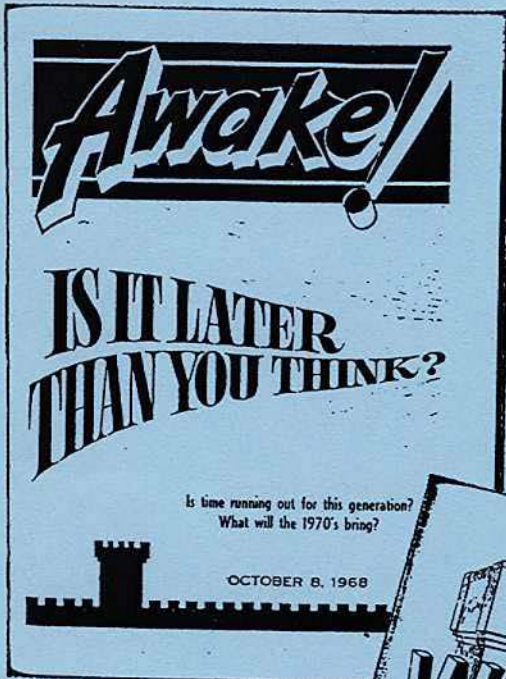


OUR FRIENDS:

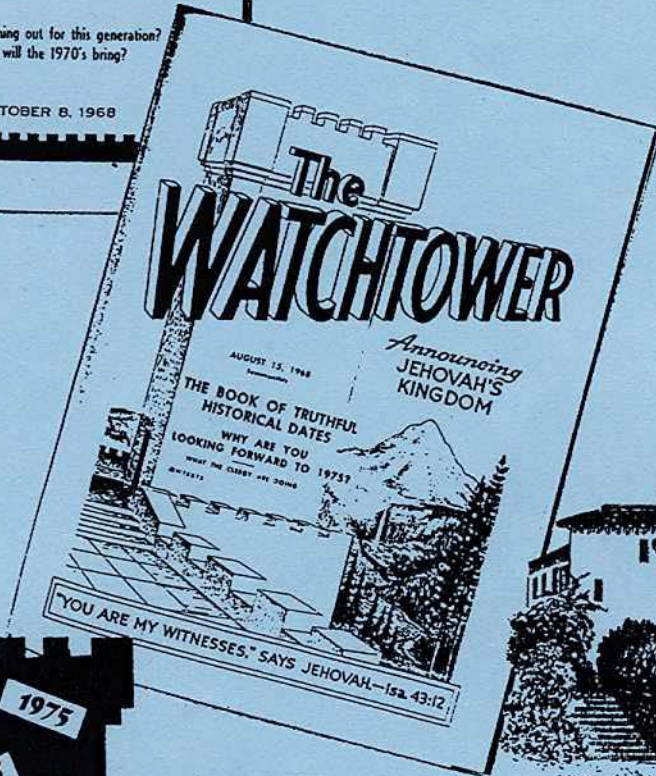
THE

JEHOVAH'S  
WITNESSES



BY

E. B. PRICE



# Contents

Preface .....	2
1. Working for Jehovah’s Witnesses .....	3
2. The Authority of the Watchtower Society .....	4
3. The History of the Watchtower Society .....	5
4. False Prophecies .....	6
5. Altered and Discarded Teachings .....	7
6. The 1914 and 1925 Dates .....	8
7. The 1975 Date .....	9
8. Chronology .....	10
9. Christ’s Coming and the Parousia .....	12
10. Christ’s Bodily Resurrection and Return .....	13
11. Man’s Condition in Death .....	13
12. Salvation .....	14
13. The 144,000 and the Great Crowd .....	14
14. The Millennium (Thousand Years) .....	15
15. The Trinity .....	16
16. The Trinity or Godhead .....	17
17. The Divine Names .....	18
18. Jesus is Lord .....	19
19. The Deity of Jesus Christ .....	20
20. The Cross or “Torture Stake” .....	21
21. The Commandments of God .....	22
22. The Sabbath of Jehovah .....	23
23. The Society and Medical Procedures .....	24
24. Attitudes .....	25
25. Appendix .....	26


## **Our Friends: The Jehovah’s Witnesses**

Pastor E. Bruce Price  
Email Address: [ebprice32@gmail.com](mailto:ebprice32@gmail.com)

First Published in 1974  
Twelfth Edition 2005  
(Revised and Edited)

All Rights Reserved  
ISBN 0646329502






**WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE  
THE TRUTH COVERED OVER . . . ?**

THE WATCHTOWER — JANUARY 15, 1974

*Can You Be  
True to God,*

**YET HIDE THE FACTS?**



**. . . OR DO YOU  
WANT TO KNOW  
THE FACTS?**

When persons are in great danger from a source that they do not suspect or are being misled by those they consider their friends, is it an unkindness to warn them? They may prefer not to believe the warning. They may even resent it. But does that free one from the moral responsibility to give that warning?

THE TRUTH THAT LEADS TO ETERNAL LIFE

13

<sup>6</sup>We need to examine, not only what we personally believe, but also what is taught by any religious organization with which we may be associated. Are its teachings in full harmony with God's Word, or are they based on the traditions of men? If we are lovers of the truth, there is nothing to fear from such an examination.

In the late 1920's one of Jehovah's Witnesses, (then known as International Bible Students) called on my mother and began to share with her the teachings of the Watchtower Society. My mother was deeply impressed with the sincerity and zeal of this lady, but as time went by doubts began to grow concerning this organization.

The magazines and books which the Society published during the past fifty years had many false prophecies, contradictory doctrines, altered and even bizarre teachings.

The Society's prophecies concerning 1914, 1918, 1920, and 1925 had all failed to take place. (Years later the 1975 prophecy would be another to add to the list!)

The Society taught that Christ's Return took place in 1874 then the date was altered to 1914. The Resurrection which was taught to have taken place in 1878, had then to be changed to 1918. The 1874 and 1878 dates had all been "proved" by the "pyramid prophecies". To accommodate the new dates the Society changed the dimensions of the Great

pyramid by adding to its passages an extra forty inches in the later editions of its books!

It had prophesied that in 1925 the Kingdom would be set up on the earth and Abraham, Isaac and Jacob etc. would be resurrected to administer it. The mansion "Beth Sarim" was built in California for them to occupy even though the book *The Way to Paradise*. 225 had described how Abraham would live and operate in Jerusalem!

Finally my mother read in the book, *Reconciliation* page 14 that the throne of Jehovah God was on one of the stars of the Pleiades, in the Milky Way. She then knew that she would have to look elsewhere to find truth.

When a Seventh-day Adventist called at her door she began a series of Bible studies with them. Soon she realized that at last she had found the Bible truth for which she had been searching. She accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized. For the rest of her life she worked zealously to share with family and friends Bible truth. She had no doubt

that the Adventists were the people described in the last days just before Christ's Return: "...here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12.

Although my mother never joined the Jehovah's Witnesses, she never lost her love and concern for them. From a small child she instilled in me a burden to work with pen and voice for these sincere and zealous people.

It has been my joy to personally witness the baptism of well over 200 of these people who have found salvation in Jesus Christ and become very happy and dedicated Seventh-day Adventists.

The above quotations from their own publications urge their people to examine what they believe and find the truth.

My prayer is that this publication can be used to this end.

*E. B. Price*

March, 2005

Queensland, Australia

## Chapter 1

# Working for Jehovah's Witnesses

### THE PEOPLE

Jehovah's Witnesses are among the most hard working and sincere of all professed Christians. They are also very knowledgeable of their teachings and interpretations of the Bible which they actively share.

### OUR CHALLENGE

To every Seventh-day Adventist there is a special challenge to help these people because they are perishing with Bibles in their hands!

Nearly all Jehovah's Witnesses today believe that they should not be "born again". (With their present membership around 6,000,000, less than 9,000 claim to be "born again".) This means they do not partake of the emblems of the bread and wine at their Memorial service each year.

However the Bible teaches in John 3:3,5 that if a person is not "born again" they can not enter into God's kingdom (whether it is in heaven or on the earth!).

Furthermore, if one does not "*eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood*" John 6:54 they will not be resurrected and/or have everlasting life.

Theirs is a serious plight. We must help them!

### THE WATCHTOWER SOCIETY

The Watchtower Society of Jehovah's Witnesses has had a very unfortunate history. From its very beginning it has been strewn with false prophecies, doctrines and teachings which have been repeatedly altered and changed.

Some teachings have cost the lives of their members. For instance: Vaccinations were forbidden for over twenty years, and many died. When that was allowed, blood transfusions were then forbidden. Many still die each year because of this.

Yet despite all this, Jehovah's Witnesses have an almost unshakable loyalty to their Society, and believe that it is God's only and true channel of Truth for these last days.

### DIFFICULTIES

Jehovah's Witnesses are now urged not to read any publications but their own. After the 1975 date failure a lot of literature was circulated about the earlier false prophecies and errors the Watchtower Society had made. As a result about a million members left. The reaction of the Society was to stop its people reading the facts and examining their organization.

Today, it is very difficult to get a Witness to read such literature. They might examine it if you are showing an interest in their religion. Tell them you have some literature that is stumbling you and you need them to give you some answers to the questions you have found. They may then read it. Some Witnesses have been won in this way.

### SOUL WINNING METHODS

The most successful way is now to speak directly to the Witness. Use their bible and lovingly point out your deep concern for their salvation. Show them the errors of the Watchtower Society's teachings from their own bible and literature. Show them how they will be lost if they remain in this organization.

### ADVANTAGES

Jehovah's Witnesses believe in the Bible and will accept it as the basis of faith and doctrine.

They also already believe in baptism by immersion, soul sleep, that we are living in the last days and that God will have a people who will keep all his laws before being taken into the "new world".

They can only happily join an organization that has high standards, is growing, strongly evangelistic and working in all the world.

When they become convinced of the truth of the Seventh-day Adventist church they will accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and become happy enthusiastic members. Many groups and individual Witnesses have done this world wide.

### DOCTRINES TO TEACH

*(These subjects will be dealt with more fully in following chapters)*

- 1. Salvation.** Show how only those who are "born again" can be saved and that all the saved, go to heaven
- 2. Lord's Supper/Memorial Service.** There is no resurrection or everlasting life for those who do not eat and drink the emblems of the Lord's death.
- 3. Godhead.** There are three Divine Beings in heaven.
- 4. Holy Spirit** Is a Divine personality separate from the Father and Son.
- 5. Commandments of God.** All the commandments including the Sabbath are to be kept.
- 6. Creation Days.** They were periods of 24 hours and not 7000 years.
- 7. Christ's Return/Parousia** did not take place in 1874 or 1914 but is still future.
- 8. Signs of Christ's Return** show it is near not here.
- 9. Millennium** "The rest of the dead" of Rev.20:5 are not resurrected during the 1000 years but at the end of it.
- 10. The New Jerusalem.** It is a literal city which comes down to this earth and the wicked surround it before they are destroyed by fire.
- 11. Chronology.** The basis of the 1914 date is 19 years in error.
- 12. False Prophecies.** Jesus warned against false prophets in the last days.
- 13. Blood Transfusions.** Show how the Bible does not forbid them.
- 14. Organization.** The body of Christ has different gifts. Not all are ministers, teachers etc.

### THE ADVENTIST ADVANTAGE

- An organization which is growing nearly 4 times as fast as the JWs.
- Work in more places world wide and have radio, TV and satellite programs covering the globe.
- Have more avenues for their people to work and witness, with personal and public evangelism, welfare work, hospitals, clinics, schools, colleges, etc.
- Have many facilities for children.

## Chapter 2

# The Authority of the Watchtower Society

Throughout the history of the Watchtower Society, its presidents and Governing Body have wielded tremendous authority and control over the members.

This has been accomplished by this small select group claiming to be the *faithful and discreet slave* class of Matthew 24:45-47.

They not only claim to be “*God’s Channel of Truth*” and “spokesmen”, but have even boldly claimed being “*Jehovah’s Prophet*”.

### GOVERNING BODY

In *Crisis of Conscience* (1983), Raymond Franz the author, who was a former member of the Governing Body explains:

*“Jehovah’s Witnesses understand that Christ Jesus, as Head of the congregation, feeds and governs his congregation by means of a “faithful and discreet slave” class. This class is now composed of a remnant of the 144,000 persons anointed as heirs of Christ’s heavenly kingdom. But from among such a class there is a small number of men who act as a Governing Body and perform all administrative functions for the global congregation.”*

Raymond Franz then describes how the Governing Body performs “*all the administrative functions for the global congregation*”, - thus controlling the lives of Jehovah’s Witnesses worldwide. He tells how it makes its own laws and restrictions.

If its members do not conform to them at the time they are cruelly disfellowshipped. Often these laws after doing untold damage to the members are later rescinded:

**Vaccinations.** Forbidden in 1935 but allowed in 1952. Many children died in epidemics of diphtheria etc.

**Organ Transplants.** Condemned as *cannibalism* in 1967. Allowed in 1980.

**Sexual Practices.** In 1969, the *Watchtower* (pp. 765,766) and in 1972 (pp. 734-736) defined how married couples should perform in the privacy of their own bedrooms. This led to many marriage break ups. It was rescinded in 1978.

### SUBMISSION

At all times members are expected to be loyal to the Society and *submissive*:

was to come. Those who recognize Jehovah’s visible theocratic organization, therefore, must recognize and accept this appointment of the “faithful and discreet slave” and be *submissive* to it.

—The WATCHTOWER, page 530, 1967.

Eph. 2:20-22) Therefore, in submitting to Jehovah’s visible theocratic organization, we must be in full and complete agreement with every feature of its apostolic procedure and requirements.

#### UNITY MAINTAINED BY SUBMISSION

“Do not fear that you might lose your identity or freedom by submission. Members of the first-century Christian congregation willingly submitted themselves to the direction of the organization through its governing body. Even the apostles Pe-

—The WATCHTOWER, page 552, 1967.

### DISFELLOWSHIPING

If a person after joining the Society is not submissive and begins to question it, they will run the risk of being disfellowshipped.

A disfellowshipped person is not allowed to talk to or interact with their former friends in the congregation. They are not even to greet them.

However, this was not the way Jesus treated His straying sheep. In Matthew 18:12-17, He tells of lovingly going after these sheep. Even if they refuse to be helped they are not to be shunned but treated as “*a man of the nations and as a tax collector*” with whom they talked and interacted.

Only Witnesses who have been disfellowshipped can begin to describe the pain and loneliness they have to endure as they are isolated from friends and loved ones. Some have even committed suicide in their anguish.

This is a cruel form of blackmail used by the Society to hold its members. Many who have realized it is in error have chosen to stay with it rather than sacrifice loved ones and friends.

### THE SOCIETY’S AUTHORITY

Why are its members prepared to be so submissive to the Society?

It is because they have accepted that it is “*God’s Channel of Truth*” for these last days.

But much more importantly it is: “*Jehovah’s Prophet*”.

### JEHOVAH’S PROPHET

In 1972, when the Society was confident the End was coming in \*1975, it made the outright claim that it was “*Jehovah’s Prophet*”.

The *Watchtower* April 1, 1972 featured the article:



On page 197 it read:

ancient times he sent prophets as his special messengers. While these men foretold things to come, they also served the people by telling them of God’s will for them at that time, often also warning them of dangers and calamities. People today can view the creative works. They have at hand the Bible, but it is little read or understood. So, does Jehovah have a prophet to help them, to warn them of dangers and to declare things to come?

#### IDENTIFYING THE “PROPHET”

These questions can be answered in the affirmative. Who is this prophet? The answer

was a body of men and women who were appointed to the kingdom of God. He had a “prophet” to warn them. This “prophet” was not one man, but was a body of men and women. It was the small group of footstep followers of Jesus Christ, known at that time as International Bible Students. Today they are known as Jehovah’s Christian witnesses. They are still proclaiming a warning, and have been joined and assisted in their commissioned work by hundreds of thousands of persons who have listened to their message with belief.

Of course, it is easy to say that this group acts as a “prophet” of God. It is another thing to prove it. The only way that this can be done is to review the record. What does it show?

### REVIEWING THE RECORD

The Society in the above article invites a review of the record to prove it is a “*prophet*”. What does it show?

The answer is: an organization which has made more false prophecies than any other major Christian religion!

Jesus warned “Beware of false prophets” Matthew 7:15.

### FAITHFUL AND DISCREET?

As one studies the history of the Watchtower Society and its teachings, it has not been *faithful* or *discreet*!



