

ARTICLE 1

<https://jwfacts.com/watchtower/faithful-discreet-slave.php>

Faithful and Discreet Slave

The parable of the faithful and discreet slave is used by the Watchtower Governing Body to justify that they have been appointed by God to lead his people, since 1919. This is used to justify that salvation depends on following them.

Matthew 24:45-47 "**Who really is the faithful and discreet slave** whom his master appointed over his domestics, to give them their food at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on arriving finds him doing so. Truly I say to YOU, He will appoint him over all his belongings."

Luke 12:42-44 "And the Lord said: "Who really is the faithful steward, the discreet one, whom his master will appoint over his body of attendants to keep giving them their measure of food supplies at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on coming finds him doing so! I tell you truthfully, he will appoint him over all his belongings."

This simple parable defines Jehovah's Witnesses. Jesus' question is fundamental to the existence and structure of the religion and is its foundation Scripture. From it extends the concept that in 1919 God chose the leaders of the Watchtower Society as his sole source of truth and henceforth justify why Jehovah's Witnesses need to submit unquestioningly to the Watchtower Governing Body, in order to have a relationship with God and for salvation.

"That faithful slave is the channel through which Jesus is feeding his true followers in this time of the end. It is vital that we recognize the faithful slave. Our spiritual health and our relationship with God depend on this channel." *Watchtower* 2013 Jul 15 p.20

"“The faithful and discreet slave” was appointed over Jesus’ domestics in 1919. That slave is the small, composite group of anointed brothers serving at world headquarters during Christ’s presence who are directly involved in preparing and dispensing spiritual food. When this group work together as the Governing Body, they act as “the faithful and discreet slave.”" jw.org 10th Nov 2012

**We need to obey
the faithful and
discreet slave to have
Jehovah's approval**

"We need to obey the faithful and discreet slave to have Jehovah’s approval." *Watchtower* 2011 Jul 15 p.24 Simplified English Edition

"Since Jehovah God and Jesus Christ completely trust the faithful and discreet slave, should we not do the same?" [Watchtower 2009 Feb 15 p.27](#)

"[A mature christian] does not advocate or insist on personal opinions or harbor private ideas when it comes to Bible understanding. Rather, he has complete confidence in the truth as it is revealed by Jehovah God through his Son, Jesus Christ, and "the faithful and discreet slave." *Watchtower* 2001 Aug 1 p.14

"But Jehovah God has also provided his visible organization, his "faithful and discreet slave", made up of spirit-anointed ones, to help Christians in all nations to understand and apply properly the Bible in their lives. Unless we are in touch with this channel of communication that God is using, we will not progress along the road to life, no matter how much Bible reading we do." *Watchtower* 1981 Dec 1 p.27

"... show respect for the "faithful and discreet slave" that He is using at the present time. Actually, your very life depends on following this course of action. Remember, too, it is only he that endures to the end that will be saved." *Watchtower* 1964 Jul 15 p.435

"To act consistently with our baptism for life and into the Greater Noah we must submit to and cooperate with that slave and its legal instrument, the Watch Tower Society." *Watchtower* 1959 Oct 1 p.583

For many decades, the Slave included all "anointed" Witnesses, but from 2009 the Governing Body began making statements to increase its own authority, as shown later. Finally, during the 2012 Annual Meeting, the Governing Body announced it had assumed the role of the Slave solely upon themselves.



Watchtower 2013 Jul 15 p.26

These grandiose claims have important implications. Conviction that God reveals the Bible through the Watchtower Governing Body affects what Jehovah's Witnesses believe regarding doctrine, history and the future, and their actions relating to morals and family. Truth changes in line with changes of Watchtower interpretation. With such all-encompassing power, it does well to prove if God is using the Watchtower leadership.

Proof

In Bible times, Jehovah made it simple to recognise those he had chosen to lead his people, through the use of miracles and gifts of the spirit. Watchtower leaders demonstrate none of these indicators.

Identifying those used by Jehovah		
	Bible Times	Watchtower Governing Body
Miracles	Jehovah used miraculous works to identify those chosen to lead others. For example: Noah - Gathering of the animals Moses - Staff into a snake Apostles - Gifts of the spirit, such as faith healing	None
Prophecy	When Jehovah used a person to make future predictions, the prophecies were always correct. For example, Daniel's prophecy for the fall of Babylon and the line of world powers	100% of Watchtower predictions have been false, such as that the end of the world would be in 1914, then 1925, then 1975. Furthermore, the generation teaching promoted prior to 1995 is about to be proven false, as the last survivors born prior to 1914 die out.
Consistency	Bible is harmonious, with Bible writers presenting a message without contradiction.	Watchtower doctrine has been in constant flux. This cannot be explained as new light, as there have been numerous flip flops and contradictions, such as the generation teaching, organ transplants, and superior authorities.

As the Watchtower is without clear and visible proof of God's backing, it resorts to unsubstantiated claims of guidance, devoid of any legitimate basis.

"OVERWHELMING CREDENTIALS

The "faithful and discreet slave" has abundant credentials. Following is a partial list of Scriptural and prophetic designations applying to or being represented in the remnant of Jesus Christ's anointed followers since the notable year 1919:" *Watchtower* 1981 Mar 1 p.27

The 1981 article follows with a list of 80 "prophetic designations" that the reader is expected to believe foreshadow the modern day slave, including Bible accounts as diverse as "Noah's wife", "Angels sent to Lot" and the "Gleaning left behind". Can these accounts seriously be considered proof that the Watchtower leaders represent the Slave since 1919?

The Governing Body also claims that because Jesus has appointed them, they must therefore be trustworthy.

"There are many reasons to have complete trust in the slave class. First and foremost, Jesus has appointed them over all his precious "belongings." This is a clear indication that he has complete trust in them." *Organized to Do Jehovah's Will* (2005) p.18

It is circular reasoning for the Slave to effectively say, "We tell you that Jesus trusts us, so you can trust us."

A further irony to this statement is that the *Watchtower* 2013 Jul 15 pp.22,25 now states the Faithful Slave have *not* been appointed over all Jesus belongings. In 1919, they were appointed over the domestics, but the appointment over all his belongings does not take place until after the Great Tribulation. The "foremost" reason the Slave was demanding trust no longer exists.

Another line of reasoning is that mature Christians will *realise* that the Watchtower organisation is guided by Jehovah, due to superiority of doctrine, displays of love and growth in membership.

"Those mature in Christian growth have, through the Scriptures and the evident manifestation of Jehovah's favor on his faithful and discreet slave, come to appreciate that Jehovah deals with his people as an organization and that his spirit operates in conjunction with that organization. (Matthew 24:45-47)" *Watchtower* 1958 May 1 p.285

"The abundance of spiritual food and the amazing details of Jehovah's purposes that have been revealed to Jehovah's anointed witnesses are clear evidence that they are the ones mentioned by Jesus when he foretold a "faithful and discreet slave" class" *Watchtower* 1964 Jun 15 p.365

Is self proclamation of being the Slave proof that this is so? Every religion believes they have Scriptural backing for their beliefs and can point to membership numbers as evidence of God's favour.

The Governing Body do not display consistency of teachings, having been required to present ongoing changes to doctrine. They have a 100% failure rate for their prophecies or predictions for the timing of the world's end. Neither are they able to perform miracles. There is no proof of their being God's spokesmen, or that they are being used by him.

Who Really is the Slave?

Watchtower turns a parable into a prophecy

Jesus provided a story about a faithful slave, with the intention to invoke good behaviour in his followers. He was not prophesying about a group of leaders 2000 years in the future.

Under examination, it becomes clear this parable is a reference to the servant Joseph from Genesis, and would have been readily understood as such by those listening to Jesus.

Genesis 39:4-6 "Joseph kept finding favor in his eyes, and he became his personal attendant. So he appointed him over his house, and he put him in charge of all that was his. From the time he appointed him over his house and in charge of all that was his, Jehovah kept blessing the house

of the Egyptian because of Joseph, and Jehovah's blessing came to be on all that he had in the house and in the field. He eventually left everything that was his in Joseph's care, and he gave no thought to anything except the food he was eating."

Joseph was servant to Potiphar and then Pharaoh. He is described through the Old and New Testaments as a faithful, discreet servant, appointed over all his Lord's belongs, and came to be in charge of supplying the rations of grain during Egypt's time of famine.

- Servant - Genesis 39:17, 19; 41:12
- Discreet and wise - Genesis 41:33,39 Psalm 105:21-22, 39 Acts 7:10
- Appointed over all belongings - Genesis 39:4-5, Acts 7:10
- Supplies grain at the appointed time - Genesis 41:53-57

The parable in Luke 12:42-46 parallels in vocabulary and story line with the story of Joseph. Potiphar was absent, during which time Joseph faithfully avoided his wife's advances, until "his master came to his house." (Genesis 39:16) Likewise the slave of Luke 12:43 is blessed when found doing the right thing when the "master on coming finds him doing so!"

As such, the parable was intended as a positive example that all could benefit from. In particular, it is aimed at congregational ministers, which is the common Christian understanding of this story.

"Some state that the "slave" refers to Christian ministers, or their office of oversight, with responsibility to care for the spiritual needs of the congregation. The 'master's' arrival is said to be either the second coming of Christ or the death of the individual minister. Thus it is held that the parable should motivate Christian ministers to care well for what is entrusted to them." *Watchtower* 1981 Mar 1 p.24

In *Commentary on Matthew 24*, Matthew Henry writes:

"Concerning the good servant; he shows here what he is-a ruler of the household; what, being so, he should be-faithful and wise; and what, if he be so, he shall be eternally-blessed. Here are good instructions and encouragements to the ministers of Christ.

First, We have here his place and office. ... The church of Christ is his household. ...

Secondly, His right discharge of this office. The good servant, if thus preferred, will be a good steward; for,

1. He is faithful; stewards must be so, 1 Co. 4:2. He that is trusted, must be trusty; and the greater the trust is, the more is expected from them. It is a great good thing that is committed to ministers (2 Tim. 1:14); and they must be faithful, as Moses was, Heb. 3:2. Christ counts those ministers, and those only, that are faithful, 1 Tim. 1:12. A faithful minister of Jesus Christ is one that sincerely designs his master's honour, not his own; delivers the whole counsel of God, not his own fancies and conceits; follows Christ's institutions and adheres to them; regards the meanest, reproveth the greatest, and doth not respect persons." blueletterbible.org (9 July 2006) dead link. Also [St Jakla](#) (14 May 2016)

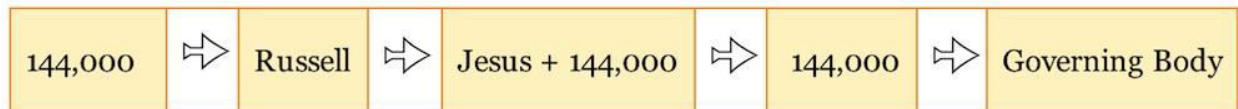
In line with this, *1 Corinthians* 4:1-2 says;

"Let a man so appraise us as being subordinates of Christ and stewards of sacred secrets of God. Besides, in this case, what is looked for in stewards is for a man to be found faithful."

"Who really is the faithful and discreet slave ...?" This question is intended to evoke the positive moral example of Joseph in Jesus followers. It has been misused by Watchtower to establish its own authority. A *parable* to motivate those in authority to use their positions lovingly, has been taken to be a *prophecy*, and used as license for a small leadership to wield incontestable power.

