

### **The Watchtower:**

Only 144,000 people will go to heaven; the rest of the saints will enjoy paradise on earth for eternity. The earth is eternal in nature

### **The Bible:**

2 Peter 3:10-12 *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?*

Acts 20:32 *"So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.*

### **The Watchtower:**

People cannot understand the Bible without the Watchtower Society: *"The fact is that we cannot understand the Bible on our own. We need help. Jehovah, through his organization, however, has allowed his loyal servants to understand its meaning today<sup>1</sup>*

### **The Bible**

Ephesians 3:3-4 *how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge*

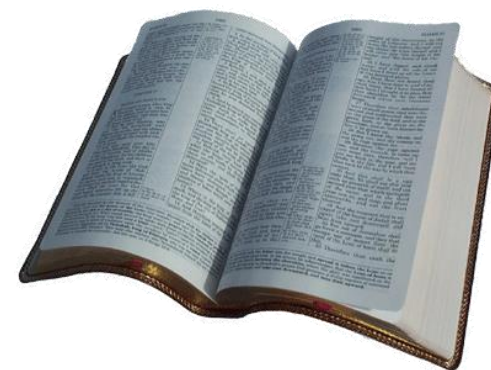
*in the mystery of Christ)*

*Romans 15:4 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*

*2 Corinthians 1:13 For we are not writing any other things to you than what you read or understand. Now I trust you will understand, even to the end*

There are a number of other issues that can be brought up, but these points are sufficient to cast doubt on any Bible Student of the dangers the Jehovah's Witness organization presents. The Watchtower society claims to use the Bible as its guide, but in fact does not. Instead they have violated the sanctity of Scriptures by adding to them and taking away from them (Revelation 22:18-20).

# Understanding the Jehovah's Witnesses



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<sup>1</sup> The Watchtower , Oct 1, 1994

The Jehovah's Witness organization started in the 1870s by Charles Russell (sometimes called *Russelites*). They are headed by the "**Watchtower Bible and Tract Society**", which is less of a printing company than it is a church council. They believe that only by using the name "Jehovah" can someone call upon God.

Many know that the Jehovah's Witnesses have their own translation of the Bible, the "*New World Translation of Scriptures*". The identity of the translators of this version is not made known, so that no one is able to question of the "scholarship" of the translators. There have been dramatic (and scholastically indefensible) changes in this translation in places such as Genesis 1:1-2, Zechariah 12:10, John 1:1, Colossians 1:15-17, and Hebrews 1:6-8 with the intent and purpose of removing those indications that Jesus was God in the flesh.

The Jehovah's Witnesses/Watchtower Society are well known for a series of prophesied "returns" of Jesus Christ (1914, 1917, 1918, 1925, 1975):

•1899 "...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 Time Is at Hand*, 1908 edition, p. 101).

•1922 "The date 1925 is even more distinctly indicated by the Scriptures than 1914," (*Watchtower*, Sept. 1, 1922, p. 262).

•1925 "The year 1925 is here. With great expectation Christians have looked forward to this year. Many have confidently expected that all members of the body of Christ will be changed to heavenly glory during this year. This may be accomplished. It may not be. In his own due time God will accomplish his purposes concerning his people. Christians should not be so deeply concerned about what may transpire this year," (*Watchtower*, Jan. 1, 1925, p. 3).

•1931 "There was a measure of disappointment on the part of Jehovah's faithful ones on earth concerning the years 1917, 1918, and 1925, which disappointment lasted for a time...and they also learned to quit fixing dates," (*Vindication*, p. 338).

•1968 "Why are you looking forward to 1975?" (*Watchtower*, Aug. 15, 1968, p. 494).

In addition to these unfulfilled predictions (acknowledged to be false prophecies by Watchtower Vice President Fred Franz while under oath<sup>2</sup>), there are a number of doctrines that are contradictory to the Bible.

#### **The Watchtower:**

There is no soul or spirit; only the body; Hell is not real, but a destruction of the body.

#### **The Bible**

*Matthew 10:28* "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

*1 Thessalonians 5:23* Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Hebrews 4:12* For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

#### **The Watchtower:**

Jesus is not God – "*The Scriptures therefore show that Jesus is not God Almighty. Instead, he is God's Son*<sup>3</sup>"

#### **The Bible**

*John 1:1* In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

*John 20:28* And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

*John 8:58* Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

*1 Timothy 3:16* And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

*Hebrews 1: 8* But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever ....

<sup>2</sup> Court of Sessions, Scotland: Strachan v. Walsh, (1954)

<sup>3</sup> [www.watchtower.org/e/20050915/diagram\\_01.htm](http://www.watchtower.org/e/20050915/diagram_01.htm)