## Chapter 3

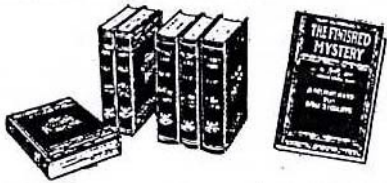
# The History of the Watchtower Society

\***1874**. Pastor Russell and his group of Bible Students are disappointed when Christ did not return as expected. (False Prophecies: \* \_\_\_\_).

\***1878**. They are again disappointed when the Resurrection does not take place but then teach that both events did take place - but were **invisible**.

**1879**. *Zion's Watchtower and Herald of Christ's Presence* commenced to teach these new found 'truths'.

**1886**. First volume of the *Millennial Dawn* series published. Later called *Studies in the Scriptures*.



\***1914**. Armageddon and the End of the World does not take place nor any of the other events as foretold.

\***1915**. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob etc. are not resurrected as predicted.

**1916**. Pastor Russell dies and is succeeded as president by Judge J.F. Rutherford.

**1917**. *The Finished Mystery* confirms the \***1874** and \***1878** dates. It foretells the \***1918**, \***1920** and \***1925** dates.

\***1918**. Christendom and its churches were not destroyed as foretold.

\***1920**. The republics did not disappear as had been foretold.



*Millions Now Living Will Never Die*, foretells the resurrection in \* **1925** of Abraham and the Princes of old.

**1924**. The *Way to Paradise* foretells how after\* **1925** people can call up Abraham in Jerusalem and apply to have their loved ones resurrected.



\***1925**. None of the foretold events come to pass.

**1928**. The pyramid prophecies condemned (During the decade well over 100 teachings of "truth" have been discarded or altered.)



**1929**. *Beth Sarim* is built.

**1931**. The name *Jehovah's Witnesses* adopted.

**1935**. Vaccinations condemned.

**1942**. Rutherford dies in *Beth Sarirn*. N. H. Knorr becomes president.

**1945**. Blood transfusions begin to be condemned.

**1950**.

### THE NEW WORLD BIBLE

The first edition of the *New World Translation of the Christian Greek Scriptures* appeared in 1950. It was the work of their own Translation Committee. Only one, Fred Franz, had sufficient knowledge of the Bible languages to attempt a translation of this kind. He had studied Greek for two years but was only self taught in Hebrew.

They used the master Greek text of Westcott and Hort which is based on only 5% of the manuscripts which included the Vaticanus and Sinaiticus. These two corrupted manuscripts commissioned by Constantine leave out thousands of words and whole clauses. They contained the Apocrypha which supports prayers for the dead.

Westcott and Hort did not believe in teachings such as Creation, Heaven, the Second Coming, miracles or inviting people to receive Christ as Savior.

On the other hand they believed in Mary worship, prayers for the dead, purgatory, communism, in contacting demons, and decided between variant readings on the basis of their "inner consciousness".

The *New World Bible* is described as a "biased" translation.

**1952**. Vaccinations are now allowed, but not blood transfusions.

**1966**. Baptisms are at an all time low so the new date of \***1975** is set for the End.

**1967**. Organ transplants are termed "cannibalism" and forbidden.

**1969**. *The Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures*. It reveals many contradictions and errors in the *New World Bible*.

**1972**. April 1, *Watchtower*, claims the Watchtower Society is Jehovah's Prophet.

\***1975**. "The wicked world's **end**" does not come as expected.

**1977**. N. H. Knorr dies after witnessing the devastating effect of the \***1975** date

failure. He is succeeded by Frederick W. Franz.

**1978**. The Society suffers a -1.4% membership loss as a result of \***1975**.

**1980**. Organ transplants allowed.

**1983**. Raymond Franz writes *Crisis of Conscience*. It destroys faith in the organization, as it reveals many 'inside' problems and errors.

### THE 1914 GENERATION

For many years the Watchtower Society taught Armageddon would occur within a generation of 1914. The following illustration was often used in its publications:



**1984**. *The Watchtower*, May 15 has an article, **1914 - The Generation That Will Not Pass Away**. It is still teaching that the End will come within a generation from 1914.

**1989**. *You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth* (1989 ed.) page 154, has this illustration:



**1995** The **1914 Generation** are now over 80 years of age. The Biblical "lifetime" - (not merely "generation") of "threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years..." (Psalms 90:10) had now been exceeded. Again the Society is in trouble. So in *The Watchtower*, November 1, page 17, it announced: "... the term 'generation' as used by Jesus refers principally to contemporary people of a certain historical period..."

**1996**. With this new "truth" the urgency of the generation limitation was gone and worldwide service hours dropped this year by 10 million.

**2001**. Membership increase only 1.7%. Service figures the lowest in years.

**2002**. Many European countries reporting losses.

**2003**. Only 258,845 baptised. This is the lowest figure for 15 years.

## Chapter 4

# False Prophecies

### DATE SETTING

One of the outstanding features of the Watchtower Society from its inception, has been its date-setting. The failure of these dates has been the cause of much anguish to its people, and huge losses in membership.

### ADVENTISTS & DATE-SETTING

After the disappointment of 1844, there was an Adventist group called *Second Adventists* which continued to set dates for Christ's Return. In 1868 Pastor Russell became associated with them and they set the date 1874. This was the beginning of the Watchtower Society.

By contrast in 1863 the *Seventh-day Adventist* church was organized and took a strong stand (which they have maintained) against date setting.

Jesus warned that in the last days there would be organizations and people giving false prophecies and teachings that would almost deceive the "very elect". Matt. 24:24.

Perhaps no Christian religion in modern times, has made more false prophecies and more changes to doctrine than the Watchtower Society.

### LIGHT GETTING LIGHTER!

The Society however, excuses these errors as "adjustments" and quotes Proverbs 4:18 "*But the path of the righteous ones is like the bright light that is getting lighter and lighter until the day is firmly established.*"

The Bible equates **light** with **truth** and **darkness** with **error**. This "bright light" is **truth** that is getting lighter not **error**. God only leads His people into "**bright light**" or **brilliant truth**. These **truths** as time goes on, always prove to be **truth** not **error**!

However with the history of the Watchtower Society sometimes **errors** such as the Pyramid prophecies were taught as **truth** for nearly fifty years. Such "light" was then extinguished!

With other doctrines such as the Higher Powers, the Society taught one thing as **truth** then the **opposite** and finally reverted to the original **truth**. This "light" was blinking on and off!

Is all this the way that God's Holy Spirit guides His people into all **truth**? John 16:13

### FALSE PROPHETIC DATES

The false prophecies of 1874, 1878, 1881, 1914, 1915, 1918, 1920, 1925 and 1975 are well documented in Watchtower publications:

#### \*1874: The Return of Jesus Christ.

The book *Prophecy* (1929) page 65:

*"The Scriptural proof is that the second presence of the Lord Jesus Christ began in 1874 A.D."*

This date later changed to 1914.

#### \*1878: The Resurrection

*The Finished Mystery* (1917) p. 64:

*"the awakening of the sleeping saints in the Spring of 1878."*

This date was also taught for over 50 years then changed to 1918:

#### From Paradise Lost to Paradise Regained (1958) p. 192:

*"This was in 1927. In that year the witnesses understood that the dead spiritual Israelites had been raised in 1918 to life in heaven with Christ Jesus. It was an invisible resurrection, of course."*

#### \*1881: Close of Favor to Gentiles The Time is at hand Vol.2 (1889) p. 235:

*"...so we recognize A. D. 1881 as marking the close of the special favor to Gentiles - the close of the "high calling," or invitation to the blessings peculiar to this age - to become joint-heirs with Christ and partakers of the divine nature."*

#### \*1914: a. Armageddon

*Ibid.*, p. 101:

*"... 'battle of the great day of God Almighty' (Rev. 16:14.), which will end in A. D. 1914 with the complete overthrow of earth's present rulership..."*

#### b. End of Gentiles Times

*Ibid.*, p. 99:

*"Concerning the Times of the Gentiles, we consider it an established truth that the final end of the kingdoms of this world and the full establishment of the Kingdom of God, will be accomplished by the end of A.D. 1914."*

NB. The Society now interprets "Gentile Times" differently!

#### \*1914: c. Members in Heaven

*Ibid.*, p. 77:

*"...some time before the end of A.D. 1914 the last member of... 'the body of Christ,' will be glorified..."*

Not one 1914 prophecy was fulfilled!

#### \*1915: Establishment of Kingdom The Finished Mystery (1917) p. 128:

*"...the establishment of the Kingdom in Palestine will probably be in 1925, ten years later than we once calculated."*

#### \*1918: The Churches Destroyed

*Ibid.*, p. 485:

*"Also, in the year 1918, when God begins to destroy the churches and the church members by millions,"*

#### \*1920: Republics to Disappear

*Ibid.*, p. 258:

*"Even the republics will disappear in the fall of 1920."*

#### \*1925: Establishment of Kingdom Millions Now Living Will Never Die (1920) p. 89:

*"Therefore we may confidently expect that 1925 will mark the return of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the faithful prophets of old,"* See the Chapter on 1925.

#### \*1975: The "Wicked World's End"

The *Kingdom Ministry* (May, 1974):

*"Certainly this is a fine way to spend the short time remaining before the wicked world's end."* See the Chapter on 1975.

### WAS GOD THE REAL AUTHOR?

*The Time is at Hand* (1889) Preface:

"Our earnest prayer is that the truths herein ... The **real author** of these jewels of truth is **God**,"

### "WE ... EVIDENTLY, ERRED"

These false prophecies are discussed in *Jehovah's Witnesses Proclaimers of God's Kingdom* (1993) pp. 631-7. . On page 635 in the margin is the summary of their admission and apology: "**We merely inferred it and, evidently erred**" Inferred it? What are the real facts?

## Chapter 5

# Altered and Discarded Teachings

### CONFUSION!

The Watchtower Society has always claimed to have been *“faithful and discreet”* in teaching *“truth”*. Has this been their record?

### MEN OF SODOM

Will they be *“resurrected”*?

**YES:** *Watchtower*, July 1879, p.8  
**NO:** *WT*, June 1, 1952, p.338  
**YES:** *WT*, August 1, 1965 p.479  
**NO:** *WT*, June 1, 1988, p.31  
**YES:** *Insight* Vol. 2 (1988) p.985 **NO:** *Revelation* (1988) p.273

From the book, *You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth* p.179:  
**YES:** The 1982 edition.  
**NO:** The 1989 edition.

### HIGHER POWERS

Were the *“higher powers”* of Romans 13:1-7 earthly governments?  
**YES:** *The Divine Plan of the Ages*, Vol. 1 (1886) p.250  
**NO:** *The Truth Shall Make You Free*, (1943) p. 312. (Changed in 1929).  
**YES:** *1975 Yearbook*, p.238. (Changed in 1962).

### ELDERS

**OUT:** (1932) This was called *“the cleansing of the sanctuary”*, in the *WT*. October 1, 1959 p. 600.  
**IN:** (1971), *Yearbook 1975*, p. 248.

### THE CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY

Daniel 8:14 *“Unto 2,300 days and then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.”*  
**\*2,300 Years** ending in 1844. The *Finished Mystery*, (1917), p. 163.  
**\*2,300 Days**, Dec. 25, 1926 to Oct. 15, 1932, when the elders were dropped. *WT*, 1959, pp.600-601.  
**\*2,300 Days**, June 1, 1938 to Oct. 8, 1944, when the organization was cleansed and made a theocracy. *Yearbook 1975* p. 247.  
 \*The Society’s interpretation of *prophetic “days”* has been very inconsistent. Sometimes being literal *days* (the 1260 days of Revelation) other times *years*, (as in the 2,520 days of Daniel 4.)

### MEDICAL PRACTICES:

This area of confusion has been the most tragic of all. Many have suffered needlessly, while others have died!

#### a. VACCINATIONS

**NO:** *Golden Age*, Feb. 4, 1931, p.293  
**YES:** *WT*, 1952, p. 764.

#### b. ORGAN TRANSPLANTS

**NO:** Called *“Cannibalism”*. *WT*, Nov. 15, 1967, p.702.  
**YES:** *WT*, Mar. 15, 1980.

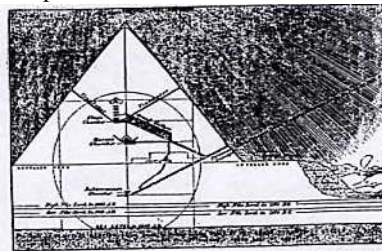
#### c. BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

**YES:** *Consolation*, (Dutch edition) Sept. 1945, p.29.  
**NO:** In the 1950s.

It is hoped that this prohibition will also be changed. In the meantime the number of those who have died is growing greater than the Jonestown massacre. See the Internet.

### PYRAMID PROPHECIES

In *Thy Kingdom Come* (1891) over 70 pages were devoted to proving that the Great Pyramid in Egypt was *“God’s Stone Witness”* and *“Prophet”*, with Melchizedek as a builder. The front piece featured:



The Pyramid passages were measured and each inch was assumed to represent a year in Bible prophecy thus supporting the chronology of the Society and its special dates:

The *Watchtower* June 15, 1922:  
*“...God designed both pyramid and plan - and at the same time proves the correctness of the chronology... the dates and events of 1874, 1914, and 1918.”*

After World War I broke out the Society wanted to move the events connected with 1874 to the end of 1914, so they quietly *“stretched”* the pyramid passages by 41 inches!

On page 342 of *Thy Kingdom Come* (1891 ed) the Entrance Passage was *“3416 inches”*. In the 1923 edition it was *“3457 inches”*!

Both editions proved their claim on page 338, by *“very accurate measurements”* made in 1872!

### THE PYRAMIDS ABANDONED!

Almost without warning from the *Watchtower*, November 15, 1928 came this denunciation:

*“...the great pyramid of Gizeh, as well as the other pyramids... were built... under the direction of Satan the Devil...”*

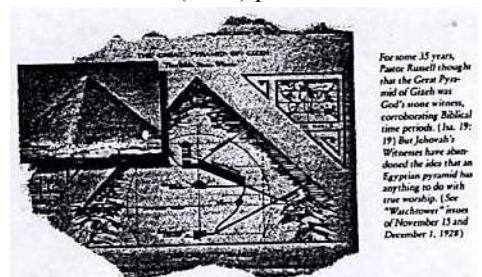
*“Then Satan put his knowledge in dead stone, which may be called Satan’s bible, and not God’s stone witness.”*

### WHY THE DELAY?

If Jehovah God was directing the Society, why did they teach such a serious error for 47 years?

### APOLOGY

*Proclaimers* (1993) p. 201:



This apology says, *“For some 35 years, Pastor Russell thought that the Great Pyramid of Gizeh was God’s Stone witness, corroborating Biblical time periods. (Isa. 19:19) But Jehovah’s Witnesses have abandoned the idea that an Egyptian pyramid has anything to do with true worship.”*

The truth is that the Society was teaching this doctrine for many years after Pastor Russell died in 1916. The *Watchtower*, May 15, 1925 said:

*“The great Pyramid of Egypt, standing as a silent and inanimate witness of the Lord, is a messenger; and its testimony speaks with great eloquence concerning the divine plan.”*



## Chapter 6

# The 1914 and 1925 Dates

### THE 1914 DATE

What the Watchtower Society claims it foretold for 1914, and what its early publications state are often two entirely different accounts.

*The Time is at Hand*, pp.76-78, (see p.77 in the appendix) foretold that in 1914:

- a. **The Kingdom of God would be established on the earth.**
- b. **The Overthrow of Gentile governments.** ie. Armageddon.
- c. **The Church would be taken to heaven before 1914.**
- d. **Jerusalem would return to honor.**
- e. **The Jews would return to favor.**

The "*Times of the Gentiles*" was taught at that time to be:

The time that the Gentile nations would rule the earth, before God would destroy them and set up His kingdom on the earth at the end of 1914. *Ibid.* p. 77. (See appendix)

These "*Times of the Gentiles*" have thus still not ended! Furthermore **none of the above is believed today**. If a person believed or taught this now, he would be disfellowshipped, even though it was taught by the "*wise and discreet slave*" as *truth!*

The Preface of *The Time is at Hand*, claimed: "*The real author of these jewels of truth is God.*"

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The book *Light* Vol.1 (1930) p.194, (see Appendix) told of the disappointment and anguish they suffered because of 1914 and the failure of their prophecies. Yet on that same page was the claim "*The Watch Tower has been the mouthpiece of God's children on earth.*"

### APOLOGY

A modern explanation and apology appears in the *Proclaimers* (1993) book, pp. 634-637.

