavenly Kingdom has been established and that Satan has been thrown down. That's a simple card trick that no clear-thinking JW should fall for. To illustrate their deceit, I will make a similar statement: "The book of Revelation indicates that Satan the Devil has been hurled into the abyss and locked away for 1,000 years." Hopefully, you can see the trickery employed. Yes, the book of Revelation reveals that when the Kingdom comes to power Satan and his angels will be cast down. No, it does not reveal that this epic event has already taken place. How could it?

The Watchtower has resorted to all sorts of tricks and hijinks to make 1914 the beginning of the Lord's day. Over the years I have painstakingly examined the Watchtower's tangled mess of prophetic interpretation and debunked all of it. Although some may also do the same since it is more or less a matter of common sense, my work is unique in that I have shown that the falsity of 1914 does not prove the Watchtower is *not* Jehovah's organization, as advertised; no, just the opposite. It proves that it is!

The City of God

Monday, February 5 – I . . . saw the holy city, New Jerusalem.—Rev. 21:2.

Revelation chapter 21 compares the 144,000 to an extremely beautiful city called "New Jerusalem." This city is based on 12 foundation stones that have written on them "the 12 names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb." (Rev. 21:10-14; Eph. 2:20) This symbolic city looks like no other. It has a main street of pure gold, 12 gates of pearl, walls and foundations adorned with precious stones—and with perfectly balanced measurements. (Rev. 21:15-21) Still, something seems to be missing! Notice what John next tells us: "I did not see a temple in it, for Jehovah God the Almighty is its temple, also the Lamb is. And the city has no need of the sun nor of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and its lamp was the Lamb." (Rev. 21:22, 23) Those who make up the New Jerusalem will have direct access to Jehovah.—Heb. 7:27; Rev. 22:3, 4. w22.05 17-18 ¶14-15

For a person who grew up in the country going to a modern big city for the first time and seeing massive skyscrapers and towers might seem awe-inspiring or overwhelming. Or, imagine peasants in medieval Europe traveling to a city and walking into a cavernous cathedral such as Notre Dame or any of the great Gothic cathedrals. They may have imagined they were in God's presence.

But the symbolic city of God is way more impressive. The city is as big as a country and has towering walls 200 feet high. And forget about bricks, wood, and chiseled blocks of stone, the city of God is constructed of otherworldy materials, like a jasper stone shining crystal clear. The main street of the city of God is made of pure gold. Each of the foundational stones is adorned with different gems and has the names of the 12 apostles inscribed upon them. It has 12 gates, three on each side that are gigantic pearls with 12 angels standing guard at each entrance, not unlike the Garden of Eden. Each gate has the name of one of the 12 tribes of Israel, except we should not imagine these are the literal tribes, but rather they are the symbolic 12 tribes of 12,000 spiritual Jews who stand with Christ on Mount Zion.

The throne of God and the Lamb are located in the jeweled city. Jehovah's radiance provides illumination. Those who conquer will see Jehovah's face. Here is what Revelation 22:3-5 says: "But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his slaves will offer him sacred service; and they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. Also, night will be no more, and they have no need of lamplight or sunlight, for Jehovah God will shed light upon them, and they will rule as kings forever and ever."

Having the name of God on their foreheads signifies that Jehovah bought them from the earth with the blood of his Son. Revelation 14:1 pictures the same thing, revealing 144,000 have the name of Jehovah and Christ written upon their foreheads: "Then I saw, and look! the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who have his name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads."

When does this holy city come down from heaven, before or after Armageddon? The answer is before. How do we know? Because when the Kingdom is complete and extends its domain over the world the wicked ones of Satan's world will still be on earth. Again, how do we know? The Scriptures reveal that only the holy will be allowed into the city and the light from the resplendent city will only shine upon the righteous. The rest will be debarred. The last verse of the 21st chapter says: "But anything defiled and anyone who does what is disgusting and deceitful will in no way enter into it; only those written in the Lamb's scroll of life will enter."

Revelation 22:14-15 confirms this: "Happy are those who wash their robes, so that they may have authority to go to the trees of life and that they may gain entrance into the city through its gates. Outside are the dogs and those who practice

spiritism and those who are sexually immoral and the murderers and the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices lying."

Those who gain authority to go to the trees of life gain the true spiritual paradise.

Hear the word of Jehovah you dictators of Sodom

Tuesday, February 6 – Continue putting up with one another and forgiving one another freely . . . Just as Jehovah freely forgave you, you must also do the same.—Col. 3:13.

Although Jehovah is our Creator, Lawgiver, and Judge, he is also our loving heavenly Father. (Ps. 100:3; Isa. 33:22) When we sin against him and are sincerely repentant, he is not only able but also eager to forgive us. (Ps. 86:5) Through the prophet Isaiah, Jehovah gave this warm assurance: "Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be made as white as snow." (Isa. 1:18) Because we are imperfect, we all say and do things that offend others. (Jas. 3:2) That does not mean, however, that we cannot enjoy close relationships with them. We can if we learn to be forgiving. (Prov. 17:9; 19:11; Matt. 18:21, 22) When we hurt one another in small ways, Jehovah wants us to forgive. We have good reason to do so. After all, Jehovah freely forgives us "in a large way."—Isa. 55:7. w22.06 8

If Jehovah's Witnesses were to actually read the context of verses the WT quotes out of context, and if such contextual readers were to follow the Governing Body's advice and meditate upon what they read, there might be a spontaneous flash of new light.

When Jehovah illustrated the extent to which he is willing to forgive, contrasting the scarlet stain of sin with the purity of snow, to whom are his words directed? Remember, context! Please read the opening words of the prophecy: "Sons I have brought up and raised, but they have revolted against me."

Okay, so God regarded the Israelites as his sons. But were they really? We know Jesus was the Son of God, both by virtue of his being Fathered directly by Jehovah as the first heavenly creation. But more especially he became a son when he was born again. And those whom Jehovah draws to Christ and anoints are also sons of God by a special adoption. Furthermore, the Christian Greek Scriptures refer to these sons as the Israel of God and the true Jews.

Returning to the context, God addresses the leaders of his people in a very unflattering way, saying to them: "Hear the word of Jehovah, you dictators of Sodom. Pay attention to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah."

Why are the leaders of Jehovah's earthly organization likened to the dictators of the iniquitous city of Sodom? Because they have rebelled against God. And we are not talking about the sins of a few individuals, but an entire nation. Remember, spiritual Israel is called a nation. For more context let us read on: "And when you spread out your palms, I hide my eyes from you. Although you offer many prayers, I am not listening; your hands are filled with blood. Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; remove your evil deeds from my sight; stop doing bad. Learn to do good, seek justice, correct the oppressor, defend the rights of the fatherless child, and plead the cause of the widow. Come, now, and let us set matters straight between us," says Jehovah. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be made as white as snow though they are as red as crimson cloth, they will become like wool."

If God is willing to forgive then it is necessary for those who have rebelled to recognize their sin and repent. Declaring the organization to be sin-free and residing in a spiritual paradise will not work with God. Jehovah expects the dictators of Sodom to confess their blood guilt over having endorsed a vaccine that has already killed millions of people worldwide and has the potential to kill many more. How many of Jehovah's Witnesses have died? We do not know. But God does. How many widows have been booted out of their Kingdom Halls? Let's say there are 2-3 per congregation and 1,000 Kingdom Halls have been confiscated and the congregants evicted. Do the math.

As of 20 years ago, the WT's database contained the names of more than 20,000 pedophiles. That means at the very least there have been 20,000 abuse victims. Do you better appreciate why Jehovah addresses the leaders of his organization as the dictators of Sodom? And some of these many thousands of victims are seeking legal redress. And the Watchtower has become their adversary at law. Did you know that certain spokesmen for the Watchtower have claimed in court that elders bear no fiduciary responsibility to protect children from sexual predators in the congregations? They are on record arguing that very thing. So, we will see what the Judge in heaven has to say about that. For more context read verse 23, here: "Your princes are stubborn and partners with thieves. Every one of them loves a bribe and chases after gifts. They do not grant justice to the fatherless, and the legal case of the widow never reaches them."

How will God force the issue, because, obviously, the leadership of the Watchtower will never set matters straight on their own if they can just maintain the status quo? Reality will intervene when the Son of man arrives and kicks off global war and civilization's collapse. Then an ultimatum will be delivered: "If you show willingness and listen, you will eat the good things of the land. But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword, for the mouth of Jehovah has spoken it." (19-20)

Satan stood up and incited David

Wednesday, February 7 – Be imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.—Heb. 6:12.

Although we should avoid comparing ourselves with others, we can benefit by learning from the examples of faithful ones. To illustrate, let us consider Jesus. Even though he was perfect, we can learn from his beautiful qualities and ways. (1 Pet. 2:21) When we do our best to follow his example as closely as we can, we become better servants of Jehovah. In God's Word, we find many examples of faithful men and women who despite being imperfect are worthy of imitation. Think of King David, whom Jehovah called "a man agreeable to my heart." (Acts 13:22) Yet, David made some serious mistakes. In spite of that, he is a good example for us. Why? Because he did not try to justify himself. Instead, he accepted the strong counsel he received and was sincerely sorry for what he had done. As a result, Jehovah forgave him.—Ps. 51:3, 4, 10-12. w22.04 13 ¶11-12

Speaking of David's serious mistakes, the first thing that might come to mind is his adulterous tryst with Bathsheba, which led to David's murdering her husband to cover up her pregnancy. Yet, as serious as that was, the nation itself was not directly affected. The same cannot be said about another of David's "serious mistakes", a mistake that resulted in Jehovah unleashing a plague that killed 70,000 of David's countrymen. I am, of course, referring to David's ill-advised census.

Joab tried to dissuade the king from numbering Israel but David prevailed. Why did David do it? 1 Chronicles 21:1 gives us some insight. It says: "Then Satan stood up against Israel and incited David to number Israel." It is not clear to me why taking a census of Israel at that time was wrong. At other times similar censuses were taken. In any case, Satan knew it was wrong and that is why he overreached David and influenced the king to act in a way to incite Jehovah's judgment against Israel. And in time David himself realized his error and confessed: "But David's heart was struck with remorse after he had numbered the people. David then said to Jehovah: "I have sinned greatly by doing this. And now, Jehovah, please forgive your servant's error, for I have acted very foolishly." — 2 Samuel 24:10

Jehovah's response came the next day. The prophet, Gad, presented David with three options, all equally unappealing: Seven years of famine, three months of fleeing before Israel's enemies, or three days of pestilence. David chose the three days, saying: "It is very distressing to me. Let us fall, please, into the hand of Jehovah, for his mercy is great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man." – 2 Samuel 24:14 The scourage was only halted when David built an altar and sacrificed upon it.

