DICTIONARY of JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

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JACKSON, GEOFFREY (1955-)
Governing Body member appointed in August 2005.

JACKSON, JANET (1966-)
Sister of Michael Jackson, raised as a JW by her mother. Janet claimed she was afraid of their father: "We'd be in bed with our mother, playing games, having fun and, when he pulled up in the driveway, we'd scatter." (The Advertiser Weekend 1993, September 25, p.5)

At 15 she had a short failed marriage to singer James DeBarge, but emerged in 1993 as a superstar. Her albums *Control* and *Rhythm Nation* sold over 10 million copies and she almost rivaled her brother's "King of Pop" status.

JACKSON, MICHAEL (1958-2009)
Pop star and entertainer who achieved world renown in 1982 with his *Thriller* album which *Time* magazine called "the best selling album, of any kind, of all time."

Subsequent albums included *Reunion* (1984) *Bad* (1987), *Dangerous* (1991) *HIStory* (1995), *Invincible* (2001)

Jackson's mother, Katherine (b. 1926) joined JWs in 1964 and raised her children as JWs. The father Joseph, a Lutheran, attended meetings but did not join. Until 1985 Jackson went door to door but disguised and shadowed by security guards.

According to *Cleo* magazine Jackson's older sister La Toya (b. 1957) claimed, "There was so much abuse in our family. Our father put guns to our head and pulled the trigger and then he'd laugh…" (1993, March, pp 101-103)

Jackson was repeatedly accused of sexually molesting young boys. One case was dropped in 1994 after a payment of US24 million. Another went to trial in 2005 and Jackson was found not guilty.

He left JWs in 1987. Katherine was reportedly disfellowshipped in 1988 for visiting her son (at the time in Britain) instead of shunning him.

JACOB'S TROUBLE (Jeremiah 30:7-9)
Russell taught that Jacob's Trouble was an attack upon regathered Israel at the climax of Armageddon. (Studies 4, 553-558; Pastor Russell's Sermons 1916, 191, 239) This climax was originally anticipated for 1914/1915, then the 1920s and 1930s.

Rutherford changed the interpretation in 1931/1932 and interpreted Jacob's Trouble as a final attack by the nations upon JWs:

> In the Scriptures Jacob stands for God's chosen people and particularly represents the regathered remnant after the scattering of 1918. It seems quite clear that 'Jacob's trouble' means the attempt made by Satan's instruments to destroy the remnant and at which time the remnant will be delivered by the hand of the Lord. (w1932 6/15 183)

Rutherford's next interpretation was that Jacob's Trouble was the "trouble and distress in 1918" from which the "remnant" were delivered in 1919. (w1940 8/1229; w1936 4/1 102)

JÄGERSTÄTTER, FRANZ (1907-1943)
A Catholic farmer born in St. Radegund near Braunau, Austria, who refused army service in World War II and was executed. (Zahn 1964)

Franz Jägerstätter had an aunt and a cousin (Johann Huber) who were JWs. Jägerstätter's biographer, Erna Putz, writes that he had discussions with Huber and other JWs but without any formal "Bible study" and never became a member.

Franz was brought up by his grandmother until 1917 when his mother married farmer Heinrich Jägerstätter who adopted him. In 1936 he married Franziska Schwaninger and they had three daughters: Rosalia, Maria, and Aloisia. In 1938 Jägerstätter voted against the "Anschluss" of Austria to the German Reich. In 1940 he was called up and did basic training and swore allegiance to Hitler but was exempted from military service in 1941.

At his second call-up in February 1943 he declared himself a conscientious objector and refused to join the German Wehrmacht. He was executed on August 9, 1943 in Berlin.

The film *Der Fall Jägerstätter* by director Axel Corti is based on the book by Gordon Zahn. It was shown on Austrian television and produced considerable public debate as well as comparisons with Engleitner and JWs.

Unlike Engleitner who left the Catholic Church, Jägerstätter never left the Church despite conflict with his parish priest and the Bishop of Linz over conscientious objection.

JAMAICA

Publishers and Memorial attendance on Jamaica and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	5,556	352		
1975	6,652	313		
1980	6,821	317	17,894	121
1985	7,737	284	21,250	103
1990	9,166	251	25,375	91
1995	10,489	239	31,600	79
2000	11,312	221	33,488	75
2005	11,174	237	35,803	74
2010	12,227	221	37,300	73
2013	12,263	224	37,100	74
2015	11,911	235	37,100	75
2018	11,425	254	31,962	91
	Ave.			
2019	11,090	266	34,700	85
2020	10,712	276	23,145	128
2021	11,033	269	48,100	62
2022	10,906	274	36,000	83
2023	10,741	279	31,900	94
2024	10,769	262	33,310	85
2025	10,809	262	29,802	95

JANSMA, NILS & SHERRY

A third-generation JWs couple who shared their story on the Internet.

Married in 1963 they were accepted at Brooklyn headquarters in 1966 because a new factory was planned and Nils was a surveyor.

Sherry worked at keeping 13 dormitory rooms clean, recording dramas, and performing on the Society's weekly radio program:

> After the district assembly in the summer of 1966, Bethel was buzzing with the "new light" that Armageddon would come by 1975…"

In 1971 they left Bethel and returned to California where Sherry pioneered and Nils enrolled in college and qualified as an elder:

> As 1975 approached, we began to hear the preliminary murmurs of denial from the Society rather than any honest admissions or apologies … the brothers and sisters parroting the information from the study article and innocently taking all of the blame… the Society was like the Scribes and Pharisees … burdening the people with heavy loads…

Nils resigned as an elder, but still attended meetings and used his engineering expertise to help in JWs construction projects.

One day a woman at a door disagreed with Sherry that the "other sheep" (John 10:16) were those who would live on Earth and said: "The other sheep are the Gentiles." Sherry concluded:

> That interpretation would fit so nicely with the rest of the Greek Scriptures where the Apostle Paul spoke about Jesus' death destroying the wall between the Jews and the Gentiles and making the two parties one — one flock, one Shepherd…

The Jansmas stopped conducting home studies but studied the Bible together, eventually rejecting the JWs view of "an existence bound by the frailty of our fleshly bodies":

> God has placed before us the prospect of unlimited freedom made possible by being given new glorified bodies that can and will live in both the new heavens and the new earth (Romans 8:20-23). The Apostle John says, "Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is."

In 1978 they had a daughter and stopped attending meetings:

> [Nils] didn't want to raise Ariane as a Witness and require her to take a stand on issues that he was no longer convinced were valid, such as birthdays and blood transfusions.

After Governing Body member Ray Franz left the sect they read his book *Crisis of Conscience* and Nils also began reading the writings of the ante-Nicene Christians:

> But, circumstantially, we had a lot to lose. All of our friends and family were Witnesses, and we couldn't ignore our responsibility to raise our daughter to love God and to associate with moral people. Additionally, I had "disproved" Christendom's teachings so many times, I couldn't imagine suddenly accepting them and attending a church full of hypocrites (as the Society often described churchgoers).

They read Randy Watters' book *Thus Saith The Governing Body* and saw that "the Society had prophesied falsely" many times and "we had no choice but to do what Deuteronomy 18:20-22 told us to do…"

Nils now had a Masters degree in engineering and geology and believed in an "old Earth" and so in 1986 they attended a church where this was acceptable:

> In fact, though we attended that church for many years, they never required us to become members. We had already been enrolled, through baptism, as members in Christ's body, the true, universal church, so any earthly memberships were for bookkeeping purposes only and not officially necessary.

The elders then called them to a committee meeting:

> Nils' position was this—We are still witnesses for Jehovah, and we fully agree with the Organization when it is in harmony with the Bible. In accord with the Society's witnessing policy, our Christian conscience requires that we be truthful when going from door to door. Therefore, if anyone asks us about the history of Jehovah's Witnesses, we will have to tell them, in truth, that they have prophesied falsely…

A year later they were called again:

> If we didn't show up, it would be taken the same as a letter of disassociation. If we did show up, we weren't allowed to take notes or to have anyone accompany us during our interrogation… All they asked us was the "new" (at that time) question the Society had added to the baptism confession — Did we consider that our baptism in the holy spirit meant that we were baptized into the spirit directed organization? I said I had not been asked that question at my baptism, so it didn't apply to me. I agreed with the Organization as long as it acted in harmony with the Bible. I clearly said that I was not disassociating myself from Jehovah's Witnesses…
>
> It is our position that if the Society would allow us to tell the truth about false prophecy at the doors in their name, we may still actively associate with them.

Although not disfellowshipped they were soon treated as if they were.

Nils earned a doctorate in Biblical archaeology, Sherry a Masters degree in Reading and Language Arts. Their ministry involved informing people on science and the Bible:

> Spiritually, we have grown into the Christians we always envied — those who really love Jesus and feel his presence in every area of their lives…

JAPAN

Publishers and Memorial attendance in Japan and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1960	1,658	56,417		
1965	4,090	24,550		
1970	9,478	10,878		
1975	33,480	3,307		
1980	55,900	2,061	129,900	887
1985	103,100	1,160	259,000	460
1990	147,600	831	329,400	372
1995	206,600	603	378,600	329
2000	221,400	570	350,600	360
2005	218,300	581	338,330	375
2010	218,700	581	322,800	394
2013	216,462	588	310,200	410
2015	215,200	588	300,400	421
2018	212,802	598	294,296	432
	Ave.			
2019	212,400	597	291,200	436
2020	211,494	598	273,900	462
2021	212,900	592	321,200	392
2022	213,800	585	310,700	403
2023	214,100	583	296,100	421
2024	213,719	581	290,165	428
2025	213,745	577	287,497	429

JARACZ, THEODORE (TED) (1925-2010)

An American member of the Governing Body appointed on November 28, 1974.

Jaracz was baptized in the early 1940s; attended Gilead and graduated from the seventh class; he was appointed as a circuit servant in Australia and in 1951 as branch servant. He suffered from migraine headaches due to which he sometimes cancelled speaking appointments.

Jaracz returned to the USA in the mid 1950s where he again served as a circuit servant. Another American, Douglas Held, replaced him as branch servant in Australia.

JARAMILLO, MONICA LYNN (1979-)

A JW woman in New Mexico, USA, who filed a complaint for damages in 2013 alleging sexual abuse by an elder in 1987 when she was eight years old.

The complaint alleged that the other elders knew of previous rapes by the perpetrator including of Jaramillo's mother also at age eight but did not remove him from his leadership position.

www.abqjournal.com/254868/abqnewsseeker/woman-sues-los-lunas-jehovahs-witnesses-claims-sex-abuse.html

JEHOVAH
The name of God in the King James Version in Exodus 6:3 and Psalm 83:18

The larger Protestant denominations (e.g Lutherans and Baptists) regard Jehovah as the name of the Trinity. Others, including Adventists, believe the name refers to Jesus. *The Watchtower* misleadingly says:

> …for Trinitarians the divine name Yahweh, or Jehovah, designates only one of the supposed "Three Persons" of the "Godhead." (w1984 9/1 26)

JWs apply the name to God the Father, it being his personal name. (Studies IV, 33-54) Jesus is Jehovah's son distinct from Jehovah and is the agent or means through whom Jehovah does everything, including creation and salvation. (Studies V, 45)

Russell, in his writings, gave Jehovah and Jesus about equal attention. Rutherford put all the emphasis on Jehovah, demoting Jesus to a superior angel, "Jehovah's executional officer", who would execute Rutherford's enemies at Armageddon in the 1930s or 1940s. In 1985 it was announced that the balance would be restored and more attention be given to Jesus.

The Bible describes Jehovah as omniscient and as seeing the past, present and future. (Psalm 139; Isaiah 41:21-23; Hebrews 4:13) The Jehovah of the JWs, in contrast, was wrong in prophecies for 1925, which the WTS says, "Jehovah caused to be preached". (w1955 11/15 698; w1934 8/1 229; Yearbook 1938 Text June 9) Since the Bible says Jehovah predicts the future accurately (Deuteronomy 18:22; Isaiah 44:7) the Jehovah of the JWs is not the same God.

JWs leaders have also revised thousands of their interpretations during the 20th century. Yet they claim that "Jehovah" interprets and reveals interpretations to "the servant class" (i.e. the "remnant"):

> He [Christ] merely uses the "servant" class to publish the interpretation after the Supreme Court [i.e. Jehovah] by Christ Jesus reveals it. (w1943 7/1 202)

If doctrine, including the interpretation, is revealed by an all-knowing God, there can be no errors in doctrine or theology. For example, regarding the book *Life* (1929) *The Watchtower* said: "…the Lord caused the publication of the book Life in 1929." (w1934 10/15 308-309) However, many claims in that book, e.g. that Israel would be restored, were soon discarded.

Since "the Lord" of the JWs caused the publication of falsehoods he cannot be the "Lord" revealed in the Bible. The "Lord" or "Jehovah" of the JWs is therefore whoever writes their publications particularly Russell, Rutherford, Frederick Franz and the Governing Body. JWs would deny this but it follows if Jehovah "revealed" or "caused" doctrines that were false.

Your Will Be Done On Earth (1958) says: "But the Bible warns against giving worshipful honors to humans…" (p.214) However, JWs leaders themselves receive "worshipful honors" whenever they teach falsehoods which they claim they got from God and want them obeyed:

> If we fully recognize him as being a Grand Master, we will refrain from contradicting in speech or action his approved way of doing things… If we recognize him as being a Grand Instructor, we will not doubt or criticize the methods of instruction Jehovah's "faithful and discreet slave" class is using today. (w1986 1/1 30)

JWs claim that "Christendom" suppresses Jehovah's name:

> The religious leaders of Christendom (and all their apostate bedfellows) dishonor that name even to the point of hypocritically trying to purge it from translations of the Bible. (w1985 3/1 19)
>
> Uninformed professing Christians, too covered over the name when, like the Jews, they ceased to use it and even removed it from the Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures. (w1985 1/1 29)

Actually the name is in common use, both as Jehovah and as Yahweh as well as in hymns sung in churches. The Catholic *Jerusalem Bible* has "Yahweh" throughout the Old Testament.

The general use of the name may have decline in the 1930s when the name became associated with the false prophecies of JWs and their verbal attacks on other religions. (See: *VITUPERATION*) The JWs view is that Catholics and other Churches avoid the name because of their "dogma of the Trinity". (w1984 9/1 26)

(See also: *DATES; FINISHED MYSTERY, THE; INFALLIBLE; JEHOVAH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT*)

JEHOVAH (1934)
A 382-page book by Rutherford with twelve chapters — Chapter 1 titled *Jehovah*, chapters 2 and 3 *His Name*, 4-11 *His Covenants*, and 12 *Your Choice*.

The "Millions Now Living Will Never Die" prophecy of 1920, which had focused on 1925, was reinvented in the book as follows:

> There are on earth today millions of people of good will who desire to know and to do what is right, and those who follow the instructions given to them in the Word of God may be hid in the time of the great tribulation, and be carried through it safely, and then live forever on the earth and never die. (Zeph. 2:2, 3) Hence it can be truly said that, "Millions now living will never die."—John 8:51. (p.25)

JWs believe that only they will survive Armageddon. However, they do not have millions of converts who were "now living" in 1920 or 1934. All of the **adults** living in 1920 are deceased and nearly all who lived in 1934. To make millions of converts before Armageddon from the few who remain is arithmetically impossible. Both versions of the "Millions" prediction are proved false.

JEHOVAH'S EXALTED WORSHIP

A phrase which encapsulates current JWs interpretations of the Bible and the way of life expected of JWs:

> Indeed millions are streaming to Jehovah's exalted worship, seeking instruction in his ways. (w1989 8/15 6)

JEHOVAH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The *New World Translation New Testament* has "Jehovah" 237 times whereas most Bibles do not have "Jehovah" in the New Testament.

