



WATCH TOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF BRITAIN

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F August 25, 2008

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Dear Brothers:

Over the past year more than 15,000 brothers and sisters, as well as newly interested ones, from all parts of the country, visited our branch facilities here in London. In addition we have had almost 2,000 visitors from more distant parts of the earth. What a pleasure this has been for us and, hopefully, for them.

There is no doubt that a visit to the branch facilities is an experience few would ever forget. The following extract from one of the many letters we receive makes the point: *“It was truly the highlight of our visit to the UK. Our six-year old son was deeply moved. You should have seen his face light up! He had a great big smile and said, ‘All of these people love Jehovah!’—G&S, U.S.A.”*

In all the Bethel facilities around the world every effort is made to uphold and reflect the qualities and standards enunciated in God’s Word, regardless of what is happening in the world around us. Many today are appalled at the abandonment of decency and modesty in dress, speech, and conduct in today’s world. When such ones visit Bethel the contrast impacts on them, and the credit surely belongs to our God, Jehovah.

The Governing Body encourages visiting Bethel facilities and writes: *“There is great value to the arrangement of extending hospitality to the brothers and sisters touring the Bethel facilities. As they see the work being done to support the Kingdom-preaching activity in the field, their faith in Jehovah is strengthened and their zeal for the ministry is stimulated.”*

Having said this, concern is felt that worldly standards can, if we are not alert, infiltrate and break down the respect and dignity attached to our ‘non-negotiable’, clean worship. With this in mind it is felt timely to remind ourselves of the standards in dress and grooming, as they relate to our meetings for worship, our field ministry, visits to Bethel, and even more informal occasions. Accompanying this letter is a four-colour, four-page tract, which we believe will prove a very helpful guide to all in the congregation as they reflect on the standards Jehovah’s people are seeking to uphold.

A copy of this tract may be displayed in the Kingdom Hall so that individuals planning a visit to Bethel can see for themselves the Scriptural principles involved, as well as the pictures of what is acceptable attire. A copy of this tract will, in future, be sent to all those organizing coach tours to Bethel. It will also prove to be of special assistance to the elders when occasions arise to sensitively guide newer ones in the dress and grooming standards we try to reflect in our day-to-day activities as Jehovah’s people.

We send you our warm greetings and best wishes.

Your brothers,

Watch Tower B. & J. Society
OF BRITAIN