Similarly, Satan has over-reached the leadership of the Watchtower and incited them to promote a very dangerous vaccine. Not so long ago the Watchtower was an outspoken critic of all vaccinations, portraying the procedure as a scheme of the Devil, but with the Covid pandemic, so-called, the Governing Body became zealous promoters of the United Nations, Bill Gates-funded, World Health Organization's universal vaccination program. Here is an excerpt from an article posted on e-watchman back in 2021:

It does not at all seem far-fetched that Satan has incited the Governing Body to order that Jehovah's Witnesses must be vaccinated in order to set foot in a Kingdom Hall, that is, assuming the pilot project is successful and is fully implemented worldwide. It might seem like the prudent thing to do given that the COVID-19 pestilence has killed hundreds of thousands of people. (In reality, many of the deaths attributed to Covid have been caused by hospitals using deadly treatments and disallowing known remedies.)

But as in the case of David's disastrous census, which was apparently a numbering of his armies rather than the general population, what right does the Governing Body have to attach any conditions to those who wish to practice what the Bible commands?

The satanic nature of the Watchtower's mandate should be obvious, in that, it is in complete alliance with the UN's universal vaccination program, which had been in the works long before the pandemic. Under the guise of obeying Caesar and saving lives, the Watchtower has committed the entire organization to a dangerous, untested, highly experimental procedure that is killing and maiming hundreds of thousands around the world.

Why is this vaccination mandatory? No one can give an answer as to why vaccinated persons need to be protected from those who are unvaccinated. Why must people who have recovered from COVID-19 be vaccinated to protect them from Covid? Why is natural immunity discounted, which has been scientifically proven to be at least a dozen times more powerful than the vaccine? Why are young people and even children and babies being injected with a serum that is far more deadly to them than the virus? No one ever answers these questions. It is just tyranny. Take the jab or else be punished. And the Governing Body is right there with the tyrants.

It is not out of the question that the 70,000 deaths that resulted from David's folly might have an actual fulfillment among Jehovah's Witnesses. Of course, it is not going to happen over the course of three days, but no one knows the long-term effects. While the day's text commends David for not trying to justify himself, can the Governing Body show the same contrition? After all, it is now known that the vaccine is neither safe nor effective. Even with all of the media coverup and tyrannical de-platforming of truthtelling experts, the truth has prevailed. The vaccines do not provide immunity. It is a fact that millions of people who took the vaccines also contracted COVID-19. It is also a fact that vaccinations do not prevent one from being an agent of contagion. Foremost,

millions of people worldwide have had adverse reactions, and untold numbers of vaccinated persons have died. Will the Governing Body show the same humility as David and openly confess their sin before God and apologize to Jehovah's Witnesses for ill-advisedly promoting the vaccines and claiming that Jehovah directly provided the Pentagon-designed poison?

It is noteworthy that the three options Jehovah presented to David involved war, famine, and pestilence — three of the four horsemen of the Apocalypse that are soon to be unleashed. Let he that hath an ear, hear.

It puts under compulsion all people

Thursday, February 8 – A man will give everything that he has for his life.—Job 2:4.

The Bible acknowledges that death is an enemy. (1 Cor. 15:25, 26) We may feel anxious at the thought of death, especially when we or our loved ones are critically ill. Why do we fear death? Because Jehovah created us with the desire to enjoy life forever. (Eccl. 3:11) A balanced fear of death can help us to protect our life. It can motivate us to make good decisions about our diet and exercise routine, to seek the help of physicians and medications when necessary, and to avoid needlessly putting our life in danger. Satan knows that we cherish our life. He claims that we would sacrifice everything we have—even our friendship with Jehovah—just to preserve our present life. (Job 2:5) How wrong Satan is! Still, since he is "the one having the means to cause death," Satan tries to exploit our natural fear of death in order to make us abandon Jehovah.—Heb. 2:14, 15. w22.06 18 ¶15-16

When someone has the power to influence many others it must be an irresistible temptation to misuse that power, especially when the Devil is in the room. The Watchtower has tremendous influence over the lives of millions of Christians. During the pandemic, the Governing Body skillfully terrorized JWs through their Updates, exploiting our fear of death by regularly tallying up the rising death toll and then hyping the vaccination program as if Jehovah rolled it out just for the salvation of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Now that more and more people are waking up to the evil psyops that Satan's minions have worked upon the world, with the Watchtower's full participation in the scheme, like many other institutions the Governing Body is doing damage control. Thus, today's comment about seeking "the help of physicians and medications when necessary to avoid needlessly putting our life in danger." Did you get that? The pandemic presented everyone with a life-threatening scenario (lie) and the Governing Body endorsed and in

some cases materially provided the "necessary" medication so that you could remain in the land of the living. And, of course, soon, during the great tribulation, they will be issuing even more life-saving instructions.

Although I do not believe that taking the vaccine presented a compromise of our faith, the pandemic did underscore the premise of the Devil's argument; namely, that a person will do anything, even allowing themselves to be injected with an untested, gene-altering elixir, in the hope of avoiding death. Fear is a powerful emotion. And even though the fear was the fabrication of skillful manipulators, it worked.

I do not forgive the Watchtower for manipulating Jehovah's trusting sheep into getting vaccinated, some of whom are no longer in the land of the living because they took the medical advice of "the slave." Nor do I forgive the Governing Body for deceiving the multitudes of souls whom God entrusted to their care about what awaits us in the future. As stated already, the Watchtower has vast power over the lives of millions of people who look to it as the sole source of spiritual guidance. It is their responsibility to teach the truth. The truth is not that complicated. It is the twisted tangle of lies that make it hard. What am I talking about?

Take the matter of the mark of the beast. What is the mark of the beast? Ask one of Jehovah's Witnesses and you are likely to get a reply that makes no sense. That is because the Governing Body has deceived themselves and those under their influence into imagining that everyone has already been marked for permanent death. As absurd and nonsensical as that sounds, it is the official teaching of Jehovah's earthly organization. Some 20 years ago the WT published an article on the topic. (CLICK HERE) Although much of what is said is true, here is what the faithful and discreet slave says about how people receive the mark:

Thus, the mark, whether on the right hand or on the forehead, figuratively speaking, is a symbol that identifies its bearer as one who gives worshipful support to the beastlike political systems of the world. Those having the mark give to "Caesar" that which rightly belongs to God. (Luke 20:25; Revelation 13:4, 8; 14:1) How? By giving worshipful honor to the political state, its symbols, and its military might, to which they look for hope and salvation. Any worship that they render the true God is merely lip service.

So, according to the Watchtower, there is no future application. There is no warning to be given. Everyone who salutes a flag, votes in an election, or serves in the military, or, apparently, even those who think that governments have the right to dictate health matters, has already had their names blotted out of the Book of Life. Why Jehovah's Witnesses are urged to preach to those who have already given Caesar their allegiance and been condemned to everlasting death is anyone's guess. This is a hint of the absurdities of the Watchtower's life-saving instructions to come.

The blindness that presently grips Jehovah's Witnesses is astounding to me. Contrary to the Watchtower's feel-good fairy tales, Satan has not gotten in our face and

threatened us with death unless we deny Jehovah. But do not deceive yourself, it is coming. One day the present, relatively peaceful and secure system we live under, otherwise known as Western civilization, is going to crash. It is even now in the process of being taken down. It is little by little now, although being greatly accelerated, at some point, it will be all at once. What is being taken down is the nation-state system that has been in place since the Treaty of Westphalia. What that means is, after the crash nations will no longer be sovereign. And if you believe governments are bad now, just wait until a communist world government is put in place.

Already the UN World Health Organization is lobbying for absolute power over every citizen on this planet in advance of the X killer pandemic they intend to release. The Bank of International Settlements, the so-called central bank of the central banks, is ready to crash the system, foreclose on bankrupt nations, corporations, and virtually every household, and implement a digital currency that will allow them to control and regulate every purchase.

If you believe the Watchtower's incredible tale of the magic kingdom and that somehow the beast has already compelled all mankind to bow before it and Satan has already put to death those who refuse to worship the beast or its mage and somehow Jehovah's worshippers have been prevented from buying life's necessities, you are in for a shock. It is not just civilization that stands at the brink. The Watchtower's fantasyland is about to come crashing down too.

"And it was permitted to give breath to the image of the wild beast, so that the image of the wild beast should both speak and cause to be killed all those who refuse to worship the image of the wild beast. It puts under compulsion all people—the small and the great, the rich and the poor, the free and the slaves—that these should be marked on their right hand or on their forehead, and that nobody can buy or sell except a person having the mark, the name of the wild beast or the number of its name. This is where it calls for wisdom: Let the one who has insight calculate the number of the wild beast, for it is a man's number, and its number is 666." — Revelation 13:15-18

Then many will betray one another

Friday, February 9 – Do not let the sun set while you are still angry.—Eph. 4:26.

While under ban, we may have to limit our association to smaller groups. So it is more important than ever to maintain peaceful relations. Fight Satan, not one another. Overlook your brothers' mistakes, or try to settle any differences quickly. (Prov. 19:11) Take the initiative to help one another. (Titus 3:14) The help that one service group gave to a sister in need had a positive impact on the entire

group. They became closer, like a family. (Ps. 133:1) Tens of thousands of our Christian brothers and sisters serve Jehovah despite governmental restrictions. Some of them are imprisoned for their faith. We can pray for them, for their families, and for those risking their own freedom to provide these brothers and sisters with spiritual, physical, and legal support. (Col. 4:3, 18) Never underestimate the power of your prayers!—2 Thess. 3:1, 2; 1 Tim. 2:1, 2. w22.12 26-27 ¶15-16

The world is awash in lies. Lies are institutionalized. For example, consider the Trinity. The great church systems have enshrined this lie as the core doctrine that defines Christianity. Jehovah's Witnesses are considered non-Christian by some for not accepting their lies about the relationship between Jehovah and Jesus. Even so, the Watchtower has enshrined its own lies too. One prevailing lie is that Jehovah's Witnesses are residing in the biblical spiritual paradise. But all lies need to be maintained. Contradictions regularly pop up and must be covered over. New lies have to be fabricated to patch over ruptures in the fabric of the original lies.

On the matter of spiritual paradise, no doubt in part because I have exposed the falsity of their teaching, the Watchtower has been compelled to redefine what spiritual paradise is. The Bible's depiction is clear. Spiritual paradise is a condition where no evil persons exist. Period. It is not something humanly attainable. Prophecy reveals that a spiritual haven will come into existence during the bleakest period in history. It will be brought about when the angels physically debear wicked people from entering Christ's congregation.

Now consider the comment above. The Watchtower boasts that love prevails in their spiritual paradise. Okay, if that is true, then why does the Society find it necessary to counsel Christians living under ban not to fight one another? Do petty squabbles, bickering, and quarrels exist in the neo-Edenic paradise? If so, how is that different then the dog-eat-dog world?

The fact is, when put to the test the Watchtower's spiritual paradise fails. And it will fail spectacularly when all the things the Watchtower claims identify 1914 as "the most important date in all human history" explode upon the world in the near future. Then the words of Jesus will come true: "Then people will hand you over to tribulation and will kill you, and you will be hated by all the nations on account of my name. Then, too, many will be stumbled and will betray one another and will hate one another. Many false prophets will arise and mislead many; and because of the increasing of lawlessness, the love of the greater number will grow cold."