On page 635, it quotes *The Watch Tower* of April 15, 1916:

**"We merely inferred it and, evidently, erred"**

### THE 1925 DATE

*Millions Now Living Will Never Die*, (1920) pp.88-97 (see appendix) foretold how in 1925 the Kingdom on earth would be established and Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob etc. would be resurrected to take charge of the visible affairs of earth.

*The Way to Paradise*, (1924) pp. 224-232 described what it would be like when the Princes were resurrected and the Kingdom set up. It described how Abraham and the other Princes would head up the Kingdom established in Jerusalem, and how you could call them up on the telephone and request to have your loved ones resurrected. (see appendix)

### BETH-SARIM

When all this failed to happen, a very large and expensive home was built called *Beth-Sarim* meaning "House of the Princes". It was to be a testimony to the world that they still expected the Princes to arrive in the immediate future, and this home would be in readiness for these "men of old" to occupy.

According to *The Way to Paradise*, this house should have been built in Jerusalem. However, Rutherford had it built in sunny San Diego, California, USA. He lived there each winter and enjoyed an extremely lavish life style until he died in the house in 1942.

Ironically, it was from this palatial mansion he wrote a series of books often using the expression, "*religion is a snare and a racket*".

At the big 1931 Assembly, a paper, *The Messenger* was given out. It featured *Beth-Sarim* and boasted of the publicity it was creating for the organization. It showed Rutherford and a number of views of the house. Under one picture was the caption: "*Do you think David will like it?*"

The house created a lot of embarrassment for the Watchtower Society. Soon after Rutherford died, it was sold. Before he died, Judge Rutherford admitted concerning what he had done and predicted for 1925: "*I know I made an ass of myself*" *Crisis of Conscience*, p. 137.

312

SALVATION



This drawing of *Beth-Sarim* appeared in one of the last books (*Salvation*) that J.F. Rutherford wrote before he died in this mansion. On the previous page he told why the house was built.

GOD'S GOVERNMENT

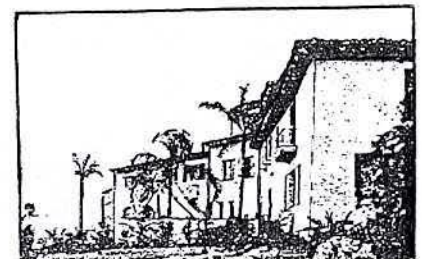
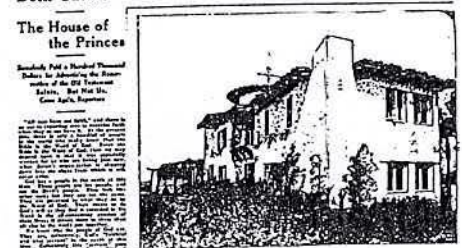
311

### BETH-SARIM

At San Diego, California, there is a small piece of land, on which, in the year 1929, there was built a house, which is called and known as *Beth-Sarim*. The Hebrew words *Beth Sarim* mean "House of the Princes"; and the purpose of acquiring that property and building the house was that there might be some tangible proof that there are those on earth today who fully believe God and Christ Jesus and in His kingdom, and who believe that the faithful men of old will soon be resurrected by the Lord, be back on earth, and take charge of the visible affairs of earth. The title to *Beth-Sarim* is vested in the WATCH TOWER BIBLE & TRACT SOCIETY in trust, to be used by the president of the Society and his assistants for the present, and thereafter to be for ever at the disposal of the aforementioned princes on the earth. To be sure, everything then on the earth will belong to the Lord, and neither the Lord nor the princes need others to build houses for them; but it was thought well and pleasing to God that the aforementioned house be built as a testimony to the name of Jehovah and showing faith in his announced purposes. The house has served as a testimony to many persons throughout the earth, and while the unbelievers have mocked concerning it and spoken contemptuously of it, yet it stands there as a testimony to Jehovah's name; and if and when the princes do return and some of them occupy the property, such will be a confirmation of the faith and hope that induced the building of *Beth-Sarim*.

THE MESSENGER, SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1931

Beth-Sarim — Much Talked About House in San Diego



Do You Think David Will Like It?



# Chapter 7 The 1975 Date

## THE 1975 DATE

Expecting the End to come in 1975 caused the greatest increases in membership that the Watchtower Society had ever known. When the time passed, the resultant disappointment caused its greatest losses. How and why did it happen?

## WHY WAS THE DATE SET?

In 1959 the Society had enjoyed a membership increase of 12%. But it then began to rapidly decline. In 1966 it reached 2.4%, and it was in that year the decision was made to set the 1975 date for the End. This resulted in an immediate increase in activity and by 1974 the membership increase was 13.5%. It had worked!

## HOW WAS THE DATE SET?

*Life Everlasting - In Freedom of the sons of God*, (1966)p.29:

... creation as 4026 B.C.E. According to this trustworthy Bible chronology six thousand years from man's creation will end in 1975, and the seventh period of a thousand years of human history will begin in the fall of 1975 C.E.  
 "So six thousand years of man's existence on earth will soon be up, yes, within this generation."

• The Watchtower, May 1, 1968, pp. 270-277:



"Thus, eight years remain to account for a full 6,000 years of the seventh day. Eight years from the autumn of 1967 would bring us to the autumn of 1975, fully 6,000 years into God's seventh day, his rest day. After 6,000 years of misery, toil, trouble, sickness

The Watchtower, Aug. 15, 1968 pp.494-501:



"One thing is absolutely certain, Bible chronology reinforced with fulfilled Bible prophecy shows that six thousand years of man's existence will soon be up, yes, within this generation! (Matt. 24:34) This is, therefore, no time to be indifferent and complacent. This is not the time to be toy-

ing with the words of Jesus that "concerning that day and hour nobody knows, neither the angels of the heavens nor the Son, but only the Father." (Matt. 24:36) To the contrary, it is a time when one should be keenly aware that the end of this system of things is rapidly coming to its violent end. Make no mistake, it is

In this article the Watchtower Society were so sure that they knew the End was coming in 1975, that they told their people this is not the time to be toying with the words of Jesus that "concerning that day and hour nobody knows." The nobody is in italics because they were sure that they did know!

Awake, October 8, 1968, pp.13-16



## 6,000 Years Nearing Completion

There is another way that helps confirm the fact that we are living in the final few years of this "time of the end." (Dan. 12:9) The Bible shows that we are nearing the end of a full 6,000 years of human history. What significance does this have?

How fitting it would be for God, following this pattern, to end man's misery

## THE "WICKED WORLD'S END"

Throughout the Society in their publications and talks excitement mounted for 1975. Many gave up their jobs, sold their homes and went into full time pioneering for the "few years that remained".

The Kingdom Ministry, May 1974, even commended those who had sold up their homes etc.:

"Reports are heard of brothers selling their homes and property and planning to finish out the rest of their days in this old system in the pioneer service. Certainly this is a fine way to spend the short time remaining before the wicked world's end".

## THE 1975 DATE FAILS!

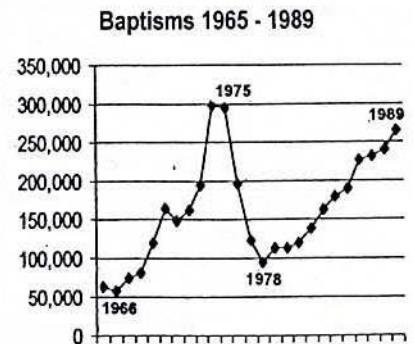
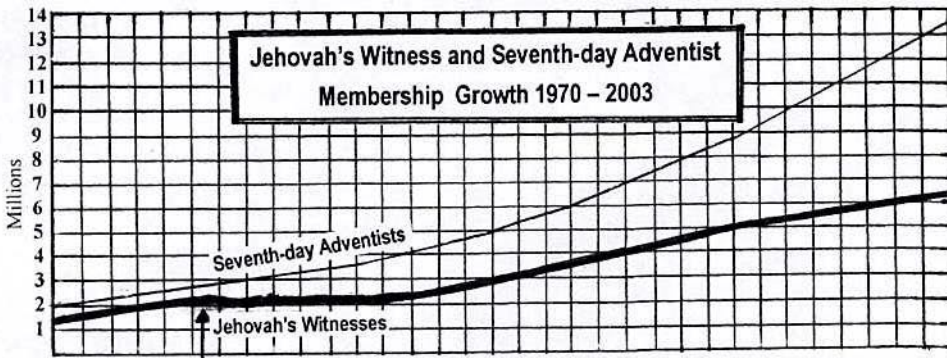
In 1977 and 1978 the full impact of the date failure hit the Society. In those years there was a worldwide membership loss of -1% and -1.4%. Hundreds of thousands left the Society, and its effects are still being felt.

## APOLOGIES

Thousands of Witnesses were without homes, employment, and even an education after 1975 passed. At first the Society blamed the people for "expecting too much". But eventually some reluctant apologies were made in the 1980 Yearbook, pp. 30-31 and Watchtower, March 15, 1980, p. 17.

# Gains and Losses Caused by 1975

For a number of years prior to 1975, Witnesses and Adventists enjoyed about the same growth rate. However, due to the 1975 date failure, the Witnesses went backwards for a time in membership, and they have never recovered. Their membership should now be well over 10 million.



## LATEST STATISTICS

### Membership at June 30, 2004

JWs: 6,308,341  
 SDAs: 13,663,497

### Baptisms for 2004

JWs: 262,416  
 SDAs: 1,006,492

## Chapter 8

# Chronology

### CHRONOLOGY IN ERROR

The chronology which supports the central and important 1914 A.D. date is 19 years in error!

### THE 2,520 YEARS PROPHECY

In Daniel 4 Nebuchadnezzar was insane for seven years and his throne was vacant. The Society applies this period prophetically to foretell that the throne of David would also be vacant for seven “prophetic” years.

In prophecy, a prophetic day equals a literal year. So seven years (x 360 days) = 2,520 prophetic days or literal years.

Zedekiah was the last king of Israel to sit on the “throne of David”. The Society taught that it would then be vacant for “seven years” or 2,530 literal years. At the end of this time, Jesus Christ would return and sit on it.

This time period was called the *Times of the Gentiles* and was foretold to end in 1914 A.D. with the overthrow of the kingdoms on earth and the setting up of Christ’s kingdom at his **Return** or **Second Coming**.

After the End did not come in 1914 as foretold by the Society (see ch. 6) the whole 1914 date should have been discarded like the dates, 1874, 1878, 1918, 1920, and 1925. However, in the meantime World War 1 had broken out, so the Society to save face kept the 1914 date. They said Jesus did return then, but it was *invisible*! Since then this date has been used as a doctrinal anchor. For decades the Witnesses have been spurred into activity believing the End was coming within a generation of 1914. (See ch. 3)

### ERRORS OF THIS PROPHECY

**a. Beginning Date:** The Society teaches that Zedekiah was put off the throne and Jerusalem was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 607 B. C. E.

However *Bible chronology* supported by history, archaeology and astronomy proves that the 19<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar when he finally *devastated* and destroyed Jerusalem was 587/6 B. C.

No reliable historian supports the 607 B. C. E. date!



Note: **B.C.E.** = Before Common Era  
**B.C.** = Before Christ.  
 (“B.C.E.” is used for non Christians.)

**b. The Prophecy of Daniel 4.** In V.33 the Bible says the prophecy was “*fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar*”. A further prophecy can not be made on a “*fulfilled*” prophecy and there is no connection in this chapter with “*The Times of the Gentiles*”.

### THE SEVENTY YEARS

The **Bible** teaches there would be a period of seventy years *captivity* in which they would *serve* the king of Babylon. “*And these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.*” Jer. 25:11.

After seventy years of captivity they would return from Babylon:

“*In accord with the fulfilling of seventy years at Babylon I shall turn my attention to YOU people, and I will establish toward YOU my good word in bringing YOU back to this place.*” Jer. 29: 10 (NW)

The *seventy year* period **began** in 605 B.C. when Nebuchadnezzar *devastated* Jerusalem the first time. He took captives including Daniel and plundered the Temple. It **ended** in 536 B.C. when the captives arrived back in Jerusalem after 70 years captivity. (inclusive Bible reckoning.)

### BIBLE CHRONOLOGY

Jeremiah 29:10 was written to the captives in Babylon, **before** Jerusalem was destroyed. Jeremiah then wrote a message:

“... to all the people dwelling in this city.” Jer. 29:16 (NW)

Thus the Bible teaches that the *seventy years* began **before** the city was destroyed and not **after** as taught by the Watchtower Society.

### “DEVASTATIONS”

Daniel 9:2 speaks of *seventy years of desolations* or *devastations* (NW).

These *devastations* begun in 605 B.C. became increasingly worse until the city was destroyed in 586 B.C. and a few years later there was not an inhabitant left!

### NEBUCHADNEZZAR’S REIGN

Nebuchadnezzar reigned for 43 years, from 605 B. C. - 562 B. C.

In 2 Kings 24, the Bible tells how he finally *devastated* Jerusalem and destroyed the monarchy. That was in the **19<sup>th</sup> year** of his reign.

All reliable historians place this date at 587/6 B.C. However, the Society says it was 607 B.C.E. In this date they are in error, without any historical support.

### THE VAT 4956 TABLET

This archaeological tablet is another independent proof of the dating of Nebuchadnezzar’s reign. It establishes his 37<sup>th</sup> regnal year as 568/567 B. C. so his 19<sup>th</sup> regnal year was 586/7 B.C. not 607 B.C. when he destroyed Jerusalem.

(See VAT 4596 on opposite page)

### MISQUOTE

In *Babylon the Great is Fallen!* (1963) p. 134, it stated:

“*Nebuchadnezzar came against Jerusalem the second time, to punish the rebel king. That was in 618 B.C.*”. This date would support the 607 B.C. date for the destruction of Jerusalem when he *devastated* it for a third and final time.

The Witnesses were delighted in 1963 to read this book and find that at last they had some support for their 607 date. However a few of them went to the trouble of checking up *Harper’s Bible Dictionary* and the reference given in the *Babylon* book. They were alarmed to find the Society had been dishonest. The 618 B.C. date was **not there** at all but the date **598** B.C. which confirms 587/6 B.C. for the destruction of Jerusalem (See photocopies opposite page)

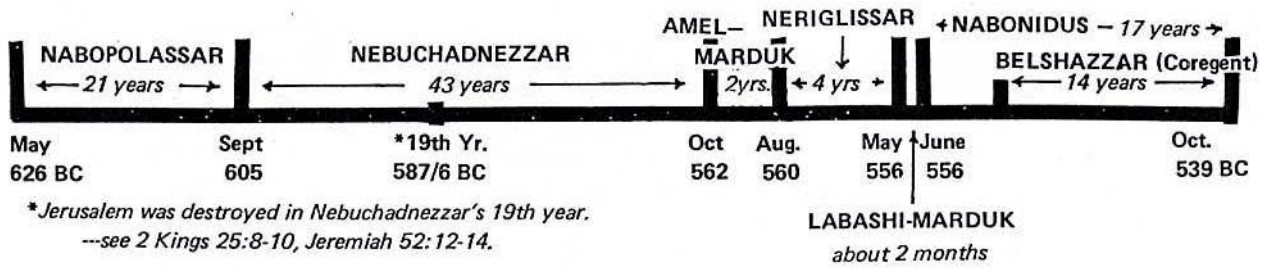
### THE MISSING 19 YEARS!

In the *Babylon* book pp. 183-4, 230 it says Nebuchadnezzar died in 581 B. C. It also lists the kings who followed him and the length of their reigns until Babylon fell in 539 B. C.

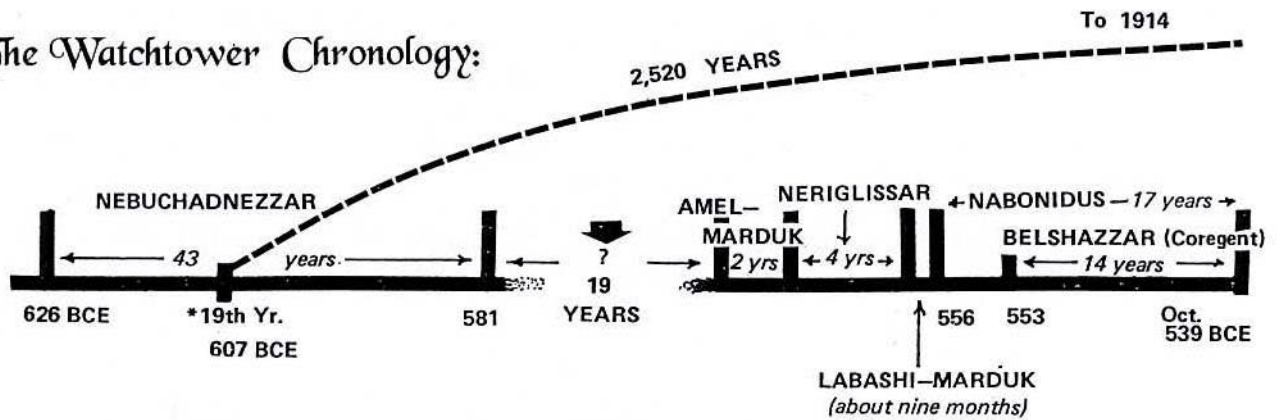
However, if one adds the reigns of these kings to 539 B.C. or from 581 B.C. there is a **19 year gap**. (See chart of the Watchtower Chronology.)



