

# Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Dear Brothers:

What a privilege it is to be among Jehovah's chosen people, set aside for true worship, in this time of the end. While the world is sinking lower and lower into depravity and those who claim to worship God are becoming more and more permissive, Jehovah's people want to remain "firm, unblamable in holiness before our God and Father." (1 Thess. 3:13) We want to remain holy before Jehovah in all areas.—1 Pet. 1:15, 16; 2 Pet. 3:14.

Just as in ancient times things set aside for use in Jehovah's worship were considered holy because of their sanctification for Jehovah's service, today too, things set aside for the worship of Jehovah, while not having holiness of themselves, can be considered holy for the same reason. As it was back there so it is today that all things holy to Jehovah are sacred and cannot be considered lightly or used in a common, or profane, way.

The foregoing should help us in our use of Kingdom songs and melodies prepared to express praise to Jehovah. They constitute a part of our worship and so are to be viewed as something holy. That is why it is becoming a cause of concern that some have begun downgrading our Kingdom songs and melodies by using them like modern worldly music. Especially at weddings and funerals, one hears a distortion of Kingdom songs. While playing the songs some brothers add a rock, funk, or other popular beat to them with the idea of making them "more fitting" for secular entertainment or dancing. We need to note that our Kingdom songs are not secular music so it would be improper to add any such beat to them. Just as we would not want to distort or pervert the Scriptures by using slang or vulgar speech to express their thoughts, we would also not want to cheapen or downgrade our Kingdom songs and melodies by making them sound like worldly music such as is used in dance halls or in charismatic churches. It would not be appropriate to use such distorted recordings at functions like weddings and funerals organized by Jehovah's Witnesses.

In addition to the above, our brothers who play musical instruments will need to take note of the fact that even the secular world recognizes that it is wrong to change the lyrics or music of someone else's songs without proper permission from that one. That is why international copyright laws are in place. It is therefore not only improper Scripturally but also illegal to change the way our Kingdom songs and melodies have been prepared by the organization without proper written permission from the Society.

Let us all, therefore, endeavor to be free of accusation in holiness before our God in all that we do. May our God Jehovah continue to strengthen us in our resolve to stand separate from the world, "perfecting holiness in God's fear."—2 Cor. 7:1.

We wish you Jehovah's rich blessing.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation  
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

P.S.: This letter should be read to the entire congregation at the next Service Meeting after its receipt. Thereafter it should be posted on the Information Board for two weeks before filing. Thank you.