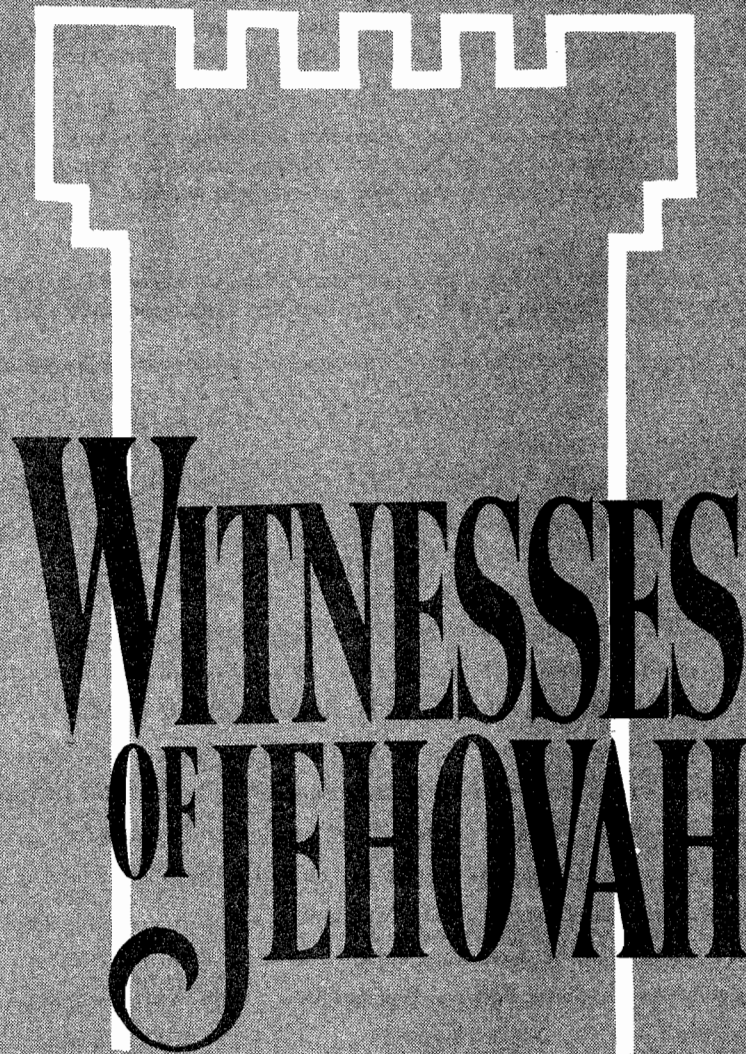


**Insights Into the
Watchtower Society**



WHY THIS MAGAZINE WAS PUBLISHED

The film Witnesses of Jehovah has been produced in an effort to give you a clear understanding of the threat that the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society poses for uninformed Christians and the public in general. No doubt the ministry that is presenting the film to you will also help to clear up some misconceptions and answer any questions that will come to mind during the presentation.

This brochure has been produced to further inform you concerning many questions that the public has and also to assist you in answering the Jehovah's Witness who comes to your door or with whom you might come into contact.

In the United States, 700,000 Jehovah's Witnesses devote more than 15 million hours a month going door-to-door, luring the unsuspecting into their deceitful web of spiritual bondage and oppression. This means that every home in America is visited on an average of three times a year. The danger is not an imaginary one, but one that every Christian should be prepared to counter.

Most Christians close the door when Jehovah's Witnesses come calling. Those who invite them in often are frustrated by the superficial rationalism of the Watchtower Society and its doctrines and end up believing that they have given a poor witness. They do this because they are not prepared.

It is our suggestion that you take the time to familiarize yourself with this material and present it to the Jehovah's Witness in a kind, yet firm manner, keeping in mind their salvation.

Should you require further information, we suggest that you contact the ministry that supplied this brochure.

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JESUS

WHO IS HE? ACCORDING TO SCRIPTURE

In any discussion of Christian theology no doctrine demands, or deserves, greater attention than the identity and work of Jesus. In II Corinthians 11:4 we read of the possibility of "another Jesus" being preached rather than the Biblical Jesus. Therefore, it is imperative that we "make sure of all things, hold fast to that which is fine." (I Thessalonians 5:21 New World Translation) Jesus tells us the importance of knowing his identity in John 8:24 (NWT) where he said, "For if you do not believe that I am he, you will die in your sins."

This study was prepared in the hope that you would search the Scriptures diligently to find out for yourself what they tell us of him who is the foundation of our faith. (I Corinthians 3:11)

Though it is impossible for the finite mind of man to comprehend the infinite nature of God, we can grasp to a sufficient degree what God has revealed of Himself. "The things concealed belong to Jehovah our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons to time indefinite, that we may carry out all the words of this law." (Deuteronomy 29:29 NWT) One of the "things revealed" to us are the concepts of Jesus as the Son of God, and the Son of man. He is **one** of the three Persons of the Godhead, a **separate and distinct** Person from the Father and the Holy Spirit. Thus Jesus is not the Father as some have misunderstood Christians to teach. In coming to earth as He did he laid aside his eternal glory and power (Philippians 2:5-8) so that he could identify with humanity. (Hebrews 2:9-18) However, we must never forget that he is "from everlasting" (Micah 5:2), God manifest in the flesh (I Timothy 3:16), and "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). He is God with all the attributes of eternal deity, yet He limited His power and glory and took upon Himself a second nature, humanity, with all the limitations which that involved. He was the Son of God in that He was begotten of the Father. But, He was also the Son of man in that Mary was his mother, and he received his human nature from her. Thus he is the God-Man.

I. The Son a separate Person from the Father.

John 1:1 — the Word was **with** God.

Acts 7:55 — Jesus standing on the right hand of God.

I John 2:22 — He that denieth the Father **and** the Son.

II. The Son is eternal.

Isaiah 9:6 — Eternal Father. (NWT)

Micah 5:2 — from everlasting.

Revelation 1:8 — who is, who was, who is to come.

III. He is called God.

Matthew 1:23 — Emmanuel,...God with us.

John 1:1 — the Word was God (i.e., deity).

John 5:18 — Jesus is equal with God.

John 8:58 — Jesus, the I Am.

John 10:30-33 — Jesus and the Father are "one."

John 20:28 — My Lord and my God.

Colossians 2:9 — all the fullness of the Godhead.

Titus 2:13 — the Great God and Saviour.

Hebrews 1:8 — Thy throne, O God, is forever.

I John 5:20 — This is the true God.

IV. He is described in terms reserved only for God.

CREATOR OF ALL THINGS

John 1:3; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1:16, 17; Hebrews 2:10 and Isaiah 44:24 (note the words "alone" and "by myself"). How could the Creator of all things be a created thing?

ALMIGHTY

Revelation 1:8 with 21:5-7; 22:12, 13, 16, and 20.

MIGHTY GOD

Isaiah 9:6 compared with Isaiah 10:20, 21. (Both Jesus and Jehovah are called "the mighty God.")

FIRST AND LAST

Revelation 1:17; 2:8 and 22:13. Compare with Isaiah 44:6.

EXACT LIKENESS OF GOD

Hebrews 1:3; John 12:45 and 14:9. Compare with Isaiah 46:9. How could a created being reflect the infinite God?

V. Jesus is worshipped. [See Luke 4:8]

Hebrews 1:6 — let all God's angels worship him.

Revelation 5:11-14 — All creatures worship the Lamb.

(See also Matthew 14:33; 15:25; 20:20; 28:9, 17 and Luke 24:52.)

VI. Jesus is Jehovah as proven by cross-referencing the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The New World Bible Translation Committee has inserted the name "Jehovah" into the New Testament at 237 places. No other translation has done so. Their "rule" for determining where the divine name should be used is found on page 18 of their **Kingdom Interlinear Translation**. It says:

"How is a modern translator to know or determine when to render the Greek words 'Kyrios' and 'Theos' into the divine name in his version? By determining where the inspired Christian writers have quoted from the Hebrew Scriptures. Then he must refer back to the original to locate whether the divine name appears there. This way he can determine the identity to give to 'Kyrios' and 'Theos' and he can then clothe them with personality."

Fairness and honesty requires that the following Scriptures be considered in the light of the Watchtower's own rule.

Isaiah 45:23 with Philippians 2:10, 11 and Romans 14:11.

Psalms 102:24-27 with Hebrews 1:10-12. (see also Isaiah 44:24)

Isaiah 40:3 with John 1:23 and 3:28.

Isaiah 6:1-10 with John 12:37-41.

Joel 2:32 with Romans 10:9-13. (vs. 13 refers to the "Lord" of vs. 11. See also I Corinthians 1:2)

I Kings 8:39 (note the word "alone") with Revelation 2:23.

Isaiah 8:13, 14 with I Peter 2:7, 8.

Zechariah 12:10 with John 19:34-37.

Psalms 23:1 with John 10:11.

Isaiah 40:9-11 with Revelation 2:23 and 22:12, 13 and 20.

Malachi 3:1 with Matthew 11:10.

Psalms 45:6, 7 with Hebrews 1:8, 9.

Exodus 3:14 with John 8:58, 59.

Isaiah 60:19 with Luke 2:30-32 and Revelation 21:23.

Isaiah 42:8 with John 17:5 and I Corinthians 2:8.

Psalms 110:1-5 Jehovah (Jesus) at the right hand of Jehovah. (Compare Rev. 19:11-21)

VII. Jesus is God made flesh. Matthew 22:41-46.

JOHN 1:1 and 14

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God (i.e., the Father and Holy Spirit), and the Word was God (deity)." "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

Jesus "being in the form of God" (i.e., deity), did not consider it something to cling to, but emptied himself of his divine prerogatives and powers, not his divine nature, and took **upon** his divine form "the form of a servant" (i.e., humanity), in order to suffer death.

HEBREWS 1:3

Jesus is the visible manifestation of God (John 14:9), the reflection of God's glory (see Isaiah 42:8), and the exact impression of his substance, or nature. Please note, no finite creature could be so likened to the infinite God. (Isaiah 46:9)

HEBREWS 2:10

Jesus set aside his infinite glory to be one of us. He who is eternal deity became man for the suffering of death so that the horrible debt of sin was paid. He now as a man (though also God) is our Captain to take us as sons of God into glory. The gulf between God and man is now spanned by the God-man. (see also verses 14-18)

VII. Answers to Watchtower Prooftexts.

JOHN 14:28

"My Father is greater than I."

Just as the President is positionally greater than the Vice-President, so the Father is positionally greater than the Son. The President and Vice-President are equally human, and the Father and Son are equally divine.

COLOSSIANS 1:15

"the first born of all creation." (NWT)

Paul said "firstborn" (Greek: **prototokos**), not "first-created" (Greek: **protoktistos**). Who is the firstborn, Ephraim or Manassah? (Genesis 41:51, 52 compared with Jeremiah 31:9) Firstborn means "pre-eminent" over all creation in this context. Compare the use of "firstborn" in other texts. (Deuteronomy 21:15-17; Exodus 4:22; Psalm 89:27 and Job 18:13)

REVELATION 3:14

"the beginning of the creation of God."

We derive the word "architect" from the Greek word "arche," which is translated "beginning," "origin," "source," "chief." Jesus is the Creator of ALL things. (Colossians 1:16, 17)

IX. The New World [mis] Translation.

A Greek-English interlinear such as the Kingdom Interlinear Translation, published by the Watchtower, will help you see the NWT errors.

JOHN 1:1

"a god" vs. "God."

There is no scholar who will endorse this rendering. It leads to polytheism. The Watchtower has repeatedly misquoted evangelical scholars to support their error. Why?

JOHN 8:58

"I have been" vs. "I am."

The Watchtower has said this is in the "perfect indefinite tense" (1950 NWT); the "perfect tense indicative" (Large Print 1961 NWT); and the "perfect tense" (KIT). It is in the "present tense." There is no "perfect indefinite tense" in the Greek language.

COLOSSIANS 1:16, 17

"all other things" vs. "all things."

Look in the Greek text and see that the word "other" does not appear.

PHILIPPIANS 2:9

"every other name" vs. "every name."

Look in the Greek text and see that the word "other" does not appear. What name is above every name?

CONCLUSION

Perhaps you are wondering at this point how Jesus can say, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father," and then say, "My Father is greater than I." Aren't these contradictory statements?

"Suppose you had been on earth when Jesus was here and had heard him make these apparently contradictory statements, and had asked him... And suppose he had said in reply, 'My child, what if, for the purpose of your redemption from sin and curse of the law, I voluntarily laid aside my eternal glory, and suffered myself to be born of a woman, and made under the law, thus limiting my being to the condition of your nature, that I might, in that nature, offer up to God a sacrifice for sin as would enable him to proclaim forgiveness of sins to the whole world? In such a case can you not conceive that there is no contradiction in these sayings of mine? For indeed I am one with the Father, and he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; but for the purposes of the atonement I have voluntarily assumed an inferior position, that I might take your place and die, which I could not have done unless I had taken a subordinate place, yea, and your very nature. Thus I sometimes speak of my eternal relation to God, and sometimes of my relation to him as the messenger of the covenant sent forth to redeem.' " (from **Taking Men Alive** by C.G. Trumbull as quoted by Arthur Wallis in **Jesus of Nazareth: Who is He?**)

Have you made Jesus your Lord and Saviour? You can if you will confess your sin to God, repent, and trust him to forgive you. Won't you do it right now?



one GOD or many?



