DICTIONARY of JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

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MABUNDA, CLEMENT
A former JW in South Africa who founded a website called "Thinking Witnesses" to encourage people to "make sure of all things" and "analyze facts".

Mabunda got baptized in 2005, served as a regular pioneer and ministerial servant, started law school in 2013, began to "confront the empirical evidence", and mailed his letter of disassociation in 2015.
thinkingwitnesses.org/about/clement-mabunda/

MACAO
Publishers and Memorial attendance in Macao and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	7	53,571		
1975	7	53,571		
1980	13	28,846	44	8523
1985	17	23,529	51	7843
1990	30	13,333	76	5263
1995	86	5,116	202	2178
2000	116	4,310	226	2212
2005	129	3,690	286	1664
2010	200	2,723	394	1382
2015	310	2,074	715	899
2017	305	2,126	630	1,029
2018	346	1,904	765	861
	Ave.			
2019	345	1,948	810	830
2020	382	1,793	845	811
2021	402	1,699	1,138	600
2022	394	1,718	1,122	603
2023	367	1,850	824	824
2024	390	1,759	914	751
2025	425	1,619	859	801

MACEDONIA
See: *NORTH MACEDONIA*

MCFARLAND, ELIZABETH (1987-)
A former JW in Lorain, Ohio, who filed a lawsuit against the congregation in 2013, alleging that a ministerial servant sexually abused her for five years.

The ministerial servant committed suicide when McFarland turned 16 and she was later disfellowshipped.

Her attorney, Irwin Zalkin of San Diego, explained why the elders had done nothing:

> "Jehovah's Witnesses believe in what is called the Biblical Two Witness Rule," Zalkin said. "According to the Biblical Two Witness Rule, as they interpret it, unless the perpetrator confesses or alternatively there are two eyewitnesses to the abuse, they can do nothing about it."

www.newsnet5.com/dpp/about_us/legal/privacy_policy
www.newsnet5.com/dpp/about_us/staff/Reporter-Debora-Lee-biography

MACGILLIVRAY, A.
Alexander MacGillivray was a Scot who worked for the WTS for ten years in New York and then went to Australia in 1930 to manage the branch office in Sydney.

Under his direction the JWs work was opened in Fiji, Tahiti New Guinea, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Burma.

One night during the ban on JWs during WWII he was wounded by military police stationed to watch the Strathfield Branch Office.

MCGINLEY, A.
The author of *Attic Alone: An Ex-Jehovah's Witness Finds the Church* (2010)

The author tells of growing up in a JWs household in the 1940s, a household with alcoholism and various forms of abuse. She would routinely go to the attic physically or in her imagination to escape from her family or the JWs meetings, and in this way lived in two separate worlds.

At that time JWs opposed vaccinations as being against the law of God, but children by law had to be vaccinated against smallpox to be allowed in school. She tells that her father used drops of acid to burn a hole in her arm and leave a scar to simulate the vaccination,

and arranged to get a false medical confirmation.

She eventually became a Catholic and part of the book describes and defends Catholicism.

MACGREGOR, L.
Canadian author of *What You Need to Know About Jehovah's Witnesses* (1992) and director of MacGregor Ministries

Lorri MacGregor was a JW for 15 years until 1975 when she became a "born again Christian". Together with Keith MacGregor she founded MacGregor Ministries in Nelson, British Columbia in 1979. The ministry supplied mail order materials for reaching out to JWs and other groups.

MCLEAN, DONALD HOWARD (c.1923-)
A Canadian-born graduate of Gilead Missionary School who was assigned to Australia in the early 1950s. He was a popular speaker at conventions in Australia, a branch office overseer, and from 1985 a director and vice president of the WBTS of Australia.

MCLEAN, FREDERICK (1951-)
A ministerial servant who sexually abused at least eight girls aged 3 to 12 and became one of America's "most-wanted".

