



WATCH TOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF BRITAIN

THE RIDGEWAY LONDON NW7 1RN

TELEPHONE 020 8906 2211

LEA December 31, 2008

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: Elder Subject to Bankruptcy Order

Dear Brothers:

We are writing in connection with elders' duties under the legal congregation constitution that has been adopted in compliance with charity law. The constitution stipulates that all elders serve as congregation trustees for financial matters. This letter replaces the letter dated December 4, 1997, that applied to England and Wales only.

In a small number of cases a brother who is serving as an elder may be subject to a bankruptcy order, or in some other way be disqualified legally from acting as a trustee. In order to remain within the law such brothers, while continuing to serve as elders, must formally withdraw from involvement with the management of congregation (or circuit) finances. The branch's Legal Department has prepared the appropriate paperwork, with explanations of how this should be used, and we are inviting any body of elders that has a member in this position to write to us immediately for further details.* Please provide the name of the brother concerned and the position in which he currently serves. If such a situation should arise in the future, please contact the branch's Legal Desk immediately.

We thank you for your cooperation in 'paying back Caesar's things to Caesar.' (Matt. 22:21; compare Romans 13:1-4.) Please accept a warm expression of our Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

Watch Tower B. & J. Society
OF BRITAIN

* If you have already complied with legal formalities there is no need to write to the branch again.