"Hear O Israel the Lord our God is One Lord" (Deuteronomy 6:4). This expression of the unity of God is the central confession of the Jewish faith. Primitive religions worshipped many gods. Yet Jehovah revealed **Himself** to the descendents of Abraham saying, "You shall be my people and I will be your God" (Jeremiah 30:22). Early Hebrews believed that while there were indeed many gods, **they** were only to recognize Jehovah as **their** God.

This understanding is very similar to the teaching of many psuedo-Christian religions today. Such groups say there are indeed **many** gods, calling Jesus a **mighty god**, and even saying that Satan **himself** is a god. Such so-called Christian religions acknowledge the existence of many gods. And they too say, **for us there is only one God, the Father: He is the only one we recognize in our worship.**

MONOTHEISM VS. POLYTHEISM

Such groups claim to have found this understanding in the Bible, yet their revelation has stopped short of the **whole** revelation by God. Jehovah **continued** to reveal **Himself** to the Jewish nation. Jehovah revealed that there are absolutely **no other Gods**. He is the **only** real God. He showed them that the so-called gods of the other nations are only **idols** that is, **things having no existence** as a real God (Psalm 96:4). Jehovah repeatedly revealed **Himself** as the only **true** God. "**Before** me there was **no** God formed, and **there will be none** after Me." (Isaiah 43:10). He declared "With the exception of Me there is no God." (Isaiah 45:5). The Jews **believed** what God said. The Jews are therefore **monotheists** — people believing in the existence of only one God. **All other "gods"** are not gods at all, they are **false gods**. Monotheism is the understanding true to the **whole** revelation by God. This is what the Bible teaches.

Monotheism was, however, a belief not shared by the pagan world. The common pagan opinion was **the world is populated by many gods**. Such people who believe in the existence of more than one god are called **polytheists**. Unfortunately, polytheism is a pagan belief that did not die off with the rest of the ancient world. Its modern counterpart is alive and well among many pseudo-Christian religions.

Although Jehovah clearly said, "Before Me there was no God formed, and there will be none after Me" (Isaiah 43:10), some psuedo-Christian groups like the Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses **will not** believe Him. Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses are polytheists. Mormons themselves, hope to become gods. Jehovah's Witnesses translate John 1:1, "In the beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a **god**." Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe Jesus (the Word) is the **God**, but **another** god! There is **no way** John could have meant that Jesus was a **god**. John was a **Jewish Christian, a monotheist!** He didn't believe there were **any other** gods! That is why most recognized translations will read, **and the Word was God.**

N.T. MONOTHEISTS

Yes, just as God's people in the O.T. were monotheists, so too were the N.T. believers. The apostle Paul shows the knowledge that God exists is obvious to everyone. He says "that which is known about God is evident within them; for **God** made it evident to them." In Paul's mind there is only **one** God. This God has alone made it evident that He is God. Is this not what Jehovah revealed to the O.T. believers? Is this not what seems evident to you, as you scan the creation? Paul continues, in Romans 1:20 "since the creation of the world **His** (not **their**) invisible attributes, (again, not **their's**, but) **His** eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse."

FUTILE SPECULATIONS

What happens to people, or religious groups when they have not believed what God has made evident? When they believe there are **other** gods? When they have not believed what God has said? When they have **not honored God as God**? God's Word says "they became futile in their **speculations**, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise they became fools" (Romans 1:21-22).

That God does exist has been evident since the creation of the world — but **not** that there are many gods! Saying that there is more than one true God is futile speculation, and is contrary to

WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR THEIR SPECULATION?

Jehovah said "there is no other God besides Me, A righteous God and a Savior; There is none except Me." (Isaiah 45:21) But occasionally a group like the JW's or the Mormons will cite I Corinthians 8:5 "indeed there are many gods and many lords," hoping to prove there is more than one true god. But notice the context (from vs. 4) shows that **idols** are Paul's subject. He first shows that idols have no real existence as gods, and "that there is no God but one" (vs. 4). Then he continues:

"For even if there are **so-called gods** whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords, yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we are through Him." (vs. 5-6).

What is Paul teaching? Does he mean there are many true gods? That Christians only worship one of them? Is he contradicting what he just said in that **there is no God but one**? No, these idols are not true gods. In verse four he said there is no God but **one**, and in verse seven he regretfully says, "However not all men have this knowledge." Why don't they know? Remember what Paul said in Romans, **they became futile in their speculations. Professing to be wise.**

The pseudo-Christian polytheist may cite II Corinthians 4:4, ignoring what Jehovah says, he hopes to prove that even Satan is one of the gods. It is true, many people do worship Satan and his cohorts, some without even knowing it! Again referring to idols, Paul says, "the things the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God." (I Corinthians 10:20) Although people may worship Satan, and make him their "god" he is not a god by **nature**. He is only a **so-called** god, by nature he is only

a creature. He is a so-called **god** of this age, because men allow him to rule in their life. Thus to them he has become a **god**, but is not a true god.

ONE TRUE GOD BY NATURE

Monotheists believe in the existence of only one God. If you believe there is more than one true God, you are not a monotheist, you are a polytheist. Monotheists side with God, believing there is by nature only one true God. No matter what men call god, or worship, if it is not the one true God, Jehovah, it is a **false** god whom they serve. Paul writes the Galatians about the time "when you did not know God," and explains "you were slaves to **those which by nature are not gods.**" (Galatians 4:8) No man, not even Satan, is a God **by nature**. There is only one true God **by nature**. "Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord." All others are **false gods**, "For I am God, and **there is no other**" (Isaiah 45:22).

WHO IS JESUS?

The Bible says Jesus is God! Yet that does not mean the Son is the Father, but that He shares the Father's very **nature**. The Bible shows Jesus is a true God, He **must** be Jehovah. Jehovah is the only true God. **If the Bible shows Jesus and the Father are God, THEY MUST BE JEHOVAH.** Since Jehovah is the **only** true God, all others must be false gods.

If your religion teaches that Jesus is a **god**, you have a decision to make. **Is Jesus the one true god or is He a false god?** (John 1:1; 20:28; Titus 2:13; II Peter 1:1).

"And we know that the Son of **God has come** and has given us understanding, in order that we **might know** Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. **This is the true God and eternal life.**" (I John 5:20)

He is
not Here . . .
**HE
IS
RISEN**
As He said



Our hope as Christians resides in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul, while addressing the Corinthians boldly states: "If Christ be not raised, your faith is in vain; ye are yet in

your sins" (I Corinthians 15:17).

The religious group known as Jehovah's Witnesses states that they indeed believe in the resurrection of Christ, but is this an honest claim when their doctrines clearly teach that Christ was

raised a spirit? In the Watchtower publication **The Time Is At Hand** (page 129) it is announced "whether it (Christ's body) was dissolved into gases or whether it is still preserved somewhere as the grand memorial of God's love, of Christ's obedience, and of our redemption, no one knows."

The Sacred Scriptures give us a completely different view of the Resurrection of Jesus, because it nowhere states that His body was dissolved into gases or is preserved somewhere. The Lord Jesus prophesied His resurrection and told the manner thereof when he addressed the Jews in the Gospel of John (Chapter 2, verses 19-21). Jesus said "destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up...but he spoke of the temple of his **body**." Also in the same Gospel we find the disciple Thomas at first doubting Christ's resurrection, then Jesus appears to Thomas and offers for his examination the same body that was crucified. The body of Jesus still bore the prints of the nails and the spear wound in his side.

The Watchtower Society evades this Scripture verse by stating "He (Jesus) merely materialized flesh and blood to be seen and believed." (**Make Sure of All Things**, 1953 Edition, page 314). This is only a vague assumption on the Watchtower's part as there is no Scripture reference to back up their claim. Worse yet, it means Jesus intentionally deceived Thomas into thinking he saw the actual body which Jesus had been crucified. If the resurrection was only an illusion, then Christianity could have easily been discredited by displaying the real dead body of Jesus.

An interesting development takes place in the 24th Chapter of the Gospel of Luke, when we are told that the disciples of Christ made the exact same mistake the Jehovah's Witnesses are presently making. In verse 37 it is noted that the disciples thought they were seeing the ghost of Christ. "But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit." Jesus then proceeded to calm their fears and correct their error; "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me and see **for a spirit hath not flesh and bone as ye see me have**" (verse 39). Here again, the Watchtower Society badly asserts that Jesus materialized a body, but as noted earlier there is **no** Scriptural evidence to back this misguided claim and it completely ignores the clear context and plain meaning of the words of our Lord.

Scripture makes it emphatically clear that the manner of Jesus' resurrection was in a bodily form, but what of the texts brought forth by Jehovah's Witnesses to support their doctrine? A brief look at these will show that their position is quite superficial.

A favorite text is I Corinthians 15:50, which states that "flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God." We are told that since Jesus has indeed "inherited the Kingdom of God," He therefore cannot possess a body of "flesh and blood." However, the Jehovah's Witnesses are unaware that the term "flesh and blood" appears in the New Testament only five times (in the above verse, Matthew 16:17, Galatians 1:16, Hebrews 2:14 and Ephesians 6:12). Under close examination we can see that in each case the writer is speaking not of **literal flesh and blood**, but of **natural man**. The Christian Church has always taught that natural man (man in his sinful nature) "cannot inherit the Kingdom of God." Natural man needs to be born again. (see John 3:3).

A further attempt made to discredit the bodily resurrection,

(so strongly taught against by the Jehovah's Witnesses) is I Peter 3:18. Peter, speaking of Christ, states "being put to death in the flesh, but being made alive in the spirit." The proposition is set forth that Jesus was raised from the dead as a spirit. However, this text does not say that Christ was brought forth from the dead as a spirit — it simply informs us that Jesus was raised "in the Spirit" or "by the Spirit" (see further Romans 8:11). If we are to understand the term "in the Spirit" as being a spirit (as the Watchtower Society want us to believe) then we must also believe that all the Christians living in Rome were spirits, because according to the Apostle Paul (Romans 8:9) the Christians "were not in the flesh, but in the Spirit." Also, when we examine other references (Revelation 1:10, Galatians 5:25, Ephesians 6:18 and I Peter 4:6) concerning "being in the Spirit" it can further be shown how futile the Watchtower's position is.

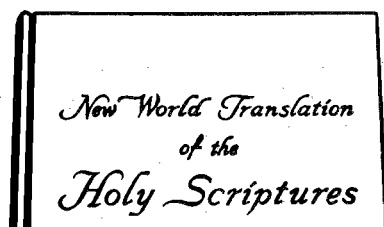
The Jehovah's Witnesses also use the two accounts of Jesus not being recognized by those who knew Him as proof of being resurrected in a different form. This position, however, comes from shallow Bible study, twisting Scriptures and using verses out of context. This is evident from the fact while the Jehovah's Witnesses claim that the two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24) did not recognize Him because He was in a different form than that which He was crucified. They completely ignore verse 16: "their eyes (the disciples) were **holden** that they should not know Him." This can only mean that it **was** the **same body**, because Jesus had supernaturally veiled their eyes. After their faith was tested (verses 25 and 26), He opened their eyes and they knew Him (verse 31). We can clearly see the Scriptures tell us the disciples did not know Jesus because He did not will it so.

In **The Time Is At Hand** (page 128) Witnesses tell us "he (Jesus) appeared to Mary as a **gardener**." Again this is an incorrect assumption on the Watchtower's part as the Bible **nowhere** makes the statement that Jesus appeared to Mary as the gardener. Scripture is clear that it is Mary who is in error thinking that Jesus is the gardener. John 20:15 emphasizes this point when it states: "She, **supposing** Him to be the gardener." Once again Sacred Scripture makes it clear that the Watchtower Society has misrepresented what God has set forth in His Word.

An extremely important text on the bodily resurrection of Jesus, (and one which many times is overlooked by Christians) is Colossians 2:9. This text is a very significant verse concerning the Deity of Jesus, but its even more so in regard to His bodily resurrection. We are told by the Apostle Paul "for in Him (Christ) **dwelleth** all the fullness of the Godhead **bodily**." Paul used the Greek word KATOIKEI (dwelleth), which is **present tense** meaning that Jesus is at the present time (when Paul was writing some 25 years after the resurrection) dwelling bodily (SOMATIKOS), that is in a physical bodily form. When we view this verse we can now see that Paul announces that at the present time the fullness of the Godhead is still, even in heaven, residing in Christ in a physical, bodily form.

To deny and misrepresent what the Bible teaches concerning Christ's resurrection is an extremely serious matter and will result in one being lost eternally. "**If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from among the dead, you will be saved.**" (Romans 10:9). If Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe in their hearts that God has raised Jesus **bodily** from the dead as the Bible teaches, how can those who embrace the Watchtower's doctrines ever hope of having eternal life?

Why Is The Jehovah's Witness Bible



THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS BOOK!!

Would you place your trust in a surgeon who was about to perform a major operation on you, if he refused to give you his name or credentials? OR...

Would you place your faith in an attorney, who was defending you against false accusations of felony charges, if he also refused to give you his name or credentials?