In 2007 NBC News reported:

> Last year, some victims' families filed suit against the Jehovah's Witnesses, alleging that both McLean's local congregation and the church's national headquarters, the Watchtower Society, "knew, or should have known, that Frederick McLean was a pedophile."
>
> The Jehovah's Witnesses recently agreed to pay to settle that lawsuit and eight other similar cases, without admitting wrongdoing. The cases all involved men the church allegedly knew had sexually abused children. The settlements for those cases are confidential and filed under seal.
>
> However, NBC News has obtained a copy of one of the settlements from the McLean lawsuit … the church agreed to pay $781,250 to the accuser, who claimed McLean abused her from age 3 to age 9. (Myers, L and Richard Greenberg, R. November 21 2007)

MACMILLAN, A.H. (1877-1966)
A prominent Russellite who joined the cult in 1900 and in old age was sometimes considered the "grand old man of the movement".

In 1918 MacMillan was sentenced, with Rutherford and six others, to prison and released the following year. Until his death Macmillan always supported the top WTS leaders through all their false prophecies and changes to doctrines.

He spoke at the 1950 "Theocracy's Increase Assembly" about Faith, and later authored *Faith on the March* a book endorsed by the WTS.

Below is part of a 1915 public speech by Macmillan titled *Hold Fast your Confidence*. We see in it some of the rationalizations for the 1914/1915 prophecy failures that became standard:

> 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, but perhaps some of the rest are not. It didn't come, did it? How about your confidence? You say, "Brother, my confidence is shaken because the things I thought would happen in the year 1914 did not happen."
>
> It seems to me if we get the proper focus on the matter <u>there is no occasion for us to lose confidence in the plan, the chronology</u>, or in any feature of God's Word. In the beginning, as we saw the matter portrayed in the Word, we thought the times of the Gentiles would end in the Fall of 1914. Then God's kingdom would take control of earth's affairs, and establish perfect conditions here. We looked forward to that with a great deal of expectancy. We looked for wonderful things to take place. Have they taken place?
>
> Yes, all that we could have reasonably expected did take place. We thought the Gentile Times would end in 1914, and it looks to me at this time very much as if they did. As the poet expresses it, "The Gentile Times have ended; the kings have had their day." The fact that they are still holding their crowns and their thrones does not interfere with the truth of the statement, for I imagine that

many of them do not think more of their crowns or their throne now than we would think of a last year's straw hat. They do not know when they will lose them, and their lives with them.

The Gentile Times ended. The things we expected to occur began right on time. At the present time we see the world in great distress. Our great statesmen and newspaper men, who keep in touch with the situation, tell us that the year 1914 was one of the most momentous in history.

Half of the nations of earth are at war now, and they are warring unto death… God has a controversy with the nations. He will judge the nations; He will weaken the nations; He will bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. That is the beginning of the great trouble. The nations are being weakened in preparation for the time when God will absolutely destroy every vestige of power and control that was vested in the hands of the Gentiles. As we look over the situation, it seems we have every reason to retain the confidence we had in the beginning; to have hope as strong and firm as we had in the beginning. It seems to me nothing has taken place to shake our confidence, but on the contrary, everything seems to be coming along in the proper way, and on time.

"But," says one, "didn't you expect some things respecting the church that did not take place?" I suppose some of us did. Perhaps others did not. "Didn't you expect to be taken away last fall?" Yes, I confess I did… (Convention Report 1915 Supplement, p.27)

The chronology that help Macmillan not to "lose confidence" was almost totally discarded in 1925, 1931 and 1943 but Macmillan still didn't leave the WTS cult. Only the 2520 years leading to 1914 remained although with the starting year changed from 606 BCE to 607 BCE when, JWs believe, the Babylonians demolished Jerusalem and Solomon's Temple. But that happened, as historians have shown, in 586 BCE.

MACMILLAN, WILLIAM, C.
One of the original seven directors of the Watchtower Society when incorporated in 1884.

An article by William C. MacMillan titled "Look We For Another" was published in January 1886. And in July 15, 1892 this letter:

DEAR BROTHER RUSSELL:
I feel that I want to do something in the vineyard of our Lord; but fear I may not be humble enough—or perhaps I am too ambitious, or may undertake "eye" or "hand" work, rather than that belonging to members of lower degree in "the body."

My health both physically and spiritually leaves me to a certain extent strengthless. Oh! how I do realize this—even more keenly spiritually than otherwise. The suggestions you gave me have found lodgement in my heart. I want them to remain there.