The evil of child baptism

In order to get ready for baptism, one of the first things we must do is sincerely repent of our sins. (Acts 2:37, 38) Genuine repentance leads to genuine change. Have you put away any practices that displease Jehovah, such as living immorally, using tobacco, or using foul or abusive language? (1 Cor. 6:9, 10; 2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 4:29) Keep trying to make changes. Talk to the person studying the Bible with you, or ask the congregation elders for help and guidance. If you are young and are living at home, keep asking your parents for help to break any bad habits that might prevent you from getting baptized. It is also important to follow a good spiritual routine. That would include attending Christian meetings and participating in them. (Heb. 10:24, 25) And once you qualify to engage in the Christian ministry, make that part of your routine as well. w23.03 10-11 ¶14-16

The Watchtower has a lot to answer to God for. There is no need to list all of their many evils here. But one evil that I have not written about as extensively is child baptism. My advice to young persons living at home: Do not get baptized. My advice to parents with young persons and teens living at home: Do not allow your children to get baptized. It will not save them. However, it might ruin their lives. A young person can live a clean Christian life without baptism. They can learn the Bible and grow to be mature Christians without submitting to baptism. Baptism brings one under the authority of the Watchtower and that has resulted in thousands of young people getting disfellowshipped and cut off from family and friends during a formative period in their lives.

Baptizing young people is a fairly recent practice. I suspect it is a scheme to pad the number of JWs. They keep getting younger and younger too. I have heard of children as young as eight being baptized. That is crazy. There is no biblical precedent for this. Do you want to follow Jesus' example and walk in his footsteps? He was 30 when he was baptized. By the Watchtower's admission, baptism is one of the most important decisions we can make in life. It represents the outward declaration of a lifelong commitment. What parent would allow a child of 10 years to get married or leave home and take up a career? There are age restrictions for almost everything. Why then does the Watchtower promote child baptism knowing it has ruined thousands and thousands of lives and caused needless heartache to families? It is considered by some to be a protection, but that is a delusion. Young people do not magically gain wisdom, and discipline and acquire the experience of life simply because they undergo baptism. Young people are easily influenced and prone to mistakes. Why put them in a position to be ostracized from their family and friends for the sins common to youth? It is a harsh and needless punishment.

We know that thousands of children of Jehovah's Witnesses have been molested and sexually abused by congregants. It is a fact that the Watchtower has done everything in its power to keep these crimes under wraps and shield the criminals from prosecution. It is a form of child sacrifice all under the guise of protecting Jehovah's name from reproach. I suppose child baptism is motivated by this same perverse evil. An organization that would sacrifice the innocence of children under their charge to

pedophiles would not have a problem promoting child baptism under the guise of saving children when in reality for many it has done the opposite.

Wow!

Monday, March 12 – Jehovah God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are the cursed one."—Gen. 3:14.

The characters in the account recorded at Genesis 3:14, 15 include a "serpent" and the "offspring" of the serpent. A literal snake could not have understood what Jehovah said in the garden of Eden. So the object of Jehovah's judgment must have been an intelligent creature. Who? Revelation 12:9 leaves no doubt on this matter. There "the original serpent" is clearly identified as Satan the Devil. When the Bible speaks of offspring in a figurative sense, it is referring to those who think and act like their symbolic father. So the offspring of the serpent is made up of spirit creatures and humans who, like Satan, resist Jehovah God and oppose His people. That would include the angels who abandoned their assignments in heaven in Noah's day as well as wicked humans who behave like their father the Devil.—Gen. 6:1, 2; John 8:44; 1 John 5:19; Jude 6. w22.07 14-15 ¶4-5

The Watchtower has some rather unique teachings regarding the Devil. Perhaps foremost, is the teaching that Satan and his angels were hurled down from heaven in 1914 and have been on a maddened rampage ever since. Secondly, but no less insidious, is the notion that the Devil does not influence the inhabitants of spiritual paradise. Both of these peculiar teachings are demonstrable lies.

As regards the latter, the suggestion that Satan has no influence, it is important to understand that Paul wrote to the Corinthian congregation expressing his concern that as the serpent seduced Eve by its cunning, their minds might be corrupted away from the sincerity and chastity due the Christ. And what was the problem? They were putting up with false teachers in their midst, men who were merely pretending to be Christian ministers, even apostles, which is why Paul dubbed them the "superfine apostles."

The Watchtower claims that these infiltrators of the anointed congregation, who were operating under the influence of the Devil who disguised himself as an angel of light, typify the clergy. But that cannot be true. The superfine apostles were the most prominent men in the congregation of anointed Christians. Obviously, the Watchtower is infiltrated by the same sort of men — liars and deceivers who have cunningly disguised themselves as anointed servants of Jehovah. The same serpent is still slithering around and as in the first century, he is most intent on misleading those who have been called into the Kingdom of Christ. This brings us to the other false teaching — the lie that the Kingdom has come to power and that Satan and all of his demons have been thrown down from heaven. It is a very clever ruse. Jehovah has allowed an operation of Satan, backed by every powerful work and lying signs and every unrighteous deception, to

deceive true Christians. Did not Jesus warn that there would be many false prophets who would mislead many people?

We might say that everything going on in the world and within the Watchtower right now, is being orchestrated by the Devil for the purpose of deceiving the chosen ones when the critical hour arrives. Do not allow yourself to be deceived. Jesus did not in any sense begin ruling in 1914. There is no such thing as an invisible presence. Satan and his angels have not been cast down. And no, the Watchtower will not be the place of refuge. Christ's brothers are going to have to see their way through this labyrinth of lies. But there is more to come. Jesus was even more specific in his warning: "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look! Here is the Christ,' or, 'There!' do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will perform great signs and wonders so as to mislead, if possible, even the chosen ones. Look! I have forewarned you. Therefore, if people say to you, 'Look! He is in the wilderness,' do not go out; 'Look! He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it." — Matthew 24:23-26

We do not know what the false prophets will do exactly, or how they "will perform great signs and wonders." We do have Jesus' warning though and that is good enough. But why will it not be possible for the chosen to be misled by these deceptive wonders? Because ultimately they will see the wonder of wonders in the manifestation of Christ to them. Just as the Devil could not prevent Jehovah from resurrecting Jesus from the dead, nor could the demons interfere when the risen Christ appeared to his disciples over the course of 40 days before he ascended into the sky, neither will the serpent nor his offspring be able to hinder the Son of man from coming alongside the chosen to minister to them. (See Luke 12:37)

Jehovah will even give Satan the opportunity to thwart his grand purpose at the very end after the calling and choosing have ceased — after Christianity has concluded. That is why God has disclosed the exact number of persons called into union with Christ, they being 144,000. And that is why God has revealed the number of those who will be on earth during Christ's parousia, they being 7,000.

Satan made great boasts that he could flip God's sons and cause them to curse God. He is the accuser who accuses them night and day. So, all he has to do is mislead one of the remaining ones or cause one of them to become unfaithful and God's purpose for 144,000 fails.

That is why the Bible focuses everything on the concluding confrontation between the serpent and the offspring of God. Imagine, Jehovah God will entrust his name and reputation on the faithfulness of a few thousand sinful men and women whom he is going to have to subject to severe discipline beforehand. I say, wow! Simply, wow! What a God and Grand Savior!

Make sure of the more important things

Tuesday, February 13 – Make sure of the more important things.—Phil. 1:10.

The apostle Paul loved his brothers very much. He was no stranger to hardship; thus, he could show compassion and empathy for fellow believers when they were going through trials. One time, Paul ran out of funds and had to find work to support himself and his companions. (Acts 20:34) He was a tentmaker by trade. When he arrived in Corinth, he at first worked with fellow tentmakers Aquila and Priscilla. But "every sabbath" he would preach to the Jews and the Greeks. Then when Silas and Timothy arrived, "Paul began to be intensely occupied with the word." (Acts 18:2-5) Paul never lost sight of his main purpose in life, to serve Jehovah. Hardworking Paul was in a good position to encourage his brothers and sisters. He reminded them not to allow the pressures of life and the need to provide for the family to cause them to neglect "the more important things"—all aspects of Jehovah's worship. w22.08 20 ¶3

Let's consider the entire verse of Phil 1:10: It says: "That you may make sure of the more important things, so that you may be flawless and not stumbling others up to the day of Christ..."

Paul referred to this same "day" a few verses before in verse six: "For I am confident of this very thing, that the one who started a good work in you will bring it to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

What is the day of Christ? Surely, it is the same event as the Lord's day. And all things considered, the day of Christ Jesus, or the Lord's day, is the conclusion of the Christian era — the end of the Christian age, as some translations imply.

But, again, here is this enormous stumbling block called 1914, because according to the Watchtower that is when the Lord's day supposedly began. If Jehovah's Witnesses are to follow the apostle's exhortation and make sure of the more important things, ought we not make sure that the Lord's day actually began in 1914 and not just accept it without closely examining the facts? It seems like an important thing to me.

Of course, the leaders of the Watchtower would never scrap 1914. They are in too deep. They know that ditching 1914 would stumble millions and destroy their credibility. Except they have no choice in the matter. The outbreak of global war on a scale far exceeding WWI will shatter their 1914 delusion. And that is a good thing. An important thing. Every hill must be leveled and every valley filled in to prepare the way of the Lord. Or should I say to prepare for the Lord's day?

Watchman verses Watchtower

Wednesday, February 14 – In all the nations, the good news has to be preached. —Mark 13:10.

Today it is God's will that the good news of the Kingdom be preached in all the earth. (1 Tim. 2:3, 4) This is Jehovah's work, and it is so important that he has placed it under the direction of his beloved Son. We can be sure that under Jesus' capable oversight, the preaching work will be completed to Jehovah's satisfaction before the end comes. (Matt. 24:14) How can we be sure of that? Shortly before he ascended to heaven, Jesus met with a number of his faithful followers on a mountain in Galilee. He told them: "All authority has been given me in heaven and on the earth." Note his very next statement: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations." (Matt. 28:18, 19) So, among other things, Jesus has been given the authority to direct the preaching work. And that preaching work would continue under Jesus' supervision right down to our day. w22.07 8 ¶1, 3; 9 ¶4

What harm would have accrued if the Watchtower's chief editor had printed the entire verse instead of omitting the last word? Five teeny, weensy letters *f i r s t*. Would it have prodded some thinking JW to raise the question: "first', before what?" I doubt if very many readers will even give it a second thought. Apparently, though, the Guardians of the Lie cannot take the chance. No doubt the Guardians believe it is better to manipulate the minds of their readers by omitting dangerous words from a scriptural quotation so as not to risk exposing them to unwanted thought processes than to have to do damage control later.