Watchtower Development

Not only does Watchtower misapply this parable, it has done so inconsistently, using a range of preconceived notions to arrive at a variety of interpretations for who constitute the Faithful Slave, highlighted by numerous changes to this doctrine.



Originally, Russell said the Slave was an illustration of the entire body of Christ, the little flock of 144,000 heavenly rulers.

""Who then is that *faithful* and *wise servant* whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household," to give them meat in due season? Is it not that "little flock" of consecrated servants who are *faithfully* carrying out their consecration vows - the body of Christ - and is not the whole body individually and collectively, giving the meat in due season to the household of faith - the great company of believers?" *Zion's Watch Tower* 1881 Oct/Nov p.5

Later, the slave was used to refer to *a single person*, Pastor Russell. (This interpretation was originally suggested by Russell's wife in a letter dated 1895. See *Zion's Watch Tower* 1906 Jul 15 pp.215-216 for a reprint of the letter.) Russell was thought to have been appointed as the Slave to direct the domestics (Jesus true followers) immediately prior to the Second Coming.

"In our examination of this text we seem to have treated the term "that servant" as though the Spirit had erred in saying "that servant" when it meant servants (plural), and we applied it to *all true* servants of God. ... The objection urged is that the Lord's words clearly mention and distinguish between his "household" (his faithful people in general), the "fellow-servants" (plural) , and "that servant" specially indicated as the Lord's agent in dispensing present truth as food to his "fellow-servants" and the "household." *Zion's Watch Tower* 1896 Mar 1 pp.47,48

"However much we might endeavor to apply this figure to the Lord's people collectively, the fact would still remain that the various items stated would not fit to a company of individuals. For instance, in the 42nd verse, in the common version it is rendered, that faithful steward; the revised version, the faithful steward; as though a particular one were meant and the term not used indefinitely for a number. Turning to the Greek text we find that the emphasis is there also and in double form--the faithful, the wise steward. ...at the time of the parable's fulfillment the Lord would appoint a servant in the household to bring these matters to the attention of all the

servants, and that certain responsibilities would rest upon such a one respecting the dispatch of his duties... " *Zion's Watch Tower* 1904 Apr 15 p.125

"Thousands of the readers of Pastor Russell's writings believe that he filled the office of "that faithful and wise servant," and that his great work was giving to the Household of Faith meat in due season. His modesty and humility precluded him from openly claiming this title, but he admitted as much in private conversation." *Watch Tower* 1916 Dec 1 p.356

Russell continued to be considered the Faithful Slave after his death in 1916.

"THE WATCH TOWER unhesitatingly proclaims Brother Russell as "that faithful and wise servant." He delivered the message faithfully, finished his course and has now entered into his reward. Through him the Lord gave to the church the message that is so essential to each one who in this harvest time would win the glorious prize." *Watch Tower* 1917 Mar 1 p.67

"We believe that all who are now rejoicing in present truth will concede that Brother Russell faithfully filled the office of special servant of the Lord; and that he was made ruler over all the Lord's goods." *Watch Tower* 1923 Mar 1 p.68

With Russell's death, a new interpretation became necessary. In the 1917 leaflet *The Parable of the Penny*, Rutherford was described as the Steward, replacing Russell.

"Saith unto His steward. — Brother J. F. Rutherford, President and Manager of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society after the Pastor's death, and elected to that office in harmony with the Pastor's will." p.2

In 1926, Rutherford reinterpreted the Faithful Slave from a single person to a group of people. Thus the interpretation had come full circle, but this time the servant included Jesus as well as the 144,000.

"Seeing then that The Servant of Jehovah is The Christ, and that The Christ is composed of Jesus and the faithful members of his body, we find it proper to apply the term "Servant" to Jesus Christ alone or to Jesus Christ and the members of his body collectively as one; and sometimes it is applied only to the members of the body of Christ yet on earth." *Watchtower* 1927 Feb 15 p.53

Over time, Jesus was removed from the role of faithful servant, so once more it was just the little flock. Refinements to this interpretation resulted in a convoluted doctrine, with this single Slave described as a class of people that feed the same class of people! For many decades it was taught that the slave and the domestics were both the same group of people. The 144,000 anointed ones were the slave as a whole, yet individually the same 144,000 were the domestics that as a group they rule over. The faithful and discreet slave became the 144,000 collectively. The domestics became the 144,000 individually. The 144,000 fed the 144,000. The rest of Jehovah's Witnesses and worldly people were not directly mentioned in this parable. This was explained in the following article.

"If all the anointed as a group, no matter where on earth they live, are members of the slave class, who are the "domestics"? They are the same anointed ones but considered from a different viewpoint-as individuals. Yes, as individuals they would be of the "slave" or they would be

"domestics," depending on whether they were dispensing spiritual food or partaking of it. To illustrate: As recorded at 2 Peter 3:15, 16, the apostle Peter makes reference to Paul's letters. When reading them, Peter would be as one of the domestics feeding on the spiritual food provided by Paul as a representative of the slave class." *Watchtower* 1995 May 15 p.16

Not only was this bizarre concept unnecessarily confusing, in reality the Watchtower Society does not operate this way. The majority of the 144,000 do not feed the sheep, in that they are not involved in establishing Watchtower doctrines, rules or procedures of the organization. The Governing Body alone has say in what is fed to the sheep.

Few of the Anointed Witnesses I have known have written any Watchtower articles or developed any doctrine or procedure. In recent times, most articles are written by members of the Other Sheep and simply authorised by the Governing Body.

"4. Those used as writers must be dedicated, baptized brothers or sisters in good standing with their local congregations and who have writing ability. They should be exemplary, modest, not inclined to talk loosely to others about their writing activity. ... 5. PREPARING MATERIAL: The subjects on which articles may be written are quite varied. Some articles will deal with spiritual matters, and these should be written by brothers." *Branch Organization Manual* p.24-1 Para. 4

Since its formation, the Governing Body has varied in size between seven and and eighteen anointed men. When the Watchtower says to follow the "faithful and discreet slave" the majority of Jehovah's Witnesses understood this to mean following the rules of the Governing Body, as only these members direct the Organization.

From around 2009, the Watchtower openly admitted the Governing Body leaders represented the Slave, and began downplaying the importance of the rest of the Anointed. For instance, review the following quotes from the *Watchtower* 2009 June 15:

"However, Christians who have truly received this anointing do not demand special attention. They do not believe that their being of the anointed gives them special insights beyond what even some experienced members of the "great crowd" may have." p.23

"Today, the Governing Body represents the faithful and discreet slave class." Image p.23

"Are all these anointed ones throughout the earth part of a global network that is somehow involved in revealing new spiritual truths? No. Although as a composite body the slave class is responsible for feeding the spiritual household, not all individuals of the slave class have the same responsibilities or work assignments." p.24

"Similarly, today a limited number of anointed men have the responsibility of representing the slave class. They make up the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses." p.24

This same sentiment was expressed in 2010.

"Would all anointed Christians "shine"? In a sense, yes, for all Christians would participate in preaching, in disciple making, and in building one another up at meetings. Anointed ones would

set the example. (Zech. 8:23) In addition to this, however, deep things were to be revealed during the time of the end. The very prophecy Daniel recorded was “sealed up” until that time. (Dan. 12:9) How and through whom would the spirit search into these deep things?

When the time comes to clarify a spiritual matter in our day, **holy spirit helps responsible representatives of “the faithful and discreet slave” at world headquarters** to discern deep truths that were not previously understood. (Matt. 24:45; 1 Cor. 2:13) **The Governing Body** as a whole considers adjusted explanations. (Acts 15:6) What they learn, they publish for the benefit of all." *Watchtower* 2010 Jul 15 pp.22,23

"The anointed and their other sheep companions recognize that by following the lead of the modern-day Governing Body, they are in fact following their Leader, Christ." *Watchtower* 2010 Sep 15 p.23

"He has provided direction for the anointed “domestics” and their “other sheep” companions by means of a Governing Body." *Watchtower* 2010 Sep 15 p.26

"As Head of the Christian congregation, Christ has used this “faithful and discreet slave” to administer His Kingdom interests on earth. He has provided direction for the anointed “domestics” and their “other sheep” companions by means of a Governing Body." *Examining the Scriptures* 2012 Jul 15

In 2011, it was claimed it is not even necessary to know who the Anointed are.

"A number of factors — including past religious beliefs or even mental or emotional imbalance — might cause some to assume mistakenly that they have the heavenly calling. We thus have no way of knowing the exact number of anointed ones on earth; **nor do we need to know.**" *Watchtower* 2011 Aug 15 p.22

Whilst it was stated that the Governing Body direct the rest of the Anointed, it was not explained where this left the rest of the Anointed, or how they were used as part of the Slave. The concept that all Anointed are of the Slave fell apart with these indications that as a whole the Anointed are not of importance. It had become clear that only the Governing Body have any influence in "feeding the sheep" and running the organisation, and regard themselves alone as representing the Slave.

This became official at the Annual Meeting 6th Oct 2012. The information was released onto jw.org Nov 2012 and first appeared in the *Watchtower* 2013, July 15.

"The evidence points to the following conclusion: “The faithful and discreet slave” was appointed over Jesus’ domestics in 1919. That slave is the small, composite group of anointed brothers serving at world headquarters during Christ’s presence who are directly involved in preparing and dispensing spiritual food. When this group work together as the Governing Body, they act as “the faithful and discreet slave.”" jw.org (10th Nov 2012)

"In keeping with Jesus’ pattern of feeding many through the hands of a few, that slave is made up of *a small group of anointed brothers who are directly involved in preparing and dispensing*

spiritual food during Christ's presence. Throughout the last days, the anointed brothers who make up the faithful slave have served together at headquarters. In recent decades, that slave has been closely identified with the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses. Note, however, that the word "slave" in Jesus' illustration is singular, indicating that this is a *composite* slave. The decisions of the Governing Body are thus made collectively." Watchtower 2013 Jul 15 p.22

A particular nuance with this teaching is that the Slave only represents the Governing Body when it acts collectively as a group, being described as "composite".

Teaching introduced 2012

The 2012 Annual meeting presented the new teaching, summarised at [jw.org 10th Nov 2012](http://jw.org/10th%20Nov%202012).

“Who Really Is the Faithful and Discreet Slave?”

Jesus was referring, not to an individual, but to a composite “slave”—a group working together as one body. Jesus said that the slave (1) is appointed to a supervisory role “over [the master’s] domestics” and (2) gives the domestics spiritual “food at the proper time.”

From 1919 on, there has always been a small group of anointed Christians at the world headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses. They have supervised our worldwide preaching work and have been directly involved in preparing and dispensing spiritual food. In recent years, that group has been closely identified with **the Governing Body** of Jehovah's Witnesses.

The evidence points to the following conclusion: “The faithful and discreet slave” was appointed over Jesus' domestics in 1919. That slave is the small, composite group of anointed brothers serving at world headquarters during Christ's presence who are directly involved in preparing and dispensing spiritual food. When this group work together as the Governing Body, they act as “the faithful and discreet slave.”

Who Are the “Domestics”?

