### PRAY Equipped FALSE RELIGION: Jehovah's Witnesses

#### **IMPORTANT TO GOD TENSION**

RIBLE STUDY

EQUIPPED

WEDNESDAY
6:30PM

FOCUS: To understand FALSE RELIGIONS in relation to Christianity and be able to discuss it, lead people to the biblical truth of Christianity.



♥ 🏲 ∞ 🍛 PARABLE EX: Step into the Superbook Bible...

CONTEXT: Christianity & False US Religions

A TRUTH Jehovah's Witnesses are not Biblical Christians but a Jehovah's Witness can no longer be Jehovah's Witnesses and become a Christian.

CLARITY The goal is to share the Biblical truth so that they may become Christian.

Bring God Glory and Make Disciples
This is the foundational fuel for our
daily words, thoughts and deeds with
our heart, mind, soul and strength.

#### **Gospel-Centered Life**

Heart: Greatest Commandment(s)
Mind: God is still on the throne.
Soul: Never get over being saved.
Strength: Great Commission

Share the Biblical truth in brotherly love. Love like Christ, Live like Jesus

See more clearly, love more dearly, follow more nearly, day by day

We live in the flow of God's Sovereignty and move forward at the pace of faith.

REAL LIFE Remember Jesus saves and we want to give them the opportunity to be saved then live a sanctified life of holiness.

### LOVE LIKE CHRIST, LIVE LIKE JESUS BECOME & RESPOND

Compare the ESV to the New World Translation (Not a true Bible translation) of Jehovah's Witnesses the "Bible Students" reinterpret the Bible in the 1800's to bring about the 'truth".

So much perfect works or destroyed along the way Lots of reinterpretation of Scripture meaning is a regular part of Jehovah's Witnesses

### What happens after death?

## What Happens After Death?

#### **BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY**

Believers go to be with Jesus. After death, all people away the final judgment. Both saved, and unsafe people will be resurrected. Those who are saved with Jesus in heaven. Those who are lost, suffer the torment of eternal separation from God, hell. Jesus' bodily resurrection guarantees believers that they two will be resurrected and receive new immortal bodies.

#### **JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**

The 144,000 live as spirits in heaven. The rest of the righteous, "the great crowd", live on earth and must obey God perfectly for 1000 years or be annihilated.

## ESV Revelation 7:3,4 12,000 each from Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeaon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin

- 3 saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."
- 4 And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

v3 not servants but slaves of God v4 not worshippers but rulers with Jesus in heaven

### Revelation 7:9-10,14 More than 144,000 just out of the Tribulation constantly

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

14 I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

### https://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/watchtower-study-september-2019/great-crowd/

v9 the great multitude = the great crowd reveal in 1935 = works based, Heaven & Earth separated in the end times = 144,000 "slaves" bought from earth + perfectly obedient Christians rule in heaven those on Earth = great crowd also made up of Christians not fully obedient to God on earth but reasonably clean & remained in Christendom's churches = not enough zeal to be in Heaven with Jesus = could also be before the throne but not on the throne = millions on earth with 1000 years to prove their worth through perfect obedience or be considered rebelled and destroyed = no real Hell.

- 8 Thus, the Bible Students felt that there were three groups:
- (1) the 144,000, who would rule with Jesus in heaven;
- (2) the great crowd of less zealous Christians, who would stand before the throne of Jesus in heaven; and
- (3) millions of people who would be educated in Jehovah's ways on earth during Christ's Thousand Year Reign. b In Jehovah's due time, however, the light of truth began to shine ever brighter on this topic

9 In 1935 the identity of the great crowd in John's vision was clarified. Jehovah's Witnesses came to realize that the great crowd do not literally have to be in heaven to stand "before the throne and before the Lamb." Rather, their position is figurative. Even though they would live on earth, the great crowd could stand "before the throne" by recognizing Jehovah's authority and by submitting to his sovereignty. (Isa. 66:1) They could stand "before the Lamb" by exercising faith in Jesus' ransom sacrifice. Similarly, at Matthew 25:31, 32, "all the nations"—including the wicked—are said to be "gathered before" Jesus on his glorious throne. Clearly, all these nations are, not in heaven, but on earth. This adjusted understanding makes sense. It explains why the Bible does not say that the great crowd is raised to heaven. Only one group is promised everlasting life in heaven—the 144,000, who will "rule as kings over the earth" with Jesus.—Rev. 5:10.