# The Chronology of the Babylonian Kings:



# The Watchtower Chronology:



VAT 4956

134 "BABYLON THE GREAT HAS FALLEN!"  
 was the first year of his vassalage to Babylon. In the third year after that, the third year of Jehoiakim's vassalage, he rebelled and stopped paying tribute to Babylon. For this reason Nebuchadnezzar came against Jerusalem the second time, to punish the rebel king. That was in 618 B.C.—See *Harper's Bible Dictionary*, by M. S. and J. L. Miller, edition of 1952, page 306, under "Jehoiakim."

Note how the date **618 B.C.** does not occur in this dictionary under "Jehoiakim". Not one of the dates given support the chronology of the Watchtower Society!

The archaeological tablet VAT 4956 is an astronomical diary. It records on both the front and the back of the tablet the observations of the moon and planets during the entire 37<sup>th</sup> regnal year of Nebuchadnezzar.

There are about thirty observations which are described in such detail that modern astronomers can easily fix the exact year when they were originally made.

All the observations of the moon and five planets, could only have occurred in the year 568/567 B. C. and will not occur again in the same sequence for another 40,000 years!

The VAT 4956 tablet clearly establishes that the 37<sup>th</sup> regnal year of Nebuchadnezzar was 568/7 B. C., and that the time when he destroyed Jerusalem in his 19<sup>th</sup> regnal year was 586/587 B. C. and not 607 B. C. E. as taught by the Watchtower Society.



The author, E.B. Price, holding the VAT 4956 tablet in the East Berlin Museum. He is pointing to the name of Nebuchadnezzar, on the top of the tablet which can be very clearly read by those able to read the cuneiform writing.

**Jehoiakim** (jê-hol'â-kîm) (abbreviated "Joiakim" and "Yauqlm," "Jehovah raises up"; originally "Eliakim"), the last King of Judah in Jerusalem; given this name by the Egyptian Pharaoh-nechoh, who placed him on the throne of Judah (II Kings 23:34) after deposing his brother Jehoahaz II (Shallum) after his three months' reign c. 609 b.c. (II Chron. 36:4). Jehoiakim was the 2d son of King Josiah of Judah. His mother was Zebudah, daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah (II Kings 23:34). His brother was the Zedekiah\* who later was set up as vassal king at Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar (II Kings 24:17; I Chron. 3:15). Determining to keep in the good graces of his Egyptian overlord, Jehoiakim levied heavy taxes on his people and turned them over to the pharaoh (II Kings 23:34 f.). However, within seven years Egyptian control was superseded by that of the Chaldeans. Jehoiakim's 11-years' reign (609–598 b.c.) was marked by apostasy from Yahweh which was repeatedly censured by the prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 25, 26) at the risk of his life. Jehoiakim's bold irreverence displayed itself in the manuscript-burning incident described in Jer. 36:1–26—a dramatic event whose sequel was the preparation of a fresh roll and appendix, pronouncing again the doom prepared by the Lord for the king and his evil subjects at the hand of the King of Babylon. Jeremiah's prophecy was fulfilled with the arrival of Nebuchadnezzar (II Kings 24:1; Dan. 1:1), whom Jehoiakim served three years, but against whom he at length rebelled. The might of Chaldaea, Syria, Moab, and Ammon pressed against the capital; the king died or was assassinated (24:6); went unmourned; and was given the shameful burial of an ass (Jer. 22:18 ff.). He was succeeded (598 b.c.) by his young son Jehoiachin\*, who in his father's stead was carried captive to Babylon (598 b.c., II Kings 24:15), while Zedekiah, brother of Jehoiakim, became Nebuchadnezzar's puppet ruler.

## Chapter 9

# Christ's Coming and the Parousia

### THE FIRST DATE: 1874

For over fifty years the Watchtower Society taught that Christ's Second Coming or Return took place in 1874.

*The Finished Mystery* pp. 53,54 tells how Charles Taze Russell in 1868 began to meet with a "handful of Bible students" in Allegheny, Pa., They believed that Christ was returning **visibly** in 1874.

He then explains how, "not long after their 1874 disappointment" they were shown how the Greek word in Matthew 24:27,37,39 for "coming" was "**parousia**" which could also be translated "presence".

"This was the clue" he records that led them to conclude that Christ had come in 1874 but it was **invisible!**

From this time forward the Society has taught that Christ's Return is **past** and **invisible**.

This meant that the Resurrection was also **past** and **invisible**. (This was one of the heresies in the early Christian church. See 2 Timothy 2:18)

### HERALDING THE "PRESENCE"

Pastor Russell believed God had raised him up to teach this truth, and this was the beginning and the reason for the existence of the Watchtower Society.

He then began to print a paper, "Zion's Watchtower and Herald of Christ's Presence." Today it is just called "*The Watchtower*".

However, no longer does the Society teach the 1874 date. After the "wise and discreet" slave taught it for fifty years, they acknowledged it was in error and phased it out.

### THE 1914 DATE

As late as 1929 the Society was still teaching the 1874 date. The book *Prophecy* (1929) pp.65-66:

"*The Scriptural proof is that the second presence of the Lord Jesus Christ began in 1874 A.D. This proof is specifically set out in the booklet entitled Our Lord's Return".*

**Problem!** In 1929, fifteen years after 1914 the Society had still failed to **see** with its "*spiritual*" eyes that Christ **had** returned in 1914!

### THE 1914 TEACHING TODAY

In 1958, *From Paradise Lost to Paradise Regained*, p. 200:

"*The King arrived in His glory A.D. 1914.*"

Finding this teaching difficult to uphold, the Society has found it necessary to alter its emphasis to Christ "*turning His attention*" towards the earth. In *You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth* (1989 ed.) p. 147:

"*Christ's return ... means that he takes Kingdom power towards this earth and turns his attention to it...*"

Two other teachings connected with Christ's return have also been changed recently:

**a. The 1914 Generation.** It is no longer taught they will see the End.

**b. The Separating of the Sheep and the Goats.** No longer is this the work of the "*spiritual brothers*".

### THE SIGNS - Is He Here or Near?

The Society teaches that the signs of Christ's return show he is present here with us now.

However the Bible teaches the signs show Christ's return is **near**:

1. Matthew 24:32 (NW) "*when You see all these things, know that he is near at the doors.*"

2. Verses 42,44 warn that one needs to be **ready** because they do not know when he will (future) arrive.

3. Jesus warned in verses 23,24 that in the last days there would be **false prophets** saying Christ was **here?**

The Watchtower Society fulfils this prophetic warning:

- claiming it is a **prophet**.
- admitting its **false** prophecies.
- teaching Christ is **here!**

### CHRIST HAS NOT YET COME

Jesus Christ did not return in either 1874 or 1914 because:

#### 1. He will be seen:

1 John 3:2 "*we shall see him*"

Rev. 1: 7 "*every eye will see him*"

Matt. 24:30 "*they will see the Son of man coming on the clouds with power and great glory.*" The "*they*" are the wicked who do not have eyes of "*spiritual understanding*".

Christ will be **visibly** seen coming in power and great glory!

### 2. The "Dead in Christ" are Raised and caught up "together with..."

This is an enormous problem for the Society and one it can not answer:

I Thessalonians 4:16-17 tells how the "**dead in Christ**" are raised first at his "**parousia**" and those **living** are "caught away" "**together with them**" to "*meet the Lord in the air*".

In 1914/1918 all those **living** of the *heavenly class* of the Society were not "caught away" then!

### 3. The Wicked were not Destroyed.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 says the wicked are destroyed at his coming/**parousia**.

See also Luke 17:26-30.

### 4. Memorial Service.

1 Corinthians 11:26.(NW) It is to be celebrated only "*until he arrives.*"

**5. Rewards given at His Coming.** Rev.22:12 He rewards all then.

### "PAROUSIA"

This Greek word at the time of Christ was used for the **visible** arrival or visit of a royal person ie. Caesar.

In school today children respond to a roll call by saying "present". In Greece they reply, "**parousia**".

### OTHER GREEK WORDS

Many other Greek words besides "**parousia**" are used in the Bible for Christ's Return.

Check the following references in the *New World Bible* and the *Kingdom Interlinear Translation*:

- **Erchomai** = *coming/arrives*  
Matt. 24:30, Matt. 26:64, John 14:3, 1 Cor. 11:26, Rev. 1:7
- **Optomai** = *appears/made visible*  
Hebrews 9:28 see (NW) and (KIT)
- **Hupostrepho** = *return*  
Luke 12:36
- **Apokalupto** = *revelation*  
2 Thess.1:7, I Pet. 1:7, Luke 17:29-30
- **Epiphaneia** = *manifestation*  
I Tim. 6:14, 2 Tim.4:8, Titus 2:13
- **Phaneroo** = *made manifest*  
I Peter 5:4
- **Analuoo** = *returns* Luke 12:36
- **Heko** = *come* Revelation 2:25

\*\*\*\* Jesus' **arrival** as a *baby* the first time was **visible**. His **return** in power and glory as *King of Kings and Lord of Lords* will be dazzlingly **visible!**

## Chapter 10

# Christ's Bodily Resurrection and Return

### CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

The Watchtower Society teaches that Jesus Christ was raised as an invisible spirit being and will return in this manner.

The Bible however teaches that Jesus was raised with a **body** and that He will visibly return in a glorious **body** which "every eye will see".

### A BODILY RESURRECTION

#### 1. Christ's Prophecy.

**John 2:29-22(NW)** "...Break down this temple, and in three days I will raise it up... But he was talking about the temple of his **body**".

#### 2. Christ's Own Testimony.

**Luke 24:37-43(NW)** "...they were terrified... imagining they beheld a **spirit**. So he said to them:... 'See my hands and my feet, that it is I **myself** feel me and see, because a **spirit** does not have **flesh and bones** just as YOU behold that I have.'"

#### 3. Thomas's Testimony.

**John 20:25-29(NW)** Thomas believed in Christ's resurrection only

after Jesus said to him (v. 27) "*Put your finger here, and see my hands and take your hand and stick it into my side, and stop being unbelieving but become believing.*"

Jesus did not lie to Thomas. He was not a **spirit** that needed to have a "materialized" body!

### RESURRECTED BY THE SPIRIT

**Romans 8:11(NW)** "...the **spirit** of him that raised up Jesus from the dead..."

1 Peter 3:18. **The Emphatic Diaglott** and the **KJV** render this text "**by the Spirit**" which is consistent with Romans 8:11.

### CHRIST'S BODILY RETURN

**Philippians 3:20-21(NW)** "the heavens, from which place also we are eagerly waiting for a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will refashion our humiliated **body** to be conformed to his glorious **body**..."

**1 John 3:2(NW)** "...We do know that whenever he is made manifest we shall be like him, because we shall see him

just as he is..."

**Hebrews 9:28(NW)** "...and the **second time** that he (Christ) **appears**".

**Revelation 1:7(NW)** "Look! He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will **see** him..."

**Matthew 26:64(NW)** "...YOU will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

**Matthew 24:30(NW)** "...and then all the tribes of the earth ... will **see** the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory."

**N.B.** The last two texts refer to **evil** men who have no eye of spiritual understanding but **see** Him **coming**.

**Acts 1:11(NW)** "**This** Jesus ... will come thus in the same manner as You have beheld him going into the sky."

The **same** Jesus whose body they had felt and touched after His resurrection is the one who is now our Mediator in heaven, (the "**man Christ Jesus**". 1 Timothy 2:5). This Jesus will return **visibly** and **bodily**.

## Chapter 11

# Man's Condition in Death

### DEATH IS A SLEEP

The Bible teaches death is a **sleep** until the or a **resurrection** by Christ: **Job 14:12,14,15** "Man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their **sleep**."

**John 11: 11** "I go that I may awake him (Lazarus) out of **sleep**."

**1 Cor.15:51,52** "We shall not all **sleep** ... the dead shall be **raised**..."

**1 Thess.4:13-17** "...concerning them which are asleep... unto the **coming of the Lord**... the **dead in Christ shall rise first**..."

See also the following texts:

Psalms 6:5, 17:15, 115:17, 146:4 Eccl. 9:5,6 Isaiah 38:18,19

John 14:11-14, 1 Cor. 15:17,18,51-54 1 Thess. 4:13-18, 2 Tim. 4:6-8

The Watchtower Society also believes death is a **sleep** but not for:

1. **Everyone** until the "**last day**".
2. The **heavenly class** who since 1918 become **immortal spirits**.

### RESURRECTION at "LAST DAY"

**John 6:40(NW)** "For this is the will of my Father; that **everyone** that beholds the Son and exercises faith in Him should have everlasting life, and I will **resurrect him** at the **last day**."

**Everyone** who believes will be resurrected at the **last day**!

See also John 6:39,44,54, 11:24.

However the Society does not believe this simple and clear Bible teaching. Like Christendom who it condemns, it also teaches that before the **last day**, believers can become immortal **spirit beings**.

### IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL

The Bible teaches that no one is **immortal** until this resurrection:

**1 Corinthians 15:51-53(NW)** "...the dead will be raised ... and this which is **mortal** must put on **immortality**,"

**Eze. 18:20(NW)** "The **soul** that is **sinning, itself will die**."

**Rom. 3:23** "For **all** have **sinned**"

### IMMORTAL SOUL PROBLEMS

#### 1. Our Salvation

God created perfect human beings on planet Earth. When man sinned, Christ came to **save, restore, redeem** that which was lost. God never intended **man** to become disembodied **spirits** or **souls**. That is the hall mark of the Occult and all false religion as far back as the pyramids of Egypt etc.

#### 2. Some Major Christian Teachings

**a. Resurrection.** Not needed if people go to heaven when they die.

**b. Christ's Return.** Not needed if people are already in Paradise.

**c. Final Judgment.** Not needed now, if people were judged at death to determine whether their souls or spirits went to heaven, hell or hades.

The Watchtower Society for good reasons opposes Christendom's teaching that when a person dies their soul or spirit goes to heaven. Yet that is what they teach happens since 1918 to their own **heavenly** 144,000 class!



## Chapter 12

# Salvation

### SALVATION

The most serious errors of the Watchtower Society's teachings are those dealing with Salvation.

The vast majority of Jehovah's Witnesses are "perishing with Bibles in their hands" because the Society teaches:

#### TWO CLASSES

##### 1. The Heavenly / 144,000 class

These are *born-again* Christians, who go to heaven as *spirits* when they die. In 2004 they numbered **8,570**.

##### 2. The Earthly / "Great Crowd"

These people are not *born-again*. They do not partake of the *emblems of the Lord's Supper*. They hope to survive Armageddon and then live on the earth in fleshly bodies.

In 2004 there were **6,299,771** (the remainder of the 6,308,341 publishers reported for the year.)

### DANGEROUS DOCTRINE

This means that in 2001, over 5.5 million Jehovah's Witnesses had no hope of salvation! Yet their own Bibles warn them:

#### 1. Born Again.

John 3:3(NW) "Unless anyone is *born again*, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Whether it is the kingdom of God in heaven or on earth, they *cannot see it!* They are lost!

#### 2. Emblems of the Lord's Supper.

John 6: 53,54 "Unless YOU eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood You have *no life* in yourselves. He that feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has *everlasting life*, and I shall resurrect him at the *last day*."

These people who do not partake have no *everlasting life* and no *resurrection*. Again they are lost!

### SALVATION IN JESUS CHRIST

Salvation is only in Jesus:

**Acts 4:12(NW)** "Furthermore, there is *no salvation* in anyone else, for there is *not another name* under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved."