It is becoming more and more apparent to me that the Governing Body and their helpers are not only aware of what I publish on my little blog and perhaps on this forum, but in various subtle ways, they are responding to it. For example, about a year ago I published an article entitled The Good News Will Be Preached First, and then the End Will Come. The article explained from the Scriptures that "the end" of which Jesus spoke is not the end of the world at Armageddon. Also, an article entitled The Second Coming Of Jesus Christ — What Will It Mean for You? was published as a brochure and mailed to members of the Governing Body. It examined the same issue only in greater detail. And many, many other articles examine the issue from different angles; all of which dismantle the Watchtower's 1914 Lie.

To be sure, my message to the Watchtower involves more than just repudiating 1914. Just as Jeremiah forewarned the Jews of God's impending judgment and the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, which had been the center of pure worship back then, so I have notified all of the Bethels around the world that what they regard as Jehovah's earthly organization is going to be destroyed too. That is what the end is. It is

the end of organized preaching. The end of disciple-making work. Perhaps now you can better appreciate why the Governing Body recently declared that the symbolic locust swarms of Joel, otherwise known as Jehovah's military force, have no modern fulfillment. They did so in response to my directing the message of Joel to them. (See Kingdom Bulletin #16 – Jehovah's Witnesses and the Locusts of Joel)

Eight years ago I distributed a Kingdom Bulletin to all the congregations in the New York City area entitled: World War 3 – What Will It Mean for Jehovah's Witnesses? Most recently they have responded with a snippet article on JW.org posing two questions: Is World War Inevitable? – What Does the Bible Say?

We all know what the Bible says. Revelation foretells that peace will be taken from the earth and that the combination of the horsemen bring war, famine and pestilence will lay low a quarter of mankind. The Watchtower's response is that any future wars all come as a result of the seals having been opened in 1914.

We now await Jehovah's response. Given the Watchtower's stubborn entrenchment and their deceptive manipulation of the Scriptures to fit their fantasy, Jehovah's response will be epic. It will be globe-rocking. God likens what is coming to a global tempest, a Tsunami that will sweep away their refuge of lies.

The storm is coming. The onrushing tempest of Jehovah is near.

Death will be no more

Thursday, February 15 – The hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life.—John 5:28, 29.

The righteous, who did good things before their death, will receive "a resurrection of life" because their names will already be written in the book of life. This means that the resurrection of "those who did good things" described at John 5:29 is the same as the resurrection of "the righteous" mentioned at Acts 24:15. This understanding is in harmony with the statement made at Romans 6:7, which says: "The one who has died has been acquitted from his sin." The sins committed by these righteous ones were canceled at death, but their record of faithfulness remains. (Heb. 6:10) Of course, these righteous resurrected ones will need to remain faithful in order for their names to remain in the book of life. w22.09 18 ¶13, 15

Spiritual blindness is very real. Just consider the fact that there are nearly a billion professed Christians in the world. Presumably, a large percentage have at least read

the Gospel books and are somewhat familiar with the life and teachings of Jesus. Perhaps they have even read the book of John where Jesus spoke of the resurrection of the righteous and the unrighteous, and yet the vast majority have no concept of an earthly resurrection even though it is the cornerstone teaching of the Bible. People have been duped into imagining everyone goes to either heaven or hell and that is it. Although most people do not really wish to go to heaven, they prefer it to the alternative with which they have been presented.

Little do they realize everyone who dies does go to hell. Even Jesus was in hell for a few days. And that brings up another aspect of the overriding blindness that grips churchgoers — the lie that humans possess a soul that survives the death of the body. It is the oldest lie going back to the Garden of Eden where the serpent told Eve she would not die. It was the first lie ever told. Jehovah's Witnesses are blessed to know the truth. It is so simple and wonderful.

But even more wonderful, is the truth that a great crowd of persons will never die. True, ole Judge Rutherford admitted he had made an ass of himself when he broadcasted the message far and wide: Millions Now Living Will Never Die! Needless to say, the millions of people who heard that message 100 years ago have all died. Still, though, the message was based on the Bible. Given that the world is edging closer and closer to global war, a war that will inevitably involve the use of nuclear weapons, it is not so unrealistic now to expect that divine intervention will be required to prevent mankind from extermination during what Jesus called the great tribulation; a tribulation that God will cut short on account of the chosen ones, from which a great crowd will emerge who will be the nucleus of a new world where death will be no more.

Her prophets are insolent, treacherous men

Friday, February 16 – Everything [Jehovah] does is trustworthy.—Ps. 33:4.

The prophet Daniel set an excellent example of being trustworthy. Although he had been taken into captivity by the Babylonians, he soon earned a reputation as a man who could be trusted. His reputation grew when, with Jehovah's help, he interpreted the dreams of Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar. (Dan. 4:20-22, 25) Many years later, Daniel again proved to be trustworthy when he accurately interpreted a mysterious message that appeared on the palace wall in Babylon. (Dan. 5:5, 25-29) Still later, Darius the Mede and his appointed officials also noticed "an extraordinary spirit in" Daniel. They acknowledged that Daniel "was trustworthy and no negligence or corruption could be found in him." (Dan. 6:3, 4) We do well to ask ourselves: 'Am I known as someone who can be trusted?' We bring praise to Jehovah when we are trustworthy. w22.09 8-9 ¶2-4

As an institution, the Watchtower has proven over and over again that it is untrustworthy. From its secret 10-year partnership with the United Nations, to its backdoor lawyering against child abuse victims, and treacherously giving Jehovah's blessing to the deadly vaccines, not even considering the constant gaslighting, the leaders of the Watchtower, let's call them the prophet-class, have proven to be treacherous, even as the scripture says: "Her prophets are insolent, treacherous men. Her priests defile what is holy; they do violence to the law. Jehovah is righteous in her midst; he does no wrong. Morning by morning he makes known his judgments, as unfailing as the daylight. But the unrighteous one knows no shame." – Zephaniah 3:4-5

Even the prophets of Bethel know the book of Zephaniah has relevance for modern times. The Watchtower often quotes from select passages. For instance, Jehovah's Witnesses are said to speak the pure language of truth mentioned in a few verses down the column in the third chapter. And the WT frequently cites the opening verses of the second chapter: "Gather together, yes, gather yourselves, O nation that feels no shame. Before the decree takes effect, before the day passes by like chaff, before the burning anger of Jehovah comes upon you, before the day of Jehovah's anger comes upon you, seek Jehovah, all you meek ones of the earth, who observe his righteous decrees. Seek righteousness, seek meekness. Probably you will be concealed on the day of Jehovah's anger."

Since the days of normality have not passed by like chaff in a wind storm, and Jehovah's Witnesses hope to be the meek who inherit the earth after the expression of Jehovah's anger incinerates the wicked, that means that the organization of Jehovah's Witnesses is the "nation that feels no shame" overseen by treacherous men who know no shame. Speaking of knowing no shame: Did you know that the Watchtower reserves to itself the right to appoint a known pedophile to the office of an overseer as long as his crimes are not widely known and the congregation is unaware of his perverse proclivities? What shameless, treachery!

Loyalty to Jehovah or the Watchtower?

Sunday, February 18 – Keep your senses in all things.—2 Tim. 4:5.

When we face adversities, our loyalty to Jehovah and his organization can be tested. How can we overcome such challenges? We need to keep our senses and stay awake, standing firm in the faith. We keep our senses by remaining calm, thinking clearly, and striving to see matters from Jehovah's perspective. When we do that, our thoughts will not be controlled by emotions. Perhaps we feel mistreated by a fellow Christian, perhaps someone in a position of

responsibility. Likely, the brother did not intend to hurt you. (Rom. 3:23; Jas. 3:2) Still, his actions may have upset you. You may have even wondered, 'If a brother can act this way, is this really God's organization?' That is exactly how Satan wants us to react. (2 Cor. 2:11) Such negative thinking could cause us to separate ourselves from Jehovah and his organization. So we must be careful not to become embittered. w22.11 20 ¶1, 3; 21 ¶4

In the minds of Jehovah's Witnesses, there is not even a shade of light between Jehovah and the "organization." They are that close! And this relationship is skillfully, willfully, fostered by the Watchtower. Or more correctly, it is promoted by Satan the Devil.

Ever wonder why Satan had an interest in Moses' corpse? The Bible book of Jude only tells us that Michael the archangel and the Devil had a dispute about the disposition of Moses' dead body. Given the Catholic Church's idolatrous fixation on ancient relics, bone fragments, dead saints, the shroud, and other creepy things, more than likely the Devil wanted to use Moses' body for some sort of idolatrous ritual. After all, Moses was a man of God. He had a close encounter with Jehovah atop Mount Sinai and when he came down his face radiated an incandescent glow. He was Jehovah's faithful servant.

It is only natural that Satan would promote the worship of an organization that for the most part teaches the truth. He disguises himself as an angel of light, does he not? Of course, the only way that millions of Jehovah's Witnesses can be induced to hold the Watchtower in such lofty esteem is by trickery. Gods and idols have to possess qualities that mere humans do not. Idols must be flawless. And that is why the maintainers of the Watchtower idol have never, ever admitted to any wrongdoing or even error. It would take the sheen off their idol. Take the comment in the daily text as a case in point. A Christian might have been mistreated even by "someone in a position of responsibility." Wow, did you get that? An elder may have offended or mistreated someone in their charge and the hypothetically offended one questions whether it is Jehovah's organization.

Notice, that the Watchtower is always placed above the fray. It is unthinkable, indeed impossible, that someone in a position of responsibility in the Governing Body could mistreat anyone or abuse their authority. But think for a moment. A couple of years ago the world was subjected to a wholly contrived pandemic. It was a well-coordinated scheme to create terror and panic and then provide the already manufactured remedy in the form of the vaccine. All of the gate-keepers on the Internet unplugged doctors and scientists who warned against the vaccines. One of my YouTube videos was even taken down and I only have a few thousand viewers. We are talking big-time censorship. But the Governing Body was right there with the COVID-19 tyrants. Anthony Morris scolded JWs for being foolhardy for daring to venture outside of their homes. Gerrit Lösch berated JWs for believing unsanctioned information not approved by the United Nations; apparently, the only news source the Watchtower approves now. And then we had David Splane claiming that Jehovah knows best and Jehovah himself has lovingly

provided the vaccine just so his people can remain in the land of the living. No wonder the inspired apostle exhorted us to keep our senses in all things.

I read the April 2024 Watchtower article entitled: **Strengthen Your Appreciation for Jehovah's Organization** First, let me say, that I do appreciate the Watchtower. I learned the truth through them. I have come to know God in a way that would not have been possible without having been tutored by the Watchtower. I also appreciate the New World Translation and the Insight volumes are a great research tool. I appreciate having all of this information at my fingertips, literally, through the WT Library on my Mac. I appreciate that brothers and sisters work hard and are wholly devoted to the truth. I appreciate having been trained as a doorstep minister and public speaker. I thoroughly loved conducting Bible studies and teaching people and miss having that face-to-face contact with people. And I have had many wonderful friendships among Jehovah's Witnesses. It is because I do appreciate Jehovah's organization that I am incensed by it. After all, it has betrayed Jehovah and Christ.