### Matthew 25:34, 41, 46 There is only Heaven and Hell, with God or the Devil

- 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
- 41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
- 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

#### Who is Jesus?

#### **BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY**

Jesus is God, the second person of the Trinity. As God, the Son, He has always existed and was never created. He is fully God and fully man, truly God and truly man, the two natures joined, not mixed as the second person of the Trinity. He is co-equal with God the father, and the Holy Spirit. In becoming man he was begotten through the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus is the only way to the father, salvation and eternal life. He died on a cross, according to God's plan, as full sacrifice and payment for our sins. He arose from the dead on the third day, spiritually, and physically immortal. For the next 40 days, He was seen by more than 500 eyewitnesses. His wounds were touched, and he ate meals. He physically ascended to heaven. Jesus will come again, visibly and physically at the end of the world to establish God's kingdom and judge the world.

#### **JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**

Jesus is not God. Before he lived on earth, he was Michael, the archangel. Jehovah made the universe through him. On earth he was a man who lived a perfect life. After dying on a stake (not a cross), he was resurrected as a spirit, his body was destroyed. Jesus is not coming again, he "returned" invisibly in 1914 in spirit. Very soon, he and the angels will destroy all non-Jehovah's Witnesses.

#### Who is Jesus?

## John 20:30-31 Jesus is the Christ, The Son of God

- 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;
- 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

#### NWT John 20:30-31

- 30 To be sure, Jesus also performed many other signs before the disciples, which are not written down in this scroll.
- 31 But these have been written down so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and **because of believing**, you **may have life by means of his name**.

Honoring what Jesus Christ has done (life, death, resurrection) vs honoring what man has done by believing

### Luke 1:35 The Power of the Holy Spirit Conceives Jesus in Virgin Mary

35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

#### 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 Christ Died for All

14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died;

15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

### John 1:1-2 Jesus has Always Existed

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God.

#### **NWT John 1:1-2**

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god.
- 2 This one was in the beginning with God.

Jesus is a god, not the God which is not Biblically accurate.

### https://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/wp20130301/when-jesus-created-why-son/

When was Jesus created? (According to Jehovah's Witnesses)

God created Jesus before creating Adam. In fact, God created Jesus and then used him to make everything else, including the angels. That is why the Bible calls Jesus "the firstborn of all creation" by God.—Read Colossians 1:15, 16.

Before he was born in Bethlehem, Jesus lived as a spirit creature in heaven. When the time came, God transferred Jesus' life from heaven to Mary's womb so that he could be born as a human.—Read Luke 1:30-32; John 6:38; 8:23.

Why did God have Jesus born on earth as a human? What special role did Jesus fulfill? You can find the answers to those questions in the Bible, and they will greatly enhance your understanding and appreciation of what God and Jesus have done for you.

#### **SALVATION How to be Saved?**

# How to be Saved?

#### **BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY**

Salvation is by God's grace, not by any individuals good works. Salvation must be received by faith. People must believe in their heart that Jesus died for their sins and physically rose again, which is the assurance of forgiveness and the resurrection of the body. This is God's loving plan to forgive sinful people.

#### **JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**

Be baptized as Jehovah's Witnesses.

Most followers must earn everlasting life on earth by "door to door work".

Salvation in heaven is limited to 144,000 "anointed ones". This number is already reached.

#### John 3:16

16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

#### NWT John 3:16

16 "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only-begotten Son, so that everyone exercising faith in him might not be destroyed but have everlasting life.

Believing faith in Jesus Christ not perish to Hell vs Exercising (Doing) Faith in Jesus not destroyed

### Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

### **NWT Ephesians 2:8-9**

8 By this undeserved kindness you have been saved through faith, and this is not of your own doing; rather, it is God's gift.

9 No, it is not a result of works, so that no one should have grounds for boasting.

### https://www.jw.org/en/bible-teachings/questions/what-is-salvation/

What is the way to salvation?

To gain salvation, you must exercise faith in Jesus and demonstrate that faith by obeying his commands.—Acts 4:10, 12; Romans 10:9, 10; Hebrews 5:9.