JWs claim that 1st century Christians used the Tetragrammaton — i.e. YHWH, often translated "Jehovah" — and had it in their 1st century New Testament Scriptures. The oldest known manuscripts of the New Testament, however, do not have the name:

> In view of the evidence it seems most unusual to find that the extant manuscript copies of the original text of the Christian Greek Scriptures do not contain the divine name in its full form. (Insight II 1988, p.9)

Some manuscript fragments of older versions of the Septuagint (the 2nd century BC Old Testament in Greek) contain YHWH. (w1971 8/1 454) Although early Christians used the Septuagint they would not have possessed the oldest copies, rather copies available in the Christian era and these lacked the name.

The Jews stopped using the Septuagint in the 2nd century CE and produced other translations of the Old Testament into Greek. The WTS's *Kingdom Interlinear* (1969 Forward p.12) cites one such Jewish translation, by Aquila, which contains the Tetragrammaton. However, early Christians did not use Aquila's version. Also the New Testament was written in the century before Aquila and therefore YHWH in Aquila's Greek Old Testament implies nothing about the New Testament.

JWs nevertheless believe that the earliest copies of the New Testament had the divine name and 2nd and 3rd century Christian apostates replaced the name with "kyrios" (= Lord). JWs, however, cannot show us any early New Testament manuscripts that contained the Tetragrammaton. Nor have JWs demonstrated that early Christians had JWs beliefs and apostatized from them. Since JWs have changed thousands of their beliefs during the 20th century we would need to ask, "Which JWs beliefs did early Christians have?"

The WTS's *Kingdom Interlinear* lists 17th-century translations of the New Testament into Hebrew which use the divine name whenever the New Testament has Old Testament quotes containing YHWH. What some translators did in the 17th century is, of course, not evidence of what Christians did in the first century!

Several 20th century scholars argued for the possibility that 1st century New Testament writings retained the Tetragrammaton <u>in quotes from the Old Testament</u> that have the divine name. However, this is only a hypothesis, hence a topic for debate, and applies only to <u>quotations</u> from the Old Testament. If the hypothesis turns out correct then the name belongs in a few New Testament quotations from the Old Testament and not 237 times!

As matters presently stand the insertion of "Jehovah" into the New Testament is an example of sect leaders translating and revising the Bible to suit themselves.

JEHOVAH'S CHRISTIAN WITNESSES

JWs often add "Christian" and call themselves "Jehovah's Christian witnesses" to impress people who are not familiar with JWs.

"Jehovah's Christian witnesses" appears 814 times on the *Watchtower Library* CD (2007).

JEHOVAH'S LEADERSHIP

The rule of the Governing Body over JWs via the WTS is claimed to be "Jehovah's leadership" and supposedly continues the leadership that God exercised through Abraham, Moses, Israel's judges, King David, the prophets and the 12 Apostles. (w1985 6/1 15-20)

> Like earlier servants of God, then, we should shun an independent spirit, joyfully cooperate with God's theocratic organization, and walk with complete confidence in Jehovah's leadership… Well, first we need to acknowledge that it is wrong to be rebellious and presumptuously ignore God's direction… We must not lose sight of the fact that God is directing his organization… (ibid p.19

This 1985 article — like many *Watchtower* articles — is packed with phrases which, like the underlined, imply JWs are right and God guides them just as (in the Bible) he guided Israel via Moses. This is indoctrination by repetition.

Failed predictions for up to 30 dates and thousands of revisions in doctrine is proof that, among JWs, "Jehovah's leadership" is the leadership of men who misuse God's name for deceitful purposes. (See: *DATES; ERROR; FINISHED MYSTERY, THE*)

JEHOVAH'S LOYAL ONES
A flattering phrase by which the sect describes itself:

> Jehovah's loyal ones can be identified as those who use their mouths to speak well of him. In social settings and at Christian meetings, what is a common theme of their discussions? Why, it is Jehovah's Kingdom! (2004 1/15 16)

> Taking Your Stand With Jehovah's Loyal Ones (w1970 2/1 85)

Other religions would question the idea that thousands of errors in so-called "Bible truth" is loyalty to God or "speaks well of him".

JEHOVAH'S ORGANIZATION
This phrase can refer to the "Universal organization" which embraces all faithful creatures in both Heaven and on Earth.

Alternatively the phrase is limited in its meaning to the earthly Organization led by the Governing Body and composed of the WBTS of Pennsylvania and other corporations, along with real-estate, branch offices, factories, farms, and congregations.

JEHOVAH'S PROPHET
Jehovah's prophet is the "remnant" collectively i.e. JWs of the alleged 144,000 candidates for heaven still living on Earth. These are a "composite" prophet:

> Who is Ezekiel's present day counterpart, whose message and conduct correspond with that of that ancient prophet of Jehovah? Of whom today was he a "sign" or "portent"? Not of some individual man, but of a group of people. Being made up of a unified company of persons, the modern Ezekiel is a composite personage, made up of many members… (Know Jehovah… 1971, p.58)

In practice the writers of WTS prophecy were almost exclusively Russell in Russell's time, Rutherford in Rutherford's time, and Franz in Franz's time. In Russell's time he alone was the prophet — there was no composite prophet:

> Truly there lived among us in these last days a Prophet of the Lord… (wr1917 6/1 6091)

Sometimes critics of JWs write, "The Watchtower society claims to be a prophet." JWs then score an easy point by asking, "Where have we made that claim?"

The JWs doctrine is that the "remnant" of the 144,000 is collectively God's prophet, and the WTS is the legal/publishing channel that God's prophet uses.

JEHOVAH'S TABLE
A phrase that refers to studying WTS publications and attending the meetings:

> Jehovah's Witnesses regularly study God's Word of truth. They do this in private, at annual conventions and also at five congregation meetings each week. In this way they receive unifying spiritual food from Jehovah's table. (w1984 3/15 16)

> Reject apostasy. Partake appreciatively of the spiritual food available only at Jehovah's table, and you will not be misled by false teachers or wicked spirit forces. (w2006 11/15 24)

The claim "you will not be misled" is proved false every time doctrines, prophecies or interpretations are discarded or changed.

To stay "only at Jehovah's table" and avoid other viewpoints imitates totalitarian regimes that deny citizens free access to news and information. These are restrictions dictators impose because public scrutiny would threaten their power.

JEHOVAH'S UNIVERSAL ORGANIZATION
Christ in heaven along with the angels organized into ranks and duties, and the 144,000 Christians who are in heaven or destined to go there, plus the earthly Organization ruled by the Governing Body through the WTS.

JEHOVAH'S WAYS
The life-style, ethics and doctrines taught at JWs meetings and in their publications:

> Today the number of persons flocking to the Kingdom Halls of Jehovah's Witnesses is greater than ever before and is rapidly growing. We welcome all who truly want to be instructed about Jehovah's ways... (1984 2/1 25)

> We also receive abundant direction and encouragement at congregation meetings, assemblies, and conventions. These are among the spiritual provisions that God has made... It certainly is a blessing to have such instruction about Jehovah's ways. (w1905 7/15 22)

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
Russell opposed any name for his cult except "Christian":

> We always refuse to be called by any other name than that of our Head – Christians – continually claiming that there can be no division among those continually led by his spirit and example as made known through his word.
> (wr 1883 March p.458)

In 1931 Rutherford rejected this reasoning and named his cult "Jehovah's witnesses" (with a lower-case "w"). He previously hinted at this name in the 1920s (Life 1929, 289; Prophecy 1929, 180, 204) and probably got it from a 1916 convention speaker who said:

> We are going to have increased opportunity to be loyal witnesses of Jehovah. (Convention Report 1916, 18)

A new name was needed to distinguish Rutherford's cult from dozens of other offshoots from Russellism:

> Those who are actually doing the work of giving the witness to the name and honor of Jehovah are known by many people of the world as "Russellites," "International Bible Students Association", or "Watch Tower People". There are a number of other companies who are called by like names, and who are also known as "Associated Bible Students", and who are openly opposing the witness work that is being done... These opposers advise the people to refuse to have anything to do with the literature published and distributed by the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, and the International Bible Students Association, and thereby cause confusion. (w1931 10/1 291-292)

The name emphasized the activity of Rutherford's followers — "witnessing" or selling books and booklets, distributing tracts, and (later) publicly playing records of Rutherford's sermons.

The name was limited to the "remnant" of the 144,000. Members of the "great multitude" or "great crowd" were not Jehovah's witnesses, but are their "companions":

> Jehovah's witnesses and their companions, being entirely devoted to The THEOCRAT and his government, are now diligent to carry the message to the people... (Religion 1940, 342)

This theological nicety was eventually ignored in practice and both groups, "remnant" and "great crowd", together became regarded as Jehovah's Witnesses. The change to upper case "W" occurred in 1977.

JWs believe that they alone, and no other sect, have God's approval. They alone have the "holy spirit", they alone preach "the truth", they alone are God's people, they alone have the backing of angels, they alone will be saved, they alone understand the Bible, and they alone follow a "true prophet".

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES AND BLOOD TRANSFUSION THE FACTS (1960)
A 12-page WTS brochure.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES AND THE QUESTION OF BLOOD (1977)
An official WTS booklet.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES BOOKLETS LIST
See: BOOKLETS OF THE WBTS

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES BOOKS LIST
See: BOOKS OF THE WBTS

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, BOOKLETS ABOUT
Booklets about JWs by other religions and by ex-JWs number in hundreds. Here is a sample:

- Bergman, J. *Jehovah's Witnesses and Blood Transfusions*
- Brown, C.H. *Jesus is Jehovah*
- Duncan, H. *Why I Love Jehovah's Witnesses*
- Duncan, H. *The Jehovah's Witnesses and the Second Coming of Christ*
- Duncan, H. *Who is Your Teacher?*
- Harold J.B. *Jehovah's Witnesses: What They Believe*
- Montgomery, J. *Blood Transfusion: Is It Sinful?*

- Shadduck, B.H. *The "Seven Thunders of Millennial" Dawn*
- Wallis, A. *Jesus of Nazareth—Who is He?*
- Walters, W. & Goedelman, K. *Jehovah's Witnesses*

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, BOOKS ABOUT

The following list is a sample of books about JWs published by people of other religions:

- Ankerberg, J. & Weldon, J. 2003 *Fast Facts on Jehovah's Witnesses*, Harvest Home
- Bednarski, W. 2018 Year 1925 and Millions Now Living Will Never Die
- Bednarski, W. & Matusiak, S. 2016 *Ever-changing Teachings of Jehovah's Witnesses*
- Bjornstad, J. *1979 Counterfeits At Your Door*, Regal Books
- Bowman, R.M., Jr. 1991 *Understanding Jehovah's Witnesses*, Baker Book House
- Bowman, R.M. 1995 *Jehovah's Witnesses, Jesus Christ and the Gospel of John*, Zondervan
- Cameron, D.C.B. 2017 *False Apocalypse, False Gospel, False Witnesses*, John Ritchie Ltd.
- Coffey, J.F. 1979 *The Gospel According to Jehovah's Witnesses*, Polding Press
- Cowie, R. 1984 *Jehovah's Witnesses A Historical and Scriptural Analysis*, Christadelphian Scripture Study Service
- Devore, S. 1995 *Blood, Medicine and The Jehovah's Witnesses*, Publisher Witness
- Duncan, H. 1972 *Heart to Heart Talks With Jehovah's Witnesses*, Missionary Crusader
- Harris, D. 1988 *Awake! To The Watch Tower*, Reachout Trust
- Hartog, J. 1988 *Enduring to the End*, Regular Baptist Press
- Hoekema, A.A. 1972 *The Four Major Cults*, W.B. Eerdmans
- Kern, H. 1978 *How to Respond to a Jehovah's Witness*, Concordia
- Kirban, S. 1973 *Jehovah's Witnesses*, Moody
- McKinney, G.D. 1962 *The Theology of Jehovah's Witnesses*, Zondervan
- Martin, W.R. & Klann, N. 1953 *Jehovah of the Watchtower*, Zondervan
- Martin, W.R. 1957 *Jehovah's Witnesses*, Zondervan
- Morey, R.A. 1980 *How To Answer A Jehovah's Witness*, Bethany House
- Muller, A. 1964 *Meet Jehovah's Witnesses*, Franciscan Publishers
- Quidam, R.D. 1959 *The Doctrine of Jehovah's Witnesses*, Philosophical Library
- Rhodes, R. 2009 *Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Jehovah's Witnesses*, Harvest House
- Stilson, M. 1964 *How To Deal With Jehovah's Witnesses*, Zondervan
- Stroup, H.W. 1945 *The Jehovah's Witnesses*, Columbia University Press
- Thomas, S. 1967 *Jehovah's Witnesses and What They Believe*, Zondervan
- Van Baalen, J.K 1962 *Chaos of the Cults*, Eerdmans
- Weeks, D.N. 1993 *Evangelizing J.W.'s*, Christian School Ministries
- Whalen, W.J. 1962 *Armageddon Around the Corner*, John Day Co.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES [2], BOOKS ABOUT

The following are books about JWs written by members of the sect:

- Cole, M. 1955 Jehovah's Witnesses: The New World Society, Vantage Press
- Macmillan, A.H. 1957 *Faith on the March*, Prentice Hall
- Stafford, G. 1997/2000/2009, *Jehovah's Witnesses Defended: An Answer to Critics and Scholars*, Elihu
- Stafford, G. 2002 *Three Dissertations on the Teachings of Jehovah's Witnesses*, Elihu

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES [3], BOOKS ABOUT

The following list is a sample of books about JWs written by former members:

- Abrahams, K. 2009 *I'm Perfect You're Doomed*, Simon & Schuster
- Anderson, B. & Kelly, R.E. 2018 *Uncensored: Eyewitness to Deceit*, Richard Kelly
- Barefoot, D. 1992 *Jehovah's Witnesses and the Hour of Darkness*, Grand Valley Press
- Barnes, P. 1992 *Out of Darkness into Light*, Equippers
- Bergman, J.R. 1984 *Jehovah's Witnesses and Kindred Groups*, Garland Publishing
- Bergman, J.R. 1992 *Jehovah's Witnesses and the Problem of Mental Illness*, Witness Inc.
- Bergman, J.R. 1994 *Blood Transfusions*, Witness Inc
- Bergman, J.R. 1999 Jehovah's Witnesses. A Comprehensive and Selectively Annotated Bibliography, Greenwood Press
- Botting, H. & G. 1984 *The Orwellian World of Jehovah's Witnesses*, University of Toronto Press
- Bregninge, P. 2013/2017 Judgment Day Must Wait
- Cameron, D. 2005 *Captives of a Concept*
- Campbell, T. 1995 *Prophets in the Watchtower*
- Casarona, K. 2019 *New Boy: Life and death at the World Headquarters of the Jehovah's Witnesses,* Independently Published
- Castro, J. 2005 *The Truth Book: Escaping a Childhood of Abuse Among Jehovah's Witnesses*, Arcade Publishing
- Cetnar, W.I. & Cetnar, J. 1983 *Questions for Jehovah's Witnesses*
- Chretien, L. & M. 1988 *Witnesses of Jehovah*, Harvest House