In paragraph 15 the article correctly states: "In the first century, Satan's supporters told one lie after another about the perfect, miracle-working Son of God." They even cite an example. Then, of course, they imply that everything that people say about the Watchtower is all lies too. Except, they do not give any examples of such alleged lies. Who could blame them? They don't want to open up the proverbial can of worms.

I had a bit of a laugh at the illustration of an open mailbox. It was almost exactly 20 years ago that I did my first mailing campaign. And it was a big one too. I hired a professional mailing company and bought a mailing list of every Kingdom Hall in the United States. I also followed up and sent letters to every Kingdom Hall in the UK, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand to inform them of the Watchtower's secret partnership with the United Nations.

I think I must have shaken them up because after that initial mailout subsequent mailouts had more and more returned mail. And the returned mail would often be stamped saying NO RECEPTICAL. It turns out that to solve the problem of getting unwanted messages from some guy who calls himself Jehovah's Watchman, the elders started removing the mailboxes from Kingdom Halls. Whereas the original mailout had nearly 100% delivered, over the years since then the percentage of returned mail has risen dramatically. For my last mailout of Kingdom Bulletin #24 last year I painstakingly used Google Maps and Street View and panned around every Kingdom Hall to see if they had a mailbox. I mean, I probably spent a thousand dollars on ink, paper, and postage, I had to make each letter count. I am guessing only about 25% still have mail receptacles on the premises—maybe even less. But at least now I have a reliable mailing list of a few hundred Kingdom Halls—assuming the holdouts don't ditch their post boxes too.

Anyway, I appreciate the Watchtower's effort to prevent my message from being heard, but it is all in vain. Eventually, they will have to know I do what I do at Jehovah's urging.

The hour of test, which is to come upon the entire inhabited earth

Monday, February 19 – Hope in Jehovah.—Ps. 27:14.

Jehovah has given us the marvelous hope of everlasting life. Some hope to live forever in heaven as immortal spirit creatures. (1 Cor. 15:50, 53) Most, though, hope to live forever on earth in perfect health and happiness. (Rev. 21:3, 4) Whether we look forward to everlasting life in heaven or on earth, our hope is precious to us. Our hope for the future is guaranteed because it comes from Jehovah. (Rom. 15:13) We know what he has promised, and we know that he always keeps his word. (Num. 23:19) We are convinced that Jehovah has both the desire and the power to accomplish everything that he says he will do. Our heavenly Father loves us, and he wants us to trust in him. When our hope in Jehovah is strong, we will be able to endure trials and face the future with courage and joy. w22.10 24 ¶1-3

Trusting God is not always easy. It reminds me of a joke I heard years ago. A guy falls off a cliff and on the way down he grabs hold of a branch. He hollers for help, pleading to heaven saying: 'If there is anyone up there can you please help?' Then to his relief and astonishment, a voice replies. 'Yes. I am here. Just let go of the branch and I will catch you.' The man thinks it over for a few seconds as his grip weakens and then he responds: 'Is there anyone else up there?'

Jesus had to trust God. Contrary to what deluded Trinitarians and Jesus Only Pentecostals imagine, Jesus did not resurrect himself. He trusted that if he willingly gave up his life God would bring him back from the dead. In fact, one of the last things Jesus said as he was dying on the stake was: "Father, into your hands I entrust my spirit." And his hope and trust were rewarded.

Hoping and trusting in God is easy when everything is going well. It is when trials come that we are put to the test. And speaking of tests, Jesus forewarned us that a great test of faith is coming up the entire world. Jesus said: "Because you kept the word about my endurance, I will also keep you from the hour of test, which is to come upon the entire inhabited earth, to put to the test those dwelling on the earth. I am coming quickly. Keep holding fast to what you have, so that no one may take your crown." – Revelation 3:10-11

When Jesus said that faithful ones would be kept from the hour of test he did not mean that they would not be tested. On the contrary, Jesus spoke a similar message to

another anointed congregation, saying: "Do not be afraid of the things you are about to suffer. Look! The Devil will keep on throwing some of you into prison so that you may be fully put to the test, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Prove yourself faithful even to death, and I will give you the crown of life." – Rev. 2:10

Being kept from the test means that Jesus will not allow us to fail the test provided we are faithful. Jesus said something similar to Peter when he told the disciples that the Devil had demanded to have them to sift them as wheat, but Christ had made supplication on their behalf that their faith may not give out.

When is this hour of test? The Watchtower, Jehovah's earthly mouthpiece recently boasted that they have no reason to be embarrassed or ever apologize for getting it wrong, claims that the hour of test began in 1914 and has been ongoing for 110 years! Here is what a Watchtower said 25 years ago:

But the major "hour of test" occurs in "the Lord's day" during "the time of the end," where we now are. (Revelation 1:10; Daniel 12:4) Spirit-anointed Christians went through a particular time of testing during and immediately following World War I. Yet, "the hour of test" is still on. It affects "the whole inhabited earth," including the millions making up the great crowd, who hope to survive the great tribulation.

If we but carefully read what Jesus said it is clear that the hour of test commences when the Son of man arrives like a thief in the night. That is what Jesus meant when he said "I am coming quickly. Keep holding fast to what you have, so that no one may take your crown." If the hour of test began in 1914 then that would be when the Son of man came. But even the Watchtower now admits that the coming of Christ as a thief in the night to commence the judgment of the house of God has not taken place. And since even the Watchtower now teaches that Christ has not come then neither has the hour of test begun.

The Watchtower's error is what will result in the faith of Jehovah's Witnesses being tested. The Watchtower's error is due to the foretold operation of Satan. As part of that operation, Jehovah's Witnesses have been deluded into believing that the eighth king has already begun ruling for his allotted one hour. No doubt the hour of test will coincide with the one-hour reign of the last king. The last king will make war against the chosen ones and ultimately conquer and kill them.

I cannot read at all

Tuesday, February 20 – They are a rebellious people, . . . who are unwilling to hear the law of Jehovah.—Isa. 30:9.

Because the people refused to listen, Isaiah foretold that Jehovah would allow them to suffer calamity. (Isa. 30:5, 17; Jer. 25:8-11) And, indeed, they were taken into captivity by the Babylonians. However, there were some faithful ones among the Jews, and Isaiah told them that one day Jehovah would restore them to favor. (Isa. 30:18, 19) And that is exactly what happened. Jehovah brought an end to their captivity. However, their deliverance would not come right away. The statement "Jehovah is waiting patiently to show you favor" indicated that some time would pass before the faithful ones would be rescued. In fact, the Israelites spent 70 years in exile in Babylon before a remnant was allowed to return to Jerusalem. (Isa. 10:21; Jer. 29:10) Once the people were back in their homeland, the tears of sorrow were replaced by tears of joy. w22.11 9 ¶4

We few are witnessing the fulfillment of Bible prophecy right before our eyes. The leadership of Jehovah's Witnesses is directly involved in its fulfillment. How so? By their inability to comprehend the message presented in prophecy, they are fulfilling these words recorded in Isaiah: "For Jehovah has poured a spirit of deep sleep on you; He has closed your eyes, the prophets, and he has covered your heads, the visionaries. Every vision becomes for you like the words of a sealed book. When they give it to someone who can read, saying: "Read this out loud, please," he will say: "I cannot, for it is sealed up." And when they give the book to someone who cannot read, saying: "Read this, please," he will say: "I cannot read at all." — Isaiah 29:10-12

As an example of their interpretive ineptitude, in the daily text, the somnolent prophets apply the prophecy to ancient Israel, which only applies in a very limited way. But in the explanation of verse 29 in the same 30th chapter they claim this aspect will be fulfilled in the new world. That verse says: "And the light of the full moon will become like the light of the sun; and the light of the sun will become seven times stronger, like the light of seven days, in the day that Jehovah binds up the breakdown of his people and heals the severe wound from the blow he inflicted."

Some thinking person might realize that the severe wound God will inflict upon his people must come before God defends them at the war of Armageddon. Just don't expect those who boast of being the explainers of all things biblical to understand this. They can't. Jehovah has poured a deep sleep upon them.

You will be beaten in synagogues

Wednesday, February 21 – Happy are those who have been persecuted for righteousness' sake.—Matt. 5:10.

Today, in a number of lands, our brothers and sisters are experiencing what the apostles endured in the first century when they were persecuted for preaching

about Jesus. Repeatedly, the judges of the Jewish high court "ordered them to stop speaking on the basis of Jesus' name." (Acts 4:18-20; 5:27, 28, 40) But they knew that a higher authority had 'ordered them to preach to the people and to give a thorough witness' about the Christ. (Acts 10:42) So their spokesmen, Peter and John, boldly said that they would obey God rather than those judges and declared that they would not stop speaking about Jesus. (Acts 5:29) After being beaten for keeping their integrity, the apostles went out from the Jewish high court, "rejoicing because they had been counted worthy to be dishonored in behalf of [Jesus'] name," and they kept right on preaching!—Acts 5:41, 42. w22.10 12-13 ¶2-4

If Jesus pronounced "happy" those persecuted for righteousness' sake, that presents a problem for the vast majority of Jehovah's Witnesses who are not persecuted. It has been a long time since JW's were assaulted by small-town mobs in America and our children were expelled from public schools over issues related to flag salute and not participating in the military. Now it is flag-waving patriots who are considered to be domestic terrorists. My oh my, how the world has changed.

Not to belabor the point, but we in the United States have especially enjoyed a prolonged period of relative peace and prosperity, really dating back to the end of the Second World War. And supposedly peace was taken from the world in 1914? I don't think so.

It is true, that the original Christians underwent severe persecution. Paul was beaten, stoned, and left for dead on more than one occasion. The apostle James was killed outright, one of the first to be murdered by the rabid Jehovah-hating Jews. The Romans killed Christians by the thousands in the coliseums. But then something happened. Gradually, Satan changed tactics. Instead of persecuting Christians the clever emporer of the pagan Roman Empire, Constantine, adopted Christianity as the state religion. Eventually, the state-owned religion became the persecutor. The Catholic Church murdered millions through senseless crusades and inquisitions.

Jesus, though, indicated that persecution will come from another source besides the state or false religionists. During the time of the end Christ forewarned that Christians would be persecuted by their brothers, even handed over to be put to death. Specifically, Jesus said: "As for you, look out for yourselves. People will hand you over to local courts, and you will be beaten in synagogues and be put on the stand before governors and kings for my sake, for a witness to them. Also, in all the nations, the good news has to be preached first. And when they are taking you to hand you over, do not be anxious beforehand about what to say; but whatever is given you in that hour, say this, for you are not the ones speaking, but the holy spirit is. Furthermore, brother will deliver brother over to death, and a father a child, and children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. And you will be hated by all people on account of my name. But the one who has endured to the end will be saved." — Mark 13:9-13

The Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses claims that we are deep into the time of the end and that any day now we will experience the last day of the last days. And yet none of the things Jesus foretold have occurred; except, of course, the good news is being preached throughout the world. But certainly, we have not seen Christians beaten in the synagogues. And we are not likely to either. True, Jesus preached in the synagogues. And he was persecuted by their Pharisees and scribes for doing so. The apostles preached in the Jew's synagogues also. But it is highly unlikely that any anointed Christian would be found in a Jewish synagogue when Christ returns. To be sure, the synagogue was a forerunner of the modern Kingdom Hall. Ancient synagogues were unadorned, simple meeting places where the Jews would gather on the Sabbath and read the Scriptures. In the first century, any Jew who confessed belief in Jesus was essentially disfellowshipped from the Jewish community.