This message is very clear but the Society does not teach it! Also:

### SALVATION BY FAITH IS OURS NOW!

**I John 5:11-13 (NW)** "And this is the witness given, that God *gave us everlasting life*, and this life is *in his Son*. He that has the Son *has this life*: he that does not have the Son of God does not have this life. I write YOU these things that YOU *may know* that YOU - *have life everlasting*, YOU who put YOUR faith in the name of the Son of God" Wonderful!

## Chapter 13

# The 144,000 and the "Great Crowd"

### WHO ARE THE 144,000?

All the Bible teaches concerning the 144,000 is found in just *thirteen verses*, Revelation 7:1-8 and 14:1-5:

**a. Revelation 7:1-8:** A 144,000 Israelites are sealed while the angels are about to "harm the earth".

**b. Revelation 14:1-5:** They came from the earth, are faultless, and are *before the throne* with Christ.

- The Watchtower Society teaches:

They are a *literal* group of 144,000 true Christians who lived and were sealed *since the time of Christ*.

- The Bible teaches they are sealed: **Revelation 7:1-3** just *before* the angels "harm the earth".

(This is just before Armageddon and the Seven Last Plagues of Rev. 16.)

- Not since the time of Christ!

### IS IT A LITERAL NUMBER?

**Revelation 7:4-8** states the 144,000 are 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel. Is this *literal* or *spiritual*? To be consistent it can not be both!

But the Society teaches it is a *literal* number of *spiritual* Israelites.

The Bible and history prove the number could not be *literal*:

**Col. 1:23** The gospel was preached to everyone by the early church.

Hundreds of thousands of true Christians were raised up in the first three centuries before Constantine. Many died for their faith.

This number alone would exceed 144,000 without adding that of modern day Jehovah's Witnesses!

### GREAT CROWD IN HEAVEN!

In **Rev. 7:9-17 (NW)** there is a "great crowd" who:

**V.15(NW)** "...are *before the throne* of God; and they are rendering him sacred service... *in his temple*."

The *Kingdom Interlinear* translates:

\*\*\*"*before the throne*" as "*in sight of the throne*" Rev. 14:3,(144,000 also) \*\*\*"*temple*" (from Gr. *Naos*) as "*divine habitation*".

**Revelation 19:1(NW)** clearly shows the "*great crowd in heaven*". They are *people* who came from the earth because they sing a song of *salvation*, which angels can not sing.

The Society teaches that no one *before* Christ can go to heaven.

However, the Bible teaches *Old Testament* people will be in heaven:

**Matt. 8:11** "Abraham and Isaac and Jacob *in the kingdom of the heavens*"

See also: Hebrews 11:10,16, 13:14.

### FLESH AND BLOOD

**1 Corinthians 15:50-51** states that nothing corrupt or impure can go to heaven. So our imperfect bodies and our blood streams carrying broken down cells must all be changed.

**Philippians 3:20,21** "the Lord Jesus Christ, who will refashion our humiliated *body* to be conformed to his *glorious body*"

All the saved will have *bodies!*

We do not know exactly "what we shall be" **1 John 3:2 (NW)** but "we shall *be like him* because we shall *see him* just as he is."

### PRIESTS AND KINGS

**Revelation 5:10 (KJV)** "And hast made us ... *kings and priests*:"

The Bible says all Christians are: *A royal priesthood* 1 Peter 2:9

*Joint heirs with Christ*, Romans 8:17

In ancient times kings and priests did a work of judging. In heaven all the saved will be judging the wicked. Rev. 20:4, 1 Cor.6:1-3.

## Chapter 14

# The Millennium (Thousand Years)

In this presentation, pictures, illustrations or charts are *essential* in portraying the events from the Second Coming of Christ at Armageddon, through the period of the 1,000 years until the Kingdom of God is finally established on the New Earth. NB. *These illustrations can be used effectively by enlarging on a photocopier. Then colour and mount them on cardboard.*



AT THE BEGINNING

### a. ARMAGEDDON.

**Revelation 16:14-16** Christ comes at Armageddon "as a thief". It is the 6<sup>th</sup> of the Seven Last Plagues.

### b. CHRIST'S RETURN

(See chapters 9 - 11)

### c. WICKED DESTROYED

**Luke 17:26-30.** The wicked are "all destroyed" as in the Flood and at Sodom.

**2 Thess. 2:8** Destroyed by the epiphaneia = brightness of Christ's "parousia".

### d. FIRST RESURRECTION

**1 Thess. 4:16.** The dead in Christ are raised. These are all those who believed in Him, see John 6:40.

Men of old like Abraham and Isaac etc. are included.

(See Chapter 13)

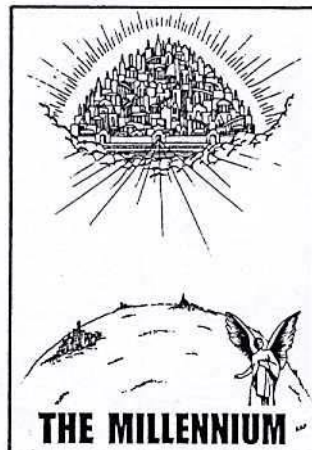
### e. SAVED TAKEN TO HEAVEN

**1 Thess. 4:16-17.** The saved who are resurrected and those living are together caught away in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.

Both the "great crowd" and the 144,000 heavenly class are taken to heaven.

### Summary:

- All the saved:  
Are now *living* - in *heaven*.
- All the wicked:  
Are now *dead* - on *earth*.



DURING THE 1000 YRS

### a. THE EARTH IS DESOLATE

**Isa. 24:1 (KJV)** "Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty."

**Jer. 4:23 (KJV)** "I beheld the earth, and lo, it was without form and void ("empty and waste" NW) ... and, lo, there was no man ... the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by his fierce anger."

The above describes what the earth becomes as a result of Armageddon ("his fierce anger") and the "presence" or Return of Christ.

### b. WICKED DEAD ON EARTH

**Jer.25:33 (NW)** "those slain by Jehovah ... from one end of the earth clear to the other end of the earth. They will not be bewailed, neither will they be gathered up or be buried". There is no man on the earth to do this.

### c. THE SAVED ARE IN HEAVEN

(See previous column No.5)

**Rev. 20:4.** "Judging" (the wicked yet to be punished).

### d. SATAN IS BOUND

**Rev. 20:1-3** Satan bound on the earth for the 1,000 years with no man to deceive.



AT THE CLOSE

### a. HOLY CITY DESCENDS

**Rev. 21:2-3,10 (NW)** "...the holy city.... coming down out of heaven...."

### b. SECOND RESURRECTION

**John 5:28-29 (NW)** ("...all those in the memorial tombs will... come out... those who practiced vile things to a resurrection of judgment."

The wicked are rewarded "according to their works."

**Rev. 20:5 (NW)** ("The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.")

Note: *until* not *during*!

### c. SATAN LOOSED

**Rev. 20:7.** He has someone to tempt and deceive now!

### d. HOLY CITY SURROUNDED

**Rev. 20:9 (NW)** "And they advanced over the breadth of the earth and encircled the ... beloved city."

### e. FINAL JUDGMENT

**Rev. 20:11-15,** describes the final judgment. At its close the wicked are punished in the lake of fire.

### f. WICKED ARE DESTROYED

**Rev. 20:9** "fire came down out of heaven and devoured them."

**Malachi 4:1,3** Wicked are burnt and reduced to ashes.



AFTER

### a. PARADISE RESTORED

**Rev. 21:5 (NW)** "Look, I am making all things new."

God will do this, not man!

### b. A LITERAL, REAL CITY!

**Rev. 21:11-21** The city has walls, streets, gates etc.

**Rev. 22:2** The Tree of Life is also restored. (It was a *real* tree in Eden)

### c. THE THRONE OF GOD IN IT

**Rev. 22:3 (NW)** "But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it (the city)"

### d. GOD WILL RESIDE IN THE HOLY CITY ON THE EARTH!

**Rev.21:2,3 (NW)** "... he will reside with them,... And God himself will be with them."

### e. THEY WILL SEE HIS FACE

**Rev.22:4 (NW)** "And they will see his face..."

### f HOMES WILL BE BUILT

**Isa. 65:21-25**

### g. SABBATH WILL BE KEPT

**Isa. 66:23 (NW)** "...sabbath to sabbath all flesh will come in to bow down before me, Jehovah has said."

### h. SIN ETERNALLY FINISHED

**Nahum 1:9** "...affliction shall not rive up the second time."

- Redemption Complete!

## Chapter 15

# The Trinity

### OUR CHALLENGE

Jehovah's Witnesses believe they have the "Truth" because they:

1. Do not believe in the Trinity.
2. Use the name "Jehovah".
3. Teach the central date 1914.
4. Witness from door to door.
5. Respect God's law on blood..
6. Remain neutral in time of war.
7. Keep "clean" from worldly practices and associations etc.

Most Witnesses would put the Trinity doctrine at the top of their list in order of importance. It is the major reason many have joined the Society and greatest doctrinal reason why they remain in the organization even when they have doubts or know that other teachings are in error.

It is the doctrine they feel most confident to defend. They have been taught it is:

- Not scriptural
- Pagan
- Illogical

It is very essential that every Christian understands this subject and how to help their Witness friends.

### THE "TRINITY"

The word **Trinity** like *Theocracy Millennium* and *Tetragrammaton* does not appear in the Bible.

It strictly means:

#### TRI - IN - UNITY

#### *Three working in Unity*

One can say without hesitation that they believe in the Trinity: "**Three separate Divine Persons working together in Unity**"

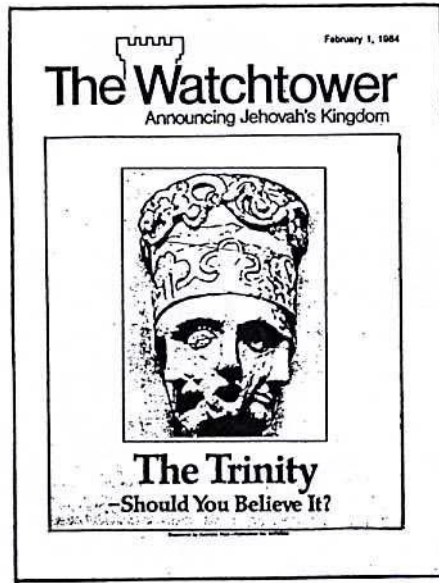
### THE "STRAW MAN"

The Society teaches its people that Christians who believe in the Trinity worship a God who is **one** person with **three** heads! (See the illustrations in Society publications.)

They then proceed to knock down this "straw man" being thankful that they have the "truth".

### STEP 1

Firstly emphasis to your Witness friend that you do not believe in that type of Trinity. You believe in three separate persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



### THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Step 2.** The Witness will agree that the Father and Son are *persons*, but not the Holy Spirit. They understand it is an active force "holy spirit", which is an extension of the Father.

You must now establish the **Personality** of the Holy Spirit.

Start with:

**Romans 8:26,27,34** (NW) "...the spirit **itself** pleads for us ... is **pleading in accord with** God... who also **pleads for us.**"

The Spirit is pleading **with** God between *us* and *God*. He cannot be the Father or an extension of Him, for He is not pleading with Himself. The Spirit must be a separate **person** like Jesus Christ who "**also pleads**" (V.34)

Reinforce this point with:

**John 16:13** (NW) "...what things **he** hears **he** will speak."

The Spirit hears what the Father tells Him. He then in turn "**will guide YOU into all the truth**". Once again this is not the Father talking to Himself!

The Spirit is a separate **person**.

- Note the **personal pronouns**:  
**John 16:13** (NW) mentions the Spirit not speaking "**of his own impulse**". The K.I.T. says "**from himself**".  
**Acts 13:2** (NW) "...the **holy spirit** said...for **me** for the work to which **I** have called them."

**Acts 10: 19,20** (NW) "the spirit said: ... I have dispatched them."

### PERSONALITY OF THE SPIRIT

A personality must have:

- **Emotion**
- **Intellect**
- **A Will**

The Holy Spirit has all these:

1. **A will:** 1 Cor. 12:11
2. **Mind and Thoughts.** Rom. 8:27
3. **Intellect.** 1 Cor.2:11
4. **Love.** Rom. 15:30
5. **Fellowship.** 2 Cor.13:14
6. **Feelings.** Eph. 4:30
7. **Talk and direct.** Acts 8:26,13:2,4
8. **Forbid.** Acts 16:6,7
9. **Teach.** John 14:16,18 16:13
10. **Comfort.** John 14:16,18
11. **Author Prophecy.** 2 Pet. 1:21
12. **Give gifts.** 1 Cor. 12: 1 -11

The Holy Spirit can also be:

13. **Tempted.** Heb. 10:29, Acts 5:9
14. **Lied to.** Acts 5:3,4
15. **Vexed.** Isa. 63: 10
16. **Despised.** Heb. 10:29

Having established that the Holy Spirit is a separate person it is usually best to proceed now to Step 3.

Later you will present:

### DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. **Is God.** Acts 5:3,4(NW) "...to play false to the **holy spirit**...? ... You have played false, not to men but to **God.**"

2. **As Creator.** Job 33:4:  
(KJV) "**Spirit of God hath made me**"  
(NW) "**God's own spirit made me**"

3. **Is Eternal.** Heb. 9:14  
(KJV) "**the eternal Spirit**"  
(NW) "**everlasting spirit**"

4. **Is Jehovah.** 2Cor.3:17 (NW) "**Now Jehovah is the Spirit...**"

Matt.28:19(NW) "**baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the holy spirit.**" *The three share the same name!* If the Father's name is **Jehovah** then the Holy Spirit also shares this name!

5. **Can Be Blasphemed Against.**  
Matt.12:31(NW) "**On this account I say to YOU, Every sort of sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the spirit will not be forgiven.**"

This last text alone proves the Deity of the Holy Spirit, for one can only blaspheme against a **person** Who is **Divine or God!**



## Chapter 16

# The Trinity or Godhead

### GODHEAD

**Step 3.** At this stage it would be very easy to present to a non Witness that these three separate persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit make up the **Godhead**..

However none of the three Bible references to **Godhead** appear in the New World version translated by the Jehovah's Witnesses:

**Acts 17:29** (KJV) "the **Godhead**"  
(NW) "the Divine Being"  
**Roms. 1:20**(KJV) "and Godhead"  
(NW) "and Godship"  
**Col. 2:9** (KJV) "the Godhead"  
(NW) "the divine quality"

(Most scholars believe the main reason the New World Bible was produced by the Watchtower Society, was to reinterpret the Bible texts concerning the Trinity doctrine.)

Despite the above read these texts from your Bible and say how you prefer to use the word **Godhead** instead of Trinity.

Because of the enormous antipathy the average Witness has towards the "**Trinity**" it is better to only use the word **Godhead**.

### ONE TRUE GOD

**Step 4.** In your discussion now agree with the Witness that there is only ONE TRUE GOD!:

**Isa. 45:5,6,14**,(NW) "*I am Jehovah and there is **no one else**, With the exception of me there is **no God**. ... **there is none besides me**... I am Jehovah, and there is **no one else**... **there is no (other) God**."*

The Witness will soon clarify this "God" to be the Father whose name is "Jehovah".

### ONE GOD - OR TWO?

**Step 5.** Now introduce the problem of who is Jesus Christ?

- Is He also **God** (Divine)?
- Or a **god** (not Divine) The Bible terms *Satan, angels, humans* and other *powerful ones as god*.

The *New World Bible* gives the answer very clearly:

**Isa. 9:6** (NW) "*For there has been a child born to us... **Mighty God**,"*

Note: It is **Mighty "God"** not "**god**".

- Now we have **two "Gods"**!

### MIGHTY OR ALMIGHTY?

**Step 6.** The Witness will now explain that Jesus is only the **Mighty** God but the Father is the **Almighty** God!  
(The definition of "almighty" is "*having all power or authority*".)

Now there are two problems:

1. **Two** persons are **God** (Divine)
2. Jesus claimed to be **Almighty**:  
**Matt. 28:18** "All authority(NW) **power** (KJV) *has been given me in heaven and on the earth.*"  
**Rev. 1:7,8** and **22:12,13** Jesus claims to be the One who is "*coming*" also the "*Alpha and Omega*" and in **Rev. 1:8** He claims this One (Himself) is the "**Almighty**"!

Many Witnesses find this a real revelation. However, most initially reject the idea outright! They are overwhelmed by the thought that there could be two Beings who are "**God**", and "**Almighty**" and yet there is still only "**one true God**"?

### A TRIUNE GOD

**Step 7.** It is now time to introduce the great Biblical truth that:

- There are three Divine persons in the Heavenly Government or Godhead who work in such close harmony, unity and love that they are presented in the Bible as **one**.