Jesus said that “his domestics” would receive “food at the proper time.” All genuine followers of Jesus are fed by “the faithful and discreet slave.” Therefore, all of Christ's disciples—both individual anointed Christians and members of the “other sheep”—are “his domestics.”—John 10:16.

After the speaker explained this aspect of Jesus' prophecy, the audience erupted in sustained applause. Several in attendance later expressed their profound gratitude that Jesus considers them among “his domestics.””

The *Watchtower* 2013 Jul 15 went into more detail on this teaching, outlining a number of changes to the understanding of *Matthew* 24:45-47.

Faithful Slave

The Faithful Slave is only the Governing Body, not all the Anointed, and only when acting as a composite group.

Evil Slave

The Evil Slave can only be one of the Governing Body, if they start mistreating the brothers.

Domestics

The domestics include both the anointed and the other sheep, not just the anointed. The appointment over the domestics was in 1919.

All the Belongings

The appointment over "all the belongings" is when the Governing Body arrive in heaven, and after the start of the great tribulation. (See pp.8,22

DID YOU GET THE POINT?

“The faithful and discreet slave”:

A small group of anointed brothers who are directly involved in preparing and dispensing spiritual food during Christ’s presence. Today, these anointed brothers make up the Governing Body

“His domestics”:

All who are fed, whether they are of the anointed or of the other sheep

“Appointed over his domestics”:

In 1919, Jesus selected capable anointed brothers to be his faithful and discreet slave

Watchtower 2013 Jul 15 p.22

What is remarkable about this teaching is that in 1981 the Watchtower described this very concept, that only the leaders represent the Slave class, as deceptive and from objectors; in other words, it was an apostate teaching.

The 2012 teaching that only the Governing Body represents the Slave was described in 1981 as an apostate concept

"Witnesses of Jehovah understand that the "slave" is comprised of all anointed Christians as a group on earth at any given time during the 19 centuries since Pentecost. Accordingly, the "domestics" are these followers of Christ as individuals.

Some readers may feel that this is a rather sectarian view of matters. Or they may object to the idea that the "slave" and the "domestics" represent the same class, one as a composite body and the other as individuals. The **objectors may argue** that not all of Christ's anointed disciples have a share in preparing the spiritual food, so that perhaps **the "slave" pictures only the leading ones**, and the "domestics" those they serve in the congregation.

There is no point in trying to force an interpretation of the parable. Self-deception is of no benefit and is spiritually damaging. Therefore, we must look to the Scriptures for an understanding. In doing this, what do we find?

[...]

Thus we see a clear Scriptural basis for saying that all anointed followers of Christ Jesus make up God's "servant," with Jesus as its Master." *Watchtower* 1981 Mar 1 pp.24-26

One must wonder, if God truly appointed the Governing Body to dispense truth since 1919, why it took them 93 years to dispense the truth about this doctrine. How can anyone possibly believe Jesus is using these men to dispense truth, when they were actively teaching against the very doctrine about themselves they now claim is truth?

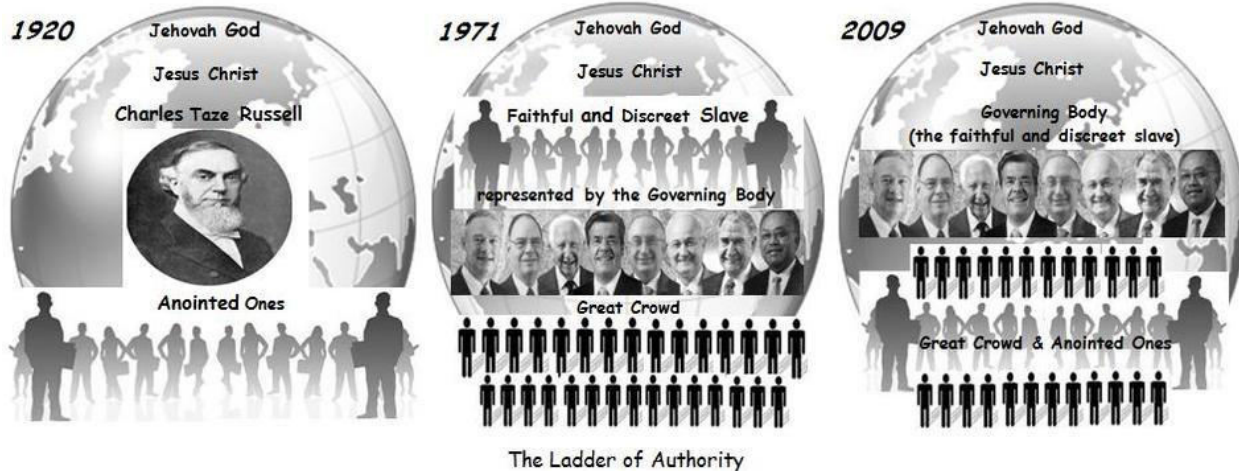
Changes To The Slave Doctrine Summarised

Jehovah's Witness Guide to Understanding the "Faithful and Discreet Slave"

Matthew 24:45 "Who really is the faithful and discreet slave whom his master appointed over his domestics, to give them their food at the proper time?"

"But the path of the righteous ones is like the bright light that is getting lighter and lighter until the day is firmly established." (Proverbs 4:18)

<p>1881 Everyone</p> <p>We believe that every member of this body of Christ is engaged in the blessed work, either directly or indirectly, of giving meat in due season to the household of faith. Who then is that faithful and wise servant whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?" <i>Watchtower 1881 Nov page 291</i></p>	<p>1920 Charles Taze Russel</p> <p>Do we believe that the Lord chose as an earthly representative to serve the household of faith...and that the person so chosen was Charles Taze Russell? No one in present truth for a moment doubts that Brother Russell filled the office of the "faithful and wise servant...to give them meat in due season." <i>Watchtower April 1, 1920, pp.99-104</i></p>	<p>1930 The "Watchtower"</p> <p>"The Watchtower is the channel which Jehovah, our God, is using at this time to instruct the faithful remnant who are keeping the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ, and we, therefore, very thankfully accept the teachings of that journal." <i>Watchtower 1930 August 1 p.239</i></p>
<p>1932 The Remnant</p> <p>"These angels are invisible to human eyes and are there to carry out the orders of the Lord. No doubt they first hear the instruction which the Lord issues to his remnant and then these invisible messengers pass such instruction on to the remnant." <i>VINDICATION, Volume 3 (book, 1932)</i></p>	<p>1952 "Faithful & Discreet Slave"</p> <p>"Jehovah has provided a channel, the "faithful and discreet slave" class, who are given spiritual "food at the proper time", and this spiritual food includes among other things the understandings of the prophecies in the course of their fulfillments." <i>Watchtower 1952 April 15 p.253</i></p>	<p>1960 "Faithful & Discreet Slave"</p> <p>"The facts show that during this time...the "slave" class has served as God's sole collective channel for the flow of Biblical truth to men on earth. Just as the early Christian congregation collectively served as the channel of communication from heaven to earth, so in our time." <i>Watchtower 1960 July 15 pp.438-9</i></p>
<p>1981 Spirit-anointed ones</p> <p>"Jehovah God has also provided his visible organization, his "faithful and discreet slave," made up of spirit-anointed ones. Unless we are in touch with this channel of communication that God is using, we will not progress along the road to life, no matter how much Bible reading we do." <i>Watchtower 1981 December 1 p.27</i></p>	<p>2001 Anointed followers</p> <p>In fact, with God's day of judgment so near today, all the world should 'keep silent before the Sovereign Lord Jehovah' and hear what he says through the "little flock" of Jesus' anointed followers and their companions, his "other sheep." (Luke 12:32; John 10:16) <i>Watchtower 2001 February 15 p.14</i></p>	<p>2009 The Governing Body?</p> <p>"Christians who [have] received this anointing...do not believe that their being of the anointed gives them special insights...They do not believe they necessarily have more holy spirit than their companions of the "other sheep." They do not claim that their partaking of the emblems places them above the appointed elders in the congregation." <i>Watchtower 2009 June 15 p.23, 24</i></p>



Consequences

The Watchtower claims the Slave has been given all authority.

"The facts of modern history show that in the year 1919 [Jesus] revived these much afflicted disciples and gathered them together in a united body. Then he appointed them as his "slave" class "over all his belongings," that is, over all his royal interests at the earth." *Watchtower 1971 Dec 15 p.750*

This is not what was intended by the Scriptures. The Bible states that the appointment over all the belongings is made *after* the master arrives.

Matthew 24:46,47 "Happy is that slave if his master on arriving (erchomai) finds him doing so. Truly I say to you, He will appoint him over all his belongings."

The master has not yet arrived, as the memorial is to cease on his arrival, and so the Slave has not been appointed over all the belongings.

1 Corinthians 11:26 "For as often as you eat this loaf and drink this cup, you keep proclaiming the death of the Lord, until he arrives (erchomai)."

The leaders have prematurely seized control for themselves, and consolidated that control. The 2012 version of the doctrine leaves Christians uncared for between 33 CE and 1919 CE, and elevates the exclusivity and importance of Governing Body. This is in contrast to the parable, which indicates that at this time the elders are to be shepherds of the congregation.

One would expect that the definition for one of Jehovah's Witnesses to be a person that worships Jehovah. However, the defining concept to being a Jehovah's Witness is not worship of Jehovah, but rather following the "faithful and discreet slave." In a judicial committee, the foremost question is not whether a Witness believes the Bible or worships Jehovah, but whether they believe God is using the Watchtower Faithful and Discreet Slave in our day. If a person believes in the Bible and Jehovah, they will still be disfellowshipped as an apostate if they openly confess that the Watchtower leaders do not represent Jehovah's slave.

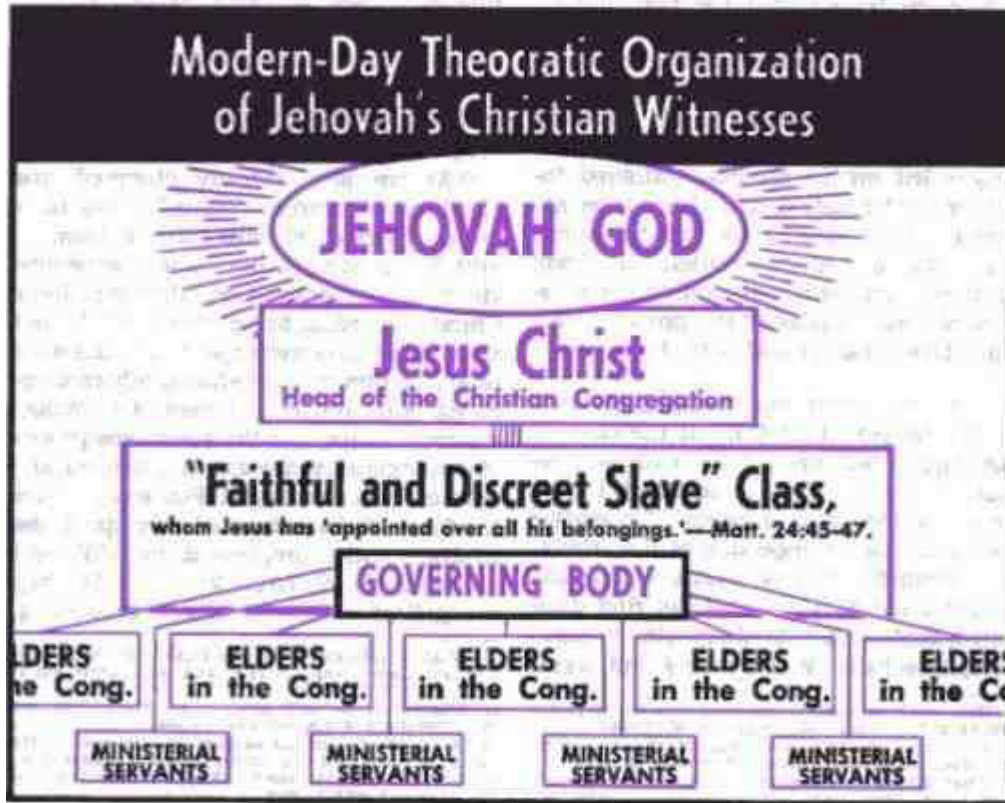
The Governing Body has managed to deflect attention from Jesus by means of their doctrine that *Jesus is mediator for the Slave class alone*, and that salvation can only be achieved through association with the Slave.

