

WATCHTOWER WITNESS

When you tire of singing
to fluctuating tunes,
the shifting predictions
from prophets in Brooklyn;

When you tire of feigning
Bible scholarship
in your puppet-allegiance
to Watchtower doctrine;

When you tire of the obvious--
that not one JW guru
is part of the 144,000
virgin male Israelites
of John's Apocalypse;
or

When you feel the scathing slap
of turn-coat betrayal
by those you counted dear
as you dare verbalize
clear words of Scripture
against fear-bound creeds
of Witness word-wizards,
and they banish you
from the "loving family"
of Kingdom Hall;
then we,

Of the Christian communions,
who loved Jehovah long
before Charles Taze Russell
resurrected old heresies
and Judge Rutherford wove pride
into chains of cultish dogma,
will receive you . . .
that is,

When you realize, like us,
that freedom to disagree

smashes the old sacred cow
you melted down gold for
and danced around so long;
When you discover, like us,
the Church's real treasure,
preserved essential by all
and passed down precious;
When you swing open, like us,
the door where Jesus knocks,
the gate you've been missing
and leading others to miss
all this wasted time
on other doors and houses;
that is,
When you come thirsting for life
and drink from the King's wounds
and feed on Him in your heart,
then,
we will receive you.

--- *David L. Hatton, 2/5/96*