

Beloved Brethren

**TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

It is thought suitable to outline guidelines for travel arrangements when away from your locality. This includes travel to special meetings, overseas travel for business purposes, visits in view of relocation and visits to relatives.

**Travel to special meetings.** The travel co-ordinators will book all travel to special meetings and brethren should submit themselves fully to arrangements made, and not divert to visit special friends, or try to include disruptive business arrangements. *"If I go on a group it's on the principle of being sent, it means I am being sent into the work. It's not just a holiday."* BDH vol. 4 pg 117. *"The brethren generally will wait, they're patient, and when all the arrangements have been made for them then they get a piece of paper telling them where they're going, when they're going there, what time they're going to get there, they'll be cared for when they get there, the arrangements are made ahead - a wonderful system."* JSH vol.68 pg 115.

**Business and business help.** Whilst travelling on business, we should move in and out of a locality as quickly as possible. Overnight stays should not be arranged in places where there is no meeting. Proposed intercontinental/international travel must be submitted to your travel co-ordinator with a full itinerary before final arrangements are made. *"If you want a business trip, and you have to go, well, do it, and get there and get back in the shortest possible time."* BDH vol. 8 pg 483.

**Relocation.** Travel related to relocation should be largely restricted to the locality being considered or chosen. All such travel should be approved by Travel Co-ordinators. Once relocated, brethren need to settle in with their new local brethren and not immediately request visits from friends and relatives. The support of parents in the relocation exercise would have a special place when under regulation. *"Whether we're prepared to submit to regulation ... I might think I can go like I want to go ... It means I'm not under authority which means I'm not useful."* BDH vol. 19 pg 72.

**Special friends and relatives.** All travel should be on the principle of being sent. An equality of outlook towards all the saints would preserve us from social and special friendships which work against the fellowship; *"We shouldn't allow the natural thing to assert itself, cater to special friendships, special affinities, make way for special consideration, somebody that's attractive to me naturally, we shouldn't make way for it."* JSH vol. 187 pg 84.

**Helpers and babysitters.** It is understood that those helping and babysitting at special meetings may not be able to adhere to group travel arrangements due to the care needed. However the arrangements should be under direction and regulated as appropriate to the special meeting being attended. *"Home helps that we've never heard about, they didn't come under scrutiny, it's a second government working."* JSH vol. 12 pg 211.

Our dress whilst we travel is important to our testimony, to the airline staff and also to being recognisable to those who meet us, that we are Brethren. All movements that involve an overnight stay should be made in the confidence of responsible local brethren and of those in the place or places being visited. What was established by our Beloved in relation to attendance officers has not lapsed and should be recognized and respected. A list of travel co-ordinators is attached and any questions or clarifications that are needed can be forwarded to them.

Your brothers in Him

Bruce D. Hales   Mark Steele   Neville Simmons   Cyril Parsons   Don Brackenmiller   Gordon Pollard