"He is the Mediator between his heavenly Father, Jehovah God, and the nation of spiritual Israel, which is limited to only 144,000 members. " *Worldwide Security Under the "Prince of Peace"* (1986) pp.10-11

"Jesus knew that he was going to purchase these anointed ones with his own blood, so he fittingly referred to them collectively as his slave." *Watchtower* 1993 May 1 p.16

"To keep in relationship with "our Savior, God," the "great crowd" needs to remain united with the remnant of spiritual Israelites." *Watchtower* 1979 Nov 15 p.27 Benefiting from "One Mediator Between God and Men"

Rather than draw people to Jesus, the Governing Body misapply the parable of the Faithful and Discreet Slave to direct attention to themselves, inserting their authority between Jesus and his followers.



Watchtower 1971 Dec 15 page 749

The *Watchtower* 2013 April 15 does not include Jesus at all in an image depicting the hierarchy of their Organisation Chart. This no longer references Jesus or the Anointed, nor separates the Governing Body from the Faithful Slave, but extends from Jehovah directly to the Governing Body, Branch Committees, Travelling Overseers, Elders, Congregations and finally Publishers.



Watchtower 2013 Apr 15 page 29

Unusually for a Christian religion, they have chosen this representation, which does not include Jesus at all, but has the Governing Body directly beneath Jehovah. The image draws on the Celestial Chariot of *Ezekiel* 1 as a basis for the heavenly part of the Organisation. There is no reason why they could not have used *Daniel* 7, which the same *Watchtower* also references, which has Jehovah's Throne on wheels, along with the Son of Man. They could then include Jesus as part of their organizational structure, as surely Jesus is the most important part of any Christian organization.

The Governing Body use the Slave concept to say that without them the Bible is beyond understanding.

"However, we cannot hope to acquire a good relationship with Jehovah if we ignore those whom Jesus has appointed to care for his belongings. Without the assistance of "the faithful and discreet slave," we would neither understand the full import of what we read in God's Word nor know how to apply it." *Examining the Scriptures Daily* 2012 Mar 4

"All who want to understand the Bible should appreciate that the "greatly diversified wisdom of God" can become known only through Jehovah's channel of communication, the faithful and discreet slave" *Watchtower* 1994 Oct 1 p.8

"We have the opportunity to show love for our brothers who take the lead in the congregation or in connection with Jehovah's visible organization worldwide. This includes being loyal to "the

faithful and discreet slave." (Matthew 24:45-47) Let us face the fact that no matter how much Bible reading we have done, we would never have learned the truth on our own. We would not have discovered the truth regarding Jehovah, his purposes and attributes, the meaning and importance of his name, the Kingdom, Jesus' ransom, the difference between God's organization and Satan's, nor why God has permitted wickedness." *Watchtower* 1990 Dec 1 p.19

"Thus the Bible is an organizational book and belongs to the Christian congregation as an organization, not to individuals, regardless of how sincerely they may believe that they can interpret the Bible. For this reason the Bible cannot be properly understood without Jehovah's visible organization in mind." *Watchtower* 1967 Oct 1 p.587

The Bible has been provided for people to know God's requirements. Has the Watchtower enlightened people beyond the words of Jesus? Is it not more accurate to say that what the Watchtower has said beyond that contained in the Bible has regularly been wrong and later changed? Information such as:

- [Failed time prophecies](#)
- [Strange medical information](#) and dangerous decrees such as that vaccinations and transplants are unchristian
- The changing [stance on blood](#)

By going beyond the guidelines given in the Scriptures on [disfellowshipping](#), have not the Slave created a practice that has had a destructive effect on the lives of hundreds of thousands of people, dividing families for decades?

When a group of men claim special guidance from God as his sole representatives, they risk controlling people without justification, leading to disastrous results for the followers. Christians do well to keep in mind Bible warnings about following humans, and remember who their head really is.

"Do not put YOUR trust in nobles, Nor in the son of earthling man, to whom no salvation belongs." *Psalms* 146:3

"But I want YOU to know that the head of every man is the Christ; in turn the head of a woman is the man; in turn the head of the Christ is God." *1 Corinthians* 11:3

Related to the topic of the Faithful and Discreet Slave are the articles:

- [1919 - How Derived](#)
- [Is an Organization Required?](#)
- [Was there a first century Governing Body?](#)

- [Have there always been Jehovah's Witnesses?](#)

Further Reading

[The Truth Changes](#) - PDF by Doug Mason discussing the changes from the *Watchtower* 2013 July 15, and the implications. See also [Spanish Version](#).

captivesofaconcept.com

Written Jul 2006, latest update May 2016.

ARTICLE 2

[In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#1 Post](#) by [Jerome](#) » 1 year ago

In the opening talk of the March 2018 Broadcast, the theme of which was “In Whom Do You Trust?”, governing body member Gerrit Losch said the following:

“Jesus had free will.

This means that theoretically he could have sinned.

If he could not have sinned, Satan probably would not have tried three times to tempt Jesus to sin.

If Jesus could not have sinned, why would he be so heavily distressed in the garden of Gethsemane that he was sweating blood?

Why send an angel to comfort and strengthen him if he could not sin or fail anyway?

No question that Jesus felt the unfathomable load on his shoulders to remain faithful, since not only the salvation of mankind depended on him but also the vindication of Jehovah’s sovereignty.

He did not want to disappoint Jehovah.

Jesus used his own free will and was determined to stay loyal.

How glad we are that he did!”

Like Jesus, the governing body members also have free will. But unlike Jesus they are not perfect. Yet brother Losch went on to say:

“Today, the faithful slave is put in charge of providing spiritual food for God’s people, who number into the millions.

The slave also shows complete trust in Jehovah that he will guide them with his holy spirit.

What makes it possible for the “faithful and discreet slave” to provide precious spiritual food?

“I will give you insight and instruct you in the way you should go,” says Jehovah at [Psalm 32:8](#).

Today, Jehovah provides direction to the slave through Jesus.

Jesus, in turn, provides direction for his people through “the faithful and discreet slave.”

We can therefore have full confidence in the Scriptural insight, understanding, and guidance.”

However, while making the admission that the slave is not perfect he went on to say:

“But Jehovah and Jesus trust the imperfect slave who cares for things to the best of his ability and with the best of motives.

Shouldn’t we then trust the imperfect slave as well?

To appreciate the extent of Jehovah and Jesus’ trust in the faithful slave, reflect on what he has promised its members.

He has promised them immortality and incorruption.

Soon, just before Armageddon, the remaining members of the slave will be taken to heaven. Since 1919 of our Common Era, the slave has been put in charge of some belongings of Christ. According to [Matthew 24:47](#), when the anointed are taken to heaven, Jesus will at that point entrust “all his belongings” to them.

Does this not reveal immense trust?

[Revelation 4:4](#) describes these resurrected anointed as corulers with Christ.

[Revelation 22:5](#) says they will rule, not only for a thousand years but “forever and ever.”

What immense trust Jesus shows toward them! Since Jehovah God and Jesus Christ completely trust “the faithful and discreet slave,” should we not do the same?”

It’s important to look again at Jesus words about the faithful and discreet slave:

“Who really is the faithful and discreet slave whom his master appointed over his domestics, to give them their food at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on coming finds him doing so! Truly I say to you, he will appoint him over all his belongings. “But if ever that evil slave says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying,’ and he starts to beat his fellow slaves and to eat and drink with the confirmed drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day that he does not expect and in an hour that he does not know, and he will punish him with the greatest severity and will assign him his place with the hypocrites. There is where his weeping and the gnashing of his teeth will be. ([Matthew 24:45-51](#))

Then Peter said: “Lord, are you telling this illustration just to us or also to everyone?” And the Lord said: “Who really is the faithful steward, the discreet one, whom his master will appoint over his body of attendants to keep giving them their measure of food supplies at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on coming finds him doing so! I tell you truthfully, he will appoint him over all his belongings. But if ever that slave should say in his heart, ‘My master delays coming,’ and starts to beat the male and female servants and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that slave will come on a day that he is not expecting him and at an hour that he does not know, and he will punish him with the greatest severity and assign him a part with the unfaithful ones. Then that slave who understood the will of his master but did not get ready or do what he asked will be beaten with many strokes. But the one who did not understand and yet did things deserving of strokes will be beaten with few. Indeed, everyone to whom much was given, much will be demanded of him, and the one who was put in charge of much will have more than usual demanded of him. ([Luke 12:41-48](#))

Do you see in Jesus words the complete confidence and trust that Jehovah and Jesus have in the slave? A careful reading of the verses seems to indicate clearly the opposite. Jesus starts with a question, not a declaration of the appointment of one that has his complete confidence. It is a call for those whom he placed with that responsibility to carry out their assignment and show themselves faithful. If they do so, then, and only then, will he entrust “all his belongings” to them. If he had complete confidence in them, why would he give the warning not to become evil and say in his heart “my master is delaying”?

Think of it this way: Did Jehovah have complete confidence in Adam? Why then did he place a

tree in the middle of the garden and give him the command not to eat from it? If Jehovah had complete confidence in Adam he would have given him permission to eat of the tree of life without the need to test him first. Gerrit Losch, in his efforts to get all of Jehovah's Witnesses to give the governing body their unquestioning loyalty would have us believe that Jehovah and Jesus already trust them completely. There is no need for them to be tested first. The implication is that whoever today would dare put them to the test would be at odds with Jehovah and Christ. However, that is not what Jesus said.

'I know your deeds, and your labor and endurance, and that you cannot tolerate bad men, and that you put to the test those who say they are apostles, but they are not, and you found them to be liars. ([Revelation 2:2](#))

Jerome

[Top](#)

[Stranger](#)

Posts: [1239](#)

Joined: 1 year ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#2 Post](#) by [Stranger](#) » 1 year ago

There they go again putting their selves smack dab in the middle between J and J and their followers.

I guess that's okay if that's where one wants them to be!

Not me, I don't really think they are faithful (well maybe to mammon), and I know they are not discreet.

Thank you Jerome for opening this thread. The best thing I have found is just to ignore what they say but really if they

are so discreet they wouldn't be saying much, but the fact is they are doing all the talking

(lol). 😂 And it seems like they are

starting to beg, something a discreet person doesn't do. Okay I was trying to be nice really they have been begging for awhile now.

