

No. 4      Maintain Loyalty in . . . (Symposium)  
          -Action!

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes a video]

OUR LOYALTY IN ACTION IS PUT TO THE TEST (2 min.)

It is important to be loyal in thought and word, as discussed in the preceding talks, but that is not all there is to loyalty  
Just as disloyalty is seen in deeds, so also is loyalty [Read Psalm 37:27, 28]

To remain as God's loyal ones, we need to "turn away from bad"  
How can we avoid disloyal conduct?

Consider the Bible example of Joseph

JOSEPH AVOIDED DISLOYAL ACTION (5 min.)

Joseph avoided disloyal conduct (w14 11/1 13-14)

Potiphar's wife tried to seduce Joseph "day after day" (Ge 39:10)

Immoral advances can be very seductive, and Joseph was not immune to "youthful desires" (2Ti 2:22; Pr 7:14-22)

Joseph steadfastly refused to "sin against God" and commit an act of disloyalty (Ge 39:9)

As a slave, Joseph was not able to control whether he was alone in the house with Potiphar's wife or not

Nevertheless, he did not give in to temptation

When Potiphar's wife grabbed Joseph, this was the time, not to explain, but to act! [Read Genesis 39:11, 12]

Joseph was determined to remain morally upright and to show respect for God's arrangement of marriage

He thus remained loyal, both to his human master and to Jehovah, no matter what the cost

Jehovah was pleased with Joseph's loyalty and "kept showing loyal love to him" (Ge 39:21-23)

We are surrounded by a world of people who do not value loyalty

Like Joseph, may we avoid disloyal conduct "day after day"

ITTAI—A LOYAL SUPPORTER OF GOD'S ANOINTED KING (4 min.)

There is more to acting in loyalty than avoiding disloyal deeds

To remain as God's "loyal ones," we also need to "do what is good" (Ps 37:27, 28)

Consider the example of Ittai the Gittite (w09 5/15 26-28)

During King David's reign, Gath came under Israelite control and some Gittites became loyal supporters of David (it-1 899, 962, 1237)

Although a foreigner, Ittai viewed David, not as the slayer of his champion Goliath, but as a man who loved Jehovah

Absalom's revolt forced David to flee Jerusalem

Among David's loyal followers were foreigners—the Cherethites, the Pelethites, and the Gittites (2Sa 15:18)

David refers to Ittai as "a foreigner and also an exile" [Read and analyze 2 Samuel 15:19-22]

David knew what it was like to live as an exile (1Sa 27:1, 2)

He tried to dissuade Ittai from leaving Jerusalem with him and encountering further difficulties

Would Ittai remain loyal to David, side with Absalom, or stay neutral?

Ittai refused to leave David and swore an oath to remain loyal to him (Verse 21)

David appointed loyal Ittai over one third of David's army in the climactic battle against Absalom's forces (2Sa 18:2, 5, 12)

The support of Ittai and his men strengthened David's forces and contributed to the defeat of Absalom

Ittai expressed his loyalty by loyal *action*

OUR LOYAL DEEDS SUPPORT TRUE WORSHIP (3 min.)

We should actively participate in deeds that support true worship and our fellow worshippers

Read the Bible and Bible-based publications, and avoid apostate teachings

Provide practical help for the elderly and the sick in the congregation

Rather than aimlessly using the Internet, make use of [jw.org](http://jw.org) and JW Broadcasting for study and in the ministry

Listen to music that refreshes rather than music that debases

We now have some 150 Kingdom songs and a number of additional original songs available on [jw.org](http://jw.org), JW Broadcasting, and in *JW Library*

Spend refreshing time associating with God's loyal ones

What will be the result?

We will "be guarded" and "will remain forever" (Ps 37:27, 28)

In the following dramatization, note what motivates our sister to be loyal in action

VIDEO (3 min.)

WE CAN MAINTAIN OUR LOYALTY (1 min.)

This symposium has examined how we can maintain our loyalty to Jehovah in thought, word, and action

Loyalty begins with what we think; we can and should control our thoughts

Our words have power to encourage others to be loyal; so let us use our power of speech for good

When we act in loyalty, we support true worship and fellow worshippers

May Jehovah bless you in your daily efforts to maintain loyalty to him

TO BE COVERED IN 18 MINUTES

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