



IF ANYONE HAS THE RIGHT RELIGION, IT MUST BE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

My father used to say, “If anyone has the right religion, it must be the Jehovah’s Witnesses.” My dad wasn’t baptized nor was he an astute Jehovah Witness; he was a fence sitter. He kept the peace between me (the goat) and my mother, brother and sister (the sheep), occasionally attending meetings at our Kingdom Hall. He used this blanket statement to come to the organization’s defense the only way he knew how when I pointed out the lack of love in the Watchtower organization. He clearly didn’t want to know The Truth. It was easier to just believe, to live in a virtual existence and pretend that all was well in the Watchtower’s fantasy world. In the last thirty-eight years, has he ever done any independent research? No. He and the rest of my family, like millions of others today, continue to blindly hinge their every movement on what the organization tells them to do.

Consider this for a moment: If a doctor told you that your left leg was two inches shorter than the right leg and said you needed to cut off a portion of the longer leg, then instructed you that you were forbidden to ever take out a tape measure but was expected, rather, to show faith and believe because to defy the medical “expert” was to defy God, you would most likely adamantly dismiss his claims with “I don’t think so!” In fact, you might actually wonder if he was delusional! However, if enough of the medical community kept telling you this “fact” day in and day out and kept you from absconding with any sort of measuring device, you might begin to believe them. But the question is, would you, at some point, defy these “experts” and seek out that tape measure so as to learn The Truth for yourself— before cutting off something (or someone) you loved?

When I was just twelve years old, I clearly saw the hypocrisy in the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society of New York. I witnessed Watchtower-appointed elders (leaders) physically abusing their children during meetings to make them sit stoically for hours; people getting disfellowshipped (excommunicated) for no apparent reason—having their family ties severed forever by the Watchtower-induced shunning practice; “honest” pioneers spending countless hours in the field, skewing their time so they could make their unreasonable quota; and members condemning everyone who wasn’t a Jehovah Witness, despite also being cautioned by the Bible that only the heavenly father can judge us. When I started researching more about this organization, when I opened my eyes to what others had to say, I learned about the unfathomable degree of sexual and physical abuse going on in this organization, something *I never knew existed while I was a Jehovah’s Witness*. Talk about being raised in a vacuum!

Don’t get me wrong. Many Jehovah’s Witnesses are good, honest, morally upright people. *Every* organization has some degree of corruption, perversion and dishonesty. What makes this group stand out, however, is that they espouse to hold themselves to a higher standard while at the same time they close their eyes to what is going on around them and, instead, focus their condemnation on others. The ongoing sordid history of the Watchtower organization, however, speaks for itself—if only its members would have the courage to find that elusive tape measure.