The Bible shows that you must have works, or acts of obedience, to prove that your faith is alive. (James 2:24, 26) However, this does not mean that you can earn salvation. It is "God's gift" based on his "undeserved kindness," or "grace."—Ephesians 2:8, 9; King James Version.

Who is the Savior—God or Jesus?

The Bible identifies God as the primary source of salvation, often referring to him as "Savior." (1 Samuel 10:19; Isaiah 43:11; Titus 2:10; Jude 25) In addition, God used various men to deliver the ancient nation of Israel, and the Bible calls them "saviors." (Nehemiah 9:27; Judges 3:9, 15; 2 Kings 13:5) b Likewise, since God provides salvation from sin through the ransom sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Bible refers to Jesus as "Savior."—Acts 5:31; Titus 1:4.

#### Romans 10:9-13

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and **believe in your heart** that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.

13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

#### **NWT Romans 10:9-13**

9 For if you publicly declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and **exercise faith in your heart** that God raised him up from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one exercises faith for righteousness, but with the mouth one makes public declaration for salvation.

11 For the scripture says: "No one who rests his faith on him will be disappointed."

12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek. There is the same Lord over all, who is rich toward all those calling on him.

13 For "everyone who calls on the name of Jehovah will be saved."

God saves, not Jesus, because of how we have exercised our faith in righteousness

Why would someone choose Jehovah's Witnesses over Biblical Christianity?

What makes Jehovah's Witnesses a false religion?

In what ways is Christianity better that Jehovah's Witnesses?

MISSION: We exist to bring God glory and make disciples.

Jesus can save a person from the false way of Jehovah's Witnesses is an important aspect to why we exist.

Based on this what can we do to become more like Jesus?

### **Gospel-Centered**

WORSHIP Study the Bible and memorize its verses so we are prepared to give an account in season and out of season for our faith in Jesus Christ.

COMMUNITY We should be both innocent as a dove and shrewd as a snake when sharing Biblical truth.

SERVICE Remember Jehovah's Witnesses are not our brothers in Christ but they can become a part of the family of God as Christians.

MULTIPLICATION It is fine to talk about other details of the Christian faith but get the focus quickly on Jesus and our and their relationship with Him.

A TRUTH Jehovah's Witnesses are not Biblical Christians but a Jehovah's Witness can no longer be Jehovah's Witnesses and become a Christian.

### **BIBLE VERSES ON FALSE RELIGIONS / WORSHIP**

### Genesis 3:13-14 Satan Deceives

13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14 The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

## Exodus 20:1-17 The Ten Commandments

- 1 And God spoke all these words, saying,
- 2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
- 3 "You shall have no other gods before me.
- 4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
- 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,
- 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

## 8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

- 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work,
- 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.
- 11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.
- 12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.
- 13 "You shall not murder.
- 14 "You shall not commit adultery.
- 15 "You shall not steal.
- 16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

## 2 Kings 17:15-18 False Religion Leads to Real Consequences

15 They despised his statutes and his covenant that he made with their fathers and the warnings that he gave them. They went after false idols and became false, and they followed the nations that were around them, concerning whom the LORD had commanded them that they should not do like them. 16 And they abandoned all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made for themselves metal images of two calves; and they made an Asherah and worshiped all the host of heaven and served Baal. 17 And they burned their sons and their daughters as offerings and used divination and omens and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger. 18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them out of his sight. None was left but the tribe of

## Psalms 119:104,128 Hating False Ways

Judah only.

104 Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

128 Therefore I consider all your precepts to be right; I hate every false way.

## Proverbs 12:17 Deceit is Uttered by False Witnesses

17 Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit.

## Proverbs 19:5,9 False Witnesses Will Not Escape When Unrepentant

5 A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will not escape.

9 A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will perish.

## Jeremiah 10:14 The Outcome for False Religion is Not Good

14 Every man is stupid and without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, for his images are false, and there is no breath in them.

## Jeremiah 14:22 God, Not False Religion is Our Hope

22 Are there any among the false gods of the nations that can bring rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Are you not he, O LORD our God? We set our hope on you, for you do all these things.