I want to ponder over them. I do not know just what the result will be, but I want to loose my hold on business at least to the extent that it has overcharged me with this world's cares. My first work will be partly to regain lost ground. While getting business in shape to get more time to devote to the Lord's service, I will have time to study and exercise my senses, both in getting an understanding of, and in defending, the divine plan (which embraces the glad tidings to both Church and world).

For want of practice I cannot make as good "music" on my "harp" as I could a few years ago. Then I had great confidence, so that I did not fear to meet and fight with a Goliath; becoming rather an expert with the two-edged sword.

How ashamed I have felt sometimes within the past year or two, when I realized that I was concealing my light, fearful lest some "Philistine" giant might get the better of me in discussion, if he saw and accused me of being "one of them." I am truly glad that I never denied my Lord, nor indeed ever denied being one of his disciples; but realizing that I had to a great extent lost my power to use the Scriptures in defense of my views, I often felt it prudent to keep quiet, when otherwise I might have improved a good opportunity for exposing error, spreading the truth, or putting to flight its adversaries. How thankful I am for the vivid glimpses of truth I had at different times while attending the Convention. I do not know to what to compare them—unless to what I have

seen at night, during a terrible thunder storm, as I lay in bed looking out of a window. A few flashes of lightning divided the heavy, choking darkness, and for an instant revealed objects such as trees, houses, etc.

These glimpses of truth seemed very, very distinct, and the impression they made remains with me. If the presentation of truth to the mind may be compared to the brightness of the sun at noon-day, these glimpses or pictures seen might be compared to the clean-cut flashes of lightning, even more dazzling than the brightness of the sun.

The feeling that always followed was like this: Oh, that I could always, constantly, have such clear conceptions of truth. Oh, that this bright shining, with the confidence it inspires and the love it enkindles in my heart, would remain. Then, how I could with confidence go into the vineyard, knowing that I would succeed—that I could hold fast, that I could stand, that I could overcome, that I could win the prize and wear the crown.

How sweet to leave the world a while, to retreat from its busy scenes, and to seek the fellowship of our Lord and the wise virgins.

In Christian love,
Wm. C. Macmillan.

(w1892 7/15)

MCMULLAN, ERIC

A JW in Valparaiso, Indiana, who was involved with the sect from the age of five for over 25 years.

On the website of the American Humanist Association he tells about JWs meetings, the ministry, and how he did everything cheerfully because it was for "Jehovah".

However, he failed to find comfort when his sister died when he was 27 and began to doubt:

> The elders, the men supposed to comfort me and support me, found time only for the occasional guilt trip. And then it happened – for the first time in my entire life, *I started to think.* As in *actually think* for myself! It was remarkable and gut-wrenching… Everything I had held on to, everything that I *knew* to be true, it started to decay.

McMullan was disfellowshipped in 2008. He writes:

> I can't encourage you strongly enough to seek help. It can be a support group of other former members. It can be a therapist. Something! You cannot lose your entire life and be shunned completely and find emotional, psychological, even *spiritual* health on your own.
> [americanhumanist.org/hnn/details/2012-03-on-jehovahs-witnesses-as-told-by-an-ex-jehovahs-witn…]

MCPHAIL, M.L. (1854-1931)

An early American convert to Russellism who in 1894 became the first full-time WBTS pilgrim.

He was an assistant author of the book *The Master's Call* (1901), author of the hymn book *Zion's Glad Songs* (1908), editor of the hymn book *Winnowed Anthems* (1916), and author of *The Covenants* (1910).

McPhail left the cult in 1909 because Russell vacillated in his doctrine of whether the New Covenant applied in the present age or in the future. McPhail, Henninges (who managed the WBTS's Melbourne Office), and others in America and Scotland — perhaps numbering 300 of Russell's 4,000 followers — formed the New Covenant believers.