So, under what conditions might we expect Jehovah's Witnesses to be beaten in their Kingdom Halls? When Christ returns. Are Jehovah's Witnesses hated by all people on account of the name of Jesus? No, of course not. Jehovah's Witnesses are hated on account of the name of Jehovah. But the second coming of Christ will change everything. Given the fact that the Watchtower has been instrumental in promoting a false presence of Christ since its inception, we can be sure that the leadership will refuse to acknowledge Jesus when he comes. But the chosen will see Jesus. And like the first-century Christians, especially the core group of disciples who saw the resurrected Christ before he ascended to the Father, they will be witnesses for Jesus. And as his witnesses, they will be hauled before local courts and even made to stand before governors and kings to speak for Jesus. They will be beaten and thrown from Kingdom Halls and betrayed by brothers for their refusal to bow to the Watchtower. In the end, they will be handed over to be put to death. And then the end will come, not for them, but for the Devil and his persecutors.

I will discipline you to the proper degree

Thursday, February 22 – Drawing near to God is good for me.—Ps. 73:28.

Understandably, learning about Jehovah starts with the basics. In his letter to the Hebrews, the apostle Paul referred to basic teachings as "the elementary things." He was not belittling "the primary doctrine"; he was comparing it to the milk that nourishes a baby. (Heb. 5:12; 6:1) But he also urged all Christians to keep moving beyond those basic teachings and to learn the deeper truths of God's Word. Have you developed a hunger for the deeper teachings of the Bible? Are you willing to keep growing, to keep learning about Jehovah and his purposes? For many of us, though, it is a challenge to study. What about you? At school, did you learn to read and study effectively? Did you find study to be enjoyable and rewarding? Or did you conclude that you are not good at learning from books? If

so, you are not alone. However, Jehovah can help you. He is perfect and is the best Teacher there is. w23.03 9-10 ¶8-10

The Watchtower seems to have squandered its influence. Back perhaps half a century ago, the Watchtower did delve into deeper topics and educate its readers on complicated doctrinal matters and even prophecy, to an extent. If you are inclined, go back and read some of the material published in the 50s, 60s, and even 1970s. Gradually, seemingly in sync with the beginning of the dumbing down of America in the 1960s, the Watchtower has become more and more shallow. The argument might be made that it is because people cannot understand the deep things now. But isn't it the job of a teacher to teach? The Watchtower used to set up Kingdom schools in thirdworld nations to teach illiterates how to read. Perhaps we need something like that in America now.

I am reminded of what Jehovah has said in Ezekiel speaking to the self-feeding shepherds: "As for you, my sheep, this is what the Sovereign Lord Jehovah says: "I am about to judge between one sheep and another sheep, between the rams and the male goats. Is it not enough for you to feed on the very best pastures? Must you also trample the rest of your pastures with your feet? And after drinking the clearest water, must you foul the water by stamping with your feet? Should my sheep now feed on the pasture trampled by your feet and drink the water befouled by the stamping of your feet?" – Ez 34:17-19

Because it has been done gradually over the years most JWs probably have not noticed that everything is being watered down and polluted. Prophecy especially has been turned into pablum — mere behavioral lessons. For example, in 1979 there were a series of study articles in the Watchtower Magazine explaining Jeremiah in terms of God's judgment upon Christendom. It at least made sense, kind of. However, in 2010 the Governing Body published a "commentary" on Jeremiah that had very little to do with the actual prophetic content of the prophecy and instead seemed intent to blunt the message. For instance, chapter 11 is entitled Shepherds in Agreement with My Heart. A subheading is entitled *Discipline to the Proper Degree*. Without actually quoting or citing the reference scripture the Watchtower implies that elders are the ones who discipline Jehovah's people to the proper degree. The obvious reason they did not quote Jeremiah is...well...obvious: Here is what Jehovah has said: "For I am with you," declares Jehovah, "to save you. But I will make an extermination among all the nations to which I scattered you; however, you I will not exterminate. I will discipline you to the proper degree, and I will by no means leave you unpunished." — Jeremiah 30:11

Any thinking person should realize that contrary to the kindergarten-level lesson in the Society's Jeremiah book, the actual prophecy of Jeremiah indicates that although Jehovah is the Savior he will not give exemption from punishment. The writers of this misapplied judgment message would do well to note what they themselves wrote in

paragraph 20: "Be confident that Jehovah disciplines wrongdoers "to the proper degree."

They do not know, nor do they understand

Friday, February 23 – Accept with mildness the implanting of the word that is able to save you.—Jas. 1:21.

If we are mild, we will allow God's Word to take root in our heart. Only if we avoid a critical or proud spirit will the Bible's lessons about mercy, compassion, and love shape us. The way we treat others can indicate if we are allowing God's Word to mold us. The Pharisees failed to let God's Word reach their heart, and as a result, they "condemned the guiltless ones." (Matt. 12:7) In a similar way, how we view and treat others reveals whether we have let God's Word mold us. For example, are we inclined to mention the good we see in others, or are we quick to point out their flaws? Are we merciful and ready to forgive, or are we critical and given to holding grudges? Such self-examination can reveal whether we are letting what we read shape our thoughts, feelings, and actions.—1 Tim. 4:12, 15; Heb. 4:12. w23.02 12 ¶13-14

Jesus likened the truth to a seed. Seeds are truly amazing, in that, they contain the potential for an entirely new life to emerge. In an illustration, Jesus said that some seeds fell along the roadside and the birds came and ate them. Christ explained that some people just don't get the sense of it and the demons take whatever truth they had. This appears to be the situation with the majority of people, they just don't get it.

If the word of God is truly implanted in us then we will live in a certain way. God's word will act upon us and move us to act in a certain way. In Jesus' sower and seed illustration, he spoke of the seed that fell in rocky places and sprouted, but soon the seedling withered for lack of being well rooted. Jesus explained that some people accept the truth with joy and continue for a while but as soon as trouble comes or persecution arises, they are stumbled for lack of spiritual depth. This aspect of the illustration seems to apply to the growing numbers of Jehovah's Witnesses who have allowed themselves to be stumbled over the Watchtower's many misdoings.

It is noteworthy that the daily text brings up criticism and Pharisaic attitudes, because that is exactly what is afflicting the Watchtower Society at this present time. Its leaders have become hypocritical, just like the Pharisees of Jesus' day. And growing numbers of Jehovah's Witnesses and former members are becoming increasingly critical of the Governing Body—myself foremost. It would appear that the daily text is alluding to this situation while avoiding making mention of the causes for it.

If God's word truly dwells in us, we would expect that it would lead us on a course of humility. But humility is a quality that was lacking among the Pharisees who persecuted Jesus and his disciples. And, sadly, it is lacking among the leadership of Jehovah's Witnesses. This lack of honesty and lowliness of mind was on full display at the Watchtower's 2023 Annual Meeting, when a new member of the Governing Body, Jeffrey Winder, explained that they have no reason to ever be embarrassed or apologize for their many flip flops and interpretive contortions over the years that have stumbled untold numbers of Jehovah's Witnesses.

As for being forgiving, isn't forgiveness predicated upon the repentance of the offender? For example, ought sexually abused children forgive their abusers who lie and blame their victims for making up stories? How can a person forgive and forget when they carry the emotional scars with them for life? Does God really expect survivors of sexual abuse to forgive the leaders of the Watchtower whose policies protected pedophiles from being exposed and prosecuted for their crimes? Of course not. And neither will Jehovah forgive an organization that becomes the adversary at law with the sexually abused.

How very much like the Pharisees the leaders of the Watchtower have become. The Pharisees used the Law to shield themselves and profit while persecuting the lowly. The Watchtower claims they abhor child abuse and that their policies are the best. Yet, they claim their hands are tied by the Law of God requiring two witnesses to any accusation. So, they appeal to the very law of God that requires judges to defend the defenseless. Would it not be better to err on the side of the weak and vulnerable rather than to defend pedophiles?

Jehovah God has conferred godlike powers to judge upon men who are appointed as shepherds and overseers of his people. At the top of the list of God's priorities for those who serve as judges, yes, above preaching, teaching, and making disciples, Jehovah demands that those who sit in judgment must defend the defenseless and vulnerable. It is the very foundation of Christianity. The Governing Body and their Helpers, their lawyers and accountants, do not understand this. They have deluded themselves into believing that their primary responsibility is to protect the financial resources of the publishing company known as the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania.

It is no act of petty criticism to point out that the Pharisees who run the Watchtower have brought Heaven's judgment upon themselves, and indeed upon the world. Their failure to defend and protect Jehovah's children is the reason the world is going to be rocked to its foundation shortly. It is unavoidable. Jehovah himself has spoken.

God takes his place in the divine assembly; In the middle of the gods he judges: "How long will you continue to judge with injustice And show partiality to the wicked? Defend the lowly and the fatherless.
Render justice to the helpless and destitute.
Rescue the lowly and the poor;
Save them out of the hand of the wicked."
They do not know, nor do they understand;
They are walking about in darkness;
All the foundations of the earth are being shaken.
"I have said, 'You are gods,
All of you are sons of the Most High.
But you will die just as men do;
And like any other prince you will fall!""
Rise up, O God, and judge the earth,
For all the nations belong to you.

Psalms 82

One from the rising of the sun

Saturday, February 24 – I, Jehovah your God, am grasping your right hand, the One saying to you, "Do not be afraid. I will help you." —Isa. 41:13.

Consider the example of Joseph of Arimathea. He was well-regarded by Jewish society. He was a member of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish supreme court. However, during Jesus' earthly ministry, Joseph was anything but courageous. John said that he was "a disciple of Jesus but a secret one because of his fear of the Jews." (John 19:38) Although Joseph was interested in the Kingdom message, he hid from others that he had faith in Jesus. No doubt he was afraid that he would lose his prestigious position in the community. Whatever the case, the Bible tells us that after Jesus died, Joseph finally "took courage and went in before Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus." (Mark 15:42, 43) Joseph's support of Jesus was now no longer a secret. Can you relate to Joseph's fear of man? w23.01 30 ¶13-14

The book of Isaiah is prophetic. It is only set in ancient times, but it is really about the future; specifically, the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Beginning with the 40th chapter Jehovah speaks to his people in captivity in Babylon; but, again, God is really speaking to the citizens of spiritual Israel who will find themselves in a deplorable, captive situation during the great tribulation. That is the setting for Christ's appearance on the world's stage. Did not Jesus say that the tribulation will be cut short on account of the chosen ones, otherwise no flesh would survive?