## Jeremiah 18:15 False Religion Causes Stumbling and Lostness

15 But my people have forgotten me; they make offerings to false gods; they made them stumble in their ways, in the ancient roads, and to walk into side roads, not the highway,

## Jeremiah 51:17 The Outcome for False Religion is Not Good

17 Every man is stupid and without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, for his images are false, and there is no breath in them.

## Lamentations 2:14 False Religions have Harmful Followers

14 Your prophets have seen for you false and deceptive visions; they have not exposed your iniquity to restore your fortunes, but have seen for you oracles that are false and misleading.

## Ezekiel 12:24 False Religions have No Place in Biblical Christianity

24 For there shall be no more any false vision or flattering divination within the house of Israel.

## Ezekiel 13:9 God is Against Those Who Spread False Religions

9 My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and who give lying divinations. They shall not be in the council of my people, nor be enrolled in the register of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

## Hosea 10:2 God wants False Religion Out of People's Lives

2 Their heart is false; now they must bear their guilt. The LORD will break down their altars and destroy their pillars.

### Zechariah 10:2 False Religion is Nonsense and Harms Others

2 For the household gods utter nonsense, and the diviners see lies; they tell false dreams and give empty consolation. Therefore the people wander like sheep; they are afflicted for lack of a shepherd.

## Matthew 7:15 Beware Those Who Share False Religions

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

## Matthew 24:9-14 Christians Will be Betrayed by Those Who Follow False Religions

9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake.

10 And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another.

11 And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.

12 And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.

13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

## Matthew 24:24 False Christs and False Prophets Exists to Lead Astray

24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

## Mark 13:22 False Christs and False Prophets Exists to Lead Astray

22 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect.

## 2 Corinthians 11:12-15 False Religions are Good at Disguising Themselves

12 And what I am doing I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in their boasted mission they work on the same terms as we do.

13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

## Galatians 2:4-5 Do Not Yield to Those Who Spread Anti-Gospel

4 Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ

Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—

5 to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.

## 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12 The Activity of Satan Fuels False Religions

7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way.

8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

9 The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders,

10 and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

11 Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false,

12 in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

## 2 Peter 2:1-9 The Will Deliver Christians from The Judgment on False Religion Practicers

1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.

- 2 And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.
- 3 And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.
- 4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; 5 if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;
- 6 if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly;

7 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked 8 (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); 9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the

unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment,

### 1 John 4:1-3 How to Test the False if a Person is False

1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.
2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit

## Revelation 19:19-21 False Religions will One Day Come to and End

of the antichrist, which you heard was

coming and now is in the world already.

19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army.
20 And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

21 And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

### **OUR Devotional Discussion Guide FALSE RELIGIONS**

FOCUS: To understand FALSE RELIGIONS in relation to Christianity and be able to discuss it, lead people to the biblical truth of Christianity.

OUR SALVATION: OUR CREATED PURPOSE: OUR MISSION: OUR VISION

John 3:16-17 Mark 12:30-31 We exist to bring God glory Through
Ephesians 2:8-9 Matthew 28:16-20 and make disciples Gospel-Centered Worship

Romans 10:9-10 Gospel-Centered Community

**Revelation 7:3,4,9-10,14 John 20:30-31**Gospel-Centered Service
Gospel-Centered Multiplication

John 1:1-2 John 3:16

What jumped off the page at you (word, phrase, concept, application, question) as you read the verse(s)

Equipped

Resource Website: False Religion 2

False Religion 2 Why is what jumped off the page Biblically accurate?

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John 3:16

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Resource
Website:

Why is what jumped off the page Biblically accurate?

## **FALSE RELIGIONS understanding it better**

Remember false religions at their core exist to keep people from worshipping the One True God who is God the Father, Jesus the Christ and The Holy Spirit.

A religion that is like Christianity is not the same as being Christianity.

Jehovah's Witnesses not only write other books to reinterpret the Bible but they also believe in a rewritten the Bible. According to Jehovah's Witnesses there is no Biblical Hell, all non-Jehovah's Witnesses will be destroyed. Heaven is already full.

Jehovah's Witnesses Bible is a heretical rewriting of Bible in order to emphasize works and Jehovah not Jesus as Savior.

## **FALSE RELIGIONS now**

Why is rewriting the Bible to put the emphasis on the works of man to save him such a dangerous thing?