Anyway enjoy their shows whoever is watching them. I hope that their televangelist method works out for them and it probably will

if they keep flashing those discreet Rolex watches at least the flock can see where their money is going! What a bargain.

Stranger

[Top](#)

[Jerome](#)

Posts: [552](#)

Joined: 2 years ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#3 Post](#) by [Jerome](#) » 1 year ago

There is another thing that is puzzling about this change in identification of the faithful slave. If the faithful slave is the governing body, who then is it that receives all of Christ's belongings and gets to rule with him for ever and ever? Would that not be the governing body? It would seem that in saying the governing body is the faithful slave, it effectively eliminates the rest of the anointed from receiving the reward. The Watchtower attempts to address this problem:

“Does the faithful slave receive a greater reward in heaven than the rest of the anointed? No. A reward promised to a small group in one setting may ultimately be shared by others. For example, consider what Jesus said to his 11 faithful apostles the night before he died. (Read Luke 22:28-30.) Jesus promised that small group of men that a fine reward awaited them for their faithfulness. They would share his throne of kingly authority. But years later, he indicated that all of the 144,000 will sit on thrones and share his rulership. ([Rev. 1:1](#); [3:21](#)) Similarly, as stated at [Matthew 24:47](#), he promised that a small group of men—the anointed brothers who make up the faithful slave—will be appointed over all his belongings. In reality, all of the 144,000 will share his vast heavenly authority.—[Rev. 20:4](#), [6](#). (The Watchtower July 15, 2013 p. 25 par. 19)

This is confusing in that it seems to be saying the rest of the anointed are not the slave of Jesus illustration but they get the final reward anyway. Where does Jesus promise that a small group of men would make up the faithful slave? Instead of going beyond the things that are written why can't they just let the Bible speak?

[Top](#)

[John S](#)

Posts: [892](#)

Joined: 4 years ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#4 Post](#) by [John S](#) » 1 year ago

Hello brothers,

An old Witness friend of mine invited me to the Memorial this year at the KH. So, because he

fears for my life, and to show the JW's there are people who understand the meaning of Jesus' teachings I went.

Of course I partake, as all Christians should. Many spoke with me and shook my hand, others refused any friendship. I was floored that many didn't treat me as DFed, but warmly welcomed me as a long lost friend.

I sat up front, next to the servers, so I don't know if anyone else partook, but I hope others did.

No, the FDS is not the GB, as they refuse to teach Jesus' instructions which are clear; all Christians are to gear up for heavenly service; Jesus never once indicated otherwise.

There is nowhere in his teachings that indicate Christians are not to receive the re-birth of the holy spirit, but just the opposite. The 2-classes for Christianity is not what Jesus taught. Christians down through the last 2000 years all believed in the heavenly hope. Millions upon millions because that is what Jesus taught.

[Top](#)

[Stranger](#)

Posts: [1239](#)

Joined: 1 year ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#5 Post](#) by [Stranger](#) » 1 year ago

They never have let the Bible speak for itself, they simply can't. They need a watchtower to twist what the Bible is really saying!

Jerome, you said this is confusing. Put those Watchtowers down, there in lies the confusion purposely put there.

The Watchtowers don't match up with the Bible, they cherry pick some scriptures to match what their trying to say.

Now they have a problem, they can't find any more cherries. ([Lu 5:37](#))

Stranger

[Top](#)

[leaving quietly](#)

Posts: [753](#)

Joined: 5 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

- [Quote](#)

#6 Post by [leaving quietly](#) » 1 year ago

[Ps 32:8, 9](#):

*It is better to take refuge in Jehovah
Than to trust in humans.
It is better to take refuge in Jehovah
Than to trust in princes.*

[Ps 40:4](#):

*Happy is the man who trusts in Jehovah
And who does not look to the defiant or to those who are false.*

[Ps 146:3](#):

*Do not put your trust in princes
Nor in a son of man, who cannot bring salvation.*

[Pr 29:25](#):

*Trembling at men is a snare,
But the one trusting in Jehovah will be protected.*

[Isa 2:22](#):

*For your own sakes, quit trusting in mere man,
Who is only the breath in his nostrils.
Why should he be taken into account?*

[Jer 7:4-8](#):

Do not put your trust in deceptive words and say, 'This is the temple of Jehovah, the temple of Jehovah, the temple of Jehovah!' For if you truly reform your ways and actions; if you truly uphold justice between a man and his neighbor; if you do not oppress foreign residents, orphans, and widows; if you do not shed innocent blood in this place; and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm; then I will allow you to keep residing in this place, in the land I gave to your forefathers for all time.'"" "But you are putting your trust in deceptive words—it will bring absolutely no benefit.

[Jer 13:25](#):

This is your lot, the portion that I have measured out to you," declares Jehovah, "Because you have forgotten me and you trust in lies. (How many "adjustments" have been made over the years? Call them for what they were: lies)

[Jer 17:5](#):

This is what Jehovah says: "Cursed is the man who puts his trust in mere humans, Who relies on human power, And whose heart turns away from Jehovah.

[Mic 7:5:](#)

Do not put faith in your companion

Or trust a close friend.

Guard what you say to the one who lies in your embrace.

There is, of course, more to be said about misplaced trust (trust in one self, trust on one's riches, etc.) This brief word search focused on the warnings against putting our trust in man. I think Isaiah said it best: "For your own sakes, quit trusting in men".

[Top](#)

[leaving quietly](#)

Posts: [753](#)

Joined: 5 years ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#7 Post](#) by [leaving quietly](#) » 1 year ago

This will probably go off into a tangent, and may require a thread on its own, but I'll bring it up here and see if/where it goes.

[Matt 24:45-45:](#)

Who really is the faithful and discreet slave whom his master appointed over his domestics, to give them their food at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on coming finds him doing so! Truly I say to you, he will appoint him over all his belongings.

Other translations say: "his household".

This is key. In double-speak fashion, the organization includes the anointed AND non-anointed here (their "little flock" and "other sheep"). At this point, it is important to get a really clear picture of what the organization teaches:

The organization says:

Although the "other sheep" are not part of the composite body of Christ, they can learn much from this illustration. ([John 10:16](#)) Paul states that Jehovah "subjected all things under [Christ's] feet, and made him head over all things to the congregation." ([Eph. 1:22](#)) Today, the other sheep are part of "all things" placed by Jehovah under the headship of his Son. They are also among the "belongings" that Christ has entrusted to his "faithful and discreet slave." ([Matt. 24:45-47](#))

Those with an earthly hope should, therefore, recognize Christ as their Head and be submissive to the faithful and discreet slave and its Governing Body and to the men appointed as overseers in the congregation. ([Heb. 13:7, 17](#)) This contributes to Christian unity. - w09 10/15 p. 5 par. 10

Notice that [Eph 1:22](#) was quoted, but verse 23 was conveniently left out:

He also subjected all things under his feet and made him head over all things with regard to the congregation, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills up all things in all.

The congregation is Christ's body. Go back to that quote in the 2009 WT. Who is NOT part of the body? The "other sheep". Who IS part of the congregation? Though it's not stated here, the organization NEVER teaches that the "other sheep" are not part of the congregation, so in their view, the "other sheep" ARE part of the congregation. How can that be? How can they be part of the congregation, but not part of the body? This is a scriptural impossibility.

The teaching that the "other sheep" (the organization's way of saying, "not anointed, not part of the 144,000"), is not part of the body of Christ (thus not part of the New Covenant) is THE MOST ABOMINABLE TEACHING they have. Think about the implications here. Christ is the end of the Law. ([Rom 10:4](#)). Christ's death instituted the New Covenant, rendering the old covenant obsolete. ([Heb. 8:13](#)) If the old covenant is obsolete, and the New Covenant is reserved only for the 144,000, then the rest of us are not under ANY covenant. In addition, we are not part of "the domestics" (or "household"). Conclusion: they have no authority over us, by their own teaching.

Now, the "other sheep" are *beneficiaries* of the New Covenant.

BENEFICIARIES OF THE NEW COVENANT

14 Upon learning that the 144,000 are in the new covenant, some may have thought that only these benefit from it. Perhaps they thought so because only anointed ones are to partake of the emblems at the annual Memorial of Christ's death, where the wine represents the "blood of the covenant." ([Mark 14:24](#)) Recall, though, that those in the new covenant are to be associates with Jesus as the "seed" of Abraham, by means of which all nations will be blessed. ([Gal. 3:8, 9, 29](#); [Gen. 12:3](#)) Somehow, through the new covenant, Jehovah will fulfill his promise to bless all mankind through Abraham's "seed." - jr chap 14 p. 175 par. 14

Their "proof" is [Gal 3:8-9](#): *Now the scripture, foreseeing that God would declare people of the nations righteous through faith, declared the good news beforehand to Abraham, namely: "By means of you all the nations will be blessed." So those who adhere to faith are being blessed together with Abraham, who had faith.*

In the organization's view, there are those who are "being blessed together with Abraham". This means the "other sheep", the "beneficiaries". However, they conveniently leave out the verse immediately preceding these two verses.

[Gal 3:7](#): *Surely you know that it is those who adhere to faith who are sons of Abraham.*

Hang on a second, this changes everything. For the very next verse they cite, to prove that there's a difference in these two groups is [Gal 3:29](#): *Moreover, if you belong to Christ, you are really Abraham's offspring, heirs with reference to a promise.*

Do you see that? "If you belong to Christ, you are really Abraham's offspring." "Those who adhere to faith...are sons of Abraham". "Those who adhere to faith are being blessed together with Abraham." There is NO SECOND GROUP here. This is an abominable twist of the scriptural teaching that even people of the nations who are not sons of Abraham from a genetic perspective are still considered sons of Abraham based on adhering to faith and belonging to Christ.

Anyway, my whole point in saying all of this is that based on their own teaching, the "domestics" ("household") cannot possibly include the "other sheep" because they don't consider the "other sheep" to be part of the body of Christ, which means, in reality, that they are not part of the congregation. Of course, that's not what they say. They DO include the "other sheep" in the domestics. But, per their other teaching, that simply is a logical impossibility. One cannot be of the domestics / household if they are not part of the body / congregation.

[Top](#)

[Bobcat](#)

Posts: [2553](#)

Joined: 5 years ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#8 Post](#) by [Bobcat](#) » 1 year ago

Good catch LQ! They've already decided on a doctrine. The only task for the WT is to make the scriptures fit it.

Bobcat

[Top](#)

[Marina](#)

Posts: [1862](#)

Joined: 4 years ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#9 Post](#) by [Marina](#) » 1 year ago

Hi LQ

[leaving quietly](#) wrote: ↑

1 year ago

The teaching that the "other sheep" (the organization's way of saying, "not anointed, not part of the 144,000"), is not part of the body of Christ (thus not part of the New Covenant) is THE MOST ABOMINABLE TEACHING they have. Think about the implications here. Christ is the end of the Law. ([Rom 10:4](#)). Christ's death instituted the New Covenant, rendering the old covenant obsolete. ([Heb. 8:13](#)) If the old covenant is obsolete, and the New Covenant is reserved only for the 144,000, then the rest of us are not under ANY covenant.

The 'other sheep' idea is odd. When I had my Bible Study, I let the matter pass because it seemed a follow on from the idea that there were saints who went to heaven, like the Catholics believe. Also, the earthly hope for the other sheep was more reasonable than limbo or purgatory.