MADAGASCAR

(Previously Malagasy Republic)

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

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	469	15,349		
1975	764	11,780		
1980	1,021	8,815	4,598	1,957
1985	1,994	4,948	9,028	1,093
1990	3,673	3,076	18,685	605
1995	6,788	1,781	30,300	399
2000	11,186	1,356	53,200	285
2005	15,701	1,089	80,200	213
2010	23,681	872	122,900	168
2015	32,400	770	131,100	190
2016	33,500	743	138,470	180
2017	35,080	732	139,600	183
2018	35,800	738	136,900	193
	Ave.			
2019	36,800	732	146,600	184
2020	34,500	802	104,470	265
2021	33,100	859	137,600	207
2022	33,800	863	129,300	226
2023	38,600	763	157,100	187

2024	41,600	768	169,469	189
2025	44,600	734	176,453	186

MADEIRA
Publishers and Memorial attendance on Madeira (an Atlantic island west of Morocco) and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	79	3,797		
1975	216	1,154		
1980	353	765	844	320
1985	496	533	1,322	200
1990	620	415	1,575	163
1995	923	277	1,965	130
2000	1,062	251	2,050	130
2005	1,132	216	2,097	117
2010	1,146	216	1,959	126
2015	1,192	217	1,935	134
2016	1,138	225	1,812	141
2017	1,119	228	1,834	139
2018	1,152	221	1,836	139
	Av.			
2019	1,149	221	1,868	136
2020	1,153	220	1,868	136
2021	1,171	214	2,164	116
2022	1,185	212	1,829	137
2023	1,177	215	1,846	137
2024	1,186	217	1,921	134
2025	1,199	216	1,904	136

MADZAY COLOR GRAPHICS
A business founded by JWs, John and Anna Madzay, in 1946, in Cleveland, Ohio, which produced products for the JWs ministry.

These included printed placards, lapel cards, Year-text banners, and "No Blood Transfusion" cards.

John Madzay's son continued the business in 1966 and grandson in 1997. All the employees are JWs "in good standing in their respective congregations."

Products now include calendars, notebooks, bookmarks, book and Bible covers, "organizers" to hold books, magazine and tracts, and Kingdom Ministry binders.

The Madzay website has a list of other individuals and businesses that produce and sell ministry supplies.

MAESTRE, JOSE (1956-)
A Portuguese JW who let a tumour on his lip grow until it obliterated his face because surgery would have required a blood transfusion.

The tumour began when Jose was 14. When he was 51 it was 15 inches long, weighed 12 pounds, blinded one eye, made eating an ordeal, and began blocking his airways.

Loyalty to his JW mother and her faith, plus a distrust of doctors, and fatalism about his condition were reasons Jose had avoided surgery. Other family members are not JWs and Jose also stopped going to meetings.

The Telegraph (2007, December) reported that new medical procedures in England offered hope of surgery without blood.

MAGAZINE ROUTE
A list of addresses kept by individual JWs of householders who regularly accept the latest *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines from them.

MAGAZINE SERVANT
The ministerial servant appointed by local elders to stock and dispense the *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines to publishers in the congregation.

MAGAZINES — PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION
The Watchtower and *Awake!* production and distribution statistics in millions of copies appear in the table below.

"Distribution" refers to copies sold or placed at doors or to "Bible studies". The shortfall with production is due to subscriptions, copies publishers keep for themselves, and discarded copies.

The Watchtower and *Awake*! Production, and combined total distribution
Figures in millions of copies

	W	Awake!	Total	Distr.
1914				0.10
1915				0.62
1917				1.50
1918				0.10
1928	1.47	2.00	3.47	1.38
1929			3.31	
1930	1.34	1.86	3.20	
1932	1.30	2.17	3.46	
1935	4.43	2.66	4.09	
1938	1.61	4.26	5.87	6.93
1939	4.44	4.93	9.37	
1940	7.22	5.49	12.71	
1941	8.09	5.81	13.9	6.22

