

WHERE SHOULD I GO?

By Keith Greer

One Saturday I was sitting at home watching one of the football games on TV. Our doorbell rang, and a young man was standing there. "**Hi, my name is Zane and I'm here to discuss God and His word with you.**" He then explained he was a Jehovah Witness. I invited him in and we began to talk.

Zane informed me he was once a Baptist. Why did he leave them? "I could see that they were not really Bible believing people." (At this point I'm thinking to myself, and the Jehovah Witnesses are?) So then I had to ask what made him feel the Jehovah Witness people were "true Bible believers. "

"I noticed in the Baptist church, people were just really concerned to get you to be a member. Following your baptism (for entrance into the Baptist church, I might add) people just forgot you. When I started talking with the Jehovah Witnesses they really took the time to teach me. I could see their aim was for me to completely understand what being a Witness was all about. No one rushed me to the water. **Following my obedience, the teaching not only did not stop, but increased!**"

I could not help but think, as this young man spoke to me, the words of Jesus " ... Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. " {Mark 16: 15} In Matthew's account the teaching is also to continue following baptism. Could it be that those teaching the "doctrines of men" have understood the need for us to be always busy "**in the Lord's vineyard**"?

Zane told me he strictly followed the Bible. He informed me it was his desire to teach only those things contained in God's word. Commendable right? The question begged to be asked, is it true? Our discussions revealed the answer.

When he left my house, he had given me three books, published by the Bible Watchtower Tract Society. I was informed they would help me "**better understand**" the message in the word of God. I wonder if the apostles and the early church had these "self help" books? If not, how did they gain an understanding of God's will for men?

"How that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I wrote before in a few words) by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ. "{Ephesians 3:3,4} Reading and studying! Man can only gain this knowledge by using the word of God!

What I began to see was that this young man's faith was not in the Bible, but in the teachings of Jehovah Witnesses. Some questions yet to be answered:

"What are you a witness of? How did man get "Adam's sin"? What is the "second chance" theory taught by the witnesses? Was Christ the Son of God? Explain the meaning of Genesis 3:15? We had two studies with him and the bishop. More was our hope but did not materialize. Why, you might ask. One must be able to answer these questions with the Bible! Sadly, they could not.

Previously I told Zane the bishops would stop the studies when pressed to answer the questions which contradict the Bible taught by the Witnesses. The bishops said they could study no further because we had "closed minds." Zane 's head was down and I never saw him again.

My hope and prayer is that this man's heart would be opened to the truth of the gospel. Sadly, his heart was more committed to the Witnesses than to the Lord and His word. Did I waste my time? Never! The word of God was planted into the heart of the individual and the rest is up to that person what they do with the pure seed.

Brethren, never dismiss an opportunity to teach the gospel to those outside of Christ no matter what they might believe. Honest hearts will receive the word with gladness. Give them a chance!