We can see how important it is that we rely on the names and credentials of those who serve us in the important aspects of our life. As in the case of the lawyer, it is essential to know these things, for without this knowledge, you would have no assurance that he would truly and honestly represent you. It is therefore of the utmost importance to know the men, the credentials, and the qualifications of those to whom we entrust our spiritual lives!

The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society has failed the public at this most crucial point as they refuse to give to their followers the names and credentials of the Translating Committee of their Bible, **The New World Translation of The Holy Scriptures** (see pg. 258 of **Jehovah's Witnesses in the Divine Purpose**). This is more important than the Watchtower Society will admit since the New World Translation Committee has deceived many in their translation of the Bible in the following ways:

1. They have invented non-existent rules of Greek grammar and then proceeded to follow these rules only when necessary to support their peculiar theology. A clear example of this is John 1:1, where the Translation Committee has rendered the Greek **"and the Word was a god."** We cite the appendix of another Watchtower publication, (**The Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures**, pg. 1158), for their footnote concerning John 1:1: "The reason for their rendering the Greek word Divine and not God is that it is the Greek noun Theos without the definite article..." May we call the Watchtower Society's attention to verses 6, 12 and 13 (also found in the first chapter of the Gospel of John). Here the Greek noun **Theos** appears without the definite article (as in John 1:1) and yet the Translation Committee has translated each verse as (Jehovah) God.

Another example of non-existent rules followed only when needed to support their theology is found in the Foreword of the aforementioned **Kingdom Interlinear Translation** (pg. 18). Here we are taught how to restore the Divine name. We are instructed that we can render the Greek words **Kyrios** (Lord) and **Theos** (God) into the Divine name by determining if the

Christian (Greek) writers have quoted from the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament). If so, we can render **Kyrios** (Lord) and **Theos** (God) as Jehovah God. Once again, the Watchtower "rule" is avoided by the Translation Committee as they translated Philippians 2:11. The Apostle Paul quotes Isaiah 45:23 as he states that **"every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Jehovah God (Kyrios) to the glory of God the Father."**

2. The Translation Committee has made up a Greek tense that is non-existent. We cite the 1950 Edition of their **New World Translation of the Christian Greek Scriptures** rendering of John 8:58 where they have translated **"ego eimi"** as **"I have been"** and state that it is **"properly rendered in the perfect indefinite tense"** in the Greek language. There is NO **"perfect indefinite tense"** in any language! After the Watchtower Society was informed of this fact, they made the change to the **"perfect tense indicative,"** but as the Greek student knows, it is present tense and is correctly translated **"I AM"** (see Exodus 3:14).

3. They have added words to Scripture which change the meaning of the texts to agree with their theology. Notice the Watchtower's rendering of Colossians 1:16, 17, where the word **"other"** has been added four times to the text, completely changing its meaning. When Paul wrote those passages that the Son created all things, it is obvious that the Son was not Himself created. The Watchtower, however, believes that the Son is also a created being and has therefore added **"other"** — not found in the Greek Biblical text at all — to make it appear that the Son is also a creature. As mentioned before, the Translation Committee has added the word **"a"** to John 1:1 to make the Son a creature rather than God Himself. Take note also of the same deceitfulness displayed in Philippians 2:9 where the word **"other"** is again added, when it is not found or even suggested in the original Greek.

4. The men who comprised the Translation Committee had no adequate schooling or background to function as critical Bible translators. The self-appointed **"scholars"** who made up this Translation Committee were: N.H. Knorr, F.W. Franz, A.D. Schroeder, G.D. Gangas and M. Henschel. Aside from the current President Franz, none of the Translation Committee members knew Biblical Greek or Hebrew and Franz's ability is open to serious question. This came out in the Scottish Court of Sessions in November, 1954 (just four years after the release of the Watchtower's Greek Scriptures). The following exchange of questions and answers between the attorney and Mr. Franz is taken from the trial transcript:

Q. Have you also made yourself familiar with Hebrew?

A. Yes.

Q. So that you have a substantial linguistic apparatus at your command?

A. Yes, for use in my biblical work.

Q. I think you are able to read and follow the Bible in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Spanish, Portuguese, German and French?

A. Yes. (Pursuer's Proof, page 7)

Q. You, yourself, read and speak Hebrew, do you?

A. I do not speak Hebrew.

Q. You do not?

A. No.

Q. Can you, yourself, translate that into Hebrew?

A. Which?

Q. That fourth verse of the second chapter of Genesis.

A. You mean here?

Q. Yes.

A. No. I wouldn't attempt to do that. (Pursuer's Proof, pages 102, 103)

What Franz failed to do was a simple exercise with which an average first or second year Hebrew student in any seminary would have no difficulty. (See **We Left Jehovah's Witnesses — A Non-Prophet Organization** by Edmond C. Gruss, pgs. 59-101.) It is also interesting to note that no Greek scholar with any credentials will endorse **The New World Translation**. Bill Cetnar, in 1954 (while still a Jehovah's Witness working at Bethel, the Watchtower's headquarters), was assigned to interview the well known Bible translator, Dr. Edgar J.

Goodspeed, asking him for his evaluation and recommendation of **The New World Translation of the Hebrew Scriptures**. Dr. Goodspeed replied: "No, I'm afraid that I could not do that. The grammar is regrettable..."

We agree with Dr. Goodspeed and go a step further and state that the theology brought forth in this translation is a fatal distortion of Biblical truth. We ask you not to put your trust in such a biased translation of Holy Scripture or in the Society that has deceived many in the writing of it; we ask that your faith and trust be placed in the Lord Jesus Christ who said that unless you believe that He is the Eternal God (Ego Eimi — "I AM"), you will die in your sins (John 8:24). It is because of the danger of the perversion of **The New World Translation of Holy Scriptures** that this warning has been written.

*Can You Be
True to God,*

YET HIDE THE FACTS?

THE WATCHTOWER GOES TO THE DEVIL FOR SCHOLASTIC SUPPORT

The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society has always sought the approval and support of scholars for its peculiar theology. The trouble is, the Society has faced an almost impossible task in finding such support.

At times, therefore the Society has had to resort to devious techniques in order to appear to have the scholarly support they so greatly desire. Ellipses (...) have become a favorite among the writers of Watchtower material, enabling them to alter the meaning of a quotation so it appears to endorse their teachings.

Further dishonest techniques include misquotations, misrepresentations, the use of half-truths and mistranslations of Scripture. For example, the Society's inaccurate **New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures** renders John 1:1:

"In [the] beginning, the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god." (emphasis added)

Stripping Christ of His deity has been a lifelong practice of the Watchtower. Distorted translation of clear Biblical texts as well as isolated Scripture passages are used to endorse their position.

Their unsupported rendering of John 1:1 contradicts all known rules of New Testament Greek grammar, and, in order to present the appearance of scholarly backing for their translation of that verse, the Society has misquoted Dr. Julius R. Mantey and H.E. Dana's **Manual Grammar of the Greek New Testament**.

Both Dana and Mantey firmly held to the Christian belief in the Triune God as is evident throughout their **Grammar**. In fact, the late Dr. Mantey had on several occasions issued statements

concerning the misquotation of his statements by the Witnesses, and directed a letter of request to the Watchtower headquarters in Brooklyn demanding references and quotes from his book be removed from their publications.

The practice of wrenching a quote from its context is common in many of the Watchtower's publications, mainly because it is the only way the Society can present even a veneer of scholarly respectability for its theology. That the source it quotes disagrees with its theology is secondary, so long as the source says **something** that the Watchtower can use.

Recent research has uncovered a more startling example of misrepresentation in the Society's use of the works of Johannes Greber. The Society has cited him in three major Watchtower publications as lending support to its doctrines.

Certainly, Greber should be a favorite among Jehovah's Witnesses today. His stand on many of their major doctrines is identical. For example, in his writings, Greber has said: "There is no union of three persons in no Trinity in the sense in which you (Christians) teach. God is an individual person. Only the Father is God." Further he says, "Christ Himself was not God, but only the first of God's sons."

Because of a need to support his heretical doctrines, Greber likewise published his own translation of the New Testament. He says that he was told by the spirit world that there were places in the New Testament, in modern Bibles, in which a word has been changed to the extent of altering the sense of the text. When he inquired and asked for a reference, he was given John 20:28. The spirit announced to Mr. Greber, that Thomas did not proclaim Jesus as his Lord and God, but rather as his Lord and Master. Greber then, because of further discrepancies,

proceeded to translate, with the aid of the spirits, his New Testament "without the restriction to the dogma of any church."

The Watchtower claims to do the same. In its book **All Scripture Is Inspired of God and Beneficial**, the Watchtower says (on page 323), when speaking of all the many Bible translations: "all these translations, even down to the very latest, have their defects. There are inconsistencies or unsatisfactory renderings, infected with sectarian traditions or worldly philosophies, and hence not in full harmony with the sacred truths that Jehovah has recorded in his Word." Thus the Society claims to fill the need for an accurate version with its **New World Translation**.

In line with this thinking the most striking comparison with Watchtower interpretation is Greber's rendering of John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God; and the Word was a god."

The Watchtower's **Aid to Bible Understanding, Make Sure of All Things - Hold Fast to What is Fine and The Word - Who is He? According to John** all make use of the Greber translation of John 1:1. The Greber citation is used as an example of a modern translation that also uses "a god" thus agreeing with **The New World Translation**.

But would the Society be so eager to cite Greber if they knew of his background or, if they know of his background, are they eager to make known to their rank-and-file members what Johannes Greber did, how he came to some of his theological conclusions and the method he used in translating the New Testament?

Little is known about the origins of **The New World Translation**. The Society would like the same to be true about Greber's New Testament. However, information provided by the Johannes Greber Memorial Foundation (the organization currently selling his books) proves even more devastating to the Society's already-damaged credibility.

Greber was a Roman Catholic priest who lived in Germany during the early 20th century. In 1923, a series of experiences led him to become interested in spiritism, or communication with spirit beings. He recounts these experiences in an autobiographical section of another of his books, **Communication with the Spirit World of God**. The spirit beings he was communicating with told him that much of what he believed about Christianity was false. They announced that the reason Christendom was so full of false beliefs and misunderstood doctrines was that the Bible was full of inaccuracies and mistranslations. So, inspired by these spirits, Greber set out to do his own New Testament translation.

In the words of the Johannes Greber Memorial Foundation, here is how Greber went about his work:

The New Testament, as interpreted by the scholarly Pastor Johannes Greber, has as its source the oldest manuscripts in the world, made available to Pastor Greber for study and translation through the courtesy and cooperation of theological experts and museums the world over. This is an absolutely independent translation, without restriction to the dogma of any Church.

The task was not simple. Many contradictions between what appears in the ancient scrolls and the New Testament as we have grown to know it, arose and were the subject of his constant prayers for guidance — prayers that were answered and the discrepancies clarified to him by God's Spirit World.

At times, he was given the correct answers in large illuminated letters and words passing before his eyes. Other times, he was given the correct answers during prayer meetings. His wife, a medium of God's Spirit World, was often instrumental in conveying the correct answers from God's Messengers to Pastor Greber.

The Bible is clear in forbidding all contact with occult spirits professing to bring messages from the spirit world. Saul lost his life for seeking to contact the spirit of Samuel through the medium at Endor (1 Samuel 28). The Watchtower Society has on numerous occasions rightly warned its followers to stay away from such spiritism. One notable reference is found in **The Watchtower** magazine of February 15, 1956 (pages 108-121). Here the Society emphasizes the need to stay away from spiritistic practices and even warns its readers of the demonically influenced Greber New Testament. However, the Society is desperate for support for its denial of Christ's deity. They thus ignore the Bible and their own standards and warnings by using a translation inspired by the spirit world for endorsement. Further they attempt to hide the demonic nature of this support from their followers and the general public. Nowhere is given even a hint that Greber's translation was made with the aid of spirits and the mediumship of his wife.

Moreover, the view adopted by the Jehovah's Witnesses in reality makes them polytheists. Christians hold to and affirm the one true God (John 17:3). However, the Witnesses say that this one true God is only the Father (Jehovah) and that in addition Jesus is "a god." This then leads one to the conclusion that either Jesus is a false god or that there are two true Gods, both of which are false doctrines and contradicted by God's Word.

The idea that Jesus is not God is a lie, and like all lies, is inspired by the Father of lies, Satan (John 8:44). Satan will use any means he can to keep us from believing the truth that Jesus is Yahweh, even to the extent of inspiring corrupted versions of the Bible, such as Greber's New Testament and the Society's **New World Translation**, which strip Jesus of His deity. Satan and his demons know that unless a person believes that Jesus is the Eternal God (John 8:24 — *ego eimi* = I AM), that person will die in their sins. The Society wants people not to believe that Jesus is God, but that He is the archangel Michael.

The Society, in drawing upon Greber, has ignored and disobeyed God's Word (see Leviticus 20:6, 27 and Isaiah 8:19). Further, because of the Watchtower's favorable citations of Greber's works, it must lie to both its followers and the public. During the past several years, the Society has obtained copies of Greber's New Testament and **Communication with the Spirit World of God** from the current publisher and distributor, known as the Johannes Greber Memorial Foundation in Teaneck, N.J. (see Figure 1). As shown, the Society on December 20, 1980 acknowledge the receipt of books sent to them by this foundation. However, when a letter of inquiry dated November 25, 1981 was sent to the Society in Brooklyn, N.Y., asking where

the Greber translation could be obtained, the Society replied on December 10, 1981 that it could not furnish an up-to-date address (see Figure 2). In fact, the address that the Society gave as the publisher's was that of a building demolished several decades ago.