1942	11.33	9.22	21.24	
1943	10.65	9.16	19.80	
1944	12.66	10.49	13.15	9.29
1945	14.73	11.08	25.80	
1946	18.86	13.93	32.80	12.00
1947	20.02	15.12	35.14	12.05
1948	19.22	14.38	33.60	11.38
1949	23.19	16.14	39.33	
1950	26.85	19.24	46.09	17.38
1951	30.26	21.42	51.68	20.05
1952	34.64	23.88	58.53	22.48
1953	38.32	25.39	63.70	25.12
1954	43.49	29.62	73.09	29.94
1955	50.86	35.73	86.59	36.50
1956	63.52	45.09	108.60	55.74
1957	75.44	61.01	136.40	--------
1958	86.14	71.43	157.60	86.50
1959	89.01	71.39	160.40	92.31
1960	90.9	79.0	169.8	97.1
1961	95.3	89.0	174.3	105.3
1962	100.4	90.7	191.0	112.8
1963	103.8	95.1	198.9	116.8
1964	111.2	104.1	215.2	127.1
1965	119.2	110.4	229.6	135.4
1966	118.8	111.4	230.2	--------
1967	127.5	123.9	251.4	143.6
1968	138.6	135.7	274.3	157.5
1969	159.4	166.4	325.8	186.3
1970	177.0	171.7	348.8	204.8
1971	195.8	192.4	388.2	218.9
1972	195.1	190.0	385.1	217.1
1973	198.2	202.5	400.7	-------
1974	236.1	235.0	471.1	273.2
1975			513.7	293.7
1976			515.3	279.4
1977			450 ?	-------
1978			422.3	216.7
1979	210.9	184.0	394.9	
1980	214.1	187.47	401.6	218.8
1981			421.3	224.2
1982			455.0	-------
1983			460.1	258.6
1984			503.5	287.4
1985				300.5
1988			582.0	-------

MAGDALENA, LISA (c.1969-)
A former JW of Margate, England, whose story appeared in the *Times Online* (UK), September 14, 2008.

Her father, Keith Playford, died when she was two after he had his wisdom teeth out and the bleeding didn't stop and he refused a transfusion.

She went door-to-door from age 6 and ran away from home at 16. She found a job then took to parties and drugs for four years as "part of a family". She got out of this at 22 and married, had two children. In her second marriage she survived Hodgkins Disease.

After that she trained in Jungian psychology and counseling, became a "Happiness Coach" and "Personal Development Counselor", and conducted happiness seminars.

www.culteducation.com/
www.lisamagdalena.com/meetlisamagdalena/

MAGNANI, DUANE (1947-)
A former JW brought up from the age of five by JWs parents. Magnani left the sect in 1974 and in 1975 founded Witness Inc. in Clayton, California with himself as Director of Comparative Religion Research.

Magnani has interviewed 1500 JWs and ex-JWs, written over 30 books including *The Watchtower Files* (1985), and numerous articles, and did research for videos about JWs.

Magnani has been consulted in over 125 USA child custody cases on JWs beliefs and practices and their psychological impact

A JW parent is required by his religion to raise his children in the ways of the sect but in marriage break-ups the non-JW parent usually wants to minimize its influence. Courts decide such disputes according to the children's best interests and this requires testimony on JW lifestyle.

Magnani generally testifies that the JWs lifestyle imposed upon children is emotionally abusive, limits their education, and may be physically detrimental. He has also been consulted in blood transfusion litigation by legal firms representing the hospitals.

Magnani has authored three studies on JWs lifestyle. One of these books, *Refutation of Preparing for Child Custody Cases*, responds to *Preparing for Child Custody Cases* written by WTS attorneys.

Magnani has been interviewed over 200 times by various media about JWs including *60 Minutes* (USA) and *The Fifth Estate* (Canada).

Many counter-cult and research organizations cite Magnani's writings as authoritative.

MAGOG (Ezekiel 37 - 38)
Russell taught that Magog referred to Europe and its allies. The attack by Magog on Israel was the final phase of Armageddon. Since

Magog is mentioned in Revelation 20, Russell concluded that the people of Magog would be resurrected at the end of the millennium. (Studies IV, 452-456)

When Rutherford, in 1931, reinterpreted the prophecies about Israel and applied them to the JWs Organization the prophecies about Magog needed revision too. Magog became the invisible realm of Satan and the demons. (w1932 179; y1975, 215)

MAITOZA, FRANK (1937-)
A JW originally of Newport, Rhode Island, who got baptized in May 1954. He writes:

> By age 19 I got married to a JW girl from Vermont. We moved to Glendale, California and joined the ranks of full-time Pioneers…
>
> … later we traveled to Stuart, Florida to serve where the need was great and I was appointed Presiding Overseer. It was there that our son was born. We had been married 10 years but constantly had put off having a child because we were assured of Armageddon's closeness … after 8 years we were able to come to the Escondido, Ca. congregation … and I was appointed to several servant positions over the years.
>
> I don't feel the need to share all the facts related to my disfellowshipping… As I drove home hours later I wept as I saw my life and ministry of 30 years dissolve. Whatever good I had done over the years, whatever sacrifices we had made, were all swept away as meaningless…
>
> In the end it was not "God's organization" that helped me get well but many years of psychotherapy with therapists who knew the art of unconditional positive regard and nonjudgmental empathy. Even though I had been reinstated, as I watched many young ones disfellowshipped for fornication or older ones with emotional needs, I began to realize that the only tool they had at their disposal … was to throw them out.
>
> It was then that I turned to my wife at the end of a Sunday Watchtower Study and said: "That was my last meeting. I will not be back."...
>
> In time my wife and I divorced and she too left the JWs… I continued on to college and graduated with a Masters Degree at 42 years old…

MAKE SURE OF ALL THINGS HOLD FAST TO WHAT IS FINE (1965)
An official WTS book with lists of Bible verses on various subjects.

MAKING YOUR FAMILY LIFE HAPFY (1978)
An official WTS book, one of the more sensible since it includes input from psychologists, authored by Colin Quackenbush.

MAKE KNOWN
Sometimes the Lord or Jehovah is said to "make known" or to have "made known" certain new JWs interpretations:

> In the June 1929 issues of The Watchtower Jehovah made known… (w1938 4/1 211)
>
> The Lord began to make known… (w1938 8/1 235)

The problem is that the thousands of revisions to JWs doctrines and interpretations include changes to what "Jehovah made known"!

MALAWI (formerly Nyasaland)
Publishers and Memorial attendance in Malawi and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	19,050	212		
1975	375	13,600		
1995	36,200	251	102,200	89
2000	46,500	219	150,800	67
2005	65,700	187	192,800	64
2010	79,200	165	256,200	51
2015	89,600	179	296,700	54
2016	89,300	200	291,100	61
2017	93,400	197	315,900	58
2018	95,200	199	339,700	56
	Av.			
2019	95,200	196	342,400	55
2020	92,200	208	285,100	67
2021	88,900	221	281,200	70
2022	91,700	220	305,200	66
2023	98,400	211	353,600	59
2024	105,700	205	414,900	52
2025	115,500	192	370,900	60

Russellism started in Nyasaland with Joseph Booth a fundamentalist Baptist from Australia

who arrived in Nyasaland in 1892 and was deported in 1904. (Thrupp 1962)

On his mission stations in Nyasaland Booth promoted millennial concepts of the Seventh Day Adventists and from 1908, using African intermediaries, prophetic speculations of the Watch Tower.

Russell's teaching that "The time of trouble or 'day of wrath' which began in October 1874 … will cease about 1915" (Studies IV 604, 622) resonated among natives who felt exploited by Europeans. They anticipated that a new order without European control would start amidst cosmic cataclysms around 1915.

Between September 1908 and June 1909 10,000 Africans were baptized into Russellism around Livingstonia. The main baptizer was Tonga tribesman Elliott Kamwana, formerly in the Scottish Livingstonia mission. He had moved to South Africa and in 1907 met Booth there.

From 1908 to 1915 many Africans lived in tense anticipation. A multi-tribal uprising occurred in Nyasaland in 1915 led by John Chilembwe. Chilembwe had spent 1897 to 1900 in a Negro seminary in Virginia (USA). After that he started a mission in Nyasaland based on Baptist teaching combined with Russell's eschatology which he learned from Kamwana.

With their hopes thwarted in 1915 many African Russellites organized into local cults that reinterpreted Russellism in various degrees. The movement spread and became known as Chitawala in Rhodesia (Zambia) and Nyasaland, and Kitawala in the Congo and in Portuguese territories.