Why would the Jehovah's Witness continue to reinterpret the meaning of their Bible as often as they want?

## **FALSE RELIGIONS understanding it better**

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## **OTHER RESOURCES**

YouTube: Frank Turek – What Do Jehovah's Witnesses Believe About Jesus?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8KSHyJYPaA

Online: Ligoner Ministries – Who Are The Jehovah's Witnesses?

https://learn.ligonier.org/articles/field-guide-on-falseteaching-jehovahs-witnesses

Online: Dare2Share Ministries – How to Share the Gospel With A Jehovah's Witness

https://www.dare2share.org/worldviews/jehovahs-witness/

## From Christianity Cults & Religion

### **Biblical Christianity**

# Chart Rose Publishing Jehovah's Witnesses (Watchtower and Bible Tract Society)

-	Biblical Christianity	and Bible Tract Society)
Key Person or Founder	God as in God the Father, Jesus the Christ, The Holy Spirit since before time and forever	Charles Taze Russell (1852-1916), later Joseph F. Rutherford. Began 1879 in Pennsylvania, HQ in Brooklyn New York
Key Writings	The Bible Old Testament written originally in Hebrew and Aramaic, New Testament in Greek	All current Watchtower publications, including the Bible (New World Translation only) Reasoning from the Scriptures, You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth, What Does The Bible Really Teach, What Does The Bible Teach Us, Watchtower and Awake!  Magazines
Who is God?	The one God is a triune God and three persons not three gods, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit often in the title "God" designates the first person God the Father. God is a spiritual being without a physical body. He is personal and involved with people. He created the universe out of nothing. He is eternal changeless, holy loving, and perfect.	One Person God, called Jehovah. No Trinity. Jesus is the first thing Jehovah created.
Who is Jesus?	Jesus is God, the second person of the Trinity. As God, the Son, He has always existed and was never created. He is fully God and fully man, truly God and truly man, the two natures joined, not mixed as the second person of the Trinity. He is co-equal with God the father, and the Holy Spirit. In becoming man he was begotten through the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus is the only way to the father, salvation and eternal life. He died on a cross, according to God's plan, as full sacrifice and payment for our sins. He arose from the dead on the third day, spiritually, and physically immortal. For the next 40 days, He was seen by more than 500 eyewitnesses. His wounds were touched, and he ate meals. He physically ascended to heaven. Jesus will come again, visibly	Jesus is not God. Before he lived on earth, he was Michael, the archangel. Jehovah made the universe through him. On earth he was a man who lived a perfect life. After dying on a stake (not a cross), he was resurrected as a spirit, his body was destroyed. Jesus is not coming again, he "returned" invisibly in 1914 in spirit. Very soon, he and the angels will destroy all non-Jehovah's Witnesses.

		10
	and physically at the end of the world to establish God's kingdom and judge the world.	
Who is the Holy Spirit?	The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit is a person, not a force or energy field. He comforts, grieves, reproves, connects, guides, teaches, and fills Christians. He is not the Father, nor the Son, Jesus Christ.	Impersonal "holy spirit" is not God, but rather an invisible active force from Jehovah.
How to be Saved?	Salvation is by God's grace, not by any individuals good works. Salvation must be received by faith. People must believe in their heart that Jesus died for their sins and physically rose again, which is the assurance of forgiveness and the resurrection of the body. This is God's loving plan to forgive sinful people.	Be baptized as Jehovah's Witnesses.  Most followers must earn everlasting life on earth by "door to door work".  Salvation in heaven is limited to 144,000 "anointed ones". This number is already reached.

## What Happens After Death?

Believers go to be with Jesus. After death, all people away the final judgment. Both saved, and unsafe people will be resurrected. Those who are saved with Jesus in heaven. Those who are lost, suffer the torment of eternal separation from God, hell. Jesus' bodily resurrection guarantees believers that they two will be resurrected and receive new immortal bodies.

Be baptized as Jehovah's Witnesses.

Most followers must earn everlasting life on earth by "door to door work".

Salvation in heaven is limited to 144,000 "anointed ones". This number is already reached.