The Society, time and again, has tried to cover up Christ's deity by any method they could use. Further, the Society's attempt to hide Greber's occult source of information has led them to mislead inquirers seeking copies of Greber's works. This should cause all Jehovah's Witnesses who love the truth seriously to examine and consider the facts presented here and the deceitful nature of the Watchtower organization.

The Jehovah's Witnesses claim to be "an open and honest people, not suspiciously secretive" (**Kingdom Ministry**, July 1975). Their conduct regarding the Greber New Testament translation does not follow that pattern. A recent issue of **The Watchtower** magazine stresses honesty in an article entitled "Why Be Honest." Here we are told that "Since the time of man's creation, Jehovah has been consistent in his requirement that his true worshippers be honest in all things." This again emphasizes the Watchtower's failure to follow its own standards. The Society, knowing that spiritism is forbidden by the Bible, and realizing the spiritistic origin of Greber's translation has withheld these facts from both their members and the public.

THE WATCHTOWER'S QUOTES OF JOHANNES GREBER:

Aid to Bible Understanding, page 1669 — Uses Greber's rendering of John 1:1.

Aid to Bible Understanding, page 1134 — Uses Greber's rendering of Matthew 27:52, 53.

Make Sure of All Things - Hold Fast to What is Fine, (1965 edition), page 489 — Uses Greber's rendering of John 1:1.

The Watchtower, September 1, 1962, page 554 — Uses Greber's rendering of John 1:1.

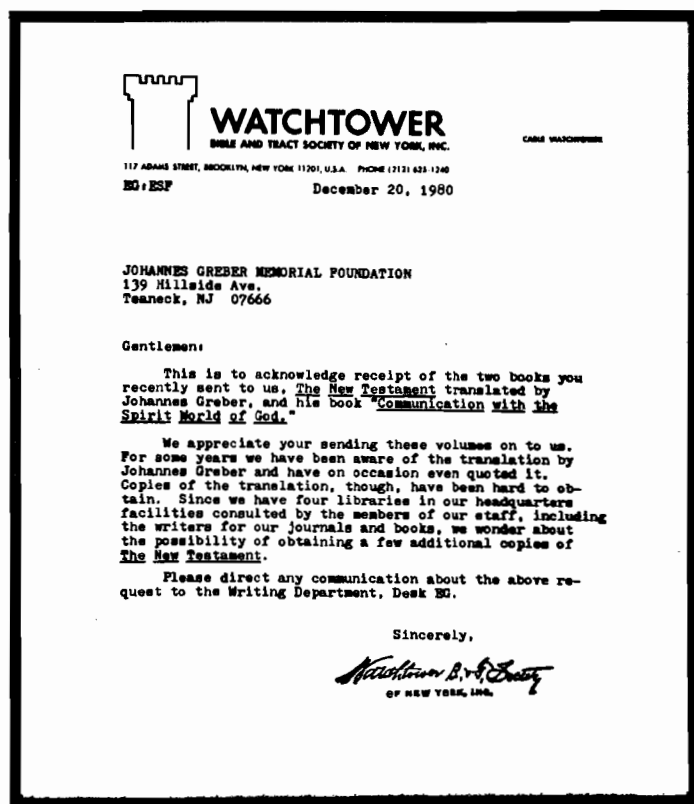
The Watchtower, October 15, 1975, page 640 — Uses Greber's rendering of Matthew 27:52, 53.

The Watchtower, April 15, 1976, page 231 — Uses Greber's rendering of Matthew 27:52, 53.

The Word - Who Is He? According to John, page 5 — Uses Greber's rendering of John 1:1.

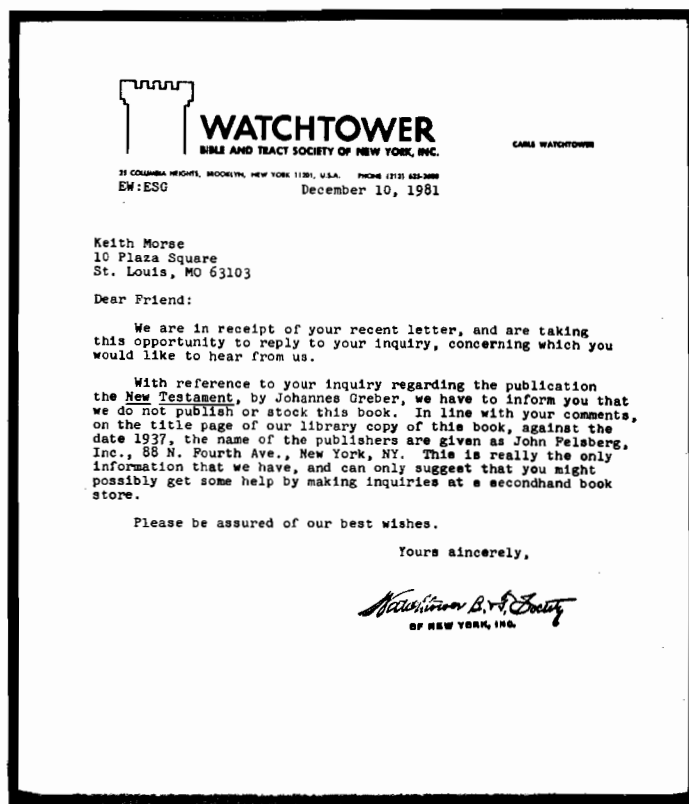
The Watchtower, February 15, 1956, pages 110-111 — Exposes and condemns Greber as a spirit medium!

Why would the Watchtower condemn Johnannes Greber as a spirit medium in 1956, then quote favorably from his works from 1962, until this fact was exposed in 1981?



[Figure 1]

Watchtower Letter, December 20, 1980



[Figure 2]

Watchtower Letter, December 10, 1981

Are Blood Transfusions A Violation Of God's Law?

The Watchtower Society at one time imposed upon its members three rules that often put their health or even their lives in jeopardy: a ban on vaccinations, a ban on organ transplants and a ban on blood transfusions.

The Society has since withdrawn two of the prohibitions, those against vaccinations and organ transplants. Only the ban on blood transfusions remains. Reports from "Watchtower watchers" indicate that the transfusions ban may be cast aside some day too.

Older members of the Watchtower Society will remember the ban on vaccinations. Some even may have gone to jail for refusal to receive a vaccination. The *Golden Age* magazine (predecessor of *Awake!*), of February 4, 1931, gave "reasons why vaccination is unscriptural." Of the reasons listed we are told "vaccination is a direct violation of the everlasting covenant that God made with Noah after the flood" (pg. 293), and the totally unscientific statement that "Vaccination has never saved a human life. It does not prevent smallpox."

However, the Society now takes a different view of vaccinations, stating "There can be little doubt that vaccinations appear to have caused a marked decline in the number of people contracting certain contagious diseases. During the first thirty years of this century there were thousands of smallpox cases in the United States. From 1920 to 1930 alone, they ran 30,000 to 100,000 annually, but in recent years there have been only about 55 cases of smallpox annually, with no deaths." Today Witnesses are encouraged to receive vaccinations, according to the August 22, 1965, *Awake!* magazine.

A more recent change in Watchtower policy is its reversal on the ban on organ transplants. Witnesses once were told that organ transplants were "cannibalism, a practice abhorrent to all civilized people." Further, "Jehovah God did not grant permission for humans to try to perpetuate their lives by cannibalistically taking into their bodies human flesh, whether chewed or in the form of whole organs or body parts taken from others." (*Watchtower*, November 15, 1967, pp. 702-703.)

The Watchtower, in 1980, carefully sidestepped its former position when it said: "Some Christians might feel that taking into their bodies any tissue or body part from another human is cannibalistic." It went on to say: "Other sincere Christians today may feel that the Bible does not definitely rule out medical transplants of human organs...It may be argued, too, that organ transplants are different from cannibalism since the 'donor' is not killed to supply food...While the Bible specifically forbids consuming blood, there is no Biblical command pointedly forbidding the taking in of other human tissue. For this reason, each individual faced with making a decision on this matter should carefully and prayerfully weigh matters and then decide conscientiously what he or she could or could not do before God. It is a matter for personal decision." (*Watchtower*, March 15, 1980, pg. 31).

The teaching on blood transfusions is the most appalling of

the three Watchtower bans. The world was shocked at the horror of the more than 900 deaths in the name of "religion" in Guyana under the Rev. Jim Jones. However, little is said about the countless lives lost because of the Watchtower's ban on blood. If the totals were added up, no doubt the Jonestown death toll would pale in comparison.

Is the Watchtower's prohibition on blood transfusions scriptural? Is violation of "the eating of blood" scripturally punishable by death? One needs only to examine verses used by the Society to show that it is not. Jehovah's Witnesses are quick to point out Leviticus 17:13-14, which says that anyone who eats the blood of any flesh is to be "cut off." Being "cut off," the Witnesses explain, means being put to death. However, this is only their interpretation of the term, for the context of the passage clearly shows that the violator becomes outlawed from his people, must wash himself and his clothing and will be unclean until evening, but then he will be clean (Leviticus 17:15-16).

A Biblical formula, prepared by William Cetnar (a former Witness himself who left the Society over the question of blood transfusions) proves further the shallowness of the Watchtower's argument. Leviticus 17:15-16 shows clearly that the punishment for violating God's law on blood is to be outlawed from one's people for a short period of time. However, if one examines Exodus 31:15 (also Numbers 15:35) one finds the punishment for picking up sticks (working) on the Sabbath was death. Thus the Bible emphatically shows the sin of picking up sticks on the Sabbath was more serious than that of the drinking (or eating) of blood.

God has provided that certain laws override one another. For example, in nature, the law of gravity is overridden by the law of aerodynamics. This is what enables a 200-ton metal mass (called an airplane) to fly. We find the same principle in the New Testament (Matthew 12:1-12) as we see the Lord Jesus in confrontation with the Pharisees, who tried to find fault in His activities on the Sabbath. Jesus' response to the Pharisees' accusations is most revealing. He asks that if a sheep were to fall into a pit on the Sabbath, would they not immediately work to free the animal? His answer becomes even more clear as He states, "How much more value then is a man than a sheep!" Jesus further drives home this point in Luke 6:9, where He asks, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good, or to harm, to save a life, or to destroy it?" Jesus stresses that the law of life is far superior to the law of the Sabbath. And since the law of the Sabbath is far above that of the eating of blood it leaves little doubt as to its relationship to the law of life.

There is no law in God's Word that forbids blood transfusions. The apostle Paul writes in Romans 4:15, "But where there is no law, neither is there violation."

One can only pray that the Watchtower leaders will truly open themselves to the light of God's Word and, as in the case of reversed decisions on vaccinations and organ transplants, seek to save a life rather than to destroy it.

The Watchtower and the Generation of 1914



For many years the Watchtower leaders have ascribed much importance to the year 1914. This attention has been directed to the year both before it came and after it passed with the disappointment that followed amongst Jehovah's Witnesses. The year 1914 is considered to be a pivotal year in their theology. By a complicated dating method using unrelated prooftexts and a day/year transposition they claim that 1914 was the end of the 'Gentile times,' that Jesus Christ came to power invisibly and the world entered into its 'Time of the End.' These startling and unscriptural claims bring to mind some interesting questions concerning this most important year in Watchtower theology. The question of 1914 must be addressed for the very fabric of their teachings and therefore the spiritual bondage in which they hold their adherents is connected with this date.

We will briefly examine the following questions. What did they originally believe 1914 would bring? How has this date affected their prophecies? If 1914 is significant as the beginning of the 'Time of the End,' as they claim, have they used up their self-imposed time frame? Can we expect another change in understanding or 'new light' or analogous nautical 'tacking' from the leadership of the Jehovah's Witnesses?

Although the quotations taken from Watchtower publications concerning the expectations and prophecies surrounding 1914 show clearly that they have condemned themselves as **false prophets**, this article has been written primarily to show their error and false prophecy in connection with their grandiose claim respecting the year 1914 and Matthew 24:34 where the Lord Jesus said "Truly I say to you that this generation will by no means pass away until all these things occur."

The historical record shows that indeed the generation that was extant when Jesus spoke these words did see the conclusion of the Jewish system of things including the climactic destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. approximately 36½ years after Jesus' prophecy.

The Watchtower Society makes the claim that the generation that saw 1914 will also see the conclusion of the present system of things. We will permit their own publications to contradict and condemn them solely in this respect and once again put them on notice as being a **false prophet**.

As stated, the main purpose and thrust of this work is the Watchtower claim on 'this generation.' It will be proven that they have used up their time frame and the 'Generation' that saw 1914 according to their own reasoning no longer exists, except perhaps for a mere handful of persons. Hopefully this should help convince Jehovah's Witnesses that their leadership has deceived them with a false prophecy that exceeds even the recent 1975 debacle. The reader is encouraged to watch for

upcoming Watchtower publications and articles for a change of position on this teaching, it will, no doubt, be presented as 'New Light' (recycled light) or a new 'Tack.' Thinking persons will not accept the change.

