



WATCHTOWER
BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, INC.

CABLE WATCHTOWER

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EF:ESA May 15, 1980

*EF - Fred Rusk
Writ. Dept.*

Mr. Carl Olof Jonsson
Sweden

Dear Brother Jonsson:

Your letter of March 31 and the enclosures have been received by the Writing Department of the Society. The additional information and observations are appreciated.

As we mentioned in our letter of February 28, 1980, any answer you might wish to make to our letter would be read and given careful consideration. Time has not allowed for us to give your latest letter that promised attention right at this time. But it is not being ignored. Your research is being added to what we have already accumulated on Bible chronology. Your research has led you to the conclusion that certain adjustments should be made in the chronology set forth in the Society's publications. You feel very strongly about this, but it is in order to caution you that such can prove to be a snare to you if great care is not exercised. We are sure you appreciate that it would not be appropriate for you to begin to state your views and conclusions on chronology that are different than those published by the Society so as to raise serious questions and problems among the brothers. Can you wait upon Jehovah? We invite you to do so. He will not leave any question of this nature in serious doubt. Some adjustments may be necessary in the matter of chronology, but it would not be appropriate to make any adjustments without taking every pertinent piece of information into consideration and weighing this carefully and prayerfully in the light of the Scriptures. Up to now we have not seen that the evidence is so strong that there should be a major adjustment, as you suggest. Definite questions have been raised. There is a basis for further and detailed study of the matter. This is being done. Meanwhile, we recommend that you have confidence in Jehovah and the organization he is obviously using. Do not try to undermine it or raise doubts in the minds of the brothers and sisters by making chronology the big thing in their lives. Help them to appreciate the love of Jehovah and what he has done in sending his Son to provide the ransom sacrifice. Build faith and let your good works in preaching the "good news" and in helping others recommend you. Do not let this matter of questions on chronology cause you to weaken in faith and lose out on opportunities to be of real value to your brothers and in the congregation.

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We have noted your offer to be of further assistance to the Society in the event further clarification or assistance is needed in the study of Bible chronology. If you keep your balance in this regard there is the possibility that you might be of service to the Society in this study sometime in the future. But if you prove to be just a critic, even the good you are trying to accomplish will not prove out to be constructive and helpful. You are interested in the truth being presented in the publications, but you can be assured that our desire in this regard is no less than your own. But if any adjustments need to be made, as we mentioned above, it is our resolve that these be made only after all factors have been carefully and prayerfully considered, and often such an analysis requires a good measure of time.

So we stress again the need on your part, Brother Jonsson, to wait upon Jehovah as we all bend every effort to prove faithful to him. Receiving an inheritance in his new system of things is the important thing. And as we walk with his people on the roadway that leads to life, we want to aid still others to avail themselves of Jehovah's provisions in this day of Jehovah's salvation. May Jehovah bless your sincere desire to serve him and prove to be a very useful and honorable vessel to his praise.—2 Tim. 2:20, 21.

We take this occasion to send an expression of our Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers in Jehovah's service,

Watchtower B. & F. Society
OF NEW YORK, INC.