JWs arrived after1930 and tried to recapture the African Watch Tower movement but met with only slight success. Some local Watch Tower cults openly fought the secular authorities who did not distinguish the African and American-led Watch Tower movements so that efforts to suppress the one carried over to the other.

Followers of Dr Hastings K. Banda, president of Malawi, inflicted serious persecution on JWs several times in the 1960s to force them to participate in local politics and about 20,000 fled to Zambia.

MALAYSIA

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

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	168	53,375		
1975	418	29,651		
1980	514	26,560	1,276	10,699
1985	763	20,242	1,964	7,864
1990	1,201	14,832	3,226	5,522
1995	1,653	11,857	4,226	4,638
2000	2,148	10,829	5,638	4,126
2005	2,615	9,991	6,880	3,797
2010	3,766	7,700	9,995	2,901
2015	4,897	6,328	12,539	2,471
2016	5,055	6,073	13,330	2,303
2017	5,069	6,214	12,780	2,465
2018	5,350	5,981	13,584	2,356
	Ave.			
2019	5,450	5,862	13,492	2,368
2020	5,548	5,886	11,611	2,813
2021	5,591	5,841	14,430	2,263
2022	5,591	5,849	12,301	2,658
2023	5,571	5,959	11,982	2,771
2024	5,650	5,908	12,315	2,711
2025	5,667	6,024	11,991	2,852

MALI

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

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 t0
1970	6	700,000		
1975	23	195,700		
1980	42	119,000	111	45,000
1985	51	137,300	194	36,083
1990	88	98,900	413	21,065
1995	154	71,900	584	18,949
2000	202	56,900	740	15,541
2005	234	52,500	859	14,309
2010	287	50,600	927	15,660
2015	295	59,700	1,163	15,133
2018	322	59,300	1,096	17,434
	Ave			
2019	330	59,600	1,345	14,616
2020	332	61,000	710	28,553
2021	344	60,600	994	21,982
2022	349	61,500	982	21,867
2023	350	63,200	914	24,186
2024	361	67,800	934	26,209
2025	341	73,900	861	29,268

MALTA

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

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	37	8,599		
1975	89	3,596		
1980	109	2,936	304	1,053

1985	301	1,180	570	623
1990	424	943	773	517
1995	535	689	877	420
2000	557	676	947	398
2005	544	767	1,038	402
2010	580	697	1,014	399
2015	692	605	1,192	351
2018	774	557	1,274	338
	Av.			
2019	748	660	1,344	368
2020	760	678	1,245	414
2021	800	645	1,430	361
2022	831	627	1,368	381
2023	843	643	1,416	383
2024	841	644	1,503	361
2025	867	629	1,508	361

MAN
Usually a reference to both men and women — humankind.

JWs disagree with religions that believe humans are composed of "body, soul and spirit". To JWs the soul is the same as the living person. Living animals are souls too. "Spirit" to JWs is the "life force" — a non-conscious force, apparently distinct from the biochemical reactions in living cells which decay away at death.

When people die what remains of them, according to JWs doctrine, is God's memory of them. Resurrection is the reconstruction of deceased people by God. Most people will be reconstructed or resurrected as bodies of flesh and blood and will live on this Earth. 144,000 people will be resurrected as ghost-like spirits and live in heaven and from that location be "kings" over the Earth.

JWs, until the 1990s, believed that each day of creation was 7,000 years long and "man", i.e. Adam and Eve, arrived at the end of the sixth day. The Earth, therefore, was prepared by God over a period of 6 x 7,000 = 42,000 years and humankind has been here 6,000 years giving a total of 48,000. (Let God Be True 1952, Chapter 15)

JWs who publicly rejected the 7000-year long days would have been excommunicated as stubborn opposers of the truth, until the 1990s when the Governing Body changed the truth in *Let God Be True* and made it false.

MAN CLOTHED IN LINEN (Ezekiel 10:1-6)
A Scripture fulfilled in Pastor Russell. (The Finished Mystery 1917, 421)

Rutherford changed the interpretation so that the "man clothed in linen" referred to the "remnant".