What the Watchtower Society has taught concerning Christ's 'presence' and what significance they originally attached to 1914.

The following quotations are from Watchtower publications:

THE TIME IS AT HAND, 1899, pages 76-77 — "In this chapter we present the Bible evidence proving that the full end of the Time of the Gentiles, i.e., the full end of their lease of dominion, will be reached in A.D. 1914; and 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 obtain full, universal control, and it will then be 'set up' or firmly established, in the earth, on the ruins of present institutions..."

WATCHTOWER, January 15, 1892, page 22 — "The date of the close of that 'battle' is definitely marked in Scripture as October 1914. It is already in progress, its beginning dating from October 1874."

WATCHTOWER, July 15, 1894, page 226 — "We see no reason for changing the figures - nor could we change them if we would. They are we believe, God's dates, not ours. But bear in mind that the end of 1914 is not the date for the beginning, but for the end of the time of trouble."

*STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, Volume 3, 1906 edition, page 228 — "That the deliverance of the saints must take place **some time before** 1914 is manifest... Just **how long before** 1914 the last living member of the body of Christ will be glorified, we are not directly informed."

*STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, Volume 3, 1916 edition, page 228 — "That the deliverance of the saints must take place **very soon after** 1914 is manifest... Just **how long after** 1914 the last living members of the body of Christ will be glorified, we are not directly informed."

*Please note the obvious and devious position switching that the **False Prophet** makes. We have added the emphasis.

THE TIME IS AT HAND, 1908 edition, page 101 — "The 'battle of the great day of God Almighty' (Revelation 16:14), which will end in A.D. 1914 with the complete overthrow of earth's present rulership is already commenced."

The foregoing quotations establish the Watchtower position prior to 1914 concerning Christ's presence and what they expected in 1914. These quotes are but a few that are available to confirm the official Watchtower stand. They held this position long after the time frame that we have been using thus far. Consider the following quotations:

WATCHTOWER, September 15, 1922, page 278 — "No one can properly understand the work of God at this present time who does not realize that since 1874, the time of the Lord's return in power, there has been a complete change in God's operations."

PROPHECY, 1929, page 65 — "The Scriptural proof is that the second presence of the Lord Jesus Christ began in 1874 A.D."

CREATION, 1927, pages 294, 295, 298 — "Twelve hundred and sixty years from 539 A.D. brings us to 1799, which is another proof that 1799 definitely marks the beginning of 'the time of the end.'" (page 294) — "From shortly after 1799, the date of the beginning of 'the time of the end,' we should expect to find an increase of knowledge, particularly with reference to the Bible." (page 295) — "There are two important dates here that we must not confuse, but clearly differentiate; namely, the beginning of 'the time of the end' and the beginning of the presence of the Lord. 'The time of the end' embraces a period from 1799 A.D. to the time of the complete overthrow of Satan's empire and the establishment of the kingdom of the Messiah. The time of the Lord's second presence dates from 1874 and is during the latter part of the period known as 'the time of the end.'" — (page 298)

The founder of the Watchtower Society, C.T. Russell once said: "A new view of truth never can contradict a former truth. 'New light' never extinguishes older 'light,' but adds to it." — WATCH TOWER Reprints, February 1881, page 188.

Does the former "light" agree with current "new light"? Does the Society teach today what it used to teach concerning 'This Generation' of Matthew 24:34? Let us examine the record once more before we embark on an in-depth study of current dogma.

STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON, Vol. 4, pages 604 and 605, by C.T. Russell — "Those who are walking with us in the light of present truth are not looking for things to come which are already here, but are waiting for the consummation of matters already in progress. Or, since the Master said, 'When ye shall see all these things,' and since 'the sign of the Son of Man in heaven,' and the budding fig tree, and the gathering of 'the elect' are counted among the signs, it would not be inconsistent to reckon the 'generation from 1878 to 1914 — 36½ years — about the average of human life today.'"

We can see that Russell was endeavoring to tie down the generation as closing in 1914 using the 'average' lifespan of 36½ years (which may possibly have been the average at that time on a worldwide basis). No doubt he was trying to parallel the 36½ year time frame that was the case in the conclusion of the Jewish system of things from when Jesus made the statement in 33½ A.D. until the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. (36½ years). Interestingly, the generation that was extant when Jesus spoke his prophecy did indeed see the conclusion of the existing Jewish system with **time to spare**, even as Jesus had said, 'That they would **by no means** pass away!'

THEY BELIEVED, the beginning of the time of the end was in 1799; THEY NOW BELIEVE, that it began in 1914. THEY BELIEVED, that Christ's presence was in 1874, THEY NOW BELIEVE, that he came invisibly in 1914. THEY BELIEVED, that the system of things would culminate in 1914, THEY NOW BELIEVE, that 1914 saw the beginning of this present system's 'time of trouble.' THEY BELIEVED, that the 'generation' would not extend beyond 1914, THEY NOW BELIEVE, that the 'generation' that was aware of the events of 1914 will not pass away before the final conclusion of the system of things (and obviously the beginning of a new system according to their logic).

We now turn our attention to current 'new light' on 'this generation'. We shall again permit the Watchtower Society to contradict and condemn themselves by their own statements. Let us begin by a brief examination of their definition and understanding of a generation.

AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, 1969, page 641 — "Today much as it was in the time of Moses, people living under favorable conditions may reach seventy or eighty years of age. Moses wrote: 'In themselves the days of our years are seventy years; and if because of special mightiness they are eighty years, yet their insistence is on trouble or hurtful things; for it must quickly pass by, and away we fly.' (Psalm 90:10) However, some few may live longer, but Moses stated the general rule."

Using their definition of a typical generation let us now examine their documented understanding of 'this generation'.

AWAKE, September 22, 1962, page 27 — "Was Jesus using the word 'generation' in a symbolic way? No, we should not say that the word 'generation' here has a symbolic meaning and that it refers, for example, to persons of the spiritual body of Christ exclusively, or only to the true Christian organization itself." — "The 'generation' of Matthew 24:34 includes persons alive at the time that the war in heaven began in 1914. All who were living or who came on the scene around that time are part of that generation. Members of that generation will see the end of this world."

WATCHTOWER, June 1, 1966, page 326 — "According to Jesus' words, at least a representative number, and perhaps many, of the generation living when his great prophecy began to be fulfilled in 1914 will see 'all these things happen,' including the destruction of false religion and the political systems of this world, with all their friends and supporters."

AWAKE, October 8, 1966, pages 18 and 19 — "It is to be carefully noted that the youngest of those who saw with understanding the developing sign of the end of this system of things from its start in 1914 are now well over sixty years of age! In fact, the greater part of the adult generation that experienced the start of the "last days" has already passed away in death. The generation to which they belonged is now well along toward its complete passing away. The time left, then, is definitely limited, and it is very short. Note, too, that Jesus pointedly said 'this generation **will by no means** pass away until all these things occur.' So we should not look for the passing away of all members of that generation. The end of this wicked system of things will come before all members could pass away."

AWAKE, October 8, 1968, pages 13 and 14 — "Jesus was obviously speaking about those who were old enough to witness with **understanding** what took place when the "last days"

began. Jesus was saying that some of those persons who were alive at the appearance of the 'sign of the last days' would still be alive when God brought this system to its end. Even if we presume that youngsters 15 years of age would be perceptive enough to realize the import of what happened in 1914, it would still make the youngest of "this generation" nearly 70 years old today. So the great majority of the generation to which Jesus was referring has already passed away in death. The remaining ones are approaching old age. And remember, Jesus said that the end of this wicked world would come **before** that generation passed away in death. This of itself, tells us that the years left before the foretold end comes cannot be many."

The Watchtower Society made these claims and statements in the mid-to-late 60's and early 70's in support of and in conjunction with their expectations and teachings concerning 1975. The concept worked hand in glove with what they were alluding to and teaching concerning this latest end of the world date-setting syndrome, which centered around 1975. They continued in this regard even in the mid-to-late 70's as shown in the quote below. However, please read carefully their statements in the last quotation from the October 15, 1980 issue of **The Watchtower**. We will comment on those statements in conclusion.

WATCHTOWER, October 1, 1978, page 31 — "Thus when it comes to the application in our time, the 'generation' logically would not apply to babies born during World War I. It applies to Christ's followers and others who were able to observe that war and the other things that have occurred in fulfillment of Jesus' composite 'sign.' Some of such persons 'will by no means pass away until' all of what Christ prophesied occurs, including the end of the present wicked system."

WATCHTOWER, October 15, 1980, page 31 — "As indicated by an article on page 56 of U.S. News & World Report of January 14, 1980, — 'If you assume that 10 is the age at which an event creates a lasting impression on a person's memory, then there are today more than 13 million Americans who have a recollection of World War I.' — And if the wicked system of this world survived until the turn of the century, which is highly improbable in view of world trends and the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, there would still be survivors of the World War I generation. However, the fact that their number is dwindling is one more indication that 'the conclusion of the system of things' is moving fast toward its end. In this connection, the magazine *The Economist* of March 15, 1980, gave an interesting review of a book entitled **The Generation of 1914**, by Robert Wohl. It made this significant remark: 'Eventually Mr. Wohl voices his own opinions about the generation of 1914. In a terse and condensed last chapter he suggests that generations are not mathematically definable in terms of numbers of years, but cluster around major historical crises, of which the first world war is the supreme example.' — This lines up very well with the Scriptural viewpoint that Jehovah's Witnesses take on 'the generation of 1914.'"

We have not utilized all of the Watchtower quotations that are available for reasons of brevity as well as the redundancy that would prevail because of the numerous duplications of thought down through the years. We notice the continued urgency in the statements from the 1960's leading up to 1975 and the obvious absence of adamant position afterwards. We also notice the grasping at straws in their statement concerning Robert Wohl's viewpoint lining up with theirs. Although we agree with Mr.

Wohl that it is difficult to mathematically define generations, we take umbrage with the Watchtower Society when they say that his remarks line up very well with their viewpoint! Their statements from previous articles prove that this was not their viewpoint at all. They have always taken a very narrow and tightly defined approach, even stating in the October 8, 1968 **Awake!** article (quoted herein) that the youngest member of the 1914 generation would have been presumably 15 years of age in 1914, this would indicate a birth date of around 1899! If the **youngest** member of that generation were born in the 1899/1900 time frame, then 'the generation' according to the Watchtower is past! If we use the Scriptural rule (which they have used) of Psalm 90:10, that would allow for an outside age of 80 by reason of personal strength and good health. We would, therefore, arrive at approximately 1980, using the turn of the century as a starting point as already shown by the Watchtower reasoning in the October 8, 1968 **Awake!** article. The Watchtower in its inimitable position switching style makes the startling comment in the October 15, 1980 **Watchtower** article (quoted herein) that even if the system survived until the turn of the century there would still be survivors of the World War I generation! Using their own point of departure as to when the last generation was born (around the turn of the century) we ask, would persons 100 years of age be considered to be a generation that will have by no means passed away? This tortured reasoning in no way lines up with Jesus' statement that the generation would by no means pass away nor does it parallel in any way the relatively short period of time that lapsed from when he made the statement and the destruction of Jerusalem some 36½ years later in complete fulfillment of his words. A thought to be considered also, is the Watchtower preoccupation with so called 'types' and 'antitypes.' In Jesus' day the fulfillment of His grand prophecy or in Watchtower jargon the 'type' came about rather quickly, should this not also have merit in the so called 'antitype' or antitypical fulfillment?

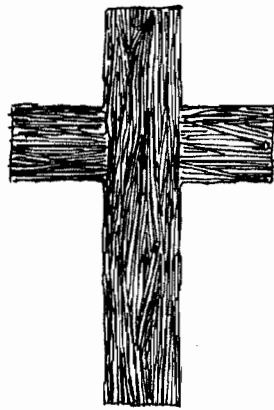
In view of their previous claims concerning the 1914 generation, we challenge the Watchtower Society to define and explain for us the paragraph in the Foreword to their **Awake!** magazine under the main heading, 'Why **Awake!** is published' — "Most importantly this magazine builds confidence in the Creator's promise of a peaceful and secure new order before the generation that saw the events of 1914 C.E. passes away." (This statement is printed on the inside front cover of every issue.)

Open minded and honest hearted persons have to recognize that time has once again run out for 'God's spokesman,' according to their own calculations and predictions. We can readily see that the Watchtower leadership will have to make another one of its numerous doctrinal adjustments. It will prove interesting to see the rationale that they will use in their readjustments under the guise of 'New light' or 'Tacking'. Change they must and change they will.

There is ample evidence available to properly categorize the Watchtower as a False Prophet and not to be trusted with the destiny of its followers; Deuteronomy 18:20-22 aptly defines them.

It is our prayer that many will break free from this dictatorial autocratic organization and turn to Jesus Christ as He is revealed in the eternal word of God, the Holy Scriptures. The Bible is the only ultimate religious authority. The authority that the Watchtower Society uses is OF men and BY men, as the evidence so clearly demonstrates.