Now, I realise that the GB actually sets itself in Jesus' position. The GB say *they* are the Anointed, the Christ ([Matthew 24:4-5](#)). They are playing with the word 'Christian'. Who is Christian? Someone who follows the teachings of Jesus Christ or someone who follows Watchtower media?

In the past WTBS was different. A significant, deep proportion of its teachings and members were genuinely Christian. But only a portion and I think it was the public-facing part of the Organisation, in order to bring new ones in. Now they are tightening the screws so that that portion is fast evaporating. Genuine Christians have to leave or else go along with teachings Jesus would disapprove of. To remain in good-standing with the WTBS, ultimately you must deny Jesus Christ.

Jesus was born Jewish. The Jew is the one whose circumcision is of the heart and does the works of Abraham. That is what makes a person a Jehovah's Witness and by that Jesus was the ultimate Jehovah's Witness, the one who fully proved faithful to his Father, Jehovah. ([Isaiah 43:10,11](#)), ([Romans 2:29](#)), ([John 8:39-41](#)). Such was explanation I was given for the use of the name 'Jehovah's Witnesses' instead of Christian. By this reasoning WTBS is opposed to Jehovah's Witnesses. Therefore it is WTBS not in association with Jehovah's Witnesses/Christians.



Marina

[Top](#)

[Jerome](#)

Posts: [552](#)

Joined: 2 years ago

[Re: In Whom Do You Trust?](#)

- [Quote](#)

[#10 Post](#) by [Jerome](#) » 1 year ago

Hi LQ,

I really appreciated your list of scriptures.

Here are some more I would like to add:

Neither be called leaders, for your Leader is one, the Christ. ([Matthew 23:10](#))

However, even if we or an angel out of heaven were to declare to you as good news something beyond the good news we declared to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, I now say again, Whoever is declaring to you as good news something beyond what you accepted, let him be accursed. ([Galatians 1:8, 9](#))

For some from the house of Chlo'e have informed me regarding you, my brothers, that there are dissensions among you. What I mean is this, that each one of you says: "I belong to Paul," "But I to A·pol'los," "But I to Ce'phas," "But I to Christ." Is the Christ divided? Paul was not executed on the stake for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ([1 Corinthians 1:11-13](#))

"Most truly I say to you, the one who does not enter into the sheepfold through the door but climbs in by another way, that one is a thief and a plunderer. But the one who enters through the door is the shepherd of the sheep. The doorkeeper opens to this one, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought all his own out, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they know his voice. They will by no means follow a stranger but will flee from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers." ([John 10:1-5](#))

I am the door; whoever enters through me will be saved, and that one will go in and out and find pasturage. The thief does not come unless it is to steal and slay and destroy. I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance. I am the fine shepherd; the fine shepherd surrenders his life in behalf of the sheep. The hired man, who is not a shepherd and to whom the sheep do not belong, sees the wolf coming and abandons the sheep and flees—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them—because he is a hired man and does not care for the sheep. I am the fine shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I surrender my life in behalf of the sheep. ([John 10:9-15](#))

let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that in the name of Jesus Christ the Naz·a·rene', whom you executed on a stake but whom God raised up from the dead, by means of him this man stands here healthy in front of you. This is 'the stone that was treated by you builders as of no account that has become the chief cornerstone.' Furthermore, there is no

salvation in anyone else, for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved.” ([Acts 4:10-12](#))

Now some men came down from Ju·de’a and began to teach the brothers: “Unless you get circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” ([Acts 15:1](#))

On the contrary, we have faith that we are saved through the undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus in the same way that they are.” ([Acts 15:11](#))

They said: “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will get saved, you and your household.” ([Acts 16:31](#))

For if you publicly declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and exercise faith in your heart that God raised him up from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one exercises faith for righteousness, but with the mouth one makes public declaration for salvation. For the scripture says: “No one who rests his faith on him will be disappointed.” ([Romans 10:9-11](#))

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. He stands in opposition and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he sits down in the temple of God, publicly showing himself to be a god. Do you not remember that when I was still with you, I used to tell you these things? And now you know what is acting as a restraint, so that he will be revealed in his own due time. True, the mystery of this lawlessness is already at work, but only until the one who is right now acting as a restraint is out of the way. Then, indeed, the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will do away with by the spirit of his mouth and bring to nothing by the manifestation of his presence. But the lawless one’s presence is by the operation of Satan with every powerful work and lying signs and wonders and every unrighteous deception for those who are perishing, as a retribution because they did not accept the love of the truth in order that they might be saved. That is why God lets a deluding influence mislead them so that they may come to believe the lie, in order that they all may be judged because they did not believe the truth but took pleasure in unrighteousness. ([2 Thessalonians 2:3-12](#))

‘I know your deeds, and your labor and endurance, and that you cannot tolerate bad men, and that you put to the test those who say they are apostles, but they are not, and you found them to be liars. ([Revelation 2:2](#))

ARTICLE 3

Article on GB and the Faithful Servant

Niets Tsag

Conversation Starter · November 29 at 11:55 AM

A few years ago, when I did not yet have information about the distortion of historical truth regarding 1914, I was excited about the "new understanding" of the meaning of the term "faithful prudent slave."

For this reason, I did research at the time. I set out my thoughts in print. I want to invite you to familiarize yourself with my research. I think this study may be useful primarily to those who are JW's.

1. Let's look at the material from the WT July 15, 2013, p. 20-25.

My text: The prediction of the date of 1914 is the cornerstone, and the universally recognized pillar of the creed of S.I. This date was calculated by Russell. His calculations were supported by the organization he created for decades. By the time of release from prison, the organization had no thoughts in deliberating on its history between before and after 1919. Question: Was the organization inspired by the holy spirit until 1919?

WT July 15, 2013, p. 20-25, paragraph 12. "When did Jesus appoint a faithful slave over his household? To answer this question, we need to pay attention to the events of 1914 when the harvest began. As we already know, many organizations called themselves Christian at that time. From whom Jesus will choose a faithful slave? Whom will he appoint in this capacity? The answer was given after he and his Father came to the spiritual temple for verification, which began in 1914 and ended at the beginning of 1919 * (Mal. 3: 1). Jehovah and Jesus were satisfied with a small group of faithful Bible Students, who showed that they loved Jehovah and his Word with all their heart, of course, they needed some purification, but during a short period of testing and re-melting they showed a humble spirit and recovered (Mal. 3: 2-4). Those faithful Bible Students were real "Wheat", true Christians. In 1919 - this was a time of spiritual rebirth - Jesus chose from among them experienced anointed brothers to serve as a faithful and prudent slave and placed them over his household. "

My text: The phrase "Jehovah and Jesus were satisfied with a small group of faithful Bible Students who showed that they love Jehovah and his Word with all their heart" de facto brings down the organization that for decades has proved that it is the only one who is devoted to God

in hard work and selfless devotion to God. Now this organization has become a rank of third-rate group. This idea is supported by the statement “at that time many organizations called themselves Christian. From whom will Jesus choose a faithful slave?”

Did Jesus have to “choose” at that time? What a ridiculous statement? Moreover, it is refuted by another statement: “in the period from 1914 to 1918, it became clear that on the whole God's people did everything possible so that the work of the sermon would not stop” (WT November 2016, p. 26-30) . And also: "Was Jehovah dissatisfied with his ministers because their zeal in the preaching work died away when the First World War broke out?" (WT November 2016, p. 21-25). From these phrases it follows that a choice has already been made.

2. “They wanted «to submit to God as ruler, not to people» (Acts 5:29). Which conclusion follows from this? It cannot be said that during the war these Christians were captured by Babylon the Great. On the contrary, they were freed themselves [step by step] from its influence and helped others in this.” (WT, November 2016, p. 26-30).

My text: What does it mean to "free oneself from influence"? What is the legal meaning of this expression? How can this captive "free" from the influence of the one who holds him captive without leaving captivity? What kind of casuistry? How is the position of Bible Students before 1914 fundamentally different from their position after 1919?

WT, November 2016, p. 30: “In 1919, a “faithful and discreet slave” was appointed to give spiritual food to all faithful servants of God (Matt. 24:45). God's people were freed from the rule of Babylon the Great.”

My text: There was so many arguments about the captivity. And suddenly the inexplicable release is associated with the appointment of “faithful and discreet slave”. After all, before this captivity was explained by direct physical impact, the threat of death.

What are such special fetters that were dropped in the sense of spiritual slavery, so that it could be argued that the spiritual position of the brothers in 1919 was radically different from their spiritual position, for example, in 1913?

Another argument in favor of this. The brothers, who in 1919 determined that captivity began in 1914, obviously did not consider their position until 1914 as captivity. It is also OBVIOUS that they could give an assessment more objectively than we are now. And they evaluated the court

decision on the innocence of the leaders of the organization as a confirmation of the freedoms that they had before 1914. That is why they talked about captivity since 1914, because under the pressure of a false religion, the authorities significantly influenced the activities of the organization. This was seen in much more logic.

And further. When someone is appointed by Jesus to a post, this person **MUST** be informed of this, so that later Jesus will be able to ask him in accordance with this appointment. But no one announces the appointment 100 years after the appointment.

3. My text: In the current interpretation, “faithful and prudent slave” is 9 people who are members of the WT governing council. Moreover, the reward they receive from Jehovah is no different from the reward of many other thousands of “anointed ones.”

WT July 15, 2013, p. 25, paragraphs 18, 19: "When Jesus comes to judge during the great tribulation, he will see that the faithful slave does indeed give out timely spiritual food to the household. Then Jesus will joyfully make the second appointment: He will set him over all of his possessions. Those who make up the faithful slave will receive this appointment at a time when they will receive a heavenly reward. At that time they will become co-rulers of Christ.

Will the reward that the faithful slave receive in heaven be greater than that which the rest of the anointed will receive? No. The reward was promised to a few under certain circumstances may be gained by others. "

My text: And this is very strange. If Jehovah “puts” all the “anointed ones” “over the entire estate”, then in the light of the last interpretation the meaning of the question of the “faithful and prudent slave” completely loses its meaning.

Why does Jesus ask the question immortalized in the Bible: “Who is the faithful slave?” Why has Jehovah kept these words for ALL people for centuries? Is it really was made in case we'll know that there are 9 people who, moreover, as the crown of life will not receive anything that would exalt them above all others? Why did Jesus ask this question? Of course not with a view to "figure out" a slave consisting of 9 people.

The words of Jesus mean only one thing: only those who are slaves will receive the whole estate.

There is no doubt that spiritual food is important. But this does not detract from the fact that Jesus linked this important issue to the REWARD. This connection with the REWARD is so important that it is forever written in God's word. And, of course, the reward is not for 9 people. This is so natural, clear, understandable.

4. My text: The idea that the governing council could be the Faithful Slave, of course, arosed many times and 100, and 120 years ago.

That is why such a thought cannot be considered a light that began to shine even brighter.

It is absolutely clear that the brothers did not even dare to think of exalting themselves in this way. I repeat once again. Jesus did not say this so that we would try to find out: what names will be given to those who will distribute spiritual food? Jesus said this so that ALL anointed brothers of Christ, including women, would understand their responsibility for distributing food. Isn't that clear?