- Crompton, R. (1996) *Counting the Days to Armageddon*, James Clarke & Co
- D'Haene, D. 2004 *A Father's Touch*, LTI Publishing
- Denscher, T. 1974 *An Alarming Situation for Jehovah's Witnesses*, Christian Literature Crusade
- Duggar, G.E. 1985 *Jehovah's Witnesses—Watch Out for the Watchtower*, Baker Book House
- Eason, J. 1983; 1999 *A Jehovah's Witness Finds The Truth*, Witness Inc.
- Evans, L. 2017 *The Reluctant Apostate*, JLE Publishing
- Evans, L, 2018 *How To Escape From Jehovah's Witnesses*, JLE Publishing
- Franz, R. 1983, 2002 *Crisis of Conscience*, Commentary Press
- Franz, R. 1991 *In Search of Christian Freedom*, Commentary Press
- Gruss, E.C. 1972 *Jehovah's Witnesses and Prophetic Speculation*, Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co.
- Gruss, E.C. 1979 *We Left Jehovah's Witnesses — A Non-Prophet Organization*, Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co.
- Gruss, E.C. 1997 *Jehovah's Witnesses—Their Monuments to False Prophecy*, Witness Inc.
- Gruss, E.C. 2007 *Jehovah's Witnesses: Their Claims, Doctrinal Changes and Prophetic Speculation. What Does the Record Show?* Second Edition, Xulon Press
- Gruss, E.C. 2015 Millions of Ex-Jehovah's Witnesses: Many Reasons They Left, Xulon Press
- Harrison, B.G. 1978 *Visions of Glory*, Simon & Schuster
- Hewitt, J. 1979 *I Was Raised A Jehovah's Witness*, Accent Books
- Jonsson, C.O. 1983, 2004 *The Gentile Times Reconsidered*, Hart Publishers
- Jonsson, C.O. & Herbst, W. 1987 *The Sign of the Last Days When?* Commentary Press
- King, R. 2005 *Jehovah Himself Has Become King*, Author House
- Kostelniuk, J. 2009 *Wolves Among Sheep*, Harpercollins
- Magnani, D. 1985 *The Watchtower Files*, Bethany House
- Magnani, D. 1992 *Who Is the Faithful and Wise Servant?* Witness Inc.
- Merritt, N.J. 2006 *Jehovah Unmasked*, Lulu
- McGinley, H. 2010 *Attic Alone: An Ex-Jehovah's Witness Finds the Church*, iUniverse
- MacGregor, L. 1992 *What You Need to Know About Jehovah's Witnesses*, Harvest House
- Malik, J. & E.T. 1982 *Beyond the Watchtower*, Vantage Press
- Miller, R.T. 1995 *Jehovah's Witnesses—Victims of Deception*
- Penton, M. James 1985, 1997, 2015, *Apocalypse Delayed*, University of Toronto Press
- Penton, M. James 2004 *Jehovah's Witnesses and the Third Reich: Sectarian Politics Under Persecution*, University of Toronto Press
- Persson, R. 2022 *Rutherford's Coup: The Watch Tower Succession Crisis of 1917 and its Aftermath*, Hart Publishers
- Reed, D.A. 1989 *Behind The Watchtower Curtain*, Crown Publications
- Reed, D.A. 1990 *Index of Watch Tower Errors*, Baker Book House
- Reed, D.A. 1987 *Jehovah's Witnesses: Answered Verse by Verse*, Baker Books
- Reed, D.A. 2006 *Worse Than Waco*, Book Surge
- Rodriguez, O. 2020 *When Dinosaurs Fall, The Age of Extinction of Jehovah's Witnesses*, Elke Lopez
- Rogerson, A. 1969 *Millions Now Living Will Never Die*, Constable
- Sage, N.J. 2006 *Going Undercover to Rescue My Daughter from the cult of Jehovah's Witnesses*, N.J. Sage
- Schaeffer, E. 2020 *A Lie Told Often Enough Becomes THE TRUTH: Exposing How The Watchtower Deceives Jehovah's Witnesses*
- Schnell, W.J. 1959, 1985 *Jehovah's Witness Errors Exposed*, Baker Book House
- Schnell, W.J. 1956, 1971 *Thirty Years A Watchtower Slave*, Baker Book House
- Schnell, W.J. 1961 *Christians Awake!,* Marshall, Morgan & Scott
- Stevenson, W.C. 1968 *The Inside Story of Jehovah's Witnesses,* Hart Publishing
- Walstrom, T. 2013 *I Wept by the Rivers of Babylon A Prisoner of Conscience in a Time of War*, Random House
- Watters, R. 1987 *Refuting Jehovah's Witnesses,* Bethel Ministries
- Wills, T. 2006 Second Edition, *A People For His Name*, Lulu Enterprises
- Wilson, D. 2002 *Awakening of a Jehovah's Witness: Escape from the Watchtower Society*, Prometheus
- Wilson, E.M. 2022 *Shutting The Door To The Kingdom of God*, Good News Association
- Zieman, B. 2015 *Exiting the JW Cult: A Healing Handbook For Current and Former Jehovah's Witnesses*, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

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JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES [4], BOOKS ABOUT

Below is a sample of books from a secular perspective, the authors being apparently neither ex-JWs nor representing other religions:

- Beckford, J.A. 1975 *Trumpet of Prophecy*, Basil Blackwell
- Beverley, J. 2nd Edition 2021 *Crisis of Allegiance A Study of Dissent Within Jehovah's Witnesses*,
- Chryssides, G.D. 2008 *Historical Dictionary of Jehovah's Witnesses*, Scarecrow Press

- Chryssides, G.D. 2009 *The A to Z of Jehovah's Witnesses*, Scarecrow Press
- Garbe, D. 2008 *Between Resistance and Martyrdom: Jehovah's Witnesses in the Third Reich*, University of Wisconsin Press
- Holden, A. 2002 *Jehovah's Witnesses: Portrait of a Contemporary Religious Movement*, Routledge
- Kaplan, W. 1989 *State and Salvation*, University of Toronto Press
- King, C.E. 1983 *The Nazi State and the New Religions: Five Cases in Non-Conformity*
- Knox, Z. 2018 *Jehovah's Witnesses and the Secular World*, Palgrave Macmillan
- Schulz, B.W. & Vivienne, R. De 2014 *A Separate Identity: Organizational Identity Among Readers of Zion's Watch Tower: 1870-1887*, Fluttering Wings Press
- Stone, J.R. 2000 *Expecting Armageddon: Essential Readings in Failed Prophecy*, Routledge
- Zieman, B. 2015 *Exiting the JW Cult: A Healing Handbook*, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES FORMATIVE INFLUENCES

The following are some of the people who influenced what JWs are today:

Arius:
A priest in Alexandria. In 319 CE Arius championed the view that Jesus was not a co-equal member of the Triune God but subordinate to God the Father.

Joachim of Floris:
Roman Catholic Abbot who lived in the 12th century and appears to be the first person to use the "year for a day" principle to interpret numbers mentioned in biblical prophecy to predict the time of Christ's return.

John Aquila Brown:
Author of the book *Even-Tide* (1823) in which he interpreted the "seven times" of Daniel using the day-for-year formula to produce 2520 years in the same way Russell later did, except Brown commenced the 2520 years in 604 BCE and ended up with 1917 CE.

James Hatley Frere:
A writer and speculator on Bible prophecy. In *A Combined View of the Prophecies of Daniel, Esdras, and S. John* (1815) Frere wrote of a spiritual second coming.

Henry Grew (1781–1862):
English-born, author/theologian who rejected standard doctrines such as the Trinity, immortality of the soul, and eternal torment.

William Miller (1782–1849):
New England Baptist and prophet. In 1818 CE Miller predicted the advent of Christ for 1843-1844. He quit the movement that he founded when his predictions failed. His followers "Millerites" established the "right date but wrong event" excuse later used by Russell and Rutherford for 1914, 1918 and 1925. Russell claimed a 30-year prophetic parallel of 1844-1874 with Christ's birth in 2 BCE until his public ministry in 30 CE.

Henry Drummond:
A writer on prophecy who in his book *A Defence of the Students of Prophecy* (1828), suggests an unseen or spiritual coming of Christ.

George Storrs (1796–1879):
Minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church caught up into William Miller's prophecies but who later branched off and published *The Bible Examiner*. He taught that humans do not have an immortal soul, the dead are unconscious until the resurrection, and the non-Christian dead will be taught Christianity in the resurrection and then judged by their response. Russell learned the doctrines of the ransom, the restitution of mankind to a paradise earth, and the practice of celebrating the Lord's Supper annually from Storrs.

John Nelson Darby (1800–1882):
Anglo-Irish Bible teacher and Bible translator who helped form the Plymouth Brethren, founded the Exclusive Brethren, and is considered the father of modern Dispensationalism and Futurism. He preached on the pre-tribulation rapture of Christians and the rebirth of Israel.

George Stetson (1814–1879):
Spiritual descendent of William Miller and an Advent Christian minister who taught at meetings Russell attended in the early 1870s.

Jonas Wendell (1815–1873):
Advent Christian Church evangelist who rekindled C.T. Russell's faith in 1869.

Andrew Jukes (1815-1901):
English theologian and author who believed in adult baptism and joined the Plymouth Brethren. His books such as, *Restitution of All Things* (1867), may have influenced George Storrs' theology.

Dunbar Isidore Heath (1816–1888):
A theologian who disagreed with a variety of church doctrines and practices. Books he authored included *The Future Human Kingdom of Christ, or Man's Heaven to be on This Earth* (Two volumes, 1852-1853). In this he distinguished the "saved nations from the glorified saints" by outlining a concept of "the two salvations". (Wikipedia)

Joseph Seiss (1823–1904):

Nelson H. Barbour (1824-1905):
A Second Adventist who predicted Christ's return for 1873-1875 after which he claimed the return was "invisible". Russell teamed up with Barbour in 1976 and accepted his prophetic calculations and together they published *Three Worlds* (1877).

Ellen G. White (1827-1915):
A Millerite who split off after the disappointment of 1844 and founded the Seventh Day Adventists.

William H. Conley:
Pittsburgh businessman and one of the original five "Bible students" Russell's cult started with in 1872-1876. He co-founded Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society (1881) and was its first president *prior* to its incorporation in 1884 when Russell became president. Conley provided most of the finance that got "Russellism" started and its first books published.

R.E. Streeter (1847–1924)
One of the founders of the Pastoral Bible Institute who left Russellism after Rutherford's takeover. He joined Russellism in 1897 and became one of Russell's "pilgrims" i.e. travelling representatives in 1902.

Charles Taze Russell (1852-1916):
A Presbyterian and Congregationalist who converted in 1869 to the Advent Christian Church. He founded *Zion's Watch Tower* (1879) and the cult known as Millennial Dawn and Russellites which developed into JWs. He became the president of Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society (later the WBTS) at its incorporation in 1884, authored *Studies in the Scriptures* (six volumes), and taught that the Great Pyramid confirmed his prophecies and his theology. Russell claimed to have greater prophetic insight and Bible understanding than anyone else.

Joseph Franklin Rutherford (1869-1942):
An attorney and substitute judge who became the second WBTS president amidst chaos when prophecies failed and Russell's hand-picked successors had not been confirmed as legal board members of the WBTS. Rutherford arranged the publication of *The Finished Mystery* (1917), instituted compulsory door-to-door distribution of WBTS publications, made 1918 and 1925 important prophetic dates, built a mansion in 1929 for the Ancient Worthies upon their resurrection, demoted the Holy Spirit to non-activity, introduced the name "Jehovah's witnesses" (1931), closed the door to heaven (1935), introduced the "great multitude" doctrine (1935), preached against marriage, and claimed that the doctrines he produced came from God through angels.

Frederick W. Franz (1893-1992:
A theology student who in 1913 converted to Russellism. Franz became the chief Bible interpreter during Knorr's presidency, the main translator of the New World Translation, and the fourth WBTS president (1977). He dealt with the failed prophecy of Armageddon in the mid 1970s — a false prophecy he was responsible for — and at age 88 led a purge of dissenters at the New York headquarters.

Nathan Homer Knorr (1905-1977):
Convert from the Dutch Reformed Church who became the third president of the WBTS in 1942. Knorr set up training programs for door-to-door recruiters and congregation speakers, founded Gilead Missionary School, and re-introduced some of the "character development" and good conduct of Russellism that Rutherford had ridiculed.

Milton G. Henschel (1920-2003):
Fifth president of the WBTS. Henschel dealt with the "creator's promise" regarding the generation of 1914 by redefining that "generation" as being indefinitely long, and separated the Governing Body from the corporations of the WTS by making them a separate group to the officers and directors.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES IN THE DIVINE PURPOSE (1959)
A book which provides the Governing Body's slant on JWs history written (according to Barbara Anderson) by John H. Wischuck, a senior member of the Brooklyn writing department.

The *Divine Purpose* book covers Russell, Barbour and others of that era even though JWs had been told that they don't need to know about their founders:

> They were applying themselves to a direct search of the pure Word of God unmixed with religious traditions of men. Who the individuals were is unimportant; their being consecrated directly to God by Jesus Christ and the message they were used of Him to put forth are the important thing. (The Kingdom Is At Hand 1944, 310)

(Their study of "The pure Word of God unmixed with the religious traditions of men" in the 1870s actually occurred with the Advent Christian Church and the cult of Nelson H. Barbour, both of which JWs would regard as false religions teaching "religious traditions of men".)

The *Divine Purpose* book is in dialogue form in which a JW conducts a "Bible study" with two sympathetic inquirers and answers their questions.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY (1977)
A WTS brochure.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES PROCLAIMERS OF GOD'S KINGDOM (1993)

The official history of JWs and the WTS, authorized by the Governing Body, and written by Karl Adams assisted by David Iannelli and research assistant Barbara Anderson.

Jehovah's Witnesses Proclaimers of God's Kingdom is longer than *Jehovah's Witnesses in the Divine Purpose* (1959). It has hundreds of historical photos including color photos of the Governing Body in 1992 (p.116), the board of directors of the WBTS in the mid 1950s (p.100), and includes post-1960s history not previously published.

Survey of *Proclaimers*

The book mentions many prominent men who left the Watchtower religion but without details of the doctrinal disputes and false prophecies that motivated them. Adams claims the problem was that they sought "prominence" or financial gain or were proud (p.628) but he doesn't back this accusation up.

Although the FOREWORD (p.5) introduces the book as "objective and … candid history", *Proclaimers* neglects hundreds of theological changes. Some of the failed prophecies and bizarre former teachings are mentioned, but superficially and together with assurances that the perpetrators were anointed Christians and loyal to the Bible.

Russell claimed to be "God's mouthpiece" and that his books harmonized the entire Bible, but *Proclaimers* minimizes his role with expressions such as "the Bible Students" "thought", "expected" and "hoped". (134-136).

Most JWs readers of *Proclaimers* found out for the first time about failed prophecies for 1914, 1925, and 1975 (pp 62, 78, 104, 632-33), Russell's failed marriage (p. 645), Rutherford's estranged wife and son Malcolm (p.89), the role of the Great Pyramid in Russell's prophetic scheme (p.201), and some of the doctrinal reversals.

Doctrines that flip-flopped back and forth are presented as "progressive understanding" by omitting one or more reversals. Russell, for example, identified the "higher powers" of Romans 13 as the secular governments but Rutherford claimed they referred to Jehovah and Jesus. In 1962 the interpretation again became the secular governments. Russell's original interpretation is omitted which makes the 1962 change seem like "progress" rather than a flip-flop. (p.147).

Some topics are broken up into comments on many pages which allows for unhistorical generalizations. For example, statements on Russell's religious affiliation in the 1870s appear on pages 43-48, 120-122, 132-135 and 236-237. On page 204 we read, "the organization of Jehovah's Witnesses has undergone significant changes since Charles Taze Russell and his associates first began to study the Bible together in 1870." This presents Russell and associates as an independent group when in fact the leaders, for some years, were of the Advent Christian Church.

The failed predictions for 1925 are mentioned on pages 78, 425, and 632 but couched in comment to make them seem unimportant.

Proclaimers, however, admits some points that most JWs didn't know about or had dismissed as apostate fabrication such as Russell's faith being restored in 1869 by Adventists, the 50-year-long preoccupation with Pyramidology (76, 89, 201), and the Beth Sarim mansion in California..

Governing Body

The book's frequent mention of the Governing Body reinforces their authority in JWs minds. This perhaps anticipated the separation of the Governing Body from the WTS directors (in 2000 CE) which would otherwise — i.e. without extensive preliminary emphasis on their legitimacy — be risky since it made the Governing Body a non-legal entity and perhaps vulnerable to "apostasy" by top WTS officials.

Proclaimers presents the Organization in a godly light by calling followers of Russell and Rutherford "anointed Christians", "faithful Christians" and "true Christians" in contexts where they preached false prophecy and other now-discarded doctrines.

Adams' intention seems be to prepare today's JWs against criticism of WTS history and predispose them to dismiss criticism with "Yes, I know about that". He is also immunizing them against despair from the great changes in prophecy and doctrine that were about to start in 1995.

Anderson

Barbara Anderson, research assistant for the *Proclaimer*s book, left JWs over the issue of child abuse among JWs and became a critic of misinformation in the book.

***JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES PROCLAIMERS OF GOD'S KINGDOM* (1993) ANALYSIS**

The following are some brief comments and observations on the book *Proclaimers*.

Pages 43-48 reveals that C.T. Russell:

- In 1879 at age 17 attended a Second Adventist religious meeting led by Jonas Wendell;
- Received "assistance ... in studying the Scriptures" from George W. Stetson, pastor of an Advent Christian Church in Pennsylvania;
- "Learned much" from George Storrs;
- Served as "an assistant editor" of Nelson Barbour's *Herald of the Morning* until 1879.

Proclaimers, however, fails to mention Russell's 10-year association with the Advent Christian Church. Also, it fails to present his departure from the Advent sect to start a new sect as "apostasy" which is how JWs who leave the JWs sect are today described.

As a member of Barbour's Adventist-style sect Russell believed in Christ's invisible 1874 return and the rapture to occur in 1878 to heaven.

Proclaimers excuses such false prophecy with: "those hopes and expectations were rooted in a keen desire to see the fulfillment of what these zealous Christians recognized to be the unfailing promises of God." (p.631)

The "unfailing" promises of God" failed for every date that the sect set from the 1870s to the 21st century! And "zealous Christians" is hardly the proper label for an apostate cult that made false predictions again and again. Throughout *Proclaimers* Adams routinely eulogizes the Russell-WTS cult as "faithful", "true" and similar positive labels. He doesn't explain why this erroneous cult merits such praise whereas mainline churches that were right all along merit condemnation. (Proverbs 17:15) Much in *Proclaimers* is not "objective" and "candid" as promised in the Foreword on page 5 but one-sided and partisan.

When the rapture failed to occur in 1878 Russell did not "wait on Jehovah" for more "light", which is what JWs are told to do today. Instead he argued with the leader, N.H. Barbour, and persuaded others to join him in starting new study groups. Russell then predicted the rapture for 1881 which "zealous Christians" would **not** have done and which no mainstream Christians did..

Page 48: Here Adams explains that the name "Watch Tower" originated in other religions:

> The expression "Watch Tower" is not unique to Russell's writings or to Jehovah's Witnesses. George Storrs published a book in the 1850's called *The Watch Tower: Or, Man in Death; and the Hope for a Future Life*. The name was also incorporated in the title of various religious periodicals.

Page 48: "C. T. Russell used the Watch Tower and other publications to uphold Bible truths and to refute false religious teachings and human philosophies that contradicted the Bible."

This is one of numerous statements in *Proclaimers* that implies Russell knew "Bible truth" and never "contradicted the Bible" whereas others were "false religion". In fact Russell's theology disagreed in thousands of points with present-day JWs doctrine. If Russell "upheld Bible truths" then JWs nowadays in **thousands** of points do not! What is "false religion" if thousands of theological errors constitute "Bible truth"?

Page 62: "As October 1914 approached, some of the Bible Students expected … they as spirit-anointed Christians, would receive their heavenly reward."

It wasn't just "expected" by "some" but prophesied and upheld as "Bible truth" by Russell and the entire cult. Furthermore, neither the Bible nor Christianity refer to promoters of false prophecy as "anointed Christians". Only "objective" and "candid" Adams and JWs do so.

Page 64: "A brief biography of Russell along with his will and testament was published in *The Watch Tower* of December 1, 1916, as well as in subsequent editions of the first volume of *Studies in the Scriptures*."

Jehovah's Witnesses in the Divine Purpose (1959) states that JWs "have never published a biography of Pastor Russell" (p.63) and critics often refuted this by citing w1916 12/1 where a biography of Russell is published.

Proclaimers thus indirectly concedes that the critics were correct and the *Divine Purpose* book wrong.

Pages 66-68: "Four members of the board of directors of the Society went so far as to endeavor to wrest administrative control from Rutherford's hands."

Since there were seven on the board of directors, those whom Rutherford ousted made up the majority of the men in charge of the WBTS.

Page 74: "The evidence is overwhelming that the Lord desired the work to be done … for the purpose of a witness to the truth." (w1919 7/1)

Proclaimers quotes this 1919 statement with approval although thousands of doctrinal and prophecy revisions lay ahead throughout the 20th century. There was not much "witness to the truth" by Rutherford unless the word "truth" is a synonym for apostasy and bigotry.

Page 76: Page 76 discusses the House of the Princes or "Beth-Sarim" at San Diego, California.

Previous WTS books state:

> …the purpose of acquiring that property and building the house was that there might be some tangible proof that … the faithful men of old will soon be resurrected by the Lord … and take charge of the visible affairs of earth. (Salvation 1939, 311)
>
> ...those faithful men of old may be expected back from the dead any day now… In this expectation the house at San Diego, California ... was built, in 1930, and named "Beth-Sarim", meaning "House of the Princes." It is now held in trust for the occupancy of those princes on their return." (The New World 1942, 104)

The deed to the property listed David, Samson and other Old Testament heroes as the future residents of Beth-Sarim, with the WBTS holding the property in trust for them. It is now several generations beyond 1942 and the "any day now" claim was manifestly misleading. Page 105 of *The New World* calls Christians who criticized Beth Sarim "goatish ones". *Proclaimers* could have apologized for this defamatory label as well as for the false prediction but doesn't since the JWs hierarchy never apologizes. (See: *VITUPERATION*)

Page 78: "We may confidently expect that 1925 will mark the return of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the faithful prophets of old ... to the condition of human perfection." (Millions Now Living Will Never Die, 1920)

JWs used to deny that their leaders made this false prediction and regarded it as apostate slander. They now see it in *Proclaimers* but with the following excuse:

> …unrealized hopes are not unique to our day. The apostles themselves had similar misplaced expectations… Jehovah is worthy of loyal service and praise with or without ultimate reward.—Compare Acts 1:6, 7

However, in Acts 1:6-7 the Apostles asked Jesus a question. They did not set false dates and force everyone to preach them for decades under threat of excommunication. The Apostles asking a question, was not a similar event to the false predictions promoted by the WTS. (Luke 21:8) It is weird logic, "twisted thinking", to imply that the Apostles promoted false prophecy and therefore false predictions are part of "loyal service". JWs have probably never, in all their c.500,000 pages of extra-biblical writings, called the healing and charity work of other religions "loyal service", but false prophecy supposedly **is** "loyal service"!

Page 104: "The Witnesses had long shared the belief that the Thousand Year Reign of Christ would follow after 6,000 years of human history. But when would 6,000 years of human existence end? The book *Life everlasting—In Freedom of the Sons of God*, released at a series of district conventions held in 1966, pointed to 1975."
For details on 1975 see the entry: *NINETEEN SEVENTY FIVE*.

Page 111: "By 1980, a number of persons who had shared in the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses for some years, including some who had served prominently in the organization, had been in various ways trying to cause division and oppose the work Jehovah's Witnesses were doing."

However, a major reason why some "prominent" ones left JWs was the false prophecies for 1975 and various changes in doctrine. This begs the question, "Is false teaching by a sect a valid reason to leave that sect?"

Page 123: "As Brother Russell and his associates studied the Scriptures, it did not take them long to see that the God portrayed in the Bible is not the god of Christendom."

However, in the book *Three Worlds* (1877) Barbour and Russell supported the Trinity and criticized the Christadelphians for opposing that doctrine. Also Russell's assistant editor for *Zion's Watch Tower*, John H. Paton, was a Trinitarian. Russell began disputing the Trinity doctrine in 1882 which is when Paton left.

Adam's statement begs the question: "Is 'the God portrayed in the Bible' a God of false prophecy as portrayed by Russell, Rutherford and JWs?"

Pages 134-136: Karl Adams here discusses 1914 but sugarcoats the horribleness of false prophecy with "they thought", "they expected" and "The Bible Students were not completely sure what would happen."

Russell claimed his teachings and prophecies came from the "all-wise One" and his system of theology "harmonize[d] in itself *every* statement of the Bible". This implies that the

cult was indeed "completely sure". One elder admitted in 1915:

> You know we had 1914 as a prominent date in the chronology. We were confident that the things we expected would occur on that date, or that year. Some of us were so confident that it would occur in 1914 that we began to look for it in 1910. I did. I am frank enough to admit it... (Convention Report 1915 Supplement p.27)

(See *INFALLIBLE*)

Pages 141-148: These pages present some former doctrines such as the restoration of the Jews to Palestine but omit to mention the decades-long tenacity, repetition, misuse of the Bible, and criticism of other religions, with which those doctrines were promoted.

The false predictions and other revisions supposedly constituted "increase in accurate knowledge" and were "in harmony with the prayer of the apostle Paul…" (p.148)

Paul, however, taught about Christ, God, God's Kingdom, and Christian ethics. That's the "accurate knowledge" Paul prayed for and preached. Paul did not pray that numerous revisions be made to what he had already taught and then constantly altered "the truth"!

Page 143: Here Adams blames Russell's wife for the doctrine that "Russell himself was the faithful and wise servant" which "came to be generally held by the Bible Students for some 30 years."

In 1881 it was official teaching that the "faithful and wise servant" was the "little flock of consecrated servants" i.e. all of the Russellites. (wr1881 October-November, p.291)

In 1899, two years after Russell wife had left the cult, we read that "that servant" was Russell. (wr1899 6/15 2489) In 1917, twenty years after Russell's wife had left the cult, we read:

> The Watch Tower unhesitatingly proclaims brother Russell as 'that faithful and wise servant…' (wr1917 3/1 6049)

Similar is stated in 1917 on page 6027 and even by Rutherford on page 6035.

In 1926-1927 the doctrine reverted to the 1881 interpretation, except that the "little flock" was no longer the Russellites; it was Rutherford's followers whom JWs call "the spirit-anointed".

To blame Russell's wife is therefore erroneous. And because the identity of the "faithful slave" reverted to a "previous point of view" the following is also refuted:

> At times explanations given by Jehovah's visible organization have shown adjustments, seemingly to previous points of view. But this has not actually been the case. (w1981 12/1 27)

Page 146: "Since 1942 it has been the general rule that literature published by the Watch Tower Society does not draw attention to any individual as the writer… But all credit is given to Jehovah God."

The WTS writers being anonymous and credit going to "Jehovah" conveys to JWs the appearance of heavenly guidance. However, assigning "credit to Jehovah" "takes God's name in vain" in false teachings such as:

> Armageddon … will come in the twentieth century… (g1961 2/22 8)

The Bible does not reveal God as wanting "credit" for false predictions but condemns them!

Pages 146-147: Here Adams says "The Light Shines More and More" and gives as an example the 1929 teaching that the "higher powers" of Romans 13 were God and Christ, revised in 1962 to the secular governments.

Not mentioned is that the 1962 interpretation was taught in 1892 and 1916:

> But while seeking to be thus law-abiding in every respect, Christians are to recognize that there is a still higher law...and are to be subject to the worldly powers only in the absence of a contrary admonition from God. (wr1916 1/15 5840; wr1892 9/1 1440)

Therefore in 1929 the "light" on this topic declined; it was really a flip-flop; and the new darkness stayed for 53 years.

Nor do Christian denominations regard the Proverb on increasing light as an escape-clause for preachers of false prophecy and flip-flopping "truth" to avoid blame. Only JWs use Proverbs 4:18 for that purpose, and only to excuse the JWs hierarchy and not anyone else.

In context the "brighter and brighter" light of Proverbs 4:18 refers to improved prospects living standards that result from obeying the Proverbs. Proverbs 13:5 says "The righteous hate falsehood" and this refutes the Governing Body policy of calling thousands of falsehoods "light".

Page 157: "Any group or individuals that speak in the name of Jehovah put themselves under obligation to convey his word truthfully."

This statement acknowledges that the JWs hierarchy "speaks in the name of Jehovah" although elsewhere when discussing prophetic dates they claim: "Never, in these instances, however, did they presume to originate predictions 'in the name of Jehovah.'" (g1993 3/22 4)

However, the same magazine, i.e. *Awake!* 1993 March 22 states on the "Why Awake! is published" page:

> Most important, this magazine builds confidence in the Creator's promise of a peaceful and secure new world before the generation that saw the events of 1914 passes away.

"The Creator's promise" was repeated in *Awake!* for many years until 1995, and constitutes prophesying in God's name. (Deuteronomy 18:20-22) The "generation that saw the events of 1914" has passed away and the prophecy, "the Creator's promise", was false.

Pages 174-175: "But among the Witnesses, there was never any question as to how homosexuality would be viewed."

The view in 1972 was that homosexual sex is not a ground for divorce:

> While both homosexuality and bestiality are disgusting perversions, in the case of neither one is the marriage tie broken. (w1972 1/1 32)

This view was reversed in. w1972/12/15 766-768) Therefore there has been some question rather than "never any question".

Pages 183-186: "Why Blood Transfusions Are Refused".

Neither Russell nor Rutherford opposed blood transfusions. Furthermore, JWs used to be as dogmatic on many other medical questions as currently on blood transfusions. *Proclaimers* ignores the JWs ban on vaccinations in force from the 1920s until 1952, the ban on organ and tissue transplants (1967-1980), and the Organization's support (until the 1950s) of numerous quack medical practices. (See: *MEDICAL QUACKERY*)

Pages 199-200: These pages explain why JWs "quit celebrating Christmas" in 1927 and give reasons of "bad fruitage", wrong date, Santa Claus being a lie, pagan roots, demonism, etc.

However, prior to 1927 the WTS taught:

> It is not necessary for us to quibble particularly about the date. We may as well join with the civilized world in celebrating the grand event on the day which the majority celebrate — "Christmas day." (wr 1904 12/1 3468)

Most churches agree that where the Bible is silent Christians are free to choose. Whether commemorating Christ's birth is biblically O.K. depends on how its done and reasons and motives. Luke 2 reports that angels treated Jesus' birth as special by appearing to shepherds, and the angels are not condemned for doing so.

Probable reasons why Rutherford "quibbled" and banned Christmas celebrations:

1. To reduce fellowship of his followers with outsiders including unconverted family members;
2. To get his followers into the habit of obedience to the Organization;
3. The more that people give up or sacrifice for a religion the more securely hooked on that religion and fanatical they become;
4. With numerous doctrines and prophecies at the time being revised, Christmas provided a tangible issue in which Rutherford's followers could feel they were right.

Page 201: "For some 35 years Pastor Russell thought that the Great Pyramid of Gizeh was God's stone witness, corroborating Biblical time periods."

Russell not just "thought" but made pyramidology a central doctrine of the cult and Rutherford continued this for 12 years after Russell's death. Russell's cult was as dogmatic, persistent and unreasonable on pyramidology as JWs were on 1975, "this generation", and the 7000-year lengths of the days of creation.

Page 211: Adams says that in 1914-1915 the "spirit anointed Christians waited eagerly for the fulfillment of their heavenly hope" and mentions the "truly remarkable distribution of *The Finished Mystery*... in 1917-18."

Proclaimers on many pages has glorifying phrases such as "spirit anointed Christians" for Russellite cultists who defamed God and the Bible by preaching false prophecies, pyramidology and other rubbish.

The Finished Mystery had about 1300 interpretations of Bible verses that were discarded or revised over subsequent decades. *Proclaimers* does not mention the c.1300 errors and false predictions, instead mentions the book's "truly remarkable distribution", and criticizes (p.112) those who refused to distribute it because "elders must be men who themselves participate in the work that Jesus assigned..."

Is the distribution of false prophecies and 1300 wrong interpretations really "work that Jesus

assigned"? That is what the author Karl Adams in this "objective" and "candid" book asserts — but it's a slanderous assertion which defames Jesus.

Page 219: This page recalls the 1938 resolution which the WBTS asked congregations to affirm and pass which stated, "THE SOCIETY" is the visible representative of the Lord on earth…"

The 1938 resolution gave JWs leaders a status in the sect equivalent to "the vicar of Christ" among Roman Catholics. It negated the reason that many early Russellites gave for leaving other religions and joining Russellism which was to escape Pope-like authority and enjoy freedom of worship.

Page 220: Here we read about the benefits of the centralized control acquired by the WTS and imposed over JWs during the 1930s.

Proclaimers denies that Rutherford was "simply trying to gain greater control" and says "he was not the leader of Jehovah's Witnesses, and he did not want to be."

Denial that Rutherford was the leader is meant to reinforce the doctrine that God is in charge. However, in every disagreement in doctrine and prophecy between the Bible and Rutherford, or the Bible and the WTS, JWs have always had to obey the WTS hierarchy or be expelled. This fact makes Rutherford the leader of JWs until 1942 and other men the leaders thereafter.

Proclaimers does not mention that dictator-like leadership by a small clique was previously called "Babylon's method":

> Babylon's method is to take all power and authority out of the hands of the people of God and put it into the hands of one person or a clique of preachers or bishops or elders. (wr1916 11/1 5983)

The entry *GOAL OF WORLD DOMINATION* outlines Rutherford's sinister objective behind the totalitarian-type unity that he instigated.

Page 232: "This is not a forced conformity; it results from education in God's ways as recorded in the Bible… If they cease to take pleasure in living according to Bible standards, they are free to leave the organization."

WTS publications have thousand of statements similar to the preceding, statements that imply the hierarchy is always right and promotes "God's ways as recorded in the Bible", and others are always wrong. Others are not only wrong but wrong with bad motives — "cease to take pleasure in living according to Bible standards".

Such statements are indirect affirmations of Governing Body infallibility and deny that thousands of theological revisions were made as well as false predictions.

The JWs hierarchy actually **does** practice "forced conformity" because:

- JWs are ordered to avoid reading publications of other religions;
- JWs are ordered not to criticize the WTS;
- JWs who expose WTS errors are expelled, lose their friends, are shunned even by their family, and if running a business lose their JWs customers;
- JWs who opposed Governing Body policies that facilitated child sexual abuse were expelled. (Improved child-protection policy was introduced **after** courts began to expose child abuse by JWs, found perpetrators guilty, and ordered compensation payments.)

"Force" is not always physical coercion but can be psychological. For example, the threat of losing one's family by getting shunned compels an untenable choice between leaving one's religion along with losing one's identity, or condoning child abuse.

Much of the so-called "education" of JWs is propaganda because it:

- Uses repetitive instruction to reinforce dubious beliefs;
- Separates new JWs from outside friendships;
- Discourages JWs from interaction with non-JWs relatives;
- Prohibits outside reading matter on religious topics;
- Disallows alternative views and dissent; and
- Uses peer pressure to produce conformity.

All this amounts to mind-control.

Page 241: "Brother Russell encouraged a full and free discussion of the study material."

To the Russellites and to JWs "full and free discussion" means paraphrasing the published paragraphs. "Full and free" in the sense of introducing scientific discoveries and scholarship that prove something wrong has never been permitted; only "full and free" agreement is permitted.

Page 247: This page recalls brochures JWs used for training in preaching such as the *Bulletin* (1919-1935), *Director* (1935-1936), *Informant* (1936-1956), and currently *Our Kingdom Ministry* and shows a picture of each.

Two other titles are omitted:

- *Kingdom Ministry* (1956-1976) so named to reflect the doctrine that all JWs are ministers;

- *Our Kingdom Service* (1976-1982) so re-named to reflect the revision in doctrine that only elders and "ministerial servants" are ministers.

The 1982 *Our Kingdom Service* became *Our Kingdom Ministry* to reflect the flip-flop back to the previous notion that all JWs are ministers.

Page 248: "Jehovah's Witnesses are in no sense a secret society."

However, secrecy abounds because JWs:
- Hold secret "apostasy" interrogations without any right to an attorney;
- Monitor each other for forbidden publications and report infringements;
- Keep secret the real history that thousands of interpretations have been revised;
- Keep secret why the sect has so many "whistle blowers" and ex members;
- Have kept secret the identifies of pedophiles by silencing victims with threat of disfellowshipping for slander, and by telling victims not to drag Jehovah's name through the mud via courts;
- Refuse access to older WTS publications without telling the true reason for this policy.

Page 252: "...all need opportunity for the progressive instruction that Jehovah was providing through his visible channel of communication. For many years the Bible students used the various volumes of *Studies in the Scriptures*... What they contained was, indeed, spiritual "food at the proper time.""

The statement "progressive instruction that Jehovah was providing" implies infallibility since God is supposed to be "all knowing". However, the so-called "progressive instruction" includes thousands of statements that would get JWs who insisted on believing them today excommunicated.

All seven volumes of *Studies in the Scriptures* teach that Christ's second coming occurred in 1874! Volume 2 says Armageddon "is already commenced" and would finish in 1914 (or 1915 in later editions]. (p.101) Volume 3 has over 60 pages on pyramidology and states that God lives in the Pleiades constellation "from which the Almighty governs his universe." (p.327) Volume 7 teaches that Pastor Russell is alive in heaven and "managing every feature of the Harvest work" (pp 144, 256) and "supervises, by the Lord's arrangement, the work yet to be done." (p.256).

Volume VII has about 1300 "progressive instructions" on prophecy and doctrine which "Jehovah was providing" but which JWs today reject.

Page 315: "The relief efforts of the Witnesses are not meant to care for the physical needs of everyone in the disaster area... these are intended primarily for those related to them in the faith."

This policy is rarely admitted to. JWs claim they engage in "charity" but by charity they mean distributing WTS publications. JWs assist fellow JWs in times of disaster. Many other religions, however, have ongoing or continual programs of helping people, including disaster relief, aimed at all without discrimination.

Pages 347-348: These pages ask if there is "a Profit From the Literature" and state, "But none of this was done for commercial gain."

The sale of WTS properties in Brooklyn when the new "World Headquarters" was being constructed netted about US$1500 million. About half of this paid for constructing the new headquarters at Warwick. In the early 21st century the WTS also paid huge amounts in compensation to child-abuse victims. Much of this enormous wealth was built up from book-production and sales besides also donations.

Page 351: "Those who are accepted for special full-time service at the world headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses all subscribe to a vow of poverty, as have all the members of the Governing Body and all the other members of the Bethel family there."

The "poverty" for the lower ranks is often genuine, unlike the Governing Body which controls the wealth and power of the WTS and has access to every amenity the modern world offers.

Page 424-425: "...the number of Bible Students reported as having some share in preaching ... during 1918 decreased by 20 percent worldwide when compared with the report for 1914."

Proclaimers implies that the decrease resulted from "harsh treatment" during the war years. But many Russellites quit and even established a dozen splinter cults because all the predictions for 1914 to 1918 turned out false. After 1925 the meeting attendance dropped even further, perhaps by 70%, although "harsh treatment" had virtually stopped. Again the main reason was the false predictions.

Page 425: "What an exciting message they proclaimed — "Millions now living will never die." ... It was also the title of a 128-page booklet published in 1920."

Jeremiah called false prophecy "an appalling and horrible thing" (5:31-32; 23:31-32) but to JWs false prophecy is "an exciting message"!

The "millions" prophecy was directed at adults, which means that those "millions" of

1920 who "will never die" have all died. Hundreds of millions of people who heard the "millions now living" slogan were lied to! Instead of regarding that as "appalling and horrible" the JWs hierarchy finds it "exciting".

Page 567: In the 1930s JWs publicized the slogan "'Religion Is a Snare and a Racket".

To JWs the word "religion" at that time meant all religion. JWs excluded themselves from the "snare and racket" label because they were Christians and Christianity they claimed is not a religion!

By 1950 the term "religion" and "religious" became useful to JWs in such issues as conscientious objection and whether JWs are "ministers". Therefore "religion" was redefined and now meant all religion, but with the proviso that JWs were "true religion" or "true worship" and every other religion "false religion" or "false worship".

Everyone else knew all along that Rutherford's organization is a religion. The WTS, however, has such tight control over its indoctrinated people that it can change the meanings of common words and all JWs follow without comment.

Page 570: "It is only Jehovah's Witnesses who truly endeavor to reach all the inhabited earth with the Kingdom message…"

This is an affront to millions of Christians who died in persecutions in past centuries to bring Christianity to a world more dangerous than today. Huge efforts to promote faith and good works by Protestants, Catholics and Adventists continue to dwarf JWs efforts.

But what is "the Kingdom message"? To JWs it was 1878 for almost 50 years, then 1914 and 1925. Jesus, however, spoke of "This good news of the Kingdom". The pronoun "this" means the kingdom was there in Jesus' time. If Jesus meant a future kingdom in 1878, 1914, or 1925 it would be "that good news".

Similarly, the word "news" tells us that the Kingdom was "news" in the 1st century and existed in the 1st century. The JWs kingdoms of 1878, 1914 and 1925 were fraudulent, Jesus did not mention them, and proclaiming them does not count as Christian preaching.

Page 621: "It certainly could not be expected that God would use C. T. Russell if he did not loyally adhere to God's Word…"

How could someone who claimed that Christ returned secretly in 1974, Jesus' kingdom began in 1878, and Armageddon would be over in 1914, along with hundreds of other silly things, "loyally adhere to God's Word"? This is typical propaganda and bluster to impress the uninformed and indoctrinate them into believing falsehoods.

Page 630: "They may have been right in some of the details that they taught in connection with the New Covenant, but did the Lord bless what they were doing? … Finally, during the 1930's ... corrected statements of the matter appeared in *The Watchtower*... What joy this brought to those who had patiently waited!"

What happened is that Russell applied the New Covenant (Hebrews 8) to natural Jews instead of Christianity and about 5% of his followers broke away and called themselves New Covenant Fellowship or similar names. In 1934 Rutherford abandoned Russell's error.

Proclaimers condemns those who had the correct view, but praises those who "patiently waited" and promoted error for a further 25 years. The claim "what joy this brought" is a standard WTS propaganda statement. After all, what sort of fool finds "joy" instead of regret in unnecessarily being wrong for 25 years longer than others?

Russell himself did not "patiently wait" for N.H. Barbour to correct false teaching but left in 1879 and started a separate cult. That's what the New Covenant advocators did.

Page 632: "They also thought they would be given their heavenly reward at that time [i.e. 1878]. When that did not occur, they concluded … the resurrection to spirit life of those already sleeping in death began then."

This error regarding the resurrection in 1878 provides opportunity to compare how JWs evaluate false teaching with how the Bible describes falsehoods:

> But shun empty speeches that violate what is holy; they will advance to more and more ungodliness, and their word will spread like gangrene. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of that number. These very men have deviated from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already occurred, and they are subverting the faith of some. (II Timothy 2:16-18)

Clearly, men who proclaim fake resurrections are not "faithful Christians", "loyal to God's word", "spirit anointed" or preaching "a happy prospect" as *Proclaimers* would say, but "ungodly", "deviated from the truth", and "subverting the faith". Why doesn't *Proclaimers* which is supposedly "objective" and "candid" state matters objectively and candidly?

Page 632: This page comments on "Millions Now Living Will Never Die" and says:

> …many hoped that perhaps the remaining ones of the little flock would

> receive their heavenly reward in 1925. This year was also associated with expectations for resurrection of faithful pre-Christian servants of God with a view to their serving on earth as princely representatives of the heavenly Kingdom… What a happy prospect!

Notice the words "they hoped", "perhaps" and "expectations". Actually 1925 was a definite prophecy which followed from Russellite chronology and which allegedly consisted of "God's dates". (See: *NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE*)

The "happy prospect" became unhappy when the prediction failed and the majority of the cult's attendance dropped out! The attendance at their annual Memorial was:

1925 90,000	1928 17,000
1927 88,000	1935 63,000

Page 633

> This later led to the idea—sometimes stated as a possibility, sometimes more firmly—that since the seventh millennium of human history would begin in 1975, events associated with the beginning of Christ's Millennial Reign might start to take place then…

1975 wasn't just an "idea" or a "might". When *Aid to Bible Understanding* (1971, p.538) placed the creation of Adam and Eve in the same year i.e. both created in 4026 BCE, Armageddon in 1975 became a definite prediction. (See: *NINETEEN SEVENTY FIVE;* and *EVE*) Even if Adam and Eve were not created in the same year, Armageddon had to take place within a few years of 1975. The absolute limit was "within our twentieth century".

Armageddon's delay until CE 2000, however, would mean that Adam lived alone in the Garden of Eden for 25 years before Eve was created. Today (2022) there is still no Armageddon or worldwide "paradise" which means Adam's bachelorhood lasted at least 47 years.

Page 633 continues: "Did the beliefs of Jehovah's Witnesses on these matters prove to be correct? Certainly they did not err in believing that God would without fail do what he had promised."

The fact is they did err, and God erred too, because what God "promised", besides Armageddon in 1975 or soon after, was:

> …a peaceful and secure new order before the generation that saw the events of 1914 passes away. (See: *CREATOR'S PROMISE*)

Page 633: "As a result, some withdrew from the organization. Others, because they sought to subvert the faith of associates, were disfellowshipped. No doubt, disappointment over the date [1925] was a factor, but in some instances the roots went deeper. Some individuals also argued against the need to participate in the house to house ministry."

Jesus, however, did not instruct people to respond to false prophecy by "participating in the house to house ministry". Rather he said "Beware of false prophets" (Matthew 7:15) which implies keep your distance. In Moses' time men like Russell and Rutherford would have been lawfully executed according to Deuteronomy 18:20.

Most JWs are people who "withdrew from" other religions. These don't "participate" in their former religions' ministries but instead actively "subvert the faith of associates" i.e. people of their former church. If such conduct is right for JWs then it would also be right when ex JWs do it to JWs.

Page 634: Here Adams displays a letter that Russellite elder C.J. Woodworth sent during WWI to a former member who left the cult after 15 years because of 1914. Woodworth says: "Probably I look ridiculous to you because I did not go to Heaven, October 1st, 1914..."

Woodworth justifies sticking with Russell despite the 1914 failures by mentioning "humbug and claptrap" that he had previously believed but had discarded, such as "one plus one, plus one, equal one" and that Jesus when he prayed was "talking to Himself". Woodworth was referring to the doctrine of the Trinity.

However, former belief in other "claptrap", if such it was, would not justify Woodworth in sticking with Russellite "claptrap". To be fooled by false prophets is bad, but to afterwards justify further support of those prophets by evaluating rival doctrines as "humbug" is worse.

Woodworth helped write the book *The Finished Mystery* (1917) which had more than 1000 errors in theology and prophecy that JWs later discarded. He therefore produced "humbug" and "claptrap" in massive amounts. Pages 126-127 describe demonic influence — apparently based on Woodworth's own experience! Yet Karl Adams uses Woodworth as a source for defending false predictions!

Pages 635-636:

> *The Watch Tower* of April 15, 1916, stated: "The Lord did not say that the Church would all be glorified by 1914. We merely inferred it and, evidently, erred."
>
> In this they were somewhat like Jesus' apostles. The apostles knew and thought

> they believed the prophecies concerning God's Kingdom. But at various times they had wrong expectations as to how and when these would be fulfilled. This led to disappointment on the part of some.— Luke 19:11; 24:19-24; Acts 1:6.

Actually Russell and the JWs leaders after him were not, "somewhat like Jesus' apostles." In Luke 19:11 the apostles "were imagining that the kingdom of God was going to display itself instantly" (NWT), and in Acts 1:6 they asked Jesus a question.

The apostles were not claiming to be Jehovah's prophet authorized to teach prophecy to the whole world, which is what the WTS and its "remnant of the 144,000" claimed. The New Testament didn't yet exist and the apostles had much to learn. **Therefore they asked a question**. The JWs leaders in contrast present themselves as fully informed, the "faithful and wise servant", "God's channel" guided by God, and the culmination of 19 centuries of knowledge and wisdom.

Page 706: "When the world entered the last days in 1914, what group proved to be the one true Christian organization? Christendom abounded with churches that claimed to represent Christ. But the question is: Which, if any, among them was meeting the Scriptural requirements?"

The Russellite cult's proclamation that Jesus returned in 1874 was proclaimed until 1929 and is condemned by Jesus himself in Matthew 24:23-27. In this and hundreds of other points the Russellites were not "true Christians ... meeting the Scriptural requirements".

Page 666: "The Clergy Continue to Fight".

Proclaimers here gives examples of "Clergy opposition" to JWs and implies violence is a policy of the Catholic Church.