DIALOGUE on the CHRISTIAN CROSS



Jehovah's Witnesses say that Jesus Christ did not die on a cross at Calvary. The Watchtower Society has taught them that Jesus was not crucified but rather died on an upright pole or stake. Is the Watchtower Society right? What does the Bible say? To get the answer, let's imagine we are listening to a conversation between John, a Christian, and his friend Bill, a Jehovah's Witness.

Bill: John, I see that you are wearing a cross around your neck.

John: Yes, it is a symbol of my faith in Jesus Christ.

Bill: Don't you know that the cross is a pagan symbol and that Jesus died on a single stake without a crossbeam? Let me show you a picture of how Jesus died. Here the *Awake!* magazine shows Jesus with his hands over his head with ONE LARGE NAIL through both of them. (*Awake!*, April 8, 1974, p. 14) There was no crossbeam. Jesus didn't die on a cross.

John: Bill, what if the Bible disagrees with the Watchtower

Society and proves that Jesus couldn't have died on a stake, in the way they claim he did?

Bill: What do you mean?

John: The Bible tells us in John 20:25 that the Apostle Thomas desired to see the physical proof of Christ's resurrection and he said: "...unless I see in his hands the print of the NAILS and stick my finger into the print of the NAILS and stick my hand into his side, I will certainly not believe." So, Bill how many nails does the Bible say were in the hands of Jesus?

Bill: Well it says, "NAILS." I've never noticed this Scripture before!

John: That's because if there is more than one nail as the Scripture shows, then the Watchtower would be wrong when it says that there was only one nail in the hands of Jesus. In fact, the Society has unwittingly admitted that Jesus had MORE THAN ONE NAIL in his hands! In the Watchtower magazine they say: "In one instance, he invited Thomas to inspect the wounds inflicted in his hands by means of the NAILS." (*Watchtower*, January 15, 1966, p. 63)

Bill: I see, but were crosses used at the time of Christ?

John: Sure, even secular sources like *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines printed articles about how Jewish archeologists had unearthed evidence of a crucifixion during the time of Christ. (*Newsweek*, January 18, 1971)

Bill: I must say that I am really shocked at this information.

John: Bill, your very life depends on learning what the Bible teaches about Jesus Christ. Would you like to know more?

Bill: Yes.



WHOM CAN YOU TRUST?



An advertisement on the back of a recent religious publication asks its readers a vitally important question: "Whom can you trust?" This inquiry is well worth an honest answer. The ad further states that: "Dishonesty has penetrated every walk of life. Certainly we need a voice we can trust." The position is brought forth that we can indeed place our trust in the publications of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, particularly the periodicals known as *Awake!* and *Watchtower*. These magazines claim that their organization is the "sole collective channel for the flow of Biblical truth to men on earth" (*Watchtower*, September 15, 1960, pg. 439). If this claim is proven to be true, then we should fervently place our trust in it. However, the Bible instructs believers to "examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21). Further, the Word of God commends the believers at Berea for testing by the Scriptures the things the Apostle Paul preached (Acts 17:11). On the basis of Scripture, therefore, it is essential to

check out earnestly the statements we are told to trust, which are printed in the Watchtower publications.

It is a serious matter whom we trust concerning our spiritual life, for if our faith is in error it can mean eternal separation from Jehovah (Yahweh). Would you trust your eternal destiny to a presumptuous author who told you Jesus Christ returned in 1874, (*The Time Is At Hand*, pg. 170), when we can clearly see that this event has not taken place? Is it wise to have faith in statements that claimed World War I would end with the glorious outcome of Messiah's Kingdom (*Watchtower Reprints*, September 1, 1916, pg. 5951) or Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would be resurrected and living on earth by 1925 (*Millions Now Living Will Never Die*, pgs. 89, 90) and then insisting this 1925 date was definitely marked by Scripture? (*Watchtower*, September 1, 1922 pg. 262). Even these few examples make it abundantly clear that we should not place our spiritual trust in those

who proclaim such obvious errors. Jesus Christ warns us to "take heed that you be not misled; for many will come in My Name, saying 'I am He' and, 'The time is at hand;' do not go after them" (Luke 21:8). These prophetic words of our Savior are being fulfilled today by the adherents of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society. We challenge you to examine the covers of **The Watchtower** magazines for January 15, 1979 and October 15, 1979; you will see that each proclaim that the time is at hand. In fact, the founder of the organization known as "Jehovah's Witnesses," Charles T. Russell specifically published a book entitled **The Time Is At Hand** — the very words our Lord told us to beware of!

Many of the false prophecies proclaimed by the Watchtower publications are dismissed by them as mere mistakes in order to avoid the charge of being a false prophet. We cite the recently published **1980 Yearbook of Jehovah's Witnesses** as proof. On page 63, we find the authors attempting to pass off the 1925 failure (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to be resurrected and living on earth) as only a mistake! Keep in mind that many so sincerely believed in this prophecy that homes and other possessions were sold to further the Society's work. The Watchtower organization's effort to diminish their "mistakes" does not take away or change what God has said concerning false prophets. Deuteronomy 18:21, 22 gives us divine instruction not to follow or give attention to prophets whose predictions do not come to pass. We invite you prayerfully to read these verses in your Bible.

Adherents of Watchtower teachings will sometimes endeavor to explain that they are not really prophets. However, an examination of their April 1, 1972 **Watchtower** magazine dispels all doubt concerning their claim of being a prophet of God. The title of an article contained therein announces that "They shall know that a prophet was among them." That prophet, they assert, is the group known as Jehovah's Witnesses. Furthermore, they also claim that they are the "only organization on earth that understands the deep things of God" (**Watchtower** July 1, 1973 pg. 402). When this "prophet" organization again and again predicts events that do not come to pass, they demonstrate beyond question that they are false prophets and that the publications promoted by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society cannot be trusted.

It is our sincere hope that you will place your trust not in books or magazines or in a religious organization, but in the living Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus loves you and created you to have fellowship with Him. The loving relationship man once had with God has been broken by sin. Man has turned away from God in rebellion, the Bible calls this rebellion sin. And all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). God still loved man and so He sent His Son Jesus to provide a way to be forgiven and restore this fellowship. God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). For you to receive this restored fellowship (thus receiving the gift of eternal life) you must do two things: Repent of sinful, selfish ways, turning to God for forgiveness (Acts 3:19), and personally receive Jesus Christ as your own Savior and Lord (John 1:12). You can right now receive the gift of eternal life and come into a loving relationship with the living Savior. Remember, eternal life is God's gift to you (Ephesians 2:8, 9), not something you have to earn. We ask you sincerely to pray to Jehovah acknowledging you are a sinner and that you cannot by any means save yourself. Then proclaim your trust in

Jesus, that He died and rose again to save you from eternal death. Thank the Lord for His forgiveness and His gift of eternal life. Ask Him to take control of your life and then turn your life over to Him. Keep in mind that after you have sincerely prayed this prayer you have eternal life — the Bible gives us assurance of this (1 John 5:11, 12).

The Watchtower Society and Prophetic Speculation

A Quiz for Jehovah's Witnesses

The following questions are based on quotations which have appeared in Watchtower publications over the years. References have been cited to give easy access for verification.

Please check TRUE or FALSE to the following:

1. The battle of the great day of God Almighty ended in 1914 A.D. with the complete overthrow of earth's present rulership. (**The Time Is At Hand**, pg. 101).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
2. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and other faithful prophets of old have been resurrected and living on earth since 1925. (**Millions Now Living Will Never Die**, pgs. 89, 90).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
3. 1940 showed that the end of religion had come and with its end the complete downfall of Satan's entire organization. (**Religion**, pg. 336).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
4. The 1941 Watchtower publication entitled **Children** was an effective tool used in the remaining months before Armageddon. (**Watchtower**, September 15, 1941, pg. 288).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
5. Six thousand years of human history ended in the fall of 1975 and the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ (the Millennium) started. (**Life Everlasting In The Freedom Of The Sons Of God**, pgs. 29, 30).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
6. May 1974 — Selling your home and property was a fine way to spend the short time remaining before the wicked world's end. (**Kingdom Ministry**, May 1974, pg. 3).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
7. 1874 was the exact date of our Lord's return. (**The Time Is At Hand**, pg. 170).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
8. Jehovah will put all false prophets to shame by not fulfilling the false predictions of such self-assuming prophets. (**Paradise Restored to Mankind — By Theocracy**, pgs. 353, 354).
☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

The information presented here is only a small sampling of the many false prophecies of the Watchtower Society. We invite you to examine God's Word dealing with false prophets: Deuteronomy 18:21, 22 and Matthew 7:15, 16.

Destroying the

"ONE MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MEN"

The Watchtower Society always has tried to downgrade the person of Jesus Christ and the atoning work of His death. Jehovah's Witnesses proclaim their belief that Jesus is not God but "a god" who was Michael the Archangel and possessed only some of the divine attributes. (**The Watchtower**, December 15, 1984, pgs. 26-29. **Let God Be True**, Second Edition, pgs. 31-41.)

Since Witnesses believe Jesus is not God, they consider Him unworthy of their worship. While every Witness is taught to view God the Son in this manner, many Watchtower followers are surprised to learn of what former Jehovah's Witness Duane Magnani calls a "secret doctrine of Jehovah's Witnesses:" the teaching that Jesus Christ is not the Savior and Mediator for most Witnesses.

Although hidden during earlier times, the Society's teaching on Christ's mediation now has become clearer.

First, the Watchtower claims that Jesus did not come to Earth as Christ the Savior, but was given this role at age 30. The Watchtower book **Things In Which It Is Impossible For God To Lie** says on page 211: "As regards Jesus, according to the angel's announcement at His birth in Bethlehem he was to become a 'Savior, who is Christ the Lord.' When did he become Christ or 'Anointed One?'...Not at birth, but at thirty years of age Jesus became Christ or Anointed One." Watchtower writers have given a new meaning to the angel's announcement by adding to the biblical text the word "become." Luke 2:11 clearly states that the angel announced "for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord." Scripture testifies that at his birth Jesus already was the Christ, not that he was to become the Christ.

However, the November 15, 1979, **Watchtower** emphasizes on pages 24-27 that Jesus Christ acts as a mediator only for a select few: those the Watchtower regards as the 144,000 anointed Christians. Members of this group, who also are referred to as "spiritual Israelites," are those who, according to Witness teaching, will reign in the heavenly kingdom. The April 1, 1979, **Watchtower** stresses on page 31 that in a "strict Biblical sense Jesus is the 'mediator' only for anointed Christians."

As one would expect, the Society must twist God's Word to support this doctrine. Two distinct examples of how the organization has changed God's word are found in separate citations of I Timothy 2:5, 6. Watchtower writers said on page 26 of the November 15, 1979, **Watchtower**: "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, a man, Christ Jesus, who gave himself a corresponding ransom for all (or, for all

kinds of people, margin) — this is what is to be witnessed to at its own particular time." Again, in the same article, the passage is cited and made to state, "There is one God, and one mediator between God and men (**not all men**), a man, Christ Jesus, who gave himself a corresponding ransom for all." (emphasis added).

As the Society becomes more outspoken and dogmatic in its claim to be the sole channel for biblical truth, it also seeks to keep from its followers the fact that its founder, Charles T. Russell, openly taught that all Watchtower adherents belonged to this "anointed" group. Russell asserted: "Here I first saw that the great privilege of becoming joint-heirs with Christ and partakers with him of the divine nature was confirmed exclusively to those who would share with him in self-sacrifice in the service of the truth." (**The Watch Tower**, April 25, 1884, [special issue], pg. 111).

Hidden also from present-day Witnesses is Russell's teaching that Watchtower adherents would inherit the same divine nature possessed by Jesus. The October-November 1881 edition of **Zion's Watch Tower** says on pages 297-298:

"We see then, that the Divine nature comes to the church; as to Jesus, as a reward from the Father Jehovah for the race of faith well run, for the crucifixion — sacrifice, of human nature... We conclude then that the titles, Mighty God and Everlasting Father are titles which fully understood, are very appropriate to Our Lord Jesus Christ. And we might add that so perfectly is his Bride — body — church, associated with him, both in filling up the measure of the sufferings — being joined in sacrifice and also in Glory that shall follow, that the same titles are applicable to the Church as his body — for 'He that hath freely given us Christ, shall he not with him also freely give us all things?' 'Therefore all things are yours, and ye are Christ's and Christ is God's...' The whole body of Christ the 'Mighty God' (el — powerful one) to rule and bless the nations — and the body with the head, shall share in the work of restoring the life lost in Adam, and therefore be members of that company which as a whole will be the Everlasting Father to the restored race."

Russell, in the following issue of his publication, again elevated his followers to Godhood. Announcing, "YE ARE GODS," he concluded that "when we speak of being 'new creatures' — not any longer human, but 'partakers of the divine nature.' When we claim on the scriptural warrant, that we are begotten of a divine nature and that Jehovah is thus our father, it is claiming that we are divine beings — hence all such are Gods." Absent from Russell's assertion that we can become gods is any reminder of Satan's lie to Eve in the Garden, "You

will become like God!" (Genesis 3:5), Lucifer's fall from glory for wishing to be as God (Isaiah 14:14ff) and the words from Yahweh Himself, stating that "The gods that did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens. (Jeremiah 10:11)

When membership began to increase during the late 1930s, the Watchtower Society began to stray from Russell's teaching of who belonged to the anointed. By the time the August 15, 1945, issue of the **Watchtower** was published, Witnesses were told that they could not all currently be regarded as children of God. On page 253 of that issue, it was written: "he is not yet giving the 'other sheep' the standing of sons of his, sons of 'The everlasting Father' (Isaiah 9:6). But these faithful ones will become such during his thousand-year reign after Armageddon; and now, by virtue of the prospect of eventually becoming Jehovah's perfect sons, they address him prospectively as 'Our Father.'"

The Watchtower demonstrates its departure from biblical Christianity in its offering of little hope and no security of eternal life for the average Jehovah's Witness in need of a Savior; the Society can conveniently maintain its teaching of a "Christ class," an entire group of mediators. This doctrine was clearly warned against by Jesus when he cautioned that false Christs would arise (Matthew 24:24).

In light of current Watchtower doctrine, the unanointed Jehovah's Witness must look elsewhere for his salvation and for someone to intercede for him. Unanointed Witnesses are taught they will get these blessings from the "Christ class" — the remnant of the 144,000 now living on the Earth today.

The November 15, 1979, **Watchtower** magazine says on page 27, "To keep in relationship with 'our Savior, God,' the 'great crowd' (made up of other Jehovah's Witnesses) needs to remain united with the remnant of spiritual Israelites." The August 1, 1981, **Watchtower** then addresses and defines the conditions for

eternal life. On page 26, it states, "Your attitude toward the 'wheatlike anointed brothers' of Christ and the treatment you accord them, will be the determining factor as to whether you go into 'everlasting cutting-off' or receive 'everlasting life.'"

Further, a false basis for this "Christ class" teaching has been smuggled into God's Word by the twisted rendering of Scripture in the Society's **New World Translation**. II Corinthians 5:20 has been distorted to say: "We are therefore ambassadors **substituting** for Christ, as though God were making entreaty through us. As **substitutes** for Christ we beg: 'Become reconciled to God.'" (emphasis added) The in-house Watchtower publication **Organized To Accomplish Our Ministry** on page 6 quotes this twisted passage and seeks to establish in the minds of Jehovah's Witnesses that the anointed remnant substitutes for Christ Jesus. In this way, the present Watchtower leadership — called the "anointed brothers" — seeks to keep rank-and-file Jehovah's Witnesses enslaved to its wishes and direction. The Society's leaders again have demonstrated that they will stop at nothing to propagate their "doctrines of demons."

The Bible is clear in its message. One does not need an organization to interpret God's Word, nor does anyone need to add to it to clarify its meaning. The eternal God, creator of the universe, became man and dwelt among us. He freely offered his human life, shedding his blood in atonement for our sins. The Apostle Paul clearly proclaims the Gospel: that Christ was crucified, died, was buried and on the third day arose from the grave. The sacrifice that Jesus made and his present mediatorship is not limited to a small number, but is available to all, with the added security that these have eternal life (John 5:24; 10:27, 28). Scripture is clear that there is only one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus (I Timothy 2:5, 6). The Watchtower claims the man Jesus is dead and the Society's leaders must substitute for him. (**Studies in the Scriptures**, Vol. 5, pg. 454.) Jesus is not dead, but fully alive and able to save completely those who come to God through Him (Hebrews 7:25).

Is Jesus Coming Again?

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is something that millions of people have looked forward to with great anticipation for many centuries. Christians believe that His Coming will bring peace and joy to the whole world. Most who claim to be Christian are still awaiting His return and believe it will be a literal, visible and physical one. The Watchtower magazine

(published by the Jehovah's Witness leadership) teaches otherwise. They believe that Jesus has already come in 1914, **invisibly**. They say, "Beyond all doubt, the evidence points to 1914 as the year when the kingdom of God went into operation, and that event is causing things to happen here on earth." (**The Truth That Leads to Eternal Life**, pg. 93.) There is certainly a

vast difference of opinion about the Second Coming of the Lord.

Jesus tells us to love one another. This means we should be concerned with each other's spiritual as well as physical welfare. We agree with Jehovah's Witnesses that it is vital to our spiritual welfare to know whether Christ has already come or is still to be looked for. Let us adhere to the words of Paul, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." (I Thessalonians 5:21) This article contains many documented statements from Watchtower publications. Based on this information we ask: DID JESUS RETURN IN 1914?

The title of the Watchtower magazine reflects the importance that it places on the doctrine of Christ's Second Coming. In 1879 the title was: **Zion's Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence**. Today it is titled: **The Watchtower — Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom**. Of course if Jesus is not invisibly present as this magazine teaches then its main message would be wrong and would show a lack of God's leading. If Christ did not come in 1914 then Jehovah's Witnesses are not ruled by the heavenly kingdom that the Watchtower describes.

Many people wonder why Jehovah's Witnesses believe so strongly in the teachings and interpretations of the Watchtower magazine. It is easy to see why Jehovah's Witnesses take such a stand when one recognizes the central role that the Watchtower organization plays in their lives. The Watchtower leadership is believed to be a divinely appointed servant (slave) of God to teach His people what Jehovah wants them to know. The Watchtower itself stresses the obligation of each Jehovah's Witness when it states, "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." (Watchtower October 1, 1967 pg. 590) One could not be a Jehovah's Witness and publicly disagree with any view of the Watchtower leaders.

In its publications the Watchtower makes various predictions concerning the Second Coming of Christ and the END of the world (Armageddon — Revelation 16:14). The Watchtower claims that it "...is no inspired prophet," (Watchtower December 15, 1973 pg. 738) but that it follows the Bible and can be read with confidence because it can be checked against the inspired Scriptures. We challenge the Watchtower claim not to be an "inspired prophet." We ask this question: Has the Watchtower claimed to be a PROPHET?

The answer comes in the following quotes: "...was there any group on whom Jehovah would be willing to bestow the commission to speak as a 'PROPHET' in His name, as was done toward Ezekiel back there in 613 B.C.E.?" (Watchtower March 15, 1972 pg. 189) The next issue answers their own question: "In 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... So, does Jehovah have a PROPHET to help them, to WARN THEM OF THE DANGERS and to DECLARE THINGS TO COME? These questions can be answered in the affirmative... 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." (Watchtower April

1, 1972 pg. 174).

The Watchtower claims to be the "modern-day EZEKIEL, the 'PROPHET' commissioned by Jehovah to DECLARE THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S MESSIANIC KINGDOM and to GIVE WARNING TO CHRISTENDOM." (Watchtower April 1, 1972 pg. 199) Furthermore they state: "And since no WORD or work of Jehovah can fail, for he is God Almighty, the nations will see the fulfillment of what these witnesses say as DIRECTED FROM HEAVEN." (Watchtower April 1, 1972 pg. 200)

If the Watchtower is a PROPHET, can they still claim not to be an "inspired prophet"? The following quotes from **Aid to Bible Understanding** (Watchtower publication) will help us find the answer. On page 1347 under the heading "PROPHET" we read, "...TRUE PROPHETS were no ordinary announcers but were SPOKESMEN for God, 'men of God' with INSPIRED MESSAGES." And page 1348 says, the true prophet "expressed God's mind on matters."

So, the Watchtower asserts to be "commission(ed) to speak as a 'PROPHET.'" (Watchtower March 15, 1972 pg. 189) Notice the True Prophet, Ezekiel, is the example of what kind of prophet they were claiming to be, and that their words are "directed from heaven." (Watchtower April 1, 1972 pg. 200) God's prophets "FORETOLD things to come" and spent time "WARNING them (the people) of dangers," just as the Watchtower today "warn(s) them of dangers" and "declares things to come." (Watchtower April 1, 1972 pg. 197.)

Under the heading "PROPHECY", the **Aid** book, page 1344 reads: "An INSPIRED message; a revelation of divine will and purpose or the proclamation thereof... The Source of all TRUE PROPHECY is Jehovah God. HE TRANSMITS IT BY MEANS OF HIS HOLY SPIRIT OR, OCCASIONALLY, BY SPIRIT-DIRECTED ANGELIC MESSENGERS." Does the Watchtower Prophet receive its prophecies in this way? It certainly claims just that. In referring to its prophecy about the "Times of the Gentiles" (world rulers) ending in 1914, they said, "ONLY GOD BY HIS HOLY SPIRIT COULD HAVE REVEALED THIS to those early Bible students so far in advance. (Watchtower July 1, 1973 pg. 402.) And that, "Jehovah's Witnesses today make their declaration of the good news of the Kingdom under ANGELIC DIRECTION and support." (Watchtower April 1, 1972 pg. 200.) So on one hand the Watchtower claims that it is not an "inspired prophet" yet on the other it claims to fulfill all the requirements for an INSPIRED TRUE PROPHET. We claim this is double talk! But you be the judge.

Dear friend, we hope that you agree with us that it is vital to test the prophecies of the Watchtower prophet. Even the Watchtower has told us, "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?" (Watchtower April 1, 1972 pg. 197.)

Let us inquire about the most important prophecy that this prophet claims to have made — that it successfully predicted that Jesus Christ returned in 1914. In connection with this they assure us that God's HEAVENLY kingdom was set up in 1914. In the book, **Paradise Lost to Paradise Regained**, page 170, they stated, "...the witnesses said that the year 1914 would be of world-wide importance. In the **Watch Tower** magazine of

March, 1880, they said: 'The times of the Gentiles extend to 1914, and the heavenly kingdom will not have full sway till then.' Of all people, only the witnesses pointed to 1914 as the year for God's kingdom to be fully set up in HEAVEN."

Sound convincing? Let's look a little closer. When we refer directly to the March, 1880 quote we find something quite different than the Watchtower stated. This is apparent from a look at the actual quote. "'The Times of the Gentiles' extend to 1914, and the heavenly kingdom will not have full sway till then, but as a 'Stone' the Kingdom of God is set up 'in the days of these (ten Gentile) kings,' and by consuming them it becomes a universal kingdom — a 'great mountain and fills the whole earth.'"

From the **total** quote it is easy to see that the Watchtower did not predict the Kingdom of God to be set up in **Heaven** in 1914. Why did they place a period (.) where a comma (,) actually was? This March, 1880 article was listed in the Watchtower Reprints Index (published 1919) under the heading **KINGDOM** and subheading **EARTHLY**. As a final proof that the Watchtower prophesied that this kingdom would be in the **EARTH** in 1914 we quote the **Studies in the Scriptures**, Series II, page 77: "Firstly, that at that date (1914) the Kingdom of God, for which our Lord taught us to pray, saying, 'Thy Kingdom come,' will obtain **FULL, UNIVERSAL CONTROL**, and that it will then be 'set up,' or firmly established, **IN THE EARTH**, on the ruins of present institutions." Why does the Watchtower now say that they prophesied a **HEAVENLY** kingdom by 1914?

WHAT HAPPENED IN 1874?

The year 1874 is unimportant to Jehovah's Witnesses today. However, it was of utmost importance to Watchtower "Bible students" until 1927. Why? Well, instead of teaching that Christ had returned in 1914, the Watchtower said that 1874 was the date of the Second Coming! They were quite proud of this 1874 prophecy. Their publication, **The Harp of God** (pg. 238, 1921 ed.), lauded the Watchtower magazine, saying, "This is the first and only publication that for **more than forty years** has announced the second presence of the Lord." The Watchtower was ready to support this prophetic date with numerous **proofs**. The **Harp** book, (pgs. 234-235), also told us, "It was in the year 1874, the date of our Lord's second presence, that the first labor organization was created in the world...as further **evidence** of the Lord's presence since that date, as follows: Adding machines, aeroplanes, aluminum, antiseptic surgery..."

Evidence was abundant in Watchtower literature that they had been in "the time of the end" long before 1914. One of the many "Biblical" (?) dates chosen by the Watchtower prophet was 1799. The **Harp** book, (pg. 234) stated, "These physical facts **cannot be disputed** and are sufficient to convince any **reasonable mind** that we have been in 'the time of the end' since 1799." Can you dispute that 1799 is a prophetic date? If so, you are ignoring what the Watchtower calls **undisputed physical facts** and worse than that you are using an **UNreasonable mind**!

We have heard sincere Jehovah's Witnesses say, "We don't care what happened in the past, we are much more concerned with what the Society teaches today." In other words, they claim that the Watchtower statements in the past are not to be considered important if they do not agree with present day

teaching. We have also heard it said that because the Watchtower writers are imperfect men, we should expect them to make human **mistakes** from time to time, but that is no cause for concern.

However, the Watchtower has claimed to be a modern-day **prophet** of God in the tradition of Ezekiel. They have claimed to be this **prophet** since 1879 (see **The Watchtower**, April 1, 1972, pg. 197), therefore, we should not disregard Watchtower prophecies of years ago just as we don't consider the prophecies of Ezekiel of over 2500 years ago as unimportant today. They were **true** then and they are **true** now. Friends, we're not concerned with their mistakes, only their false prophecies. Certainly true prophets such as Moses, Peter and Paul were imperfect and made mistakes, but they **never** made false prophecies. Jehovah never utters false prophecies, nor do His **true** representatives. Those who claim to be God's representatives, His "channel of truth" and the **prophet** who speaks in Jehovah's name, are responsible for their prophecies.

DID THE WATCHTOWER PREDICT WWI?

The Watchtower quotes a New York newspaper, **The World**, (August 30, 1914, pp. 4, 17) "The terrific outbreak in Europe had fulfilled an extraordinary prophecy." (**Jehovah's Witnesses in the Divine Purpose**, pg. 54).

Interestingly, we find that again the **facts** do not bear out the Watchtower claim that it predicted WWI in 1914. First the Watchtower emphatically stated that Armageddon would be fought and the New Age begun by the Fall of 1914. **The Watchtower** magazine (January 15, 1892, pg. 22) announced, "The date of the close of that 'battle' (Armageddon) is definitely marked in Scripture as October 1914. It is already in progress, its beginning dating from October 1874." When the New Age did not begin in October 1914 as predicted the Watchtower updated its message so that WWI was Armageddon! While the war was being waged they maintained, "In the meantime, our **eyes of understanding** should discern clearly the Battle of the Great Day of God Almighty now in progress." (**The Watchtower**, September 1, 1916, pg. 265) The next year (1917) they continued, "The present great war in Europe is the beginning of the Armageddon of the Scriptures." (**Pastor Russell's Sermons**, pg. 676)

Apparently, the Watchtower had **eyes of misunderstanding** about WWI. We challenge the Society to produce **one** documented statement by their organization before 1914 to prove that they predicted WWI. All the evidence clearly shows they predicted the **end** — Armageddon in 1914 (or later).

1975?

Let's ask the Watchtower, "What was so important about the date 1975?" We read, "According to the Bible's count of time mankind then completed 6000 years of existence on earth." (**The Watchtower**, October 1, 1975, pg. 579). For nearly a decade many sincere Jehovah's Witnesses had believed that 1975 might see the rule of Christ's millennial kingdom on earth. **The 1975 Yearbook** on page 256 tells what was on the minds of many sincere Jehovah's Witnesses concerning 1975, "This certainly raised questions. Does this mean that Babylon the Great (false

religion) will go down by 1975? Will Armageddon be over with Satan bound by then?" On the same page, Vice-President, F.W. Franz, after bringing up the point that all this was possible, warns Jehovah's Witnesses, "And don't any of you be specific in saying anything that is going to happen between now and 1975."

Well, 1975 passed us by and Christ's 1000 year kingdom has not arrived. The Watchtower says it is impossible to know when this kingdom will start. They teach that if one knew the date of Eve's creation and added 6000 years to that date, the resulting figure would be the date that Christ's millennial kingdom begins. They claim to know the date of Adam's creation, 4026 BCE. However, **The Watchtower** magazine (January 1, 1976, pg. 30), announces that there is a time lapse between the creation of Adam and the creation of his wife Eve. Accordingly they state that whether this time lapse is weeks - or months - or even years, they do not claim to know. What the Watchtower says is that all we know is when Adam was created, and **because we do not know when Eve was created** we cannot calculate when the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ will begin.

Why, then, were so many Jehovah's Witnesses looking forward to 1975? The answer is simple. On page 256 of the **1975 Yearbook**, concerning the date 1975 it says, "Its importance was deeply impressed on our minds back in 1966." Why? Well, in **Life Everlasting - In the Freedom of the Sons of God**, (pg. 29), they said, "According to this **trustworthy** Bible chronology six thousand years of human history will end in the fall of 1975 C.E." For almost ten years the Watchtower allowed its readers to believe that Christ's millennial kingdom would come by 1975. Let's examine the evidence closer.

Remember, **The Watchtower** (January 1, 1976) said it was impossible to determine when Eve was created. Yet in the **Awake!** (October 8, 1968, pg. 14) we read, "According to reliable Bible chronology **Adam and Eve** were created in 4026 B.C.E." Following this statement a chart is used to prove that 6000 years of human history would end in 1975. Also they said, "...Adams's naming of the animals and his realizing that he needed a counterpart would have occupied **only a brief time** after his creation. Since it was also Jehovah's purpose for man to multiply and fill the earth, it is logical that he would create Eve **soon** after Adam, perhaps just a few weeks or months later in the **same year**, 4026 B.C.E. After her creation, God's rest day, the seventh period, immediately followed." (**Watchtower**, May 1, 1968, pg. 271)

The Watchtower says in **Aid To Bible Understanding** on page 333, "from Adam's creation to the birth of Seth equals 130 years." Compare this with the statement on page 538 of this book, "At the age of **130** another son was born to her. Eve called his name Seth." The conclusion is simple. Adam and Eve were both 130 years old when Seth was born which means they were created in the same year. What year? **Awake!** (October 8, 1968, pg. 14) says "reliable Bible chronology" puts their creation in 4026 BCE. This means they knew when the millenium would start — 1975. This certainly raised the hopes of many Watchtower readers.

The Watchtower now says that they don't have all the evidence concerning when the millenium will start. But note what they said before, "True there have been those in times

past who predicted an 'end to the world' even announcing a specific date. Some have gathered groups of people with them and fled to the hills or withdrawn into their houses waiting for the end. Yet nothing happened. The 'end' did not come. They were guilty of false prophesying. Why? What was missing? Missing was the **full measure of Bible evidence** required in fulfillment of Bible prophecy. Missing from such people were **God's truths and the evidence** that He was guiding and using them. But what about today (1968)? **Today** we have the evidence required, **all of it**. And it is overwhelming! All the many, many parts of the great sign of the 'last days' are here, together with verifying Bible chronology." (**Awake!** October 8, 1968, pg. 23.)

So the Watchtower claimed in 1968 that it had all the evidence, now it claims it doesn't! Where did the evidence go? Dear friends, Jehovah never revealed anything to them. The Watchtower covers its false prophecies by quoting Proverbs 4:18, claiming that it gets "new light" on the Scriptures which somehow updates the "truth" and introduces "present truth!" But, the understanding about the year 1975 didn't get clearer because now the Watchtower claims to know less than it knew ten years ago. The "light" got darker, in fact it went out. Solomon said, "The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble." (Proverbs 4:19 RSV.)

GOD'S WORD SAYS...

Please read the following verses in the **New World Translation** then answer these questions:

1. Revelation 1:7 — Did **every** eye see Him including those who pierced Him, and **who** wailed because of Him in 1914?
2. I Thessalonians 4:16, 17 — Who went "together with them" in 1914?
3. I Corinthians 15:51, 52 — Were "all" the anointed Jehovah's Witnesses "changed" in 1914? How long is a "twinkling of an eye?"

BE CAREFUL

When peace on earth didn't come in 1914 the Watchtower "revised" their prophecy and told us it would come later, perhaps by 1975. The Bible tells us what happens to "prophets" who are not accurate in their prophecies. The "prophet" Hananiah illustrates this. During Israel's captivity in Babylon, Hananiah predicted that Israel would be set free in two years (Jeremiah 28:1-4). That prophecy failed even though Israel was finally released years later. Jeremiah, the **true** prophet told Hananiah, "Hear now, Hananiah; the Lord hath not sent thee; but thou makest this people to trust in a lie." (Jeremiah 28:15). Then Jehovah took Hananiah's life.

Yes, friends, Jesus is coming. He didn't come in 1874 or 1914, but He is coming. Let us follow the Apostle's advice, "And now, little children, abide in Him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming." (I John 2:28).

Don't worry, there is truth and it is found in the one called Jesus, for He says, "I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6).

In 1954 the Watchtower leaders ate and drank, discerning the Lord's body to be the **CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION!**

But then in 1956 they said:

"His body? Yes; his own body, his whole body, head and all, that he was to give for them. Jesus meant his own body, the body with which he next associates his own blood when speaking of the cup. For thirty-three and a half years that body had held the blood that was to be poured out on the torture stake at Calvary. The life of that fleshly body was its blood. When he came to John to have that body baptized Jesus quoted Psalm 40:6-8 and applied it to himself: 'Hence when he comes into the world he says: 'You did not desire sacrifice and offering (of beasts), but you prepared a body for me. You did not approve of whole burnt-offerings and sin offering.' Then I said 'Look! I am come (in the roll of the book it is written about me) to do your will, O God.' — Hebrews 10:5-7, NW.'"

Watchtower, January 15, 1956, page 49

From 1956 until today the Watchtower leaders eat and drink, discerning the Lord's body to be his **FLESHLY PHYSICAL BODY!**

The Apostle Paul warns us to "Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine." (I Thessalonians 5:21 NWT) In fact the Watchtower has printed two books whose titles use these words of Paul. The following is an example of the spiritual understanding about the Memorial bread from these books:

**MAKE SURE
OF ALL THINGS**
Printed in 1953, page 261

**MAKE SURE
OF ALL THINGS HOLD FAST
TO WHAT IS FINE**
Printed in 1965, page 323

Jesus Referred to Church with Words, "This Is My Body"

Matt. 26:26, *Dy* "And whilst they were at supper, Jesus took bread and blessed and broke and gave to his disciples and said: Take ye and eat. This is my body."

1 Cor. 12:12-14, 27, *Dy* "For as the body is one and hath many members; and all the members of the body, whereas they are many, yet are one body: so also is Christ. For in one spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether bond or free: and in one spirit we have all been made to drink.

(Referring to this statement they use 1 Cor. 11:29, page 262)

On the title page of this book we read that the purpose of the book is "... to enable the searcher for truth to ascertain the **FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES** and be assured thereof."

**Bread Represents Jesus' Body
of Flesh**

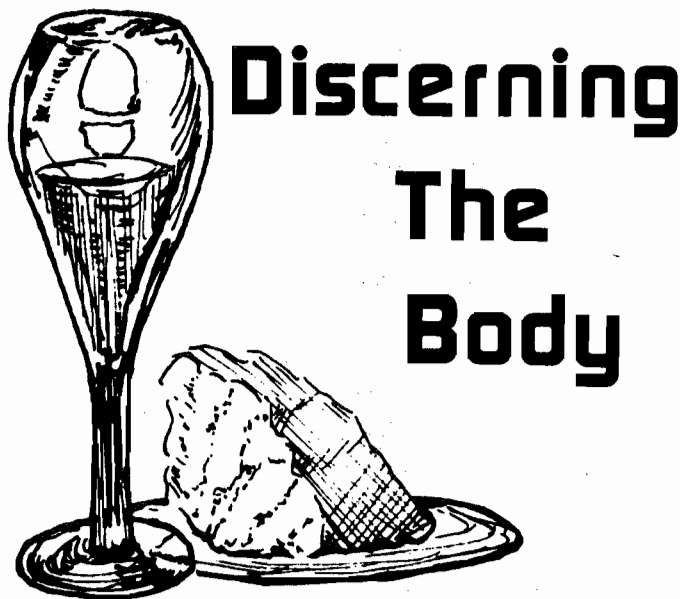
Matt. 26:26 "As they continued eating, Jesus took a loaf and, after saying a blessing, he broke it and, giving it to the disciples, he said: 'Take, eat. This means my body.'"

Partakers symbolize their benefiting from Jesus' human body laid down in sacrifice

Luke 22:19 "He took a loaf, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying: 'This means

This Watchtower book makes a similar claim when we read from its title page, "... to enable you to ascertain quickly what the Bible itself has to say on these important subjects. This book may be used to **ASSURE** yourself of the **BIBLE TEACHING** on these subjects, and also to answer those who challenge your faith."

For over seventy-six years the Watchtower leaders proclaimed that concerning the Lord's Supper the **BODY OF JESUS** meant the whole Christian Congregation. Now they say that the Body refers only to His actual flesh. Are you willing to put your own eternal welfare in the hands of men who eat and drink judgement against themselves because they have not discerned the **BODY?**



THE WATCHTOWER vs. THE WATCHTOWER:

The Lord's Evening Meal

This year over eight million persons in countries around the world will meet in the Kingdom Halls of Jehovah's Witnesses for a very special meeting. The occasion is the annual celebration of the Lord's Supper of bread and wine. They call this the Memorial. At this meeting, a lecture is given to explain the spiritual meaning of the bread and wine.

The Lord Jesus said of the bread: "This means my **BODY** which is in **YOUR** behalf. Keep doing this in remembrance of me." (I Corinthians 11:24, **New World Translation**) The Apostle Paul wrote that it is vital for all those partaking to **DISCERN** the body. "For he that eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment against himself if he does not discern the body." (I Corinthians 11:29 NWT) How does the Watchtower discern the **BODY?**

From its very beginnings until 1955 the Watchtower claimed:

"It was after the passover supper and after Jesus had dismissed Judas that he 'took a loaf and, after saying a blessing, he broke it and, giving it to the disciples, he said: 'Take, eat. This means my body.'" (Matthew 26:26; John 13:21-30, NW) To which body was Jesus referring here? To his fleshly body? Hardly, for concerning it we read that not a bone was broken, whereas Jesus broke the loaf. (John 19:36) Rather, he was referring to his spiritual body, the Christian congregation, which in the Scriptures is termed a body or Christ's body more than forty-five times. That this is the correct conclusion is apparent from Paul's words: 'The loaf which we break, is it not a sharing in the body of the Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, although many, are one body, for we are all partaking of that one loaf.' Clearly the loaf pictures not Jesus' fleshly body but his body members, the Christian congregation." — I Corinthians 10:16, 17, NW."

Watchtower, March 15, 1954, page 174

For Additional Help in Ministering to Jehovah's Witnesses, Contact:



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