## What makes it difficult for a Witness

A WITNESS BELIEVES WHAT THE WATCHTOWER SOCIETY (WTS) TELLS THEM, NOT BECAUSE OF WHAT IT SAYS, BUT BECAUSE OF WHO IT CLAIMS TO BE. IT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO RECOGNISE THIS.

The Witness blindly accepts whatever is dished out by the WTS, even in the face of obvious undeniable facts. ("I hear what you are saying, but even the devil can appear as an angel of light").

For this reason, when we exposed their false 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE neo-Babylonian chronology, we focused on their deliberate misquotations. Similarly with the Trinity, we focused on their misquotations of Hislop, Mantey and others. (Mantey waited and waited for the WTS to apologise for misusing his work, but they knew he was already 90 years old, so they just hung out.) Regarding the Cross, we exposed their misrepresentation of Lipsius. With their position on Blood, I showed how the WTS misquoted and misrepresented their historical, religious and medical sources. We needed to follow this procedure to try and help break the mental stranglehold of the WTS.

There are, of course, other hidden agendas at play. The only friends and family a JW can talk to and be comfortable with are normally other JWs. When a Witness is summarily disfellowshiped, they are really cut off from parents, children, relatives and friends. This happens when the elders (and this is the only place on this earth they exert power) conduct an enquiry and announce the decision to the throng – with no question allowed to be asked. From that time on, the disfellowshiped ex-Witness is utterly shunned – their previous friends walk on the other side of the street. They are treated as being dead. The threat of this ensures strict obedience, regardless of the honesty of any reasoned presentations made by a non-Witness.

In their minds, when they are rejected at the doors, Witnesses think: "when the Thousand Year rule of Christ comes soon, the shoe will be on the other foot. Then you will come running, pleading to learn from me, looking for the only help that will provide the protection needed at the end of this Thousand-year Rule".

Witnesses are convinced that, given the position that the WTS holds, salvation only is possible (but not guaranteed) by staying under the control of the WTS, since it is God's "sole channel of communication to the world" (thus there can be no personal "holy spirit"). The WTS is believed to be God's only earthly representative of His Kingdom.

The best you can do is to sow seed while you have the opportunity, unless you touch on a sensitive nerve of a shaky Witness. You need to answer the question: "what am I trying to achieve during this window of opportunity?" I suggest you need to sow the seed of doubt regarding the WTS's self-proclaimed authority. Prove that they consistently handle undeniable facts and evidence dishonestly.

It is important to understand the WTS's soteriology. In their arrangement, there are two very distinct classes. They have an elite, heavenly class. It goes under several names: the brothers (of Christ), the 144000, heavenly class, etc. The promises of Scripture are written for them alone. Christ died for this group alone. Only they have holy spirit. They number 144,000 in total, with nearly all already in Heaven, ruling. Few are left on earth.

The remaining millions of followers are known as the earthly class, the other sheep, etc. These followers are not guaranteed salvation. Christ did not die for them. They have to work out their salvation (guess how). These Witnesses live in fear of the coming Armagedon (constantly presented in their faces) which they might survive, or might not.

Your ultimate objective should be to show a Witness the freedom that comes from peace with God, wherever they fellowship. The gift of complete salvation is available to all, whether a Witness or not. Salvation cannot be earned and is given to anyone who asks. Knowing Jesus means to already possess eternal life (1 John 5:12 – present tense). To enjoy this, the Witness needs to have the mental shackles removed.

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