MAN OF LAWLESSNESS [or MAN OF SIN]
Russell regarded the "man of lawlessness" of II Thessalonians 2:1-12 as the "antichrist", the "apostate" church, the Papacy together with the pope. (Studies II, 272-277, 302, 355; Studies III, 95)

Rutherford variously applied it to the Roman Catholic Hierarchy (w1940 1/1 5) and to, "religious leaders and other opponents of The Theocracy". (Yearbook 1940, 45)

Franz applied it to "the clergy of a counterfeit Christianity". (w1983 1/15 14) He wrote:

> At 2 Thessalonians 2:7, Paul called it "the mystery of this lawlessness." It was a mystery in the first century C.E. because it would not be unveiled until long after the apostles' death. Today it focuses on the clergy of Christendom, who are more interested in politics than in declaring the good news of God's righteous Kingdom. Hypocrisy abounds in their ranks. Television evangelists of Christendom's Protestant sects are a glaring example: charlatans who fleece their flocks, build up multimillion-dollar empires, consort with prostitutes, weep crocodile tears when they themselves are exposed, and keep begging for money, always more money. Roman Catholicism's Vatican presents a similar unsavory picture, with its unscrupulous political connections, outward pomp, and corrupt banking practises. (w1990 1/15 18)

Such a sum-up of "Christendom" ignores that one of the biggest "multi-million-dollar empires" always "begging for money" is the WTS itself! (See: *CONTRIBUTIONS; ASSETS; CONSTRUCTION*) The child-abuse issue among JWs with 1000 abusers and 1800 victims in Australia alone, as discovered by the Royal Commission, shows that hypocrisy abounds among JWs. (See: *ROYAL COMMISSION*; *CHILD ABUSE*) And the goal of JWs leaders for world rule makes them "interested in politics". (See: *WORLD GOVERNMENT; GOAL*) Furthermore: "He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called God or object of worship…" (v.4) could describe the JWs leaders who demand obedience from followers even when obedience conflicts with the Bible.

This is not to say that II Thessalonians 2:1-12 is a prophecy about JWs or the WTS. Their

resemblance to the "man of lawlessness", as the alleged resemblance of the Catholic hierarchy to him, may be coincidental.

MANDATE
During the 1930s Rutherford taught that the "divine mandate" to produce children and fill the Earth applied after Armageddon.

Noah's three sons had children after the Flood and this was supposedly a prophetic picture for JWs to delay having children until after Armageddon:

> Those Jonadabs who now contemplate marriage, it would seem, would do better if they wait a few years, until the fiery storm of Armageddon is gone…
> …the survivors of Armageddon, who form the great multitude, will be righteous in God's sight and will be granted the marvelous privilege of carrying out his mandate first given to Adam… (Face The Facts 1938, 50)

MANDELA, EVELYN (1921-)
The first wife of South African nationalist Nelson Mandela whom he married in 1944. She became a JW in the mid-1950s and began to resent her husband's political activities. Religious disagreements and Mandela's attraction a young social worker, Winnie Madikizela, led to divorce in 1957. Nelson Mandela married Winnie in 1958.

A news report in 1990 said:

> Evelyn Mandela lives in the remote and dusty village of Cofimvaba, in the nominally independent black homeland of the Transkei on South Africa's southeast coast.
> She returned to the Transkei, land of her birth, when she retired from nursing after 26 years in Soweto.
> Her son Makgatho, 39 — one of four children of her marriage to Mandela — lives with her. Two children died.
> Daughter Makaziwe, 38, lives in Amherst, Mass.
> When Mandela stopped in Boston last weekend, he snubbed Makazewe, meeting only with daughter Zenani Mandela Diamini, 31, by his second wife, Winnie. Winnie and Nelson have a second daughter, Zindziswa Mandela, 30, in South Africa.
> Evelyn Mandela, a devout Jehovah's Witness, spends much of her time preaching in outlying villages…
> (USA Today 1990, June 28, p.2A)

MANN, W.I.
An Adventist listed as a contributor in the first edition of *Zion's Watch Tower*. He joined John H. Paton's group when Paton split from Russell in 1882.

MAN WITH INKHORN (Ezekiel 10:1-6)
In *The Finished Mystery* (1917) this Scripture was applied to Russell. In the 1930s Rutherford reapplