

## 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, as we do,  
that freedom to disagree  
smashes the old sacred cow  
you melted your gold for  
and danced around so long;

When you discover, as we did,  
the Church's real treasure,  
preserved essential by all  
and passed down precious;  
When you swing open, as we have,  
the heart-door where Jesus knocks,  
the target you've been missing  
and leading others to miss  
all this wasted time knocking  
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, 2/5/1996*