However, JWs likewise oppose, sometimes with violence, both their own dissidents and members of other religions when these preach to JWs.

Page 707: Page 707 calls Russell and the Russelites "lovers of truth" and quotes his 1916 biography:

> He was not the founder of a new religion… He revived the great truths taught by Jesus and the apostles…

However, Russellism <u>was</u> a new religion. This is proved by its hundreds of interpretations never taught before by anyone, including many alleged "truths" that JWs don't teach today.

Today any JWs who disagree with the leaders on just one point and persist, face excommunication — but Russellies, although different in thousands of points, were "lovers of truth".

Page 708: "Those who make up the one true Christian organization today do not have angelic revelations or divine inspiration."

This is what JWs leaders say when they want to deflect blame for thousands of revisions to their "Bible truth" and still be regarded as "the one true Christian organization". However, when they are not deflecting blame, instead want to convince people to follow them, they regularly claim that God or the "holy spirit" guided or directed them (or their Organization) or "revealed" things:

> Zion's Watch Tower of March 1880 had declared: "The Times of the Gentiles extend to 1914, and the heavenly kingdom will not have full sway till then." <u>Only God by his holy spirit could have revealed this</u> to those early Bible students so far in advance. (w1973 7/1 402)

Today's JWs don't know that the phrase "the heavenly kingdom will not have full sway till then" referred to world peace in 1914 under the rule of Abraham, Moses, Daniel and other ancient men returned from the dead, all other religions and governments destroyed, the Russell cult taken to heaven and supervising Earth from there, and sickness and pain on its way out as paradise extends across the world..

The Watchtower writer gave a quote which he knew readers would interpret through the lens of their current theology and thus be deceived into believing that Russell's predictions for 1914 were "revealed" by God's "holy spirit" and came true. Karl Adams could have exposed such deceptions in his "objective" and "candid" book but never does.

Regarding "angelic revelations": Rutherford throughout the 1930s claimed that angels communicated with him! He could not attribute his theology to the "holy spirit" because he claimed that the "spirit" ceased activity in 1918. The "holy spirit" so often mentioned in the New Testament is therefore almost ignored in 20 years of Rutherford's writings.

After Rutherford's death the new leaders, although having denied the "holy spirit" for decades, began to indoctrinate JWs to believe that they are the only religion that has God's spirit! Adams, however, does not discuss these points.

Page 709: "Jesus, when on earth, admitted that he did not know the day and hour that the present system of things would end. ...in the

modern-day history of Jehovah's Witnesses, their zeal ... led to premature expectations as to when the end of Satan's wicked system of things would come."

Yes, Jesus did not know the date. However, he did not therefore promote false predictions for specific dates and make people proclaim them as "Bible truth" as JWs do.

The WTS is doing what people do when caught committing a crime — they make excuses. The JWs leaders specialize in excuses that are self-praising such as "**zeal** led to premature expectations" or "it shows **we were awake**".

Conclusions

An outsider's praise is likely to be more "candid and "objective" than self-praise which could be why the Bible says: "Let another praise you, and not your own mouth — a stranger, and not your own lips." (Proverbs 27:2)

Proclaimers is self-glorifying, fact-denying propaganda designed to mislead and indoctrinate its captive audience. It has numerous comments that denigrate other religions and hundreds more that praise the Russellite-JWs religion. That's hundreds of pages of self-justification slanted to make thousands of theological revisions look like "Bible truth" coming from "God's organization". To explain every error, misrepresentation and important omission in *Proclaimers* would require a book as large as *Proclaimers* itself!

Jesus said false prophets would produce "great signs and omens". And *Proclaimers* in its extensive self-justification of the JWs leaders is like a "great sign and omen". (Matthew 24:24)

Proclaimers repeatedly whitewashes or denies false prophecy. JWs readers could therefore have spotted the trend and worked out that the "Creator's promise" regarding the generation of 1914 and the prophecy of Armageddon in the "twentieth century", which were still "truth" when *Proclaimers* was published, would likewise fail. Indeed the reason for publishing *Proclaimers* in 1993 was probably to help inoculate JWs against the faith-challenging revisions and disappointments about to hit them.

However, like gamblers who make bigger bets to win back previous losses most JWs gambled again. They staked more years of their lives in serving the Organization to win the big payoff — Armageddon and everlasting life. And again they lost. "This generation" died out; the "Creator's promise" failed; and the "twentieth century" ended without Armageddon, worldwide paradise or resurrections of the dead occurring.

JEHOVAH'S WOMAN
More often called "God's woman" and refers to Jehovah's Organization.
(See: *GOD'S ORGANIZATION*)

JEHU
A king of Israel whose story in the Old Testament pictured:

- Jesus and the remnant. (w1932 15/6 188-189; Salvation 1939, 67, 70)
- Jesus together with the 144,000 and the angels. (Vindication III 1932, 22)

JEHU, ALVIN V. (1930-)
The accused in a sensational Australian court case in 1959-1960.

Alvin Jehu let his two-day-old son die from jaundice when a blood transfusion was necessary to save him. (g1960 11/8 22; Truth 1959)

After the trial Jehu moved to England and later reportedly left JWs.

JELLYFISH STORY
In court Maria Russell describe how Russell compared himself to a "jellyfish" who floated around touching various women. Several newspapers published the story. Russell brought suit against *The Washington Post* and the Chicago *Mission Friend* for accusing him of promiscuity and won both cases.

JEREMIAH
An Old Testament prophet who pictured the remnant (w1940 16/6 182) who are also known as the "anointed":

> For decades now since 1919 C.E., the Jeremiah class as made up of anointed witnesses of Jehovah has made known the way to come back into peaceful relations with the God of the Bible. But most church members of Christendom have refused to take heed… (w1979 8/1 18)

A MODERN JEREMIAH CLASS

> [9] We do not mean that Jeremiah himself has come back to life by a resurrection from the dead... Today we mean someone who was prefigured or typified by ancient Jeremiah. We have in mind the servant or slave about whom Jesus Christ spoke in his prophecy concerning "the sign of [his] presence [or, parousia]

and of the conclusion of the system of things." (Matt. 24:3) Today, alert Bible students see the "sign" of the presence, or parousia, of the glorified Jesus Christ in heavenly Kingdom power. Hence, the servant or slave should now be here on earth to complete the "sign" in all its details. In Matthew 24:45-47, Jesus said:
[10] "Who really is the faithful and discreet slave whom his master appointed over his domestics, to give them their food at the proper time?" ...
[11] The "slave" here foretold could not be an individual Christian man, for, in such a case, he would have to be more than 1,900 years old by now. The "slave" must be the entire Christian congregation made up of the 144,000 disciples who have been begotten by God's spirit to become joint heirs with Jesus Christ in his heavenly kingdom. This "slave" class had its start on the festival day of Pentecost in the year 33 C.E. (w1977 12/15 751)

JERICHO
The story of Jericho and the Israelites marching around it became one of Rutherford's "pictures". Jericho pictured Christendom; the two Israelite spies pictured the remnant; Rahab who sheltered the spies pictured the great crowd. (Salvation 1939, 83-91; w1945 2/15 60)

In the Bible story the Israelites marched around Jericho once each day for six days. On the seventh day they marched around seven times. This pictured an intensification of JWs preaching from 1969 until Armageddon:

> This day "they proceeded to get up early, as soon as the dawn ascended." Now they must march around the city seven times just on one day! Why, this final effort was to be more than that of all the previous days put together! (Josh. 6:15) And today, with less than seven years remaining to the end of six thousand years of human history, and with all the prophetic evidence that Christendom is about to be shaken from her proud foundations, are we not fired with zeal to get around our territory seven times and more? Time is short, and the message must be sounded! ...
>
> But we can be sure that the work of proclaiming God's judgments, and of teaching Bible truth to the meek, will prosper and increase up to the final climax. (w1969 10/1 597, 598)

This prediction along with the 1975 date stimulated rapid increase of JWs in the early 1970s but then decline.

In 1981 the intensification of activity was again said to be "now": "We can expect a similar expansion of our preaching activity **now**, at this climax of the ages. (w1981 11/15 21)

In 1984 the intensification of the "witnessing" was said to be "nearing". (w1984 3/15 18)

In 1985 in was occurring "today":

> We find a remarkable parallel to this in what Jehovah's Witnesses are doing **today** earth wide... Kingdom publishers reached a worldwide peak of 3,024,131 in 1985, compared with 2,179,256 in 1975. Jehovah continues to 'speed up' his work! (w1985 12/15 19, 20)

Rutherford's "pictures" describing supposed modern-day parallels of Old Testament stories have all either been revised or discarded.
(See: *PICTURES*)

JERUSALEM
JWs distinguish four Jerusalems:

1. Literal Jerusalem in Palestine.
2. "Heavenly Jerusalem" which "refers to the Messianic Kingdom" composed of Jesus and the 144,000 i.e. a total of 144,001 individuals. (w1983 3/15 22)
3. New Jerusalem which refers to the Kingdom of 144,000 excluding Jesus. (w1983 315 23)
4. The "Jerusalem above" a phrase which to JWs means God's Organization in heaven. (w1983 3/15 23)

Jesus ruled the 144,000 from Pentecost onwards. (Aid to Bible Understanding 1969, 1004; Make Sure of All Things 1953, 233)

Russell taught that the Jerusalem to be "trampled down" until the Gentile Times ended (Luke 21:24) was the literal city of Jerusalem in Israel. (Studies I, 249)

After Russell's prophecies about literal Jerusalem failed Rutherford changed the fulfilment to "heavenly Jerusalem". (w1983 3/15 20) Heavenly Jerusalem was "trampled on" or "trodden down" until 1914 when Satan and the demons were thrown out of heaven to the Earth.

Russell predicted that literal Jerusalem would be the world capital but Rutherford predicted: "This city is doomed to destruction at the end of the world." (w1941 11/1 330-331)

JESUS
To JWs Jesus is Jehovah God's son and first creation. Jesus is not "God" but a "god" and Jehovah's agent in all things including creation, atonement, salvation, resurrection, and kingship. (Studies V, 36-40, 83-162) Jesus

is less than Jehovah God but greater than Satan. He is the same as Michael the Archangel.

JWs believe Jesus pre-existed in heaven, although not part of a divine Trinity, and was changed into human form in 2 BCE when born of the Virgin Mary.

Jesus was ordained and anointed in 29 CE by receiving the holy spirit (a "force" dispensed and controlled by Jehovah) and thereby became "Christ" or "Messiah". He preached, worked miracles, and died as a "ransom sacrifice" to give humans a chance to receive eternal life.

Jesus' resurrection was as a ghostly, immaterial, invisible "spirit". His body remained dead, possibly decomposed quickly into gases by miraculous intervention, and he appeared to his disciples by materializing new, physical bodies.

In 1925 WTS president Rutherford formulated the doctrine that Jesus was enthroned in heaven as king of planet Earth in 1914. "War in heaven" followed (in 1914) and Satan and his demons were cast out of heaven and confined to Earth. In 1930 the date for Christ's second coming and presence was changed to 1914 (formerly 1874) — it is an "invisible return" which consists of Christ turning his attention to the Earth. Armageddon was to occur "soon" and "at an early date" which by 1950 was defined as within the generation that witnessed 1914.

The doctrines of Christ's spiritual resurrection, invisible presence, and kingdom of 1914 were interpretations based on 19th century failed prophecies to make those prophecies appear partly correct:

Nelson H. Barbour, a Second Adventist, had predicted Christ's second coming and burning up of the world in 1873. When this failed he tried 1874, then 1875 and then claimed the return was in 1874 but invisible.

Thus began the doctrine of Christ's invisible return for 1874 which C.T. Russell and his Bible group accepted when they joined Barbour in 1876.

The invisible return made it necessary to regard the resurrection of Jesus as spiritual and invisible. Russell suggested that Jesus' body was preserved somewhere and would be displayed in Jerusalem after Armageddon. (Convention Report 1916, 204)

To Jesus' return in 1874 was added 3½ years to get the date when the "living saints" would ascend to heaven to form God's heavenly kingdom and rule the Earth. 1914 became the endpoint when Armageddon would be over.

After this prophetic scheme failed the WTS under Rutherford made 1914 the start of the end-times instead of the end of the end-times and revised other prophetic dates accordingly.

There has been confusion among JWs on whether Jesus should be worshipped. Russell wrote "It was proper for our Lord to receive worship..." (wr1898 7/15 2337; wr1880 10/1 144) Article 2 of the WBTS Charter similarly stated: "The purposes of this Society are ... public Christian worship of Almighty God and Jesus Christ..."

Under Rutherford, however, Jesus was demoted and barely mentioned outside of the contexts of 1914 and execution of enemies at Armageddon — certainly no mention of worshipping him. In 1954 JWs leaders claimed: "…no distinct worship is to be rendered to Jesus now glorified in heaven." (w1954 1/1 31; w1954 5/15 317)

Regarding Hebrews 1:6 where all God's angels worship Jesus, they argued: "If the rendering 'worship' is preferred, then it must be understood that such 'worship' is only of a relative kind." (w1970 11/15 704)

In 1929 Rutherford interpreted the "higher powers" in Romans 13 as Jehovah and Jesus. In 1962 this interpretation was changed and the higher powers were the earthly governments. Yet, the previous interpretation came from "the King and Judge at the Temple" (Yearbook 1955, text July 15) i.e. from Jesus.

Since JWs deny the Trinity what about when Thomas declared, "My Lord and My God!"? The WTS explanation is:

> Thomas exclaimed to Jesus: "My Lord and my God! [literally, "The Lord of me and the God (*ho Theos*) of me!"]." (John 20:24-29) Some scholars have viewed this expression as an exclamation of astonishment spoken to Jesus but actually directed to God, his Father. However, others claim the original Greek requires that the words be viewed as being directed to Jesus. Even if this is so, the expression "My Lord and my God" would still have to harmonize with the rest of the inspired Scriptures...
>
> So, Thomas may have addressed Jesus as "my God" in the sense of Jesus' being "a god" though not the Almighty God, not "the only true God," to whom Thomas had often heard Jesus pray." (Insight II 1988, 55)
>
> …there is no objection to Thomas' referring to Jesus as a god. Such would be in harmony with the fact that Jesus, in

> his pre-human existence, certainly was a god, that is, a powerful, divine person... So there was nothing improper about Thomas' referring to Jesus in that way. Thomas was saying that Jesus was a god to him, a divine, powerful one. But he was not saying that Jesus was Jehovah, which is why Thomas said, "my" God and not "the" God." (w1988 6/1 17-19)

The last phrase, that Thomas did not say "the God", is mistaken since he did say "the God" — see quote from *Insight* above.

Difficult for JWs is John 1:1 "The Word was God." *The Watchtower* lists various Bible translators who translate this as "a god" or "godlike" or "divine". (w1988 6/1 15-21)

JESUS' LIFE AND MINISTRY
A regular feature in 149 consecutive issues of *The Watchtower* — April 1985 to June 1991 — usually one or two pages.

JEWS
Jews were people of the tribe of Judah. After the ten tribes lost their distinct identity "Jew" referred to survivors of all twelve tribes of Israel.

Russell taught that God's favour began to return to the Jews in 1878. Full favour would occur after Armageddon when Jesus acting via the resurrected "princes" such as Moses, Daniel and Noah ruled the world from Israel starting in 1915. (Studies II 1889, 218-230)

Rutherford initially taught that the 1917 Balfour Declaration, which supported that Palestine should be the homeland for Jews, was evidence of God's favor. In *Millions Now Living Will Never Die* (1920), *Comfort for the Jews* (1925) and *Life* (1929) Rutherford argued that Jews returning to Palestine fulfilled Bible prophecy.

Rutherford criticized attempts to convert Jews:

> The persistent effort to proselyte the Jew has served to drive the Jew away from the Bible. No Christian who really understands the Bible has any desire to proselyte. (Comfort for the Jews 1925, 52)

After World War II, however, JWs established a branch office in Israel to proselyte Jews.

In 1931 Rutherford made the Jews irrelevant to Bible prophecy and emphasized "spiritual Israel" which refers to the "remnant" of the 144,000. In 1940 Rutherford even claimed: "Israel will never be restored as a nation."

