
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES ARE FALSE WITNESSES

FOUNDER A FALSE WITNESS. The originator of Jehovah's Witnesses was Charles Taze Russell; it was in 1874. Not only did his prophecies not come to pass; Russell was anything but a truthful or honest man. Several incidents will suffice; they are a matter of record. He put himself off as an authority on the Greek language to help his image as a bible scholar. When on trial and under oath, Russell was asked, "Do you know Greek?" He replied, "Oh, yes." He was then handed a copy of the Greek New Testament and asked to read the letters of the Greek alphabet. He could not read one. In another court appearance, he at first denied and later admitted to embarrassing circumstances when his wife sued him for divorce on the grounds that he had improper relations with another woman. The "Brooklyn Eagle" in 1916 charged that he concocted a crooked scheme in the sale of so-called "Miracle Wheat" which he sold for exorbitant sums. Government officials said the wheat was actually of low quality rather than very high as Russell claimed. A court appearance revealed that \$990 out of every \$1,000 of the capital of his "societies" was in fact owned by Russell himself. This is not merely to slander the man but to show what kind of person he really was. Certainly his deeds do not reflect those of any of God's prophets.

J. W. DOCTRINE IS A RESURRECTION OF ARIANISM. From the very beginning, this cult denied the Deity of Christ and thus the Trinity also. In the fourth century, a Bishop named Arius taught that Jesus Christ was not God in the flesh but that He was a created being of God. In John 1:1 it says, "IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD." The J. W.'s produced their own Bible in 1970 which says the Word was "a god." (Of course this is very silly for these people to insist there is only one God when they themselves have created a lesser one to satisfy their own heresy). Russell said, "Our Redeemer...whose name was Michael (the archangel)...was highest of all Jehovah's creation." (Studies of the Scriptures, V. 84) Concerning the Trinity, a Watchtower publication, "Let God Be True" says, "Such doctrine is not of God." We are told to shun those who teach such heresy in II John where, after speaking about the Person of Christ, God says, "IF THERE COME ANY UNTO YOU, AND BRING NOT THIS DOCTRINE, RECEIVE HIM NOT INTO YOUR HOUSE, NEITHER BID HIM GOD SPEED: FOR HE THAT BIDDETH HIM GOD SPEED IS PARTAKER OF HIS EVIL DEEDS."

DENIES THE RESURRECTION AND CANNOT BE THE GOSPEL. In the book "Harp of God" V, 453, 4,

Russell says, "He was put to death a man, but was raised from the dead a spirit being...The man Jesus is dead, forever dead." One wonders how he can even speak of Jesus as a man when they teach "Jesus' birth on earth was not an incarnation." (from "What Has Religion Done?", p. 231). Without the virgin birth and the resurrection you do not have the Gospel of Christ. In I Corinthians 15 we read: "MOREOVER, BRETHREN, I DECLARE UNTO YOU THE GOSPEL WHICH I PREACHED UNTO YOU ... HOW THAT CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES; AND THAT HE WAS BURIED, AND THAT HE ROSE AGAIN THE THIRD DAY ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES." The Scripture knows no resurrection but that of the body. The entire passage of I Cor. 15 attests to that, along with many other passages. The J. W. gospel is clearly not the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore it comes under the curse of God. Galatians 1:8, "BUT THOUGH WE, OR AN ANGEL FROM HEAVEN, PREACH ANY OTHER GOSPEL UNTO YOU THAN THAT WHICH WE HAVE PREACHED UNTO YOU, LET HIM BE ACCURSED." That curse is repeated in verse 9.

THE J. W. MUST SAVE HIMSELF. This is true of all false systems; they teach that man must do something himself if he is to be saved. Salvation by works is always a sure sign that one does not know anything about God's plan of Salvation. Russell said in the previously mentioned book, "The 'Ransom for all' given by the man (another contradiction) Christ Jesus does not guarantee everlasting life or blessing to any man...it does guarantee to every man another opportunity or trial for life everlasting." He further stated, "...they, each for himself may have a full chance to prove, by obedience or disobedience, their worthiness or unworthiness of life eternal." If you believe the J. W. teaching then you must reject the Word of God, for it says, "NOT BY WORKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH WE HAVE DONE, BUT ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY HE SAVED US..." Titus 3:5. Also, Ephesians 2:8-9: "FOR BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD: NOT OF WORKS, LEST ANY MAN SHOULD BOAST." Either it is of works and therefore of one's own deserving, or it is a gift from God...without works! One tip off on every heretical system is somewhere you will find room for human effort in the realm of salvation.

THE EFFORT TO DO AWAY WITH HELL. The J. W.'s are not alone here – just about everyone today has endeavored to do away with eternal punishment. It is not a pleasant doctrine, but that does not give us the right to change it. Russell and all his followers today deny the

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Biblical teaching on judgement and hell. Rutherford, who succeeded Russell as the leader, said, "...hell is not a place of eternal torment." ("Harp of God", p. 53). Their book "Let god Be True" says, It is so plain that the Bible Hell is the tomb, the grave..." (pp. 72-3). Let us look at the Word of Jesus Christ, God's Son (the One these people claim to follow), concerning hell (Luke 16:23-31). "...the rich man also died, and was buried: And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments..." Now, according to their teaching we should read that this way: "And in the 'grave' he lift up his eyes..." Do you believe that? Could anything be more silly? You don't lift up anything in the grave. Four times that passage speaks of "torment" and Jesus said that it was a place of fire. You may believe, even as Billy Graham has stated, that hell may be just an eternal thirst for God, but I believe Jesus Christ! Men have been trying to get rid of eternal punishment for sin ever since sin came in, but you have to be a corrector of God's Son to do away with a real, literal, eternal hellfire. I did not invent it. I simply believe God and His Word. Along with their false doctrine about hell, the J. W.'s also teach that those who die without being saved here will get a second chance; if they do not accept it then, they will be annihilated. They will just cease to exist any longer. One may believe that if he wants to, but I prefer to believe god and not someone who "WRESTS THE SCRIPTURE TO HIS OWN DESTRUCTION." God says, "IT IS APPOINTED UNTO MAN ONCE TO DIE, BUT AFTER THIS THE JUDGMENT." Our Lord Jesus Himself warned of hell and that judgment was permanent and everlasting. "THEN SHALL HE SAY ALSO UNTO THEM ON THE LEFT HAND, DEPART FROM ME, YE CURSED, INTO EVERLASTING FIRE, PREPARED FOR THE DEVIL AND HIS ANGELS...AND THESE SHALL GO AWAY INTO EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT: BUT THE RIGHTEOUS INTO LIFE ETERNAL." (Matthew 25:41,46). Some people tell us that "everlasting" just means a long time. Yes, it is a long time; it is forever.

THE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES TEACH MANY OTHER ERRORS. Far too many to catalog here. A great deal of false teaching in this world comes from those who use all or parts of the Bible. The problem is these people inject their own ideas or those of other men into it. Of course, much of the difficulty comes from incorrect interpretation. One is free to make his own interpretation,

but he will be judged by the truth, not what he has decided. That is why the Word of God Itself exhorts us to "RIGHTLY DIVIDE THE WORD OF TRUTH." When someone has to explain away some portion of the Word, you may be sure that he has not been sent of God. Salvation is not a matter of understanding everything but believing. We simply believe what God has said about the birth of Christ, the resurrection, hell, etc. "BUT WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM: FOR HE THAT COMETH TO GOD MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS, AND THAT HE IS A REWARDER OF THEM THAT DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM." (Hebrews 11:6). Romans 3:4 says, "LET GOD BE TRUE BUT EVERY MAN A LIAR..." They have used that Scripture as a title for one of their books. However, that book, as well as all J. W. doctrine, makes God a liar, for it twists His Word to make Him say what He utterly abhors. God is true. His Word is truth. Will you believe God or some man...or some church?

"THIRTY YEARS A WATCH TOWER SLAVE" is a book by W. J. Schnell, a man who spent thirty years in that erroneous system until he was delivered by the lord. He states, "The Watch Tower leadership sensed that within the midst of Christendom were millions of professing Christians who were not well grounded in the truths once delivered unto the saints, and who could be rather easily pried loose from their churches..." There is only one way to be sure that you will not be taken in by these folks (many of them sincere) or by someone else. You must believe God's Word just as He gave it and judge everything according to its plain teaching. (This is a good reference book for those who would like more information. It is published by Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI 49506)

SOME BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTS:

There are two basic ingredients in all false religions.

1. Somewhere the teaching will contradict the Word of God. Usually in many places for error, like leaven, always grows.
2. They usually add to the Word of God by accepting the writings of their founders or others as equal with the Scriptures.

There are other give aways, they are always changing.

BUT TRUTH DOES NOT CHANGE!

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