Consider what is revealed with the opening of the sixth seal of the scroll: It describes the great tribulation in symbols. In part, it reads: "And I saw when he opened the sixth seal, and a great earthquake occurred; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the entire moon became as blood, and the stars of heaven fell to the earth as when a fig tree shaken by a high wind drops its unripe figs. And the heaven departed as a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and every island was removed from its place."

Jesus used similar phraseology when he spoke of the tribulation and the powers of the heavens being shaken and men becoming faint with fear in dread of all the things coming down. As Jesus said, it will come upon the entire inhabited earth. There will be no hiding place, no remote island sanctuary. But by divine intervention, the nuclear holocaust will be interrupted. And that is the point in time when the prerecorded words of God in the opening verses of the 41st chapter of Isaiah are spoken. "Listen to me in silence, you islands; let the nations regain their strength. Let them approach; then let them speak. Let us come together for judgment."

Ah, the judgment. And what is the basis for the judgment? All of mankind will be presented with a choice. Either accept Christ as Earth's new King or persist in supporting Satan's evil system. That is why God permits the nations to regain strength in the post-tribulation period. For those interested the Bible clearly informs us that the post-tribulation period will amount to three and a half years. That period is symbolized as the hour of test during which the eighth king will reign for one hour.

This eighth king that will spring from the seven is also portrayed as an image of the seven-headed beast that will come alive and speak and cause to be killed those who will not worship it. In Isaiah, Jehovah speaks of this coming event. Verses five through seven describe it this way: "The islands have seen it and have become afraid. The ends of the earth began to tremble. They draw near and come forward. Each one helps his companion and says to his brother: "Be strong." So the craftsman strengthens the metalworker; the one who flattens with the forge hammer strengthens the one hammering at the anvil. He says about the soldering: "It is good." Then it is fastened with nails so that it will not topple over."

From Jehovah's standpoint, all humans are like grasshoppers to him. It is laughable that puny earthling creatures would try to fabricate an institution as a substitute for Christ's heavenly Kingdom. That is why God in the last verse of the 41st chapter God describes their efforts as a delusion and unreality.

Just to convince any doubters that the prophecy applies to the future and not to the past, Jehovah states that he will make Israel his threshing sledge and that is why God will take hold of the hand of his fearful servant, to give him the power of Samson. Indeed, God's unnamed servant is actually Jesus, and his 144,000 associates, some of whom, a remnant, will be on earth to experience the great tribulation.

But that the 41st chapter of Isaiah speaks of the final judgment by Christ is evident by what is stated in the 25th verse: "I have raised up someone from the north, and he will come, One from the rising of the sun who will call on my name. He will trample rulers as if they were clay, like a potter who treads moist clay."

Although God used Cyrus to topple Babylon and even referred to him as "my anointed one", the Persian King did not call upon the name of Jehovah. No, the warrior king only typified Christ. Did not Jesus say that he would smash the nations as with an iron rod?

Not coincidentally, in the run-up to the world-ending war at the place called Armageddon, Revelation refers to the pouring out of the sixth bowl of God's anger "on the great river Euphrates," and the drying up of its water, just as Cyrus had somehow diverted the literal river on the night of Babylon's fall, in order "to prepare the way for the kings from the rising of the sun."

Who are these kings from the rising of the sun? They are Christ and the chosen, who at that time will be shining as brightly as the sun in Christ's then-reigning Kingdom. By the way, in Hebrew, the name Isaiah means the same as the name Jesus. Jehovah is salvation

Now, in regards to the Watchtower's comment about Joseph of Arimathea, he was a secret disciple of Jesus. And when Christ's closest disciples abandoned him and were scattered, Joseph of Arimathea stepped up and made sure that Jesus received a proper burial. Why didn't Peter, James, or John take care of this? Good question.

No doubt Jesus has many secret disciples now who will come to the fore when the Watchtower crashes at the outbreak of global war, when Christ initiates the trampling of the rulers of Satan's world.

Solomon and the Watchtower

Sunday, February 25 – Happy are your men, and happy are your servants who stand before you constantly, listening to your wisdom! —1 Ki. 10:8.

News of the peace and prosperity enjoyed by the Israelites under Solomon's rule reached the queen of Sheba. That sovereign from a distant land traveled to Jerusalem to see the situation for herself. (1 Ki. 10:1) After inspecting Solomon's kingdom, she said the words above. But the conditions under Solomon's rule were just a taste of what Jehovah will do for mankind under the rule of His Son, Jesus. Jesus is superior to Solomon in every way. Solomon was an imperfect man who made serious errors in judgment that eventually brought hardship on

God's people. Jesus, on the other hand, is a perfect Ruler who makes no mistakes. (Luke 1:32; Heb. 4:14, 15) Christ has proved that he will never sin or do anything that would harm his loyal subjects. It truly is an honor to have him as our King. w22.12 11 ¶9-10

Solomon was blessed by Jehovah with wisdom and riches beyond anything any human had ever possessed. He was God's faithful and wise servant—at least for a time. There were no kings of his equal. And yes, the Queen of Sheba traveled from a distant land to see for herself Solomon's splendid kingdom and she queried him with many questions that were in her heart and he answered them all. But Solomon's wisdom and his kingdom did not last.

God had warned Solomon not to multiply wives for himself and the law of God specifically forbade the Israelites from intermarriage with the demon-worshipping people of the neighboring lands. But Solomon didn't listen. He married 700 princesses from among the Egyptians, Hittites, Amorites, Moabites and Edomites. Gradually they inclined Solomon's heart away from following Jehovah. Even though Solomon had built Jehovah's magnificent temple on Mount Zion, he then began to construct temples dedicated to the disgusting demon gods his many wives worshipped, including Ashtoreth—the sex goddess of the Sidonians, and Milcom—the disgusting god of the Ammonites. In time the Israelites worshipped these gods and others and even sacrificed their children to them.

Solomon became what we call an apostate. For all of his wisdom he acted foolishly and brought disaster upon Israel.

Solomon wrote most of the Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. Amazingly, even though the king became an apostate in his later life, God permitted Solomon's writings to remain as part of the Bible's collection of 66 sacred books. It would seem that Solomon's story is a cautionary tale for all of God's servants. Paul summed it up best: "So let the one who thinks he is standing beware that he does not fall."

The same God who blessed Solomon with knowledge, wisdom, and vast riches, lives today and forever. The same demons that were worshipped in various forms in ancient times still exist too. And everyone is influenced by both God and the demons.

In many ways, the Watchtower organization is like Solomon. God blessed the leaders of the organization with Bible knowledge and wisdom. No organization had ever taught the truth before—at least not in modern times. The great church systems have been exposed as mere daughters of the symbolic prostitute known as Babylon the Great—the mother of the harlots.

Take note that the historical account states: "Now the queen of Sheba heard the report about Solomon in connection with the name of Jehovah, so she came to test him with perplexing questions." — 1 Kings 10:1

Just as Solomon's wisdom and fame were in connection with the name of Jehovah, so too, the Watchtower. God's name is emblazoned upon the header of every Watchtower Magazine. The Watchtower Bible Society has faithfully restored the name of God to the book that bears his name, making the New World Translation available in over 200 languages. The Watchtower's influence has been extended to the farthest ends of the earth and with it the name of God has been published in over 1,000 languages, via pamphlets and tracts. The organization has even conferred the name of Jehovah upon its millions of followers, so that Jehovah's Witnesses are widely known throughout the world.

From its humble storefront beginnings, the Watchtower has grown to become a wealthy corporation. Its leaders may not have gold, silver and precious stones such as Solomon possessed, but they certainly live like kings—far better than many of their subjects.

Like Solomon, the leading men of the Watchtower have not listened to Jehovah. They have become apostates—infecting the entire organization. They have allowed demonworshipping masons to become influencers. They have practiced a form of child sacrifice by shielding pedophiles from prosecution and persecuting their victims. And they have committed spiritual prostitution—the kind they hypocritically condemn—by aligning themselves with Satan's United Nations.

Interestingly, Jehovah did not punish Solomon even though he became infuriated with him. Instead, God ripped the kingdom away from his son. In the same way, the apostates among Jehovah's Witnesses continue to thrive and enjoy the Kingdom's wealth and prestige.

However, they should take note that just as Jesus told the Jews in his day something greater than Solomon was among them, in the same way, something greater than the earthly organization exists and will be among us in a way that they do not know or expect.

Did not the wisest man who ever lived warn us of this very thing, when he said: "But know this, if the householder had known at what hour the thief would come, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also, keep ready, because at an hour that you do not think likely, the Son of man is coming."

The Apostasy Must Come First

Monday, February 26 – Be obedient to those who are taking the lead among you and be submissive, for they are keeping watch over you.—Heb. 13:17.

What should we do if a contagious disease is spreading where we live? We should obey emergency regulations, such as those regarding washing our hands, social distancing, wearing a mask, and quarantining. Our diligence in these areas shows how deeply we appreciate God's gift of life. During emergencies, inaccurate information may circulate among friends, among neighbors, and in the media. Rather than believe "every word" we hear, we do well to listen to the most reliable governmental and medical sources available. (Prov. 14:15) The Governing Body and the branch offices make every effort to obtain accurate information before giving direction regarding congregation meetings and the preaching work. By being cooperative, we protect ourselves and others from harm. We may also enhance the congregation's reputation in the community.—1 Pet. 2:12. w23.02 23 ¶11-12

When I first began reading the Bible, before I had ever had any contact with Jehovah's Witnesses, I was stunned when I read the 12th chapter of Revelation about a war erupting in heaven and Satan and all of his angels being hurled to the earth. I did not know if the event had occurred, but it seemed possible that it had. The world certainly seemed to be in the grip of an invisible, evil force, and ever so much so now.

Later, of course, I came into association with Jehovah's Witnesses and I appreciated the Watchtower's plausible explanation that the epic war had already occurred and the Devil and his demons were ousted from heaven and confined to the earth since 1914. These demonic forces undoubtedly drove the governments of the world and the religions. But....

Now, though, 50 years later, I am absolutely certain that the war in heaven has not taken place. In fact, there is convincing evidence that there is an operation of Satan in play designed to convince even the heirs of the Kingdom that Christ has begun ruling and that peace has already been taken from the earth. All the while the Devil has been maneuvering his earthly minions into place for the day and hour when the Kingdom actually does begin ruling and the time of the end begins. But something must take place before the war in heaven. What is that?

In his second letter to the Thessalonians the prophet Paul wrote concerning the parousia, saying of it: "At the time when he comes to be glorified in connection with his holy ones and to be regarded in that day with wonder among all those who exercised faith." Elsewhere, namely in his letter to the Romans, the apostle

referred to the revealing of the sons of God. Needless to say, the revealing of the sons of God will come about as a result of the revelation of Jesus to them.