## Other Beliefs or Practices

Group worship usually in churches. No secret rites. Baptism and the Lord Supper, Communion. Active voluntary missionary efforts. Aid to those in need, the poor, widows, orphans, and downtrodden. Christians believe that Jesus is the Jewish Messiah promised Israel in the Old Testament, Tanakh, Jesus said his followers would be known by their love for one another.

Known as the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, International Bible Students Association. Meet on Sundays in "Kingdom Halls". Active members encouraged to distribute literature door to door. Once a year, Lord's Evening Meal (Communion); only "anointed" ones may partake. Do not observe holidays or birthdays. Do not vote, 1935 salute the flag, work in the military or accept blood transfusions. Believe Armageddon will occur soon.

## American History During Charles Taze Russell's Life (1852-1916)

## https://studythechurch.com/church-history/timelines/1800s-america

### **Big Moments in US History**

1790-1830 600 religious magazines started

1808 importing slaves banned

Mid-1800's Second Great Awakening

**1830** Mormon Church Founded when Book of Mormon translated and published

**1851** The first Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) was formed in Boston. The YMCA began in England in 1844.

**1853** Hudson Taylor made his first trip to China. He founded the China Inland Mission.

**1857** The New School Presbyterians split north and south over the slavery issue.

**1859** Charles Darwin published On the Origin of Species.

**1859** John Brown led a raid on the US armory in Harpers Ferry. He was unsuccessful but this raid played a role in causing the Civil War.

**1861** The Old School Presbyterians split north and south over the slavery issue.

#### 1861-1865 The Civil War

**1863** The Seventh-day Adventist denomination is formed. Being Adventist, they focus on the return of Jesus, and being seventh-day they believe the proper worship day for Christians is Saturday.

**1877** Reconstruction ended with the Compromise of 1877. Reconstruction tried to integrate the blacks into society in the South. This ended with the Compromise of 1877 which caused whites to gain much more power in the South and led to Jim Crow laws.

**1877-81** Rutherford B. Hayes is President

## **Moments In Jehovah's Witness History**

**1879** Charles Taze Russell founded the Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society. This group eventually formed into the Jehovah's Witnesses.

**June 17, 2002** The Supreme Court ruled in an 8–1 decision that the requirement of the Village of Stratton's ordinance for solicitors to "register" before engaging in door-to-door advocacy violated the First Amendment. The Court stated "it is offensive, not only to the values protected by the First Amendment, but to the very notion of a free society, that in the context of everyday public discourse a citizen must first inform the government of her desire to speak to her neighbors and then obtain a permit to do so." The Supreme Court did not address the remaining provisions of the ordinance, which remain valid and legally enforceable.

## **Sharing the Truth Tips**

When revealing the Biblical truth to someone who is following a false religion **ask questions and give** them the opportunity to wrestle with their relationship with Jesus.

It is the Holy Spirt who gives Christians the proper heart, mind, soul and strength to share the Biblical truth in a way that will hopefully result in salvation and sanctification for the hearer.

## A Biblical Worldview on Judging Right / Wrong, Good / Evil

WHY GOD IS THE BEST JUDGE Psalms 9:8 I Will Recount Your Wonderful Deeds 8 and he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness.

#### James 5:10-11

10 As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
11 Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

# WHY WE NEED TO SHARE GOD'S BIBLICAL JUDGMENTS & TRUTH John 3:16-21

16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.

**20** For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

### HOW WE FAITH AND DEED BASED ON GOD'S JUDGMENTS Acts 4:17-22

17 But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name."

**18** So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge,

20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard."

21 And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened.

**22** For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

### Remember we are not making up the judgments but...

Matthew 7:1-6 Judge not lest you be judged, pearls before pigs Luke 6:37-42 Judging Others, blind leading blind

#### Sharing God's truth so that none would perish but that all might be saved.

Matthew 10:32-33

32 So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, 33 but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven

#### **A Way Evil Becomes Dominant**

Evil says we must let evil prevail or we are a bad person:

What is tolerated today becomes accepted then it gets celebrated.

1st **TOLERATE IT** (Outward Existence Is Allowed)

2nd ACCEPT IT (In Our Inner Belief Must Conform)

3rd **CELEBRATE IT** (Mandatory Praise & Party For It)

4th PARTICIPATE IN IT (Releasing Our Children To Evil And Its Ways)

Finally evil will say now it is unlawful if you don't support evil.