5. My text: Distributing spiritual food and preparing it is not the same thing. The governing board prepares this food. It is noteworthy that the Bible does not say: "Who is the slave who will prepare food for home?" Apparently this question, although important, is not as much as the question of who will hand out? Otherwise, the anointed sisters "fall out" of an important biblical prophecy. How will they receive a reward in heaven if they are deprived of such an important advantage as the distribution of spiritual food?

6. My text: If we accept the idea that only 9 people will receive a reward, which EVERYONE should know about, then we must admit that in this case, it is Voros who becomes the most important, WHAT IS THE SPECIAL reward will these people receive? So special that judging by the context, Jesus "made" the "CORNERAL" account of this.

In this case, one should not think about anything else until this very important question is clarified.

In this case, the words "Will the reward that the faithful slave receive in heaven be more than the reward that the other anointed ones receive?" Sound completely unconvincing in this case? (WT-13 15/7 p.20-25, paragraphs 19)

7. My text: The form and method of distribution of spiritual food (magazines) were introduced long before 1919. In this sense, in 1919 and so far nothing has changed. So who established this?

This brings us back to the thoughts expressed at the end of point 1.

8. My text: As a result, we can make the only logical conclusion. For more than 100 years, the brothers in the governing council did not accept this seemingly simple “conclusion” because they were very aware that in this case they would have to answer the question asked at point 6.

And they perfectly understood that there is no answer to this question, since the essence of the doctrine of the Kingdom cannot be closed on finding out the place and role of 9 people in God's plans.

Otherwise, one would have to say that among the “lesser” brothers of Christ there is a special caste of “big ones” and the role of this caste in general exceeds the role of Jehovah’s intention through the Kingdom to restore the lost.

ARTICLE 4

In Whom Do You Trust?

#1 Post by Jerome » 2 years ago

In the opening talk of the March 2018 Broadcast, the theme of which was “In Whom Do You Trust?”, governing body member Gerrit Losch said the following:

“Jesus had free will.

This means that theoretically he could have sinned.

If he could not have sinned, Satan probably would not have tried three times to tempt Jesus to sin.

If Jesus could not have sinned, why would he be so heavily distressed in the garden of Gethsemane that he was sweating blood?

Why send an angel to comfort and strengthen him if he could not sin or fail anyway?

No question that Jesus felt the unfathomable load on his shoulders to remain faithful, since not only the salvation of mankind depended on him but also the vindication of Jehovah’s sovereignty.

He did not want to disappoint Jehovah.

Jesus used his own free will and was determined to stay loyal.

How glad we are that he did!”

Like Jesus, the governing body members also have free will. But unlike Jesus they are not perfect. Yet brother Losch went on to say:

“Today, the faithful slave is put in charge of providing spiritual food for God’s people, who number into the millions.

The slave also shows complete trust in Jehovah that he will guide them with his holy spirit.

What makes it possible for the “faithful and discreet slave” to provide precious spiritual food?

“I will give you insight and instruct you in the way you should go,” says Jehovah at Psalm 32:8.

Today, Jehovah provides direction to the slave through Jesus.

Jesus, in turn, provides direction for his people through “the faithful and discreet slave.”

We can therefore have full confidence in the Scriptural insight, understanding, and guidance.”

However, while making the admission that the slave is not perfect he went on to say:

“But Jehovah and Jesus trust the imperfect slave who cares for things to the best of his ability and with the best of motives.

Shouldn't we then trust the imperfect slave as well?

To appreciate the extent of Jehovah and Jesus' trust in the faithful slave, reflect on what he has promised its members.

He has promised them immortality and incorruption.

Soon, just before Armageddon, the remaining members of the slave will be taken to heaven.

Since 1919 of our Common Era, the slave has been put in charge of some belongings of Christ.

According to Matthew 24:47, when the anointed are taken to heaven, Jesus will at that point entrust “all his belongings” to them.

Does this not reveal immense trust?

Revelation 4:4 describes these resurrected anointed as corulers with Christ.

Revelation 22:5 says they will rule, not only for a thousand years but “forever and ever.”

What immense trust Jesus shows toward them! Since Jehovah God and Jesus Christ completely trust “the faithful and discreet slave,” should we not do the same?”

It's important to look again at Jesus words about the faithful and discreet slave:

“Who really is the faithful and discreet slave whom his master appointed over his domestics, to give them their food at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on coming finds him doing so! Truly I say to you, he will appoint him over all his belongings. “But if ever that evil slave says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying,’ and he starts to beat his fellow slaves and to eat and drink with the confirmed drunkards, the master of that slave will come on a day that he does not expect and in an hour that he does not know, and he will punish him with the greatest severity and will assign him his place with the hypocrites. There is where his weeping and the gnashing of his teeth will be. (Matthew 24:45-51)

Then Peter said: “Lord, are you telling this illustration just to us or also to everyone?” And the Lord said: “Who really is the faithful steward, the discreet one, whom his master will appoint over his body of attendants to keep giving them their measure of food supplies at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on coming finds him doing so! I tell you truthfully, he will appoint him over all his belongings. But if ever that slave should say in his heart, ‘My master delays coming,’ and starts to beat the male and female servants and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that slave will come on a day that he is not expecting him and at an hour that he does not know, and he will punish him with the greatest severity and assign him a part with the unfaithful ones. Then that slave who understood the will of his master but did not get ready or do what he asked will be beaten with many strokes. But the one who did not understand and yet did things deserving of strokes will be beaten with few. Indeed, everyone to whom much was

given, much will be demanded of him, and the one who was put in charge of much will have more than usual demanded of him. (Luke 12:41-48)

Do you see in Jesus words the complete confidence and trust that Jehovah and Jesus have in the slave? A careful reading of the verses seems to indicate clearly the opposite. Jesus starts with a question, not a declaration of the appointment of one that has his complete confidence. It is a call for those whom he placed with that responsibility to carry out their assignment and show themselves faithful. If they do so, then, and only then, will he entrust “all his belongings” to them. If he had complete confidence in them, why would he give the warning not to become evil and say in his heart “my master is delaying”?

Think of it this way: Did Jehovah have complete confidence in Adam? Why then did he place a tree in the middle of the garden and give him the command not to eat from it? If Jehovah had complete confidence in Adam he would have given him permission to eat of the tree of life without the need to test him first. Gerrit Losch, in his efforts to get all of Jehovah’s Witnesses to give the governing body their unquestioning loyalty would have us believe that Jehovah and Jesus already trust them completely. There is no need for them to be tested first. The implication is that whoever today would dare put them to the test would be at odds with Jehovah and Christ.

However, that is not what Jesus said.

‘I know your deeds, and your labor and endurance, and that you cannot tolerate bad men, and that you put to the test those who say they are apostles, but they are not, and you found them to be liars. (Revelation 2:2)

Jerome

Top

Stranger

Posts: 1537

Joined: 2 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#2 Post by Stranger » 2 years ago

There they go again putting their selves smack dab in the middle between J and J and their followers.

I guess that's okay if that's where one wants them to be!

Not me, I don't really think they are faithful (well maybe to mammon), and I know they are not discreet.

Thank you Jerome for opening this thread. The best thing I have found is just to ignore what they say but really if they

are so discreet they wouldn't be saying much, but the fact is they are doing all the talking (lol).

:lol: And it seems like they are

starting to beg, something a discreet person doesn't do. Okay I was trying to be nice really they have been begging for awhile now.

Anyway enjoy their shows whoever is watching them. I hope that their televangelist method works out for them and it probably will

if they keep flashing those discreet Rolex watches at least the flock can see where their money is going! What a bargain.

Stranger

Top

Jerome

Posts: 552

Joined: 3 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#3 Post by Jerome » 2 years ago

There is another thing that is puzzling about this change in identification of the faithful slave. If the faithful slave is the governing body, who then is it that receives all of Christ's belongings and gets to rule with him for ever and ever? Would that not be the governing body? It would seem that in saying the governing body is the faithful slave, it effectively eliminates the rest of the anointed from receiving the reward. The Watchtower attempts to address this problem:

“Does the faithful slave receive a greater reward in heaven than the rest of the anointed? No. A reward promised to a small group in one setting may ultimately be shared by others. For example, consider what Jesus said to his 11 faithful apostles the night before he died. (Read Luke 22:28-30.) Jesus promised that small group of men that a fine reward awaited them for their faithfulness. They would share his throne of kingly authority. But years later, he indicated that all

of the 144,000 will sit on thrones and share his rulership. (Rev. 1:1; 3:21) Similarly, as stated at Matthew 24:47, he promised that a small group of men—the anointed brothers who make up the faithful slave—will be appointed over all his belongings. In reality, all of the 144,000 will share his vast heavenly authority.—Rev. 20:4, 6. (The Watchtower July 15, 2013 p. 25 par. 19)

This is confusing in that it seems to be saying the rest of the anointed are not the slave of Jesus illustration but they get the final reward anyway. Where does Jesus promise that a small group of men would make up the faithful slave? Instead of going beyond the things that are written why can't they just let the Bible speak?

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John S

Posts: 1049

Joined: 5 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#4 Post by John S » 2 years ago

Hello brothers,

An old Witness friend of mine invited me to the Memorial this year at the KH. So, because he fears for my life, and to show the JW's there are people who understand the meaning of Jesus' teachings I went.

Of course I partake, as all Christians should. Many spoke with me and shook my hand, others refused any friendship. I was floored that many didn't treat me as DFed, but warmly welcomed me as a long lost friend.

I sat up front, next to the servers, so I don't know if anyone else partook, but I hope others did.

No, the FDS is not the GB, as they refuse to teach Jesus' instructions which are clear; all Christians are to gear up for heavenly service; Jesus never once indicated otherwise.

There is nowhere in his teachings that indicate Christians are not to receive the re-birth of the holy spirit, but just the opposite. The 2-classes for Christianity is not what Jesus taught. Christians down through the last 2000 years all believed in the heavenly hope. Millions upon millions because that is what Jesus taught.

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Stranger

Posts: 1537

Joined: 2 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#5 Post by Stranger » 2 years ago

They never have let the Bible speak for itself, they simply can't. They need a watchtower to twist what the Bible is really saying!

Jerome, you said this is confusing. Put those Watchtowers down, there in lies the confusion purposely put there.

The Watchtowers don't match up with the Bible, they cherry pick some scriptures to match what they're trying to say.

Now they have a problem, they can't find any more cherries. (Lu 5:37)

Stranger

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leaving_quietly

Posts: 757

Joined: 5 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#6 Post by leaving_quietly » 2 years ago

Ps 32:8, 9:

It is better to take refuge in Jehovah

Than to trust in humans.

It is better to take refuge in Jehovah

Than to trust in princes.

Ps 40:4:

Happy is the man who trusts in Jehovah

And who does not look to the defiant or to those who are false.

Ps 146:3:

Do not put your trust in princes

Nor in a son of man, who cannot bring salvation.

Pr 29:25:

Trembling at men is a snare,

But the one trusting in Jehovah will be protected.

Isa 2:22:

For your own sakes, quit trusting in mere man,

Who is only the breath in his nostrils.

Why should he be taken into account?

Jer 7:4-8:

Do not put your trust in deceptive words and say, ‘This is the temple of Jehovah, the temple of Jehovah, the temple of Jehovah!’ For if you truly reform your ways and actions; if you truly uphold justice between a man and his neighbor; if you do not oppress foreign residents, orphans, and widows; if you do not shed innocent blood in this place; and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm; then I will allow you to keep residing in this place, in the land I gave to your forefathers for all time.’”” “But you are putting your trust in deceptive words—it will bring absolutely no benefit.