The Bible begins with this truth:

**Gen.1:1-2.** "*In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth... and the **Spirit of God** (**God's active force**-NW) moved..."*

Note: The words "*active force*" do not appear in this Hebrew text. The New World Bible has substituted this for "*spirit*". In Judges 13:25(NW) the word is honestly translated: "*spirit*".

Is it Biblical to say a triune God is introduced here? Yes, definitely:

1. The Hebrew word for **God** here, is **elohim** which is plural.
2. **Jesus Christ** did the work of creating. "*all things came into existence through him*" John 1:3 (See also Col. 1: 15-18, Heb. 1:2)
3. Gen.1:2 the **Spirit** was actively involved.

When it came to the creation of man the Bible states:

**Gen. 1:26,27** (NW) "*And **God** went on to say: 'Let **us** make man in **our***

*image, according to **our** likeness... And **God** proceeded to create the man in **his** image..."*

**Job 33:4**(NW) "*God's own **spirit** made me*" It also assists in creating.

### THE BIBLICAL IDIOM OF PERFECT UNITY

**Step 8.** Many people especially Witnesses are confused about the above. However the answer is simple: it is just a matter of understanding the Biblical idiom of perfect unity.

- **God always looks on perfect unity either in man or in God as being one:**

**Gen.2:24** (NW) "*That is why a man will leave his father and his mother and he must stick to his wife and they must become **one flesh***"

Adam and Eve **one flesh**? We could understand it if it said **one in spirit**. Adam and Eve were two separate **human** beings, but the Bible presents them here as "**one flesh**".

This is the Biblical idiom of perfect unity. We do not try to explain it, - we just accept it. Likewise with the **Godhead**! Separate **Divine** Beings are presented as **one God**. To give an example:

**Isa. 44:6** "*Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; **I** am the first, and **I** am the last; and besides **me** there is **no God**."*

Here the Bible presents two persons, with the name **LORD** or **Jehovah**. (In Gen 19:24 there are two Jehovahs, one on the earth calling fire down from the other in the heavens!) However, these two speak as one person saying "**I**" and "**me**" This is God's way of presenting to us the unique unity of the persons in the Godhead.

### RELATIONSHIP OF THE PERSONS IN THE GODHEAD

**Human** beings are **exclusive**  
- independent of each other.

**Divine** beings are **inclusive**  
- not independent of one another! Thus is the **perfect unity** of the one true God ('Elohim') or Godhead.

## Chapter 17

# The Divine Names

### THE NAMES OF GOD

Does God have more than one name? Is **Jehovah** the only Divine Name by which God was known?

It is interesting to note what the Bible says:

**Exodus 3:13**(RSV) “*If.. they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them? God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM’. And he said, ‘Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you’.*”

**Exodus 6:2,3** (NW) “*And God went on to speak to Moses and to say to him: ‘I am Jehovah. And I used to appear to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as God Almighty, but as respects my name Jehovah, I did not make myself known to them..’*”

The two above texts introduce us to **three** of God’s names.

In the **Kingdom Interlinear** (1969) p.15 mention is made of **ten** names of God:

“...he treats of the ten names of God and says: ‘The ninth [name of God] is a tetragrammaton ...”

### SOME NAMES OF GOD

The Hebrew names of people in the Old Testament were used to reveal their character and attributes. The same applied to God:

**SHADDAI**. = *Almighty* from the verb implying to *display power*.

**YHWH**. from the tetragrammaton. Translated as *Yahweh, Jehovah, Yehowah etc.* It is from the verb *hayah* and means “*the Eternal One*”, “*the Self-existing One*”

**EH-YEH ASHER EH-YEH**. This is usually translated *I AM THAT I AM*.

In Hebrew as in English, this name is a form of the verb “to be” and implies the possessor is the *eternal, self existing One*.

**ADONAI**. It is usually translated *Lord or Master* and is used of a *proprietor* of property, the *master of a household, a governor*. It sets forth God’s *lordship, ownership* and *right to obedience*.

The emphasis the Watchtower Society places on **Jehovah** as the **only** Divine Name to be used is not supported by either the teaching of the Bible or the example of Jesus.

### EXAMPLE OF JESUS

When Jesus was on earth He had an excellent opportunity to teach His followers which *Divine Name* to use. How did He tell **us** to address God?

**Matt. 6:9** “*YOU must pray, then, this way: ‘Our Father in the heavens,...’*”

**Luke 11:2** (NW) “*Then he said to them: ‘Whenever YOU pray, say, “Father...”*”

How did **He** address God?:

**John 17:11** “*Holy Father*”

: **25** “*Righteous Father*”

Jesus gave instructions for his followers to be baptized, keep His commandments etc. and even how to pray but He never told us to use the name **Jehovah**.

### YAHWEH or JEHOVAH?

The exact pronunciation of the name is not known today. The Society admitted in the 1969 edition of **The Kingdom Interlinear** p. 23:

“*While inclining to view the pronunciation ‘Yahweh’ as the more correct way, we have retained the form ‘Jehovah’ because of people’s familiarity with it since the 14<sup>th</sup> century.” New World Bible Translation Committee, February 9, 1950, New York, N. Y.*”

This is an amazing admission! If the name was so important why not use the *more correct* one and be known as *Yahweh Witnesses*? Why choose the one that has come to us from the dark ages and tradition?

### CALLED BY HIS NAME

The expression in the Bible called by His name does not mean that a person, building or city takes the **literal** name of God as their own name, but rather that they *live or function according to God’s will*:

**Isa. 43:6,7** “*...my sons... and my daughters... everyone that is called by my name...*”

**Jer. 34:15**, (NW) “*the house upon which my name has been called.*”

**Dan. 9:19**(NW) “*...your own name has been called upon your city and upon your people.*”

Neither the Jews, the Temple or Jerusalem were **literally** called by His name.

### THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

- For **Salvation**:  
**Acts 4:12**(NW) “*Furthermore, there is no salvation in anyone else, for there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved.*”

The message is clear **no other name** for salvation. See also:

**John 20:30**(NW) “*have life by means of his (Jesus) name*”

**1John 5:13**(NW) “*... You have life everlasting, YOU who put YOUR faith in the name of the Son of God*”

- For **Witnessing**:  
**Acts 1:8**(NW) “*...and YOU will be witnesses of me...*”

**Acts 8:12**(NW) “*Philip, who was declaring.. the name of Jesus Christ*”

**Acts 9:15**(NW) “*... (Paul)... a chosen vessel to me to bear my name to the nations...*”

- For **Everything**:  
**Col. 3:17**(NW) “*... do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus...*”

### JESUS and JEHOVAH

The Society book **Let God Be True** (1952) p. 31 says:

“*... the name Jesus or Jeshua is just the shortened form of the Hebrew name Jehoshua, meaning Jehovah is the Savior.*” (emphasis theirs)

Bible study reveals that the **Jehovah** of the Old Testament is usually identified in the New Testament as **Jesus**.

(Further information will be given on this subject)

However the Watchtower will not recognize this Bible truth. It creates a tension between the two names.

When the Bible in **Phil. 2:9** said that Jesus was given a name above **every name**, the Society added the word other in their New World Bible to read “*above every other name*”. They could not allow the name of **Jesus** to be above the name of **Jehovah!** The truth of the matter is: “**Jesus**” is **identical with** “**Jehovah**” This name is “*above every name*”.

(Check Phil.2:9 in the **Kingdom Interlinear**. The word **other** is not in the Greek text at all! See Rev. 22:18!)

## Chapter 18

# Jesus is Lord

### “JESUS IS LORD!”

A Witness finds it difficult to accept Christ's Deity because:

**1 Cor.12:3** (NW) “... *nobody can say: ‘Jesus is Lord!’ except by holy spirit.*”

The Greek word for *Lord* is “*Kyrios*”. When the New World Bible “restored” the name “*Jehovah*” 237 times in its translation, it was usually translated from *Kyrios*. If the Society had been consistent they would have translated the above verse “*Jesus is Jehovah!*” Its context demands it!

It is a great truth which can only be fully understood by a person totally “*led by God's spirit*” However, the Bible teaches in **Rom. 8:14-17** that those who are “*led by the spirit*” are also “*joint heirs*” with Christ. Most Witnesses believe they do not belong in this “class” who are considered *born again* and *heavenly*. (Discussed in previous chapters)

So these people according to the Bible and the teachings of the Watchtower Society are completely unable to comprehend this truth.

For this reason it is best not to start your discussions with a Witness on the subject of the Trinity. When you do, then start on the Holy Spirit first. Only when they accept Him will they be able to exclaim in all its significance, “*Jesus is Lord!*”

### 1. THE MIGHTY GOD

**Isa. 9:6** Jesus is called the *Mighty God*. A Witness is quick to point out that it does not say *Almighty* (see p. 17). However in **Isa, 10:20-21** (NW) *Mighty God* is the term used for *Jehovah!* Study the following texts in various Bible versions:

- Isa. 10:21, Jer. 32:18, Deut. 10:17

### 2. JESUS WAS THE CREATOR

**John 1:3**(NW) “*all things came into existence through him, and apart from him not even one thing came into existence.*”

This text is clear Jesus created everything. Nothing that was created was created apart from Him. This means Jesus was not a created being! The Father did not create Him!

- See Heb. 1:2, then Col. 1: 16-17:

### 3. AN UNCREATED CREATOR?

The Society likes to denigrate Jesus and teach He was a created being, a *god* John 1:1 (NW) like the created angels and Satan. John 1:3 (see above) teaches differently and Col. 1: 16,17 is even more emphatic:

**Col. 1: 16-17** (NW) “by means of *him all things were created* in the heavens and upon the earth ... *All things have been created through him* and for him. *Also he is before all things* and by means of him *all things were made* to exist. “ (Emphasis all mine)

Unfortunately Col. 1: 16-17 as above is *not* how the *New World Bible* reads. Four times the word (*other*) has been added in between *all things*. This word does not appear in the Greek text at all. It is a wicked addition (see Rev.22:18) and it completely alters the great truth concerning Jesus Christ and His deity.

The inference is that Christ was *created* and then He created all *other* things. How can trusting Jehovah's Witnesses ever find truth with such a dishonest *New World Bible*?

Buy a *The Kingdom Interlinear* and check how many other Bible texts dealing with the Godhead/Trinity subject have been tampered with.

### 4. WHO CREATED ADAM?

**Gen.2:7**(NW) “*And Jehovah God proceeded to form the man out of dust from the ground...*”

Was this the *Father* who came down in person to planet Earth and formed Adam from the ground or was it *Jesus*? From the previous texts it is clear it was *Jesus*. He was working of course in complete unity with His Father and the Holy Spirit.

- *Jesus* is called “*Jehovah God*”.

### 5. TWO JEHOVAHS?

Are there two *Jehovahs*? Yes!  
**Gen. 19:24** “*Then Jehovah made it rain sulphur and fire from Jehovah, from the heavens, upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah.*”

**Gen. 3:22** (NW) “*And Jehovah God went on to say: ‘Here the man has become like one of us ...*”

**Gen. 11:6,7**(NW) “*After that Jehovah said... Come now! Let us go down*”

### 6. JEHOVAH AND ABRAHAM

**Gen.18:1** (NW) “*Afterward Jehovah appeared to him...*”

**V. 3**, “*Then he said: ‘Jehovah, if...’*”

**V. 13,14**, “*Then Jehovah said ... Is anything too extraordinary for Jehovah?*”

**V. 22**, “*... but as for Jehovah, he was still standing before Abraham.*”

**V. 33** “*Then Jehovah went his way when he had finished speaking...*”

This visit to Abraham was made by *Jehovah* Himself! He continually referred to Himself as “*I*” as He made decisions and told Abraham he would have a son. This was not an angel!

It was *not* God the *Father* either:

**John 6:46**, “*Not that any man has seen the Father,*”

**John 5:37**, “*...the Father ... YOU have neither heard his voice at any time nor seen his figure:*”

It was *Jesus Christ* and He claimed it was Himself:

**John 8:56-58**(NKJ) “*Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day,...*”

*Then the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old and have You seen Abraham?’*”

*Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’*”

### 7. WHO WAS THE “I AM”?

*Jesus* claimed *He* was! That He was the Deity of Exodus 3:13,14, that *He* was that *Jehovah!* The Jews understood perfectly what Jesus was claiming but they would not accept this so in **John 8:59** they took up stones to stone Him for *blasphemy*, “*calling Himself God*”.

The Watchtower Society will not accept it also, so they have changed the text in their *New World Bible* to read *I have been* instead of *I AM*.

Once again you can check how dishonest they have been. Their own *Kingdom Interlinear* will show the true translation of the Greek words, *ego eimi* is *I am*.

In the *New World Bible* they do not translate **Exodus 3:13,14** as *I am* either (although the *LXX* did!) so the truth of **John 8:58** would be lost.

This was the Society's attempt to completely obliterate this truth !



## Chapter 19

# The Deity of Jesus Christ

### THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST

In the preceding chapters we have been introduced to the Biblical truth that Jesus Christ was fully Divine. The following is a summary of further proofs of His Deity because *Jesus is*:

#### 1. CALLED GOD

Check the following texts in various Bible versions. The *New World Bible*, as already discussed is sometimes a biased if not a dishonest translation. It is always wise to check it with an interlinear translation. However, we will continue to quote it wherever possible:

- **Isa. 9:6, John 1:1, 20:28, Rom. 9:5, Titus 2:13, Hebrews 1:8**

#### 2. PART OF THE GODHEAD

**Col. 2:9** (NKJ) *“In him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;”*

#### 3. ETERNAL

**Isaiah 9:6** *“Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father...”*

#### 4. KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

**Rev. 17:14** *“These will battle the Lamb, but, because he is Lord of lords, and King of Kings, the Lamb will conquer them.”*

- In 1 Tim. 6:15 Paul applies these titles to **God**.

#### 5. OMNIPRESENT

**Matt. 18:20** *“For where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there I am in their midst.”*

#### 6. OMNISCIENT

**John 21:17** *“Lord, you know all things;”*

#### 7. OMNIPOTENT

He not only created all things, but the preservation of this creation also depends upon His omnipotence.

- See Col. 1: 16-17, Hebrews 1:3

#### 8. COMMANDED AS DEITY

The prophets all spoke with *“Thus saith the Lord”* but **Jesus** said, *“I say unto you”*

- See **Matt. 5: 28, 32, 34, 39, 44.**

#### 9. TO BE WORSHIPPED

When Jesus was born into this world the Father commanded: Heb.1:6 (NW 1961) *“And let all God’s angels worship him.”*

- **Matt. 4:10**, Only God should be worshipped. Rev.19:10, 22:8,9

#### 10. ACCEPTS PRAYER

**John 14:14** The original Greek text (see *Kingdom Interlinear*) says, *“If ever anything YOU should ask ME in the name of me this I shall do”* (Bold print emphasis mine)

- **Acts 7:59, Rev. 22:20** are some examples of prayers to Jesus.

#### 11. JEHOVAH

Many references to *Jehovah* in the Old Testament are identified as **Jesus** in the New Testament:

**Isa. 40: 10** rewards **Rev. 22:12**  
**Isa. 44:6** first and last **Rev. 22:13**  
**Ps. 102:24** laid foundations **Heb.1:10**  
**Isa. 43:11** only Savior **Acts 4:12**  
**Dent. 32:3,4** the Rock **1 Cor. 10:4**  
**Isa. 45:21,23** every knee **Phil.2:10**  
**Ps. 68:18** ascended **Eph. 4:7,8**

#### QUESTIONS

Your witness friends will have many questions. In a publication this size it is impossible to give all the answers, but these may be helpful:

##### a. Revelation 3:14

Jesus was *“the beginning of the creation by God”*(NW) The word for *beginning* (*arche*) also means *origin* or *Beginner*. The NW has dishonestly translated *by God* when the Greek clearly is *of God* (see **K.I. T.**)

Rev. 3:14(NKJV) says: *“...the Beginning of the creation of god”*

Jesus as the Creator, John 1:3 was the One who began God’s creation. Everything that was created, was created *by Him*.

##### b. Colossians 1:15

Jesus is *“the first born of all creation.”* In the Bible *first born* does not mean *born first*:

Ps. 89:20,27 David the eighth son of Jesse is called first born. See also:

Ex. 4:22 Esau was born before Israel. Jer.31:9 Manasseh before Ephraim. Col.1:18(KIT) shows *first born* meant the one *holding first place* - a fitting

title for Christ as Creator and Sustainer of the Universe.