In 1927 Rutherford wrote:

> Be it known once and for all that those profiteering, conscienceless, selfish men who call themselves Jews, and who control the greater portion of the finances of the world and the business of the world, will never be the rulers in this new earth. God would not risk such selfish men with such an important position.

This is probably not anti-Semitism since it refers to Jewish profiteers and not to all Jews. "Big business" was one the Rutherford's three main targets for criticism (along with government and religion) and the statement seems to be made in that context.

JWs today regard the ancient Jews as God's chosen people who proved unfaithful to God and were rejected by God when Jesus was crucified; and were replaced with a new chosen people, and have no further specific role in Bible prophecy.

(See also: *ISRAEL*)

JEWS — ANTI-SEMITISM
The *Dictionary Introduction* says: "The sheer amount of information, much of it colored by polemics, makes an accurate overall overview [of JWs] difficult to achieve." Below I discuss an example of "polemics" to demonstrate the difficulty of being fair and accurate.

An article on the Yad L'Achim website titled "Jehovah's Witnesses and Anti-Semitism" purports to show that "the teachings of 'Jehovah's Witnesses' are infused with huge doses of anti-Semitism!" (https://vorvor1408.wordpress.com/2007/06/17/jehovahs-witnesses-antisemitism/)

JWs apparently sent video-cassettes to the Knesset (Israel's Parliament) detailing the sufferings of the sect in Nazi Germany. The objective behind the Yad L'Achim website seems to be to stop JWs from winning favourable treatment in Israel based on their conflict with Nazism.

Anti-Semitic?

The website's "anti-Semitism" examples are what it calls "theological anti-Semitism" — which refers to JWs beliefs that disagree with Judaism.

However, the term "anti-Semitism" normally refers to hatred of Jews as a group, which is often expressed with violence, deportations, economic discrimination, confiscation of property, murder and unjust imprisonment, or approval of such activities, and not to disagreement in theology.

The website says: "In 1931 Rutherford … declared that the Hebrew prophets in all their prophecies had in mind only him and his sect

… and only they are the true Israel." It is correct that this is what Rutherford declared but having such a belief is not anti-Semitism.

The website says: "This ideology is known to historians and theologians as the Replacement Theology… The doctrines of replacement and contempt led directly to the Holocaust."

Actually, historians do not argue that Replacement Theology (including that of JWs) brought about the Holocaust. Nor does "replacement" necessarily imply contempt.

The website misrepresents Rutherford's book *Enemies* (1937) which says:

> There was not one clergyman of the Jews that accepted Jesus and stood by him; which shows that all such were agents of the Devil.
>
> Thereafter Jesus began his work of preaching to the people and introduced his discourse with these words: "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Did any of the clergymen accept that as true? Not one. The priests, Pharisees and other religious leaders were hypocrites and loved the plaudits and approval of men, and sought the worship of the people even as their father the Devil had done. (p.110)
>
> Daily those clergymen walk through the streets wearing peculiar garments that they may attract the attention of men. They stand in the church buildings, as the Jewish clergymen stood in their synagogues, and strike a sanctimonious attitude, and utter senseless speech in a language that few, if any, of those present can understand; and that they do that they may attract attention of men to themselves. Thus Jesus shows that the practitioners of religion among the Jews find their counterpart in the practitioners of religion now on earth in "Christendom". (p.111)
>
> It is written concerning the sincere Jews of the common people, who listened to the preaching of Jesus, that "the common people heard him gladly". (p.112)
>
> Those clergymen and preachers were practitioners of "the Jews' religion" and were the instruments of the Devil. (p.113)
>
> Amongst her [the Catholic Church] instruments that she uses are ultraselfish men called "Jews", who look only for personal gain, and who therefore readily yield to and join with the Hierarchy in any unrighteous schemes. (p.281)

Rutherford's attack is not on Judaism but the Roman Catholic Church. He promotes prejudice against the Catholic Church by calling the 1st century Scribes and Pharisees "clergy" thus implying that Catholic priests belong to the same crowd that murdered Jesus. However, he distinguishes the 1st century Jewish "clergy" from "sincere Jews of the common people". *Enemies* has pages of virulent anti Catholicism, not anti-Semitism, but is not anti-all-Catholics (since Rutherford wanted to convert Catholics) but anti-clergy.

Regarding the WTS book *You Can Live Forever In Paradise On Earth* (1982) the website says:

> On pages 25-26 of the book we can see what is their current opinion of the Jews. Among other things it says there of the Jews: "Was God really their father? Did God accept their form of religion? Not at all!"... Jews are "from their father the Devil, and they wish to do his desires."

Actually pages 25-26 do not speak about Jews in general but about 1st century Pharisees to whom Jesus said, "Your are from your father the devil…?" Jesus said this to a crowd that wanted to take the law into their own hands and kill him. (John 8:39-47) Yad L'Achim has misunderstood the book.

Next the website attacks JWs for claiming to have experienced "persecution equal to that heaped upon the Jews" and for claiming JWs were "the only true martyrs of the holocaust".

However, the relative intensity of persecution is a different topic than anti-Semitism. People, including JWs can suffer persecution without necessarily being anti-Semitic.

The next criticism is that JWs did not fight the Nazis:

> …at the time when all the free world was fighting against the Nazi monstrosity, 'Jehovah's Witnesses' were neutral! Can you imagine moral blindness more extreme than that?!

In fact countless other people worldwide including most Jews in Israel, as well as many countries, did not fight the Nazis.

Neutrality in war is not anti-Semitism, nor is it necessarily moral blindness. Israel was neutral in the Vietnam War and the Iraq-Iran war. Are Jews therefore anti-Vietnamists or anti-Americanists and morally blind? Is everyone supposed to take part in everyone else's fights and wars? Whatever the reason for JWs "neutrality", it is not anti-Semitism.

The next charges are:

- …the leaders of JWs "tried to co-operate with the Nazis [and] they distributed millions of copies of anti-Semitic materials in Germany."
- …before the years 1933-1935 there isn't any evidence of any real action by them [JWs] against the regime.

Rutherford's "cooperation" consisted of trying to get the cult's branch office, which was confiscated by the Nazis, returned and arrests of JWs stopped. 30% of JWs worldwide at the time lived in Germany and an effort to protect them is not "anti-Semitism". The Jews probably also wanted property returned and persecution stopped but, like JWs, did not get what they want.

Next the website gets something correct:

> The reasons for Nazi persecution were probably the refusal of some members of the sect to join the German army, and the philosophy of the sect, which refuses to recognize any government or rule.
>
> Nazis knew that all members of 'Jehovah's Witnesses' had loyalties to another totalitarian regime...

In June 1933 JWs held an assembly in Berlin and released a "Declaration of Facts" (also published in the 1934 JWs Yearbook and reprinted in this *Dictionary* under "D") and a letter from Rutherford to Hitler.

Yad L'Achim says: "both of these documents are profoundly repulsive. They are exceedingly anti-Semitic and show the clear attempt by 'Jehovah's Witnesses' to cooperate with Hitler."

The offending paragraphs say:

> The present government of Germany has declared emphatically against Big Business Oppressors… Such is exactly our position. Big Business … proceeds from the Devil…
>
> Instead of being against the principles advocated by the Government of Germany, we stand squarely for such principles…
>
> A careful examination of our books and literature will disclose the fact that the very high ideals held and promulgated by the present national government are set forth in and endorsed and strongly emphasized in our publications…

Yad L'Achim argues:

> Whom exactly do they mean, when they say "Big Business"? They clearly explain: "It has been the commercial Jews of the British-American empire that have built up and carried on Big Business as a means of exploiting and oppressing the peoples of many nations."
>
> We see here a plain example of vulgar anti-Semitism:

Yad L'Achim calls JWs "would be partners of Hitler" and the Declaration a "hate tract" "repulsive document" and "vulgar anti-Semitism", "which fanned the flames of anti-Semitism" and claim "they're just as anti-Semitic as the Nazi regime."

This accuses JWs of murder and of running concentration camps of which there is no evidence.

A personal letter of J.F. Rutherford to Hitler, which accompanied the *Declaration* is supposedly "equally revolting" firstly for addressing Hitler as "Most Honored Mr. Chancellor" — which was actually a normal mode of address to a head of government — and secondly for stating:

> …the Watch Tower Society is and in the past has been outstandingly friendly to Germany… The administration of our Society not only refused to participate in the horror propaganda against Germany, but it took a position against this.

The WTS's "friendliness" to Germany refers to its refusal to participate in propaganda during WWI. From a JWs viewpoint they are also "friendly" because they preach "Bible truth" and warn about Armageddon. These are official JWs attitudes toward all countries and are not anti-Semitism but "anti all governments" and "anti all religions".

Rutherford's alleged "compromise" in the *Declaration* is:

> Instead of being against the principles advocated by the government of Germany, we stand squarely for such principles and point out that Jehovah God through Jesus Christ will bring about the full realization of these principles and will give to the people peace and prosperity and the greatest desire of every honest heart…

Hitler's publicly stated goals in 1933 said nothing about the elimination of Jews but were about peace, fair treatment for Germany, secure borders, employment for all, prosperity, and an end to inflation and economic depression. These are all conditions that JWs believed "Jesus Christ will bring about". Rutherford was writing very generally to find agreement with Hitler's government and is also being diplomatic by omitting to mention the destruction of Germany and

unconverted Germans at Armageddon. The aim was to persuade Hitler to stop Nazi suppression of JWs.

The website next shows "the true attitude of the sect to the Jews" in that JWs in 1938 predicted "the Jews will never succeed in returning to Palestine because it is against the will of Jehovah." This was a false prediction and is typical of the cult's attitude toward all religions whereby they predict destruction for them. It's not "deep theological anti-Semitism", rather "deep theological anti-religion-ism".

Yad L'Achim then brings up "another issue" by which JWs leaders "glorify themselves", which is that JWs in the concentration camps "shared not only their spiritual food but also whatever physical food they had." Yad L'Achim cites a Jew who was in the camps with JWs and who said:

> "In the camps in Poland they did not always behave according to their teachings. They served the cruel Nazi enemy very well with everything connected to murdering the Jews."

It is probably true that a few JWs shared food and also true that not all behaved "according to their teachings". However, many Jews also "did not behave" but served in "murdering the Jews". Such compromise was common in Concentration camps.

Next the website refers to Professor Yona Malachy who, "notes that in the beginning of 20th Century the attitude of the sect towards Zionism was positive, but around 1931-32 it gradually became negative and eventually hostile."

JWs attitudes, however, were already theologically "hostile" toward all religions and governments long before 1932, and the same stance was extended to Jews after 1931. When JWs in 1931-1932 discarded their 60-year-old doctrine that Israel would be restored it undercut their former pro-Jewish partiality.

Yad L'Achim says

> …the anti-Zionist approach of Jehovah's Witnesses was crystallized in the book *Let God be True* wherein JWs launched a sharp attack on the State of Israel overflowing with anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism.

The word "Jews" occurs 85 times *in Let God be True* and the alleged offending statements are:

> Nothing in the modern return of the Jews to Palestine and the setting up of the Israeli republic corresponds with Bible prophecies concerning the restoration of Jehovah's name-people to his favor and organization. (p.217)
>
> Israel's applying for admission into the United Nations and her accepting membership in that worldly body which assumes to take the place of Messiah's rule is a flat rejection of God's kingdom of the heavens. The remnant of spiritual Israelites, as Jehovah's witnesses, have proclaimed world-wide the establishment of God's kingdom in 1914. But again, as natural Israel did nineteen centuries ago, it has rejected its true Messiah, Jesus Christ, and has declared it has no king but Caesar. So again Jesus the King will refuse to give them a special sign for their mass conversion in Palestine to him. Therefore let individual Jews open their eyes of understanding to behold the great composite sign which Jesus foretold betokening this world's end, and let them join the great flock of "other sheep" which now seeks refuge under his kingdom. (p.218)

This is standard JWs nonsense aimed at all religions and all governments. However, beliefs that are stupid but which leave the believers law-abiding and indifferent to Jews are not comparable to concentration camps and murder.

Finally:

> This venomous anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism … finds its practical application in that all members of the sect living in the State of Israel refuse to serve in Israel's Defense Forces, completely ignore all the National Holidays … refuse to vote in any elections, refuse to join any cultural or political organizations, etc.

Again misleading. About 2000 JWs live in Israel and most of them are Jews. The policies of refusing to serve in the IDF and ignoring Israeli holidays have never defined anti-Semitism since anti-Semitism existed long before modern Israel! JWs furthermore have such attitudes toward armies and national holidays of all countries not only Israel.

Conclusion

Yad L'Achim is an orthodox Jewish organization, founded in Israel in 1950, which harasses Christian missionary activity in Israel, particularly JWs who in 1998-1999 filed 120 complaints.
(https://en.wikipedia/wiki/Yad_L'Achim)

The Yad L'Achim article initially purports to be about "theological anti-Semitism" i.e. disagreement in belief but later equates this with being "just as anti-Semitic as the Nazi regime" yet cites not one act of violence by

JWs on Jews. The article is typically sectarian — short on information and "profoundly repulsive" in its distortions and value judgments.

A summary of JWs in Nazi Germany can be read on the "Jewish Virtual Library" at: www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Holocaust/Jehovah.html

(See also: *PERSECUTION IN GERMANY*)

JEZEBEL
Woman (II Kings 9) who pictured the Roman Catholic Church. (Studies II, 256)

To Rutherford Jezebel pictured Satan's organization. (Vindication III 1932, 33)

JOB
A Bible character used by Rutherford's in one of his "pictures". Job pictured all humans who suffer for doing right. Job's ten offspring pictured all humanity. Job's wife pictured Satan's organization. Job's three critics pictured the Devil's agencies of religion, commerce and politics. (Life 1929, 236-242) These interpretations were "truth".

The picture changed in 1940. Job now pictured the "remnant" of the 144,000. (Religion 1940, 233-234) A further change in 1942 made Job picture all integrity keepers from Abel (son of Adam) to the Great Multitude. (The New World 1942, 116)

JOHN CLASS
Russellites who followed Rutherford after World War I. (Revelation It's Grand Climax Near At Hand 1988, 31)

JWs interpret many good guys mentioned in the Bible as prefiguring or picturing 20th century groups or "classes". (See: *PICTURES*) Some Bible good guys pictured the JWs "remnant" who followed Rutherford after World War I; other Bible good guys pictured the "great crowd" who began to join the "remnant" in 1935.

The Bible's bad guys variously pictured the clergy, Christendom, JWs apostates, and 20th century political systems. The apostle John being the disciple Jesus loved and himself of the "heavenly class" pictured those JWs who go to heaven when they die i.e. the "remnant".

JOHNSON, PAUL SAMUEL LEO (1873-1950)
A former Lutheran minister who became a friend and advisor to C.T. Russell.

Born in Pennsylvania of Polish Jewish parents, Johnson graduated from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, in 1895 and from the Lutheran Seminary in Ohio in 1898. He pastored Lutheran congregations in Pennsylvania and Ohio until 1903 when he left the Church and attended meetings of Russell's Bible Students in Columbus. (w1975 2/1 89)

In 1904 Russell appointed him as a Pilgrim. For years Johnson delivered discourses at IBSA conventions on "Methods for Developing a Christlike Character" — a total of ten lectures covering 74 pages. (Convention Report 1912, 179)

Russell sent Johnson to Britain in 1916 to investigate grievances at the WTS Office. He dismissed two managers and Rutherford recalled him to New York in July 1917.

Johnson along with others then opposed Rutherford on the publication of *The Finished Mystery*. *The Watchtower* (1983) says: "The dissenters wanted to dilute Christian teaching … attacking the true faith at its foundations." (w1983 4/1 19)

Such a claim is partisan nonsense because *The Finished Mystery* (1917) has about 1,300 interpretive points later rejected by JWs and false predictions for 1918, 1920, 1925 and 1932 — therefore neither "Christian" nor "true faith"!