John, who was on the mountain when Christ was transfigured before them, wrote in his first epistle: "Beloved ones, we are now children of God, but it has not yet been made manifest what we will be. We do know that when he is made manifest we will be like him, because we will see him just as he is." – 1 John 3 verse 2

Considering the context of Paul's letter to the Thessalonians concerning the parousia, Paul issued a warning regarding the operation of Satan as the source of authoritative pronouncements and apostolic-like letters declaring that the presence has begun and the Lord's day is here. Then, the apostle prophesied and gave us a vital bit of information regarding a crucial development that must take place first before Christ appears. Again, what is that? Read it: "Let no one lead you astray in any way, because it will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed, the son of destruction."

The pronoun "it" is in reference to the parousia. And the apostasy must take place immediately before the presence and manifestation of Christ. Jesus referred to Judas as the son of destruction. It is the same designation given to the man of lawlessness. This means that the man of lawlessness is a chosen one, as was Judas, in that Jesus selected Judas as one of the 12 apostles. Christendom has been marinating in apostasy for centuries, to say that the clergy must apostatize first before the presence of Christ is meaningless. The apostasy that must come first must come from within Christ's congregation of anointed persons; yes, from the leadership; in other words, from among those taking the lead. Obviously, we can not expect the Governing Body to announce this kind of new light.

Now, as regards the daily text, how clever of Satan to use the Scriptures against us, Judas, if you recall, conspired with the Jews and the Roman occupiers, otherwise known as Ceasear, to betray Jesus. The leadership of Jehovah's Witnesses has similarly conspired with the globalist promoters of an Illuminati-run world government whose stated goal is to eliminate a rather large percentage of mankind, a process that the Malthusians consider to be nothing more than culling the herd. Are we to submit to the schemes of an avowed eugenicist billionaire computer nerd who pretends to be a virologist and King Charles, who has spent his entire adult life working on a scheme to get the nations to destroy themselves? And why should nations abdicate their authority to the Gates Foundation-funded World Health Organization? Who gave the UN authority over people living in sovereign nations anyway? Why does the Watchtower agree with this pretense that the WHO has any authority? By the way, the British Monarchy adopted Malthusianism back during the Victorian Age and has already killed tens of millions of Indians, Irish, and Africans by various means and the Empire intends to bring the population down to a manageable billion or so. This is no conspiracy theory, but it is a conspiracy among the pedophile Satanists running the world.

My question is: Where is the Watchtower? Where are its vaunted watchmen on the wall keeping watch? Why are they not sounding the battle trumpet? Indeed, where are those who are taking the lead and watching over Jehovah's flock? There is only one reasonable explanation for their deafening silence in the face of this evil that is engulfing the world.

Before the Second World War, the Consolation Magazine warned of the evils associated with all vaccines. The Watchtower claimed it was a scheme of the Devil. That seemed a bit extreme, considering that vaccinations have eradicated certain diseases that used to be common. It is true, that no medicine comes without side effects. Vaccinations are not risk-free. But now the Governing Body is happy to be praised by the world for its unabashed endorsement of the new mRNA injections and lauded for its zealous cooperation with the very institutions that it has previously exposed as instruments of Satan. What happened to neutrality? What happened to personal choices in private health matters? (Just to be sure, what they call a "vaccine" now is nothing like the vaccines that have been in use for decades. It is a wholly new gene-editing technology that has the potential to be very deadly.)

I pose the question again: Can anyone explain to me why it is the business of the government or the Watchtower if you or I choose not to be vaccinated? The "experts" originally claimed that vaccinated persons could not spread the contagion. That would certainly be a legitimate reason to compel everyone to be injected. But it is simply not true. Time has proven that every claim made by the "experts" has been a lie. What reliable sources of information is the Watchtower referring to, because everything coming from the mainstream, official channels, has been a lie. Vaccinated persons are not even immune to the infection they were supposed to be immunized against. So, again, why would the Governing Body use its authority as the faithful and discreet slave of Christ to compel Jehovah's Witnesses to submit to injections of a dangerous substance that neither provides immunity nor prevents contagion and has caused millions of adverse reactions and deaths worldwide? Again, there is only one reasonable explanation.

Now the Watchtower is in all the way. Even if the World Health Organization or the Center for Disease Control were to issue decrees stating that the vaccines are not safe nor are they effective, the Governing Body would not retract their endorsement. How could they? They claimed that Jehovah God provided the vaccines especially for his people so that they could remain in the land of the living. No, the apostasy cannot be reversed. Judas has been handed the morsel and he has greedily gobbled it down and gone off into the night.

And are we now to be submissive to those taking the lead? The lead to where?

The Peter class

Wednesday, February 27 – This means everlasting life.—John 17:3.

Jehovah promises that those who obey him will have "everlasting life." (Rom. 6:23) When we meditate on what Jehovah is offering us, our love for him certainly grows stronger. Just think: Our heavenly Father loves us so deeply that we will never be separated from him. God's promise of everlasting life helps us to endure our current trials. Even when our enemies threaten us with death, we will not compromise. Why? In part because we know that if we die faithful to Jehovah, he will raise us from the dead with the prospect of never dying. (John 5:28, 29; 1 Cor. 15:55-58; Heb. 2:15) We know that Jehovah is able to keep us alive forever because he is the Source of life and he lives forever. (Ps. 36:9) The Bible confirms that Jehovah has always existed and will always exist.—Ps. 90:2; 102:12, 24, 27. w22.12 2 ¶1-3

Immediately after the Passover and Evening Meal had concluded, they went out to the Mount of Olives and Jesus began to prepare his apostles for what was about to happen. Judas had already gone out and was making his arrangements. Jesus told them they were all going to be scattered. It was even so written. But Peter protested and insisted that even if all the others were stumbled he would not be. Peter boasted that he was ready to go to prison and face death. Then Jesus prophesied about Peter, telling him: "Truly I say to you, on this night, before a rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And as the record testifies just a few hours later Peter denied knowing Jesus three times.

The leaders of the Watchtower like to think of themselves as modern-day apostles. That being so, they would do well to call to mind some of the stupid things the apostles did, especially Peter. Is it really wise to make such boasts as appear in the Daily Text? "Even when our enemies threaten us with death, we will not compromise." Really? How do you know you will not compromise? I doubt that anyone among the Governing Body or Bethel family worldwide has ever been threatened with death—at least not in connection with their faith. Where does that big talk come from? It sounds very Peterish to me.

Besides, the threat of death is not the only way the Devil tries to get us to compromise. He can tempt us in various ways. Sometimes Satan is nice. The Tempter offered Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world in exchange for a small act of worship. Not a bad deal. Did the Devil offer the Watchtower money to promote the vaccines? The truth will come out one way or the other, but confession would be the best course. But we will follow the Watchtower's advice and wait on Jehovah.

But as regards this cocksureness, that we will never compromise even when threatened with death, it is wise that we not boast of such an outcome until we are threatened with death; or better yet, when we are actually killed *then* we can boast that we did not compromise.

The Watchtower is more like Peter in other ways too, besides the vain boasting. On one occasion when Jesus was explaining to his disciples that he was going to be handed over and suffer many things and be put to death, Peter interrupted him and tried to correct Christ, saying to him: "Be kind to yourself, Lord; you will not have this happen to you at all." Jesus sternly rebuked him for his ignorance and for trying to dissuade him from his mission of self-sacrifice.

In many ways, the Watchtower leaders display the same appalling ignorance. Just as Peter wished for Jesus, they have been very kind to themselves and presume they will escape the outcome destined by prophecy. I propose that the Watchtower phase out the "John class" nomenclature and institute a new apostolic-sounding designation for the Governing Body: The Peter class.

"We are not surprised"

Thursday, February 29 – Who will separate us from the love of the Christ? Will tribulation or distress or persecution?—Rom. 8:35.

As Jehovah's people, we are not surprised when we have to face trials. We realize that, as the Bible says, "we must enter into the Kingdom of God through many tribulations." (Acts 14:22) We also know that some of our problems will not be completely solved until we are living in God's new world, where "death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore." (Rev. 21:4) Jehovah does not shield us from trials. However, he does help us to endure them. Note what the apostle Paul said to Christians living in Rome. He first listed a number of trials that he and his brothers were facing. Then he wrote: "We are coming off completely victorious through the one who loved us." (Rom. 8:36, 37) This means that Jehovah can make you successful even while the trial is running its course. w23.01 14 ¶1-2

Yesterday the newly-dubbed Peter class boasted that not even the threat of death could make them compromise, as though they had not already compromised. Today they take their boasting to a new level, saying that "we are not surprised when we face various trials." One could read this comment in various ways. Perhaps the princes of Warwick have not faced any trials. Or, maybe the "trials" they are referring to are the numerous court trials that have popped up over recent years involving sex abuse victims in which the Bethel's lawyers have had to defend the Watchtower's indefensible pedophile policies. I would not be surprised.

But I have news for Jehovah's Witnesses, call it new light. It is a message I have tried to convey for many years. You will be surprised beyond words when all of the things written in prophecy begin to occur; namely, war, famine, and pandemics; all the things that the Watchtower has claimed began in 1914 and cannot be repeated in the future. Just imagine the surprise, yes the utter shock, when it becomes undeniably apparent that Jesus has actually come. I believe surprise and shock are too mild. Let's call it terror. Yes, imagine the terror that will rip through Bethel when everything the Watchtower has ever written, every talk that has ever been given regarding the Kingdom having been set up and Jesus' invisible presence having begun, and all of that blather about speaking the pure language and being in spiritual paradise is rendered into worthless nonsense.

I imagine that homes of old-time JWs with bookshelves covering an entire wall that used to be filled with brown Watchtower bound volumes and dozens of brightly colored books explaining prophecy will be emptied. Those millions of moldy books will not even be sellable on eBay. The landfills will overfloweth. Or perhaps they will be used as fuel for the fire to keep one warm in the post-crash world. I would not be surprised.

Will you be surprised when great numbers of Christians are stumbled and turn upon each other, hate one another, and betray one another? Jesus said it would happen. And now the Watchtower has boasted that we will not be surprised when we are faced with tribulation. So, I guess they know. One thing is certain, Jehovah loves to surprise us. He also is obligated to humble the haughty and silence the boasters. But you will not be surprised when he does, or will you?

"Enter into the rock and hide yourself in the dust Because of the terrifying presence of Jehovah And his majestic splendor. The haughty eyes of man will be brought low, And the arrogance of men will bow down. Jehovah alone will be exalted in that day. For it is the day belonging to Jehovah of armies. It is coming upon everyone who is haughty and lofty, Upon everyone, whether exalted or lowly, Upon all the cedars of Lebanon that are lofty and exalted And upon all the oaks of Bashan, Upon all the lofty mountains And upon all the high hills, Upon every high tower and every fortified wall, **Upon all the ships of Tarshish** And upon all desirable boats. Man's haughtiness will be brought down, And the arrogance of men will bow low. Jehovah alone will be exalted in that day." - Isaiah 2:10-17