##### c. Proverbs 8:23.

*“Jehovah himself produced me...”*  
 The Hebrew word *Qana* translates *possessed* not *produced*.

Proverbs 8 is speaking about Wisdom. There was never a time Jehovah did not *possess* Wisdom. He did not have to *produce* it. Likewise there was never a time He did not possess Jesus, the Creator and master worker.

##### d. John 1:1.

Jesus could not be with God and at the same time be God? A person can be with a human being and at the same time be a human being. The emphasis is that Jesus is of the same *essence* as the Father, fully Divine.

##### e. John 14:28.

*“My Father is greater than I.”*  
 How can the two be equal? A married couple are both equally human (in *essence*), but the Bible says the husband is greater (in *rank*) than the wife. This does not make the wife inferior or less human. Father and Son are equally Divine. Jesus has:

Matt.28:18 All *authority* given Him.

John 5:22 All *judging* given Him.

John 5:23. *Honor* just as the Father.

John 1:3. He *created all things*.

##### f. Mark 13:32.

The Father knew the time of His coming but not the Son. How could they be equal, and Jesus omniscient?

Was it Jesus *could not know* or *chose not to know*? See Acts 1:6,7.

##### g. Habukkuk 1:12.

God can not die, but Jesus did? Jesus had a *dual nature*. He was both the Son of Man and the Son of God. It was His *humanity* that died. His *divinity* could not die. Jesus said that He had power to lay down His life and power to take it up again, John 10: 18. He also said that if his body temple was destroyed that *“in three days I will raise it up.”* John 2:19-21.

##### h. John 17:3.

Salvation is knowing the *only true God and Jesus Christ*. Jesus is separate from the *only true God*?

Acts 4:12 says *“there is no salvation in anyone else”* than Jesus Christ. He must therefore to be a member of the *only true God* or *Godhead*

## Chapter 20

# The Cross or “Torture Stake”?

### DOES IT MATTER?

The Watchtower Society teaches that Jesus was *impaled on a torture stake* and not crucified on a “T” cross with a cross beam.

The cross was a pagan symbol from antiquity. It was certainly a “*cross of shame*” (See below)

However, the Society considers believing Jesus died in this manner is to believe another pagan doctrine “*like the Trinity*”.

To them it is a big issue and one that has to be answered as it effectively isolates Witnesses from all other Christians and churches.

However, all the evidence from:

- Bible

- History and • Archaeology

does not support the Society’s claim:

### THE BIBLE EVIDENCE

The Bible does not state clearly which type of cross it was, but the evidence favors a “T” cross:

#### a. Inscription Above Christ’s Head.

- **Matt. 27:37** (NW) It was posted “*above his head*”.

- **John 19:19, 20** It was written in *Hebrew, Latin and Greek*.

If He was on a stake, the sign in the three languages would have been too big to be posted “*above his head*” between his up stretched arms. It would have been posted “*above his hands*” or “*body*” and the Bible would have said exactly that!

#### b. The Nails in His Hands.

- **John 20:25**(NW) “*Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails*”

Only one nail was used to impale the hands on a **stake**. Two nails were used on a “T” cross.

#### c. A Cross of Shame.

- **Phil.2:8 and Gal. 5:11** emphasize that Christ died a most shameful, degrading and cruel type of death.

The **cross** was the most cruel and symbolically shameful of the two!

#### d. Peter’s Death.

- **John 21:18,19** Jesus told Peter the “*kind of death*” he would die ... would “*stretch out your hands*”.

This would be crucifixion with a cross beam. He is believed to have died this way c 67 A. D. in fulfillment of this prophecy, but chose to be crucified upside down because he felt unworthy to be crucified like Jesus who he had denied.



The above illustration is from the book, *The Harp of God*,(1928) p.114. For over fifty years the Society taught that Jesus was crucified on this type of a cross.

### HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

Christians such as Irenaeus (second century A.D.) speak of Jesus’ cross as having a cross beam, and the *Epistle of Barnabas* X, 8 which was written earlier speaks of the cross as having the shape of a Greek letter TAU (“T”)

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

#### a. Skeletal Remains of a Man Who had Died by Crucifixion.

In 1968 in an ancient cemetery at Giv’at Ha-Mitar just north of Jerusalem archaeologists unearthed the skeleton of a man Yehohanan who had been crucified between the age of 24 and 28 about the same time as Christ.

From *Buried History* Vol. 9, No 2, (June 1973) pp. 38,39, “...the arm bones were scratched around the nails, by Yehohanan’s writhings, some two inches above the wrist bones ... Scholars in Jerusalem believe that the posture revealed in the anatomical report indicated the usual position for **crucifixion** used in the city at that time.”

These scholars were Israelis, not Christians who could have been biased in their report.

#### b. Drawings in the Catacombs.

Some graffiti has been found in the catacombs featuring a “T” cross. But the following graffiti, in the Museum on the Palatine Hill in Rome was done by a non Christian mocking their beliefs. It featured a Christian worshipping a crucified ass, labeled:

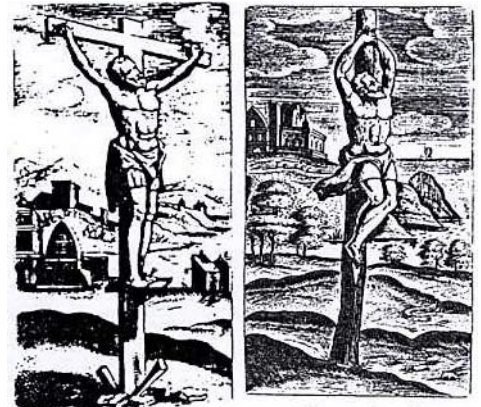
*Alexamenos worships his God*



**JUSTUS LIPSIUS**

The Catholic scholar Justus Justus of the 16<sup>th</sup> century wrote *De Cruce Liber Primus*. It featured many woodcut illustrations of crucifixion. Most had cross beams. On pages 46-47 was a “T” cross with Irenaus’ description of the cross of Christ.

However, the Society ignored the above and featured the illustration of a Crux simplex. In *The Kingdom Interlinear*,(1969) p.1155 they wrote: “*This is the manner in which Jesus was impaled*”.



Christ's cross

Crux simplex

### THE CROSS OF CHRIST

The cross of Jesus Christ is not to be revered nor repudiated. Readers are urged to be careful that while they are contending over the method of Christ’s crucifixion that they are not missing out on a personal relationship with the One who was crucified, and the benefits of this most wonderful outworking of Divine love!

## Chapter 21

# The Commandments of God

### JUDGED BY WHICH LAW?

The Bible says very specifically that "... by **the law** is the knowledge of **sin**." Rom. 3:20 and that "*where there is no law, neither is there any transgression.*" Rom.4:15

The problem is to discover what laws Christians should or should not keep today.

Since **law** defines **sin** and the "**wages of sin is death**" Rom. 6:23 it is very important to know exactly by what **law** we are going to be judged.

### A WHOLE LAW TO BE KEPT

There is a whole law to be kept:

**James 2:10-12** "*For whoever shall keep the whole law (Gr. ολον τον νομον) and yet stumble in one point he is guilty of all. For He who said, 'Do not commit adultery,' also said, 'Do not murder'. Now if you do not commit adultery but do murder you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty.*"

This law contains:

- Do not commit adultery
- Do not murder

ie. The **Ten Commandments** which were written on *stone* by the finger of God and placed *inside* the Ark.

It has been called by Christians the **Moral Law** and most churches believe they should keep it.

### A LAW NOT TO BE KEPT!

**Gal. 5:1-3** tells of a "**whole law**" (Gr. ολον τον νομον) *not* to be kept.

This law contains:

- Circumcision

ie. The **Law of Moses** which was written in a *book* by *Moses* and placed *outside* of the ark.

It has been called by Christians the **Ceremonial Law** and is not kept by Christians.

### THE TWO LAWS

When a person living before Christ sinned the **ceremonial laws** told them what animal sacrifices they had to make to earn forgiveness. But these **ceremonial laws** finished with the blood and sacrifice of Jesus.

When Jesus died, forgiveness now came through His blood and sacrifice and these **ceremonial laws were finished**. Paul had to emphasize to the Jews that they could no longer be saved by any such "*works of the law*". Salvation was only in Christ. He was the "*end of the law*" that had given them forgiveness, now they had to accept it by faith in Him, Rom. 10:4

But Jesus was not the end of the **commandments**. Paul summed it up: **1 Cor. 7:19** "*Circumcision is nothing ... but keeping the commandments of God is what matters.*"

The **commandments** point out sin and show the sinner his need of a Savior. True Christians keep them:

### KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS

**Matt. 19:16,17** "*if you will enter into life keep the commandments.*"

**1 John 2:3,4** "*Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him and does not keep His commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him.'*"

**1 John 5:2,3** "*By this we know that we love the children of God, when we keep His commandments.*"

*For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.*

**Rev. 12:17** "*...who keep the commandments of God*".

**Rev. 14:12** "*...here are those who keep the commandments of God.*"

*Jesus' invitation to us, is:*

**John 14:15** "*If you love Me, keep My commandments.*"

### TO KEEP THEM OR NOT?

Watchtower publications often quote the Ten Commandments. Nine of which they teach very literally. Members can be disfellowshipped if they break them.

But there is a problem with the fourth commandment. They do not want to keep the seventh-day Sabbath! The Society alters its attitude towards this Law and now teaches it was only given to the Jews. The texts which show the **ceremonial laws** finished with Christ's death, are now used to teach we are no longer *under the Ten Commandments*.

With the Ten Commandment law gone with its Sabbath, they then work to show the other nine are still to be kept **literally** by Christians. The Sabbath is re-interpreted to be kept **spiritually**. (See next chapter)

Finally they conclude:

"... even though we are not under that law today, the divine **principles** behind it are still of great value to us. By studying and **applying** them we will grow in appreciation for the great Lawgiver Jehovah God.' **You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth**, p. 207

However can one appreciate the law of the great Lawgiver, and apply the **principles** of His commandments yet still refuse to **literally** keep **all** His commandments?

No wonder John wrote so strongly in **1 John 2:,3,4 and 5:2,3**. He sums up the situation perfectly.

### GOD'S TRUE CHURCH

**Rev. 12:17**, and **14:12**, God has a people in the last days of earth's history who **keep the commandments of God**. Yes! **All** of them!

See Is it the Watchtower? Ch. 6, by E. B. Price for a summary and illustration of the two Laws





## Chapter 22

# The Sabbath of Jehovah

### THE SABBATH OF JEHOVAH

**Exodus 20:8-11(NW)** “Remembering the sabbath day to hold it sacred ... for in six days **Jehovah** made the heavens and the earth ... and he proceeded to rest on the seventh day. That is why **Jehovah blessed** the sabbath day and proceeded to make it sacred.”

**Genesis 2:1-3** states Jehovah *rested, blessed* and made the Sabbath *sacred* at Creation after He had finished the work of creating.

Who was this “**Jehovah**”? The Bible tells us it was **Jesus Christ!** (See Chapter 18)

### LORD OF THE SABBATH

This is why the Creator, when He lived on earth claimed He was “**Lord even of the Sabbath**”.

**Mark 2:27,28** “The sabbath came into existence for the sake of man, and not man for the sake of the sabbath, hence the Son of man is **Lord even of the Sabbath**.”

Jesus was saying He made man first and then gave him the Sabbath for his benefit and well being.

When your Witness friend has discovered the truth about **Jehovah** they are thrilled to learn about His Sabbath. They are ready to accept Christ’s invitation, “If you love me **keep my commandments**.” But they will keep the Sabbath not because they feel they have to, but because they love the One who created it, rested, blessed and made it sacred!

### SABBATH THROUGH HISTORY

The Sabbath was instituted in Eden. It will continue throughout all eternity. Present this study to your friends and use the chart below:

### THE SABBATH REMAINS!

**Hebrews 4:9** (NW) “So there remains a sabbath (Gr. σαββατισμος) resting for the people of God”

The word σαββατισμος means keeping a weekly Sabbath. **Vv. 10,11** warn of disobedience for those who do not rest “just as God did” which in **V.4** says “God **rested on the seventh day from all his works**.”

When the Society teaches how nine of the Ten Commandments are given as Christian laws they purposely ignore this above passage and all the Bible evidence of Christians who kept the Sabbath after Christ’s death:

- Luke 23:54-56, Acts 13:14, 42-44, 16:13, 17:2, 18:4, 11.

### ANSWERS TO OBJECTIONS

**a. Meetings in Synagogues.** On two occasions, Paul held Christian meetings on the Sabbath which were not in Jewish synagogues:

**Acts 13:44(NW)** “The next **Sabbath** nearly all the city gathered together to hear the word of Jehovah.”

**Acts 16:13(NW)** Held *beside a river*.

**b. Col. 2:16,17.** The sabbath days which were a “*shadow of things to come*” were the Jewish holy days of the **ceremonial law** such as the Passover etc. which pointed forward to Christ. The seventh-day Sabbath was different, as it was instituted before man sinned and the sacrificial system commenced.

**c. Acts 15:28,29** The Sabbath was not mentioned in this list, but lying, killing, stealing etc. was not either! The Ten Commandment law was not under discussion.

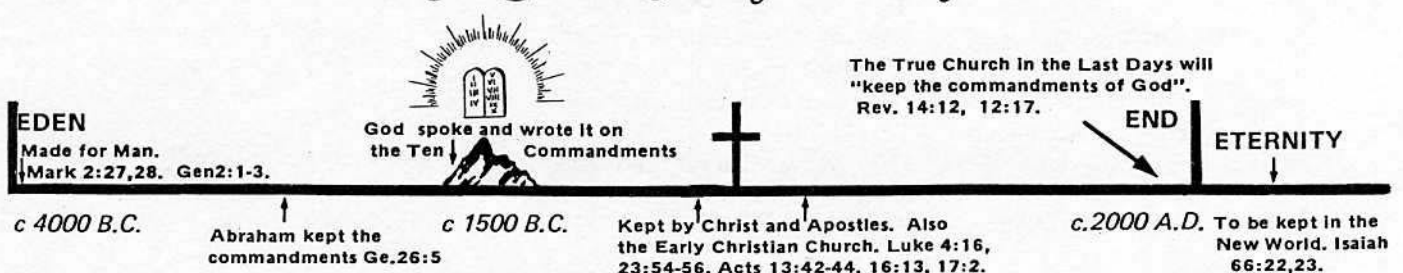
### THE DAYS OF CREATION

The Society teaches that each day of Creation and the Sabbath was a period of 7,000 years.

The Bible teaches these days were not long periods of time:

1. **God Spoke Everything into Existence.** See Heb. 11:3, Ps. 33:6,9.
  2. **The Days were a Period of Light and a Period of Darkness.** “the evening and the morning” made up each of the *days*.
  3. **Vegetation without Sunlight for 7,000 years?** It was created on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Day, - the Sun on the 4<sup>th</sup> Day!
  4. **Vegetation Had No Pollination by Insects for 21,000 years?** Insects were created on the 6<sup>th</sup> Day
  5. **A Mature Creation.** Everything was spoken into existence fully mature *vegetation bearing seed*.
  6. **Six Work Days then Seventh is the Sabbath.** Ex.20:8-11 links this with the Creation days.
  7. **Sun Divides a Literal Day.** “to make a division between the day and the night.” Gen. 1: 14 (NW)
  8. **God is Not Still Resting.** In Heb. 4:4 (NW) “And God **rested** on the seventh day.”
  9. **The Events of the Sixth Day.** All the events could have taken place in a 24 hour day, ie.:
- Early Morning.** Animals spoken into existence. Adam formed and created.  
**Mid Morning.** The animals named in a few hours.  
**Mid Afternoon.** Eve created. Then all would have been completed before the Sabbath which began at sun set.
10. **Day in the Bible when it has a Numeral in front of it, is Always a 24 Hour Day.** There are no exceptions!

## The Sabbath Throughout the Ages



## Chapter 23

# The Society and Medical Procedures

### A TRAGIC RECORD

Some of the doctrinal changes of the Watchtower Society, are harmless. Some like the *Men of Sodom* have even been amusing. (Eight times the Society changed its mind as to whether they will be resurrected!)

However, when it comes to **Medical Procedures** the Society's record is a tragic one involving its members in untold misery and death.

### VACCINATIONS? - NO!

The earliest Society mention of vaccinations seems to be recorded in the *Golden Age*, Feb. 4, 1931 p. 293:

*"Vaccination is a direct violation of the everlasting covenant that God made with Noah after the flood"*

A few years later the *Golden Age*, April 24, 1935 stated:

*"... As vaccination is a direct injection of animal matter in the bloodstream, vaccination is a direct violation of the law of Jehovah God"*

Many died as a result of this direction, especially children in epidemics such as diphtheria.