Johnson was a candidate for election to the WTS's Board of Directors in 1918 but declined. In 1919 he along with Raymond G. Jolly founded the Layman's Home Missionary Society and served on its board of directors until his death. Johnson authored 17 volumes titled *Epiphany Studies in the Scriptures*, and published two magazines.

In the 1920s Rutherford discarded the doctrine of character development to reduce Johnson's influence and because it allegedly distracted followers from putting full effort into going door-to-door

The Layman's Home Missionary Society, based in Chester Springs, Pennsylvania, still exists and publishes Johnson's writings.

JONADAB
An Old Testament character who in II Kings 10:15-17 is invited onto the chariot of Jehu to observe him wipe out the royal family of Israel.

Rutherford in 1932 identified Jonadab as symbolizing people who will survive Armageddon.

In 1934 "Jonadabs" were identified as people favorably disposed to "the truth" who had to be converted in a new "harvest" and be baptized. They were equated with the "Great

Crowd" of Revelation 7. (Salvation 1939, 71, 87)

In 1937 Jonadabs were offered positions in congregations and in 1938 invited to the annual Memorial as observers. Jonadabs were not initially regarded as "Jehovah's Witnesses", this designation being limited to the "remnant", but were included in 1942 after Rutherford's death.

The new "harvest" (of Jonadabs) became theologically necessary because in 1918 the Christian harvest was considered finished with only a short "gleaning" work left, but in the 1930s the so-called "gleaning" was attracting more people than the "harvest"! Solution: Continue the gleaning but also have a new, different harvest, a new category of JWs.

The new harvest, however, created dissent among JWs because it conflicted with the notion that Armageddon was only "months" or a "few years" away.

Until about 1950 Armageddon was considered so close that Jonadabs were advised against marrying. Marriage before Armageddon was considered contrary to the Scriptures, and should be postponed to go door to door.

JONES, A.D.
An employee in one of Russell's stores who joined Russell's cult in c.1877. Jones started *Zion's Day Star* based on *Watch Tower* articles in 1881 but began to diverge from Russell. *Zion's Day Star* was discontinued in the 1890s.

JONES, L.W.
A prominent follower of C.T. Russell.

Dr L.W. Jones of Chicago:

- Edited the WTS convention reports for 13 years (announced their discontinuance in wr1917 11/15 6173);
- Was Russell's secretary during the 1912 world tour and other trips;
- Spoke at Russell's funeral (wr1916 12/1 6009);
- Compiled the books:
  What Pastor Russell Said (1917.
  What Pastor Russell Taught (1919).

The content of these books is from *The Watch Tower* and the convention reports, and were published and sold with WBTS approval.

Dr Jones apparently dropped out of the cult after Rutherford took full control. He is not listed with the pilgrims (WTS representatives) in the first [1927] *Yearbook* (pp 52-54).

JONSSON, CARL OLOF
Swedish author of *The Gentile Times Reconsidered* (1983; 1986) in which he traces the history of the phrase "Gentile Times" and its various interpretations in the 19th century.

Jonsson shows that 607 BCE for the destruction of Jerusalem – necessary for the WTS to calculate 1914 – is wrong and that 587/586 BCE in history books is correct.

A preliminary version of his manuscript was sent to the Governing Body in 1977 and was part of the reason Raymond Franz left the Governing Body. The Governing Body agreed to reply to the manuscript but instead started a campaign of vilification with echoes in *The Watchtower* — w1979 7/15 13; w1980 8/1 19. Jonsson was disfellowhsipped.

The Governing Body reaffirmed its position on 607 BC in *Let Your Kingdom Come* (1981, 186-189).

Jonsson along with co-author W. Herbst also wrote *The Sign of the Last Days When?* (1987) This book refutes the JWs belief that famines, earthquakes, pestilences, wars and lawlessness were exceptionally severe in the 20th century.

JORDAN RIVER
According to Rutherford the north Jordan pictured good-will persons who listen to JWs. The southern waters entering the Dead Sea pictured the "goat class" people who perish at Armageddon. (w1939 3/1 68-69)

JOSEPH, A.J. (1884-1964)
A convert to Russellism in 1905, who was "instrumental in establishing the Kingdom work in India." (Yearbook 1977, 119; w1964, 1/15)

JOY
"Joy" words are extremely common in WTS publications.

The word "joy" appears 11,372 times on *Watchtower Library* (2007), "joyful" 2582, "joyous" 501, "rejoice" 3571, "rejoicing" 1952, "happy" 13,556, and "glad" 2497.

Extensive repetition of "joy" words lets JWs know by implication that they're expected to tell one another and the public how happy and fulfilled they are irrespective of how they actually feel. The high rates of defection, emotional illness and child abuse indicate that the "joy" in the sect is nothing to boast about.

JUBILEE
The Law of Moses set aside every 50th year as a jubilee when all debts were cancelled, slaves released, and land that had been sold returned to the previous owners.

To Russell the jubilee foreshadowed "the great Restitution, the recovery of mankind from the fall, to be accomplished in the Millennial age." (Studies II, 175) This "great Jubilee" began in October 1874 and would last 1,000 years. The first 40 years would constitute the "harvest" and also the "day of wrath". (Studies II, 179-188, 234)

October 1874 was calculated by adding 50 jubilees or 2,520 years to the date of Israel's last Jubilee (ibid 180-182) which was in 625 BC. (pp 185-186) The calculations were "definitely established" (p.182), using "the correct key" (p. 180), with "the facts thus divinely established" (p. 187) with "proof" (p. 193).

In 1925 Rutherford taught that after 70 literal jubilees, i.e. after 3,500 years, the "great Jubilee" would come with "the beginning of the blessings promised..." (Comfort for the Jews 1925, 86) The promised blessings include, "man is fully restored to everything that Adam lost by reason of sin." (ibid p. 85) The 3,500 years ended with the end of 1925. (p. 86)

The original jubilees commenced with a trumpet call, which in Rutherford's "great Jubilee" is replicated with a "proclamation conveying knowledge". (p.87) The "proclamation" included distribution of Rutherford's book *Comfort for the Jews*:

> But now the day of jubilee has come and the day of Israel's warfare is done. The time has come for her blindness to be removed and for her to see what wonderful provisions God has made for the salvation of the Jews and for the establishment of them again in their homeland. (p.123)

Nowadays JWs believe the fulfilment of Israel's law about the Jubilee began at Pentecost in 33 CE (w1987 1/1 21) and extends to the end of the Millennium and refers to freedom from sin and its effects.

JUDGE RUTHERFORD
Joseph Franklin Rutherford (1869-1942) was a lawyer who replaced a judge in several court sessions. Throughout his presidency of the WTS he was commonly called "The Judge" or "Judge Rutherford" both in person and in WTS publications to give authority to his message.
(See: *RUTHERFORD*)

JUDGMENT (1929)
A book authored by Rutherford containing lots of criticisms of the "clergy".

He repeats his oft-made claim that the Russellites were "faithful Christians" persecuted "because they were telling the truth":

> In these days the clergy are the ones who opposed all persons who try to teach the people the plain truth of the Bible. They do not want the people to know the truth, because it would interfere with their wrongful course. During the World War they caused many faithful Christians to be imprisoned and beaten because they were telling the truth... The preachers strut about assuming great wisdom and warn the people to read nothing that is printed concerning the Bible unless it is endorsed by the clergymen. (p.18)

By 1929 Rutherford had changed hundreds of Russell's interpretations, which refutes the claim that they were "the plain truth of the bible".

Rutherford (and JWs leaders after him) have done what they accuse the clergy of doing:

> ...strut about assuming great wisdom and warn the people to read nothing that is printed concerning the Bible unless it is endorsed by the WTS.

A few more quotes:

> The clergymen ... do not try to feed the congregation upon the proper Word of God. Their interest is centered in themselves and they feed themselves on the things that please themselves. (p.14)

> Now the clergy try to hinder the people from getting the truth... (p.48)

> The clergyman is even worse than the stock gambler, because the clergyman claims to represent God but in fact misrepresents him and represents his enemy. (p.58)

JUDGMENT AT THE TEMPLE
To JWs this phrase refers to the divisions within Russellism in 1918: "Then in 1918 the Lord Jesus appeared at the temple for judgment." (w1950 8/1 229)

About 20% of the Russellites left the authority of the WTS in 1918 and reorganized themselves into separate sects. JWs claim that this fulfilled Matthew 13:41-43.

JUDGMENT BEGINS AT THE HOUSE OF GOD (I Peter 4:17)
Russell taught that this verse was fulfilled by Jesus' rejection of Christendom in 1878 and Jesus' acceptance of Russell's sect at the same time. (Studies II, 239; wr1892 1/15 1356)

JUDGMENT DAY
To JWs "judgment day" is not a literal day but the Millennium, the 1000 years of Christ's reign.

JWs believe most people will live twice — the second time by resurrection in a paradise Earth during the 1000 years where they will be judged by what they do then. (Insight II 1988, 138)

People who were irredeemably evil such as those who died in Noah's flood will not be raised — they remain unconscious. The resurrected who rebel during the Millennium will be executed. At the end of the 1000 years Satan will be released to tempt everyone a final time.

JWs keep changing their minds on whether the resurrection on judgment day will include the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. (Matthew 10:15) They've said Yes and No as follows:

- **Yes** — w1879 July p.8
- **No** — w1952 6/1 338
- **Yes** — w1965 8/1 479
- **No —** "A reexamination of Matthew 11:20-24, though, has brought into question whether Jesus was there discussing eternal judgment and resurrection. Hence, Jesus' saying that it "would be more endurable on Judgment Day for Tyre or Sodom" did not necessarily mean that those people will be present on Judgment Day. He could simply have been stressing how unresponsive and culpable were most in Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum." (w1988 6/1 30, 31)
- **Yes —** "This projected the matter into the future and naturally suggested that the people of Sodom and Gomorrah would then be alive by means of resurrection." (Insight II 1988, 137)

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
A group of three congregational elders formed to interrogate wayward JWs for infractions of "theocratic law".

They can call eye-witnesses, compel testimony and pass judgment. Each committee is case-specific and an elder may sit in several committees simultaneously investigating different accused JWs in sessions called "judicial hearings".

The hearings or trials are secret, hearsay evidence is permitted, the judges i.e. the committee members may themselves testify, nothing is put in writing, defendants are denied counsel or advocacy, and there is no presumption of innocence.

Judicial committees can disfellowship an offender, put him on probation, or impose other restrictions.

An appeal must be launched within one week or the sentence is final. The original judicial committee that heard the case selects the appeal committee.

(w1952 3/1 131-148; Preaching and Teaching in Peace and Unity 1955, 1960, 35-40; Your Word is a Lamp to My Foot 1967, 170-186; Organized for Kingdom Preaching and Disciple Making 1972, 154-182; Organized to Accomplish Our Ministry 1983, 138-152)

JUDICIAL HEARINGS
Judicial hearings are secret meetings of a "judicial committee" of three elders with an accused, baptized JW, to consider whether to disfellowship or otherwise discipline him.

In an article entitled The Historical Development of Freedom of Speech, *Awake!* magazine says the following:

> Freedom-loving people are hard-pressed to understand why some governments and religions would withhold this freedom from their people. It is denial of a basic human right, and many people throughout the world suffer under suppression of this freedom. (g1996 7/22)

The article goes on to recount that JWs in the twentieth century have been in the forefront of championing freedom of speech.

The fact, however, is that this Organization denies its own members the "basic human right" of free speech. It suppresses with threat of excommunication all public and private speech that does not affirm the rightness of the Organization.

A divergent theological opinion expressed privately is likely to be reported to elders and lead to a closed "judicial hearing" for apostasy. The elders function as prosecuting lawyers, jury and judge.

The accused is not permitted any independent witnesses or observers, and whether his theological finding was properly researched and is valid is irrelevant.

To treat new research-findings as irrelevant appears contrary to the NWT rendering of Proverbs 18:13 "When anyone is replying to a

matter before he hears it, that is foolishness on his part and a humiliation."

No records of judicial proceedings are kept. If the verdict is to excommunicate, an appeal is permitted but it will be under identical conditions.

The WTS judiciary system is designed to suppress any free speech that is not in harmony with official doctrine, and therefore resembles the judicial systems of dictatorships.

JUDICIAL PROCESSES.
See: *LAW COURTS AND ARRESTS*

JURY DUTY
Jury duty was permitted by Russell on the basis of I Corinthians 6:23 (wr1893 5/15 1531) but is not permitted to JWs.

JUST AHEAD
A phrase used to emphasize the nearness of Armageddon, the Great Tribulation, and paradise on Earth. The Armageddon of JWs is always "just ahead" but has always failed to arrive:

> The faithful remnant render themselves in full obedience to Jehovah's commandment and his organization instructions, and he is pleased to use them in the temple service and to continue to prepare them for Armageddon, which is **just ahead**. (Preparation 1933, 141)
>
> They are being warned as God commands, that the disaster of Armageddon is **just ahead**. (Salvation 1939, 361)
>
> All observe that at this very time darkness is in the earth and gross darkness is upon the people concerning the Word of God, and the whole world is in the very shadow of death because Armageddon is **just ahead**. (Consolation 1940 October 30 p.17 Australian Edition)
>
> Both the resurrected dead and the "great crowd" who survive the "Great tribulation" that **is just** ahead will need to drink the "water of life." (w1982 4/1 25)
>
> All of this is evidence that Christ Jesus has been our ruling King since 1914 and that he will successfully lead us through the "great tribulation" **just ahead**. (w1988 3/1 17)
>
> For decades, Jehovah's Witnesses have preached that the major fulfillment occurring in our time proves that we can expect a large-scale "great tribulation" **just ahead**. (w1996 8/15 19)

The "just ahead" phrases stimulate:
- JWs to reject college education or reduce their employment so as to go door-to-door more;
- Persuade interested people to get baptized and escape death at Armageddon.

Every time Armageddon delays beyond the lifetime of readers who read that Armageddon is "just ahead" it is proved irrelevant to them, therefore false. Those who read or heard in the 1930s that Armageddon is "just ahead" are probably all dead now. It was a false prediction.

JUSTIFIED
In Christianity justification refers to God's pardon of sins whereby the pardoned are counted as righteous. (II Corinthians 5:21)

The majority of JWs — i.e. the "great crowd" — used to be told that they don't need to be justified now or in the future. (Life Everlasting… 1966, 391) However, since 1985 the Great Crowd is considered to be "relatively justified". (w1985 12/1 10-11)

JUX, EGON
The architect of Hamburg's 3940-metre Köhlbrand Bridge which was opened in 1974 and spans the River Elbe. *Der Spiegel* reported the bridge as Europe's longest and identified the architect as a former Existentialist who became a JW. (Number 38, 1974, 127-129)

JW / JWs
An abbreviation often used by commentators, authors, and in this *DICTIONARY*, for "Jehovah's Witness(es)", but not used among JWs themselves.

With the word "leaders" added it refers in this *DICTIONARY* to the men who determine the policies and doctrines of the sect.

The leaders were Russell until 1916, followed by Rutherford until 1941, then Franz and Knorr until 1975, and the Governing Body since 1975. Also included would be the officers and directors of the WBTS until 2000 (which positions were filled until that date by Government Body members.)

Not everything attributed in this *Dictionary* to the JWs leaders was taught by all the leaders because their prophecies, doctrines and policies have undergone continuous change since the 1870s.

JW BROADCASTING CHANNEL
A studio at 30 Columbia Heights set up to transmit video via the Internet. The website said: "Monthly programs hosted by members of the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses and helpers to their committees." The first broadcast was in October 2014 featuring M. Stephen Lett. The studio was relocated to Warwick in 2017.

JW LEAKS
A website with copies of JWs documents and legal disputes or links to them.

The site was subject to a takedown order by a WBTS attorney in 2014 on grounds that the name "Leaks" suggests the site exists to facilitate the distribution of copyrighted materials making, "The inclusion of links to unauthorized copies of the subject materials … a contributory infringement of my client's copyrights…"

jwleaks.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/watchtower-v-jw-leaks.pdf

JW RESEARCH JOURNAL
A journal started in Everett (Washington, USA) in 1993, edited by Ken Raines.

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