Jer 13:25:

This is your lot, the portion that I have measured out to you," declares Jehovah, "Because you have forgotten me and you trust in lies. (How many "adjustments" have been made over the years? Call them for what they were: lies)

Jer 17:5:

This is what Jehovah says: "Cursed is the man who puts his trust in mere humans, Who relies on human power, And whose heart turns away from Jehovah.

Mic 7:5:

Do not put faith in your companion

Or trust a close friend.

Guard what you say to the one who lies in your embrace.

There is, of course, more to be said about misplaced trust (trust in one self, trust on one's riches, etc.) This brief word search focused on the warnings against putting our trust in man. I think Isaiah said it best: "For your own sakes, quit trusting in men".

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[leaving_quietly](#)

Posts: 757

Joined: 5 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#7 Post by [leaving_quietly](#) » 2 years ago

This will probably go off into a tangent, and may require a thread on its own, but I'll bring it up here and see if/where it goes.

Matt 24:45-45:

Who really is the faithful and discreet slave whom his master appointed over his domestics, to give them their food at the proper time? Happy is that slave if his master on coming finds him doing so! Truly I say to you, he will appoint him over all his belongings.

Other translations say: "his household".

This is key. In double-speak fashion, the organization includes the anointed AND non-anointed here (their "little flock" and "other sheep"). At this point, it is important to get a really clear picture of what the organization teaches:

The organization says:

Although the "other sheep" are not part of the composite body of Christ, they can learn much from this illustration. (John 10:16) Paul states that Jehovah "subjected all things under [Christ's] feet, and made him head over all things to the congregation." (Eph. 1:22) Today, the other sheep are part of "all things" placed by Jehovah under the headship of his Son. They are also among the "belongings" that Christ has entrusted to his "faithful and discreet slave." (Matt. 24:45-47) Those with an earthly hope should, therefore, recognize Christ as their Head and be submissive to the faithful and discreet slave and its Governing Body and to the men appointed as overseers in the congregation. (Heb. 13:7, 17) This contributes to Christian unity. - w09 10/15 p. 5 par. 10

Notice that Eph 1:22 was quoted, but verse 23 was conveniently left out:

He also subjected all things under his feet and made him head over all things with regard to the congregation, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills up all things in all.

The congregation is Christ's body. Go back to that quote in the 2009 WT. Who is NOT part of the body? The "other sheep". Who IS part of the congregation? Though it's not stated here, the organization NEVER teaches that the "other sheep" are not part of the congregation, so in their view, the "other sheep" ARE part of the congregation. How can that be? How can they be part of the congregation, but not part of the body? This is a scriptural impossibility.

The teaching that the "other sheep" (the organization's way of saying, "not anointed, not part of the 144,000"), is not part of the body of Christ (thus not part of the New Covenant) is THE MOST ABOMINABLE TEACHING they have. Think about the implications here. Christ is the end of the Law. (Rom 10:4). Christ's death instituted the New Covenant, rendering the old covenant obsolete. (Heb. 8:13) If the old covenant is obsolete, and the New Covenant is reserved only for the 144,000, then the rest of us are not under ANY covenant. In addition, we are not part of "the domestics" (or "household"). Conclusion: they have no authority over us, by their own teaching.

Now, the "other sheep" are beneficiaries of the New Covenant.

BENEFICIARIES OF THE NEW COVENANT

14 Upon learning that the 144,000 are in the new covenant, some may have thought that only these benefit from it. Perhaps they thought so because only anointed ones are to partake of the emblems at the annual Memorial of Christ's death, where the wine represents the "blood of the covenant." (Mark 14:24) Recall, though, that those in the new covenant are to be associates with Jesus as the "seed" of Abraham, by means of which all nations will be blessed. (Gal. 3:8, 9, 29; Gen. 12:3) Somehow, through the new covenant, Jehovah will fulfill his promise to bless all mankind through Abraham's "seed." - jr chap 14 p. 175 par. 14

Their "proof" is Gal 3:8-9: Now the scripture, foreseeing that God would declare people of the nations righteous through faith, declared the good news beforehand to Abraham, namely: "By means of you all the nations will be blessed." So those who adhere to faith are being blessed together with Abraham, who had faith.

In the organization's view, there are those who are "being blessed together with Abraham". This means the "other sheep", the "beneficiaries". However, they conveniently leave out the verse immediately preceding these two verses.

Gal 3:7: Surely you know that it is those who adhere to faith who are sons of Abraham.

Hang on a second, this changes everything. For the very next verse they cite, to prove that there's a difference in these two groups is Gal 3:29: Moreover, if you belong to Christ, you are really Abraham's offspring, heirs with reference to a promise.

Do you see that? "If you belong to Christ, you are really Abraham's offspring." "Those who adhere to faith...are sons of Abraham". "Those who adhere to faith are being blessed together with Abraham." There is NO SECOND GROUP here. This is an abominable twist of the scriptural teaching that even people of the nations who are not sons of Abraham from a genetic perspective are still considered sons of Abraham based on adhering to faith and belonging to Christ.

Anyway, my whole point in saying all of this is that based on their own teaching, the "domestics" ("household") cannot possibly include the "other sheep" because they don't consider the "other sheep" to be part of the body of Christ, which means, in reality, that they are not part of the congregation. Of course, that's not what they say. They DO include the "other sheep" in the domestics. But, per their other teaching, that simply is a logical impossibility. One cannot be of the domestics / household if they are not part of the body / congregation.

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Bobcat

Posts: 2912

Joined: 6 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#8 Post by Bobcat » 2 years ago

Good catch LQ! They've already decided on a doctrine. The only task for the WT is to make the scriptures fit it.

Bobcat

Top

Marina

Posts: 1972

Joined: 4 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#9 Post by Marina » 2 years ago

Hi LQ

leaving_quietly wrote: ↑2 years ago

The teaching that the "other sheep" (the organization's way of saying, "not anointed, not part of the 144,000"), is not part of the body of Christ (thus not part of the New Covenant) is **THE MOST ABOMINABLE TEACHING** they have. Think about the implications here. Christ is the end of the Law. (Rom 10:4). Christ's death instituted the New Covenant, rendering the old covenant obsolete. (Heb. 8:13) If the old covenant is obsolete, and the New Covenant is reserved only for the 144,000, then the rest of us are not under ANY covenant.

The 'other sheep' idea is odd. When I had my Bible Study, I let the matter pass because it seemed a follow on from the idea that there were saints who went to heaven, like the Catholics believe. Also, the earthly hope for the other sheep was more reasonable than limbo or purgatory.

Now, I realise that the GB actually sets itself in Jesus' position. The GB say they are the Anointed, the Christ (Matthew 24:4-5). They are playing with the word 'Christian'. Who is

Christian? Someone who follows the teachings of Jesus Christ or someone who follows Watchtower media?

In the past WTBS was different. A significant, deep proportion of its teachings and members were genuinely Christian. But only a portion and I think it was the public-facing part of the Organisation, in order to bring new ones in. Now they are tightening the screws so that that portion is fast evaporating. Genuine Christians have to leave or else go along with teachings Jesus would disapprove of. To remain in good-standing with the WTBS, ultimately you must deny Jesus Christ.

Jesus was born Jewish. The Jew is the one whose circumcision is of the heart and does the works of Abraham. That is what makes a person a Jehovah's Witness and by that Jesus was the ultimate Jehovah's Witness, the one who fully proved faithful to his Father, Jehovah. (Isaiah 43:10,11), (Romans 2:29), (John 8:39-41). Such was explanation I was given for the use of the name 'Jehovah's Witnesses' instead of Christian. By this reasoning WTBS is opposed to Jehovah's Witnesses. Therefore it is WTBS not in association with Jehovah's Witnesses/Christians.

:flowers:

Marina

Top

Jerome

Posts: 552

Joined: 3 years ago

Re: In Whom Do You Trust?

#10 Post by Jerome » 2 years ago

Hi LQ,

I really appreciated your list of scriptures.

Here are some more I would like to add:

Neither be called leaders, for your Leader is one, the Christ. (Matthew 23:10)

However, even if we or an angel out of heaven were to declare to you as good news something beyond the good news we declared to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, I now say again, Whoever is declaring to you as good news something beyond what you accepted, let him be accursed. (Galatians 1:8, 9)

For some from the house of Chlo'e have informed me regarding you, my brothers, that there are dissensions among you. What I mean is this, that each one of you says: "I belong to Paul," "But I to A·pol'los," "But I to Ce'phas," "But I to Christ." Is the Christ divided? Paul was not executed on the stake for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? (1 Corinthians 1:11-13)

"Most truly I say to you, the one who does not enter into the sheepfold through the door but climbs in by another way, that one is a thief and a plunderer. But the one who enters through the door is the shepherd of the sheep. The doorkeeper opens to this one, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought all his own out, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they know his voice. They will by no means follow a stranger but will flee from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers." (John 10:1-5)

I am the door; whoever enters through me will be saved, and that one will go in and out and find pasturage. The thief does not come unless it is to steal and slay and destroy. I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance. I am the fine shepherd; the fine shepherd surrenders his life in behalf of the sheep. The hired man, who is not a shepherd and to whom the sheep do not belong, sees the wolf coming and abandons the sheep and flees—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them—because he is a hired man and does not care for the sheep. I am the fine shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I surrender my life in behalf of the sheep. (John 10:9-15)

let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that in the name of Jesus Christ the Naz·a·rene', whom you executed on a stake but whom God raised up from the dead, by means of him this man stands here healthy in front of you. This is 'the stone that was treated by you builders as of no account that has become the chief cornerstone.' Furthermore, there is no salvation in anyone else, for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved." (Acts 4:10-12)

Now some men came down from Ju·de'a and began to teach the brothers: "Unless you get circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." (Acts 15:1)

On the contrary, we have faith that we are saved through the undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus in the same way that they are.” (Acts 15:11)

They said: “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will get saved, you and your household.” (Acts 16:31)

For if you publicly declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and exercise faith in your heart that God raised him up from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one exercises faith for righteousness, but with the mouth one makes public declaration for salvation. For the scripture says: “No one who rests his faith on him will be disappointed.” (Romans 10:9-11)

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. He stands in opposition and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he sits down in the temple of God, publicly showing himself to be a god. Do you not remember that when I was still with you, I used to tell you these things? And now you know what is acting as a restraint, so that he will be revealed in his own due time. True, the mystery of this lawlessness is already at work, but only until the one who is right now acting as a restraint is out of the way. Then, indeed, the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will do away with by the spirit of his mouth and bring to nothing by the manifestation of his presence. But the lawless one’s presence is by the operation of Satan with every powerful work and lying signs and wonders and every unrighteous deception for those who are perishing, as a retribution because they did not accept the love of the truth in order that they might be saved. That is why God lets a deluding influence mislead them so that they may come to believe the lie, in order that they all may be judged because they did not believe the truth but took pleasure in unrighteousness. (2 Thessalonians 2:3-12)

‘I know your deeds, and your labor and endurance, and that you cannot tolerate bad men, and that you put to the test those who say they are apostles, but they are not, and you found them to be liars. (Revelation 2:2)