### VACCINATIONS? - YES!

What made the change? A.H. Macmillan, one of the Society's much loved leaders, gives a clue in his book, *Faith on the March*, pp. 188-9:

*"...all of us who visit our foreign branches are vaccinated or we stay at home."*

After World War 2 the Society was growing rapidly in foreign lands. In order for the leaders to attend assemblies in these places they had to be vaccinated or they were not allowed to attend.

Despite the deaths of faithful members or their children who were refused vaccinations, the leaders had them! Eventually *The Watchtower*, (1952) p. 764 was asked by a reader:

*"Is vaccination a violation of God's law..?"*

Then came the admission:

*"... all objection to vaccination on Scriptural ground seems to be lacking."*

Apologies for all the needless deaths? - - None!

### ORGAN TRANSPLANTS

In *The Watchtower*, Nov.15, 1967 p.702-4 the question was asked if there was any Scriptural objection to **organ transplants?**

The answer: **It was Cannibalistic!**  
*"Those who submit to such operations are thus living off the flesh of another human. That is cannibalistic."*

This was reinforced by *Awake*, June 8, 1968, p.21:

*"There are those, such as the Christian witnesses of Jehovah, who consider all transplants between humans as cannibalism;"* (Emphasis theirs)

As a result of these statements Jehovah's Witnesses refused **all** transplants. Some needing heart or kidney transplants needlessly died. Others continued to needlessly suffer.

In *The Watchtower*, March 15, 1980, pp. 17,18 appeared an apology for the 1975 date. Then on page 31 the question was asked:

*"Should congregation action be taken if a baptized Christian accepts a human organ transplant, such as of a cornea or a kidney?"*

The answer: **It was not Cannibalism!**

*"...organ transplants are different from cannibalism since the 'donor' is not killed ... The congregational judicial committee would not take disciplinary action if someone accepted an organ transplant."*

An apology for the needless deaths and suffering? No!

### BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

Like vaccinations and organs transplants, the Society's opposition to blood transfusions depends upon its interpretation of scripture.

After the Flood God allowed man to eat meat but **not to eat blood**. This was repeated for the Jews in the Law of Moses and confirmed for Christians when that Law was under review at Jerusalem. See Gen. 9:4, Lev. 17:13-15, Acts 15:1-6,20.

Today, faithful Christians and Jews still do **not eat blood**. However the Society interprets this as **"not have a blood transfusion!"**

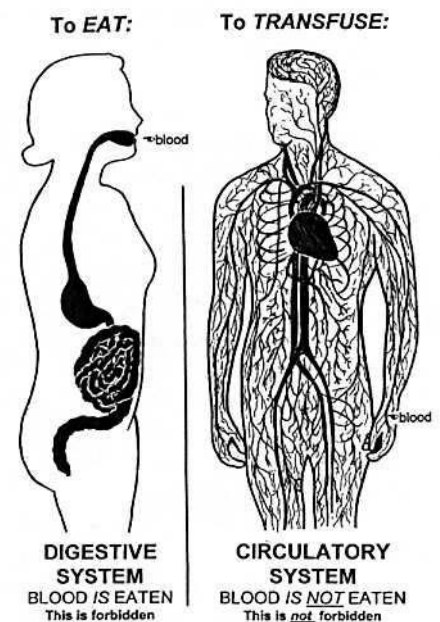
### TWO DIFFERENT PROCESSES

#### To EAT:

Food is taken into the body by the mouth, masticated and swallowed. It is then **eaten, changed** and absorbed into the body. If this happened to blood it would destroy it as such.

#### To TRANSFUSE

The blood is taken into the body by the veins. It is **not eaten**, but remains **unchanged** as blood with its corpuscles to fight disease and carry oxygen to the brain.



### OF BEASTS AND FOWLS ONLY

Lev. 17:13-15 Blood of **beasts and fowls only** was forbidden. It did not include **fish**, strangled in nets, which they ate but did not bleed.

### EATING MEAT - AND BLOOD!

*Meat Science*, (1974) pp. 132-3: *"Even with effective bleeding only about 50% of the total blood is removed..."*

Strict Jews kosher kill their meat then soak it in brine, and squeeze the blood out. Adventists prefer the bloodless diet of Eden. However, Witnesses **eat** meat oozing **blood!**

### WHEN?

Yes! how long will it be before the Society will eventually admit:

*"... all objection to blood transfusions on scriptural ground seem to be lacking."?*

## Chapter 24

# Attitudes

### ATTITUDES

The attitudes of the Watchtower Society today concerning Birthdays, Mother's Day, Christmas and many other teachings were greatly influenced by Judge Rutherford.

#### J. F. RUTHERFORD 1917-1942

Rutherford became the second president of the Society after Pastor Russell died in 1916. He was not Russell's choice of a successor. Men he seized control of the Society he caused a division in the organization.

Almost immediately he began to change Russell's doctrines and wean the people's affection for him. It is estimated that in a ten year period he altered 148 of his teachings.

Many of Rutherford's new doctrines and attitudes reflected his own personality and life style:

*Witnesses of Jeltovah*, pp. 45-50 tells how his wife Mary and son Malcolm left him and went to live in Los Angeles. One of the reasons given was his "*choleric and self righteous temperament and what was quite evidently a serious case of alcoholism*".

Rutherford is also described in all his *self-righteousness*, driving expensive Cadillacs and living an extravagant life style in the Beth-Sarim mansion:

*"The Judge pointed his finger at the doomed world of decadent people while himself enjoying fine liquor, quality cigars, and the company of female traveling companions."*

#### BIRTHDAYS & MOTHER'S DAY

Under Russell's leadership the people had enjoyed celebrating such occasions. But now Rutherford's publications conderimed them.

Could the reasons be?:

##### 1. Attitude to Pastor Russell.

Russell's followers had loved him and were reticent to give up his teachings. He was a real "cult figure", so to counter this, Rutherford began to oppose this as "*creature worship*".

##### 2. Attitude to His Family.

After Rutherford's wife and only son left him, Birthdays and Mother's Days would bring him little joy.

#### 3. His "Self-Righteousness".

Teaching these *days* were *pagan* suited Rutherford's nature and it also gave the members a feeling of self-righteousness. *Yearbook 1975*, p. 147:

*"... we had never known before they were pagan... we felt we were privileged to know things that others were ignorant about."*

Scriptural support for it? There is none. To argue birthdays should not be celebrated because "*the pagans did*" would be to stop worshipping, praying, etc. because the pagans did!

#### CHRISTMAS

Christmas was celebrated by the Society until Rutherford in 1926, also declared it "*pagan*" and "*creature worship*". As his opposition to the Deity of Christ grew these words took on a new meaning:

- "*Creature*" Jesus was only a created being or *creature*.
- "*Worship*" Jesus was not to receive *worship*. Christmas carols like, "*O Come Let Us Adore Him.*" were now offensive to these new beliefs. Previously the 1925 *Manna* book on "*December 25*" read:

*"Although we cannot agree that this is the proper day for celebrating the birth of our dear Redeemer... we may properly enough join with all whose hearts are in the attitude of love and appreciation toward God and toward the Saviour."*

#### PAGAN CUSTOMS

The Society has no problems with other pagan customs such as wedding rings; the names for the days and months of the year; starting the day at midnight instead of the Biblical sunset and holding worship services on the day dedicated to the Sun god! Why such inconsistent attitudes?

#### GOVERNMENTS

Rutherford's anti-government attitude led him to reinterpret the *Higher Powers* in 1929 to mean *Jehovah God and Jesus Christ* rather than *worldly rulers and governors*.

Even after this *new light* was reversed in 1962, some of the anti-government attitudes still persist:

#### HONOURING PEOPLE

*The Truth Shall Make You Free*, p.312 records:

*"In 1929 the clear light broke forth... that Jehovah God and Christ Jesus, rather than worldly rulers and governors, are The Higher Powers."*

It was interpreted that to stand in honor of such a person was to *worship* them. Jehovah's Witnesses refused then to stand in *honor* of Royalty or Heads of State.

#### SALUTING FLAGS

The Society also contends that to salute a flag is "*an act of worship in direct violation of the first and second of the Ten Commandments*". *Awake!*, September 22, 1978.

The Society fails to distinguish between *worship* and *honor*. *The Bible* commands Christians to honor:

*1 Peter 2:17(NW)* "*Honor[men] of all sorts, ...have honor for the king.*"

To *honor* the king one would stand; to *honor* his flag one would salute but to *worship* one would kneel.

#### IN TIME OF WAR

Seventh-day Adventists believe in time of war, Christians should *not kill* but should try to save life.

**Matt. 8:5-10** Jesus healed the servant of a Roman soldier. He did not refuse because they were part of the army.

Witnesses would do well to follow the attitude of Jesus.

#### GIVING TO CHARITIES

The Society discourages its members from supporting any charities other than its own organization.

Witnesses can receive help from other charities but not give it.

Some years ago an Adventist missionary pilot saved the life of a leading Witness missionary in Papua New Guinea. However, Witnesses are still not allowed to donate towards this life saving work.

A former Witness observed, "*We used to be able to accept help from the charities of Babylon the Great, but not assist them!*"

This attitude is not the *Golden Rule* that Jesus taught.



# Appendix

## "THE TIME IS AT HAND" (What was foretold for 1914)

*Times of the Gentiles.*

77

1914; and that that date will be the farthest limit of the rule of imperfect men. And be it observed, that if this is shown to be a fact firmly established by the Scriptures, it will prove:—

Firstly, That at that date the Kingdom of God, for which our Lord taught us to pray, saying, "Thy Kingdom come," will have obtained full, universal control, and that it will then be "set up," or firmly established, in the earth.

Secondly, It will prove that he whose right it is thus to take the dominion will then be present as earth's new Ruler; and not only so, but it will also prove that he will be present for a considerable period before that date; because the overthrow of these Gentile governments is directly caused by his dashing them to pieces as a potter's vessel (Psa. 2:9; Rev. 2:27), and establishing in their stead his own righteous government.

Thirdly, It will prove that some time before the end of A. D. 1914 the last member of the divinely recognized Church of Christ, the "royal priesthood," "the body of Christ," will be glorified with the Head; because every member is to reign with Christ, being a joint-heir with him of the Kingdom, and it cannot be fully "set up" without every member.

Fourthly, It will prove that from that time forward Jerusalem shall no longer be trodden down of the Gentiles, but shall arise from the dust of divine disfavor, to honor; because the "Times of the Gentiles" will be fulfilled or completed.

Fifthly, It will prove that by that date, or sooner, Israel's blindness will begin to be turned away; because their "blindness in part" was to continue only "until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in" (Rom. 11:25), or, in other words, until the full number from among the Gentiles, who are to be members of the body or bride of Christ, would be fully selected.

Sixthly, It will prove that the great "time of trouble such

## "MILLIONS NOW LIVING" (The Resurrection to be in 1925)

*Millions Now Living Will Never Die*

31

less unto you and ye shall return every man unto his possessions and we shall return even

— 1925 before the end of the century would end in the fall of the year 1925, at which time the type ends and the great antitype must begin. What, then, should we expect to take place? In the type there must be a full restoration; therefore the great antitype must mark the beginning of restoration of all things. The chief thing to be restored is the human race to life; and since other Scriptures definitely fix the fact that there will be a resurrection of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and other faithful ones of old, and that these will have the first favor, we may expect 1925 to witness the return of these faithful men of Israel from the condition of death, being resurrected and fully restored to perfect humanity and made the visible, legal represen-

*Millions Now Living Will Never Die*

33

can never be a part of the heavenly class; they had no heavenly hopes; but God has in store something good for them. They are to be resurrected as perfect men and constitute the princes or rulers in the earth, according to his promise. (Psalm 45:16; Isaiah 32:1; Matthew 8:11). Therefore we may confidently expect that 1925 will mark the return of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the faithful prophets of old, particularly those named by the Apostle in Hebrews chapter eleven, to the condition of human perfection.

## "THE WAY TO PARADISE" (The Resurrection in 1925)

224

*The Way to Paradise*

privilege of the heavenly invitation. God proved that he could easily find enough from the Gentiles to fill all the places of highest honor in his kingdom. This will be very humiliating to the Jews when they see what they have missed.

The Jewish legal year begins in the fall, about our October first. The year 1926 would therefore begin about October first, 1925. It would be very reasonable to expect to see some beginning of God's favor returning to the Jewish people, as a part of the world, shortly after that date. Many of the Jews are already looking longingly towards their old home-land, Palestine. God's limit of time to the Gentiles as nations expired in 1914, as we have already seen. Thus as the Jewish nation, as a nation, lost favor with God when they crucified Jesus, and the Gentile nations have no further recognition by God as nations, Christ will soon begin to deal with the world as individuals, commencing with the Jew first, through the ancient worthies. We should, therefore, expect shortly after 1925 to see the awakening of Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Melchisedec, Job, Moses, Samuel, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, John the Baptist, and others mentioned in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews.

These will form a nucleus of the new kingdom on earth. One of the first things necessary will be to put Jerusalem in condition to be the capital of the world. This will necessitate a great deal of work, but there will be many willing

228

*The Way to Paradise*

every one that asketh receiveth, and he that dances. Even so it takes a while longer you will be that much better prepared.

You will have secured the services of the best decorators you can find. Some of them used to be undertakers; but since there are no more people dying, they have had to seek some new occupation. Their experience as undertakers prepared them to become decorators with very little difficulty.

You have made all preparations for father and mother. The home is all ready; a special room is prepared for them, fitted with everything you can think of that might give pleasure and delight. You then call up the princes at Jerusalem, state your case, and make request that your father and your mother might be

*Princes in All the Earth*

229

awakened. In joyful expectancy you wait. Some morning you hear talking in the room you have prepared. There was no one there last night. You know that there are no thieves or intruders; for all such experiences have been eliminated. You do not need to be fearful; so you listen at the door. You hear father's familiar voice saying, "Mother, where are we? Are we dreaming? Why, I thought I attended your funeral last summer; then I was taken sick, and they had the doctor, and that is the last I can remember."

Mother says: "I don't understand it either

194

L I G H T

REV. 11

SACKCLOTH

"Sackcloth" is a symbol of reproach and mourning when applied to God's people: "For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me. When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach. I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them." (Ps. 69:9-11) Isaiah represented God's anointed people on earth and he prophesied in sackcloth. (Isa. 20:2) *The Watch Tower*, and its companion publications of the Society, for forty years emphasized the fact that 1914 would witness the establishment of God's kingdom and the complete glorification of the church. During that period of forty years God's people on earth were carrying on a witness work, which work was foreshadowed by Elijah and John the Baptist. All of the Lord's people looked forward to 1914 with joyful expectation. When that time came and passed there was much disappointment, chagrin and mourning, and the Lord's people were greatly in reproach. They were ridiculed by the clergy and their allies in particular, and pointed to with scorn, because they had said so much about 1914, and what would come to pass, and their 'prophecies' had not been fulfilled.

One wearing sackcloth usually puts it on himself. God's people on earth, after the reproach that came upon them following 1914, put sackcloth upon themselves as an evidence of mourning. (Lam. 2:10) This is proven by what appeared in *The Watch Tower*.

During the period of its publication *The Watch Tower* has been the mouthpiece of God's children on earth. Immediately following the end of the Gentile

232

*The Way to Paradise*

So your father and your mother will set about getting ready for their loved ones. When ready, the request is made; and in due time they also are awakened. The experience is somewhat similar, except that to the new arrivals the changes will seem even greater. When you speak over the telephone it will look to them as though you were speaking to an iron post with a cup fastened on one end and a string on the other so that it could not get away. "Talking to somebody a hundred miles away?" "Not much!" "You can't fool me that way." "You must think that we have lost our senses." "Some of the older ones will try to blow out the electric light at night, as they used to do with the old tallow candles. When you try to explain some of the wonderful conveniences of the new kingdom they will look at you somewhat sympathetically, and think that you are telling some "whoppers," and that you must think they have lost their minds to believe such stuff. When you suggest a ride in an aeroplane, "No, indeed! If I have gotten back to earth once, I intend to stay here. I shall not take any chances of being carried away again."

Won't it be fun to see the surprises when the dead begin to come back? It will continue until all in the graves have come forth. Then will go forth the challenge, "O grave, where is thy victory?"—1 Corinthians 15:55.

Some will say, "I see you do all your own work; where are your servants?" And you will answer, "Oh! We settled the servant question