If You Were to Die Today, Would Heaven Be Your Home?

We do not have to wait until we die to find out where we will spend eternity because the Bible tells us that we can <u>KNOW</u> right now whether or not we are saved:

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. (I John 5:13).

The first thing you must understand is that none of us deserves to go to Heaven because according to the Bible:

As it is written, There is none righteous, no not one . . . (Romans 3:10).

The reason why we aren't righteous is because:

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23).

No matter how hard we try, we will always fall short of God's glory because of our sin. And there are consequences for our sin:

For the wages of sin is death . . . (Romans 3:23a).

The death that the Bible mentions here is spiritual death, eternal separation from God; it is the penalty for our sins. But we are not without hope:

. . . but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23b).

A gift is not something that you earn or work for: it is given to you free of charge.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Assuming for just a moment that God might allow us to earn our way into Heaven, even the best we could do would never be good enough to earn something so great as an eternity in Heaven.

But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags . . . (Isaiah 64:6).

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Does God Want Us To Call Him Jehovah?

One of the most important things everyone should know about the multi-million dollar Watchtower Corporation, owner of the Jehovah's Witness "religion," is that they are adept in the art of propaganda. They practice the most effective psychological techniques that are legally permissible in order to install themselves in the minds of their current and potential followers (more accurately their victims) as the only organization in the world that is approved by God to speak on His behalf and to declare which persons qualify as the "true people of God." Some say that those psychological techniques are designed to brainwash Jehovah's Witness followers, who actually serve as a pool of uncompensated laborers exploited for the purpose of disseminating Watchtower Corporation literature and for generating donation money for use by the Governing Body* (and the Body's accomplices). But because they call themselves a "religion" the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States gives the Watchtower Corporation freedom to use those psychological methods upon their labor source without fear of facing criminal prosecution, at least for the time being.

Among the <u>least</u> intrusive of those psychological techniques is the employment of a method of group dynamics called "exceptionalism." In the present context exceptionalism can be described as the perception that one's own group is superior to all other groups of like character. Exceptionalism is not a bad thing *per se*: for example, the concept of "American Exceptionalism" that is often promoted by patriotic Americans to advance ideas of freedom and democracy is considered a virtue. But when exceptionalism is used as a brainwashing tool for the purpose of concealing a perpetual fraud inflicted upon their followers, as is done by the Watchtower Corporation, then the use of exceptionalism is dishonest and deceitful.

The Watchtower Corporation utilizes the tool of exceptionalism by convincing current and potential Jehovah's Witness followers (actually their uncompensated laborers) to

* The Governing Body is the exclusive and absolute executive authority of the Watchtower Corporation. They are a self-perpetuating body, meaning that new body members are appointed by two-thirds majority of current body members. Governing Body members can serve for life and are not required to answer to the Jehovah Witness followers, nor are they required to give those followers an accounting for the millions of dollars in donations the Governing Body receives from them. Currently this Governing Body is composed of nine autonomous men that meet in closed sessions without disclosing the agenda, minutes, or the decisions from their meetings. A Jehovah's Witness follower is expected to quietly acquiesce without comment in all decisions made by the Governing Body in all matters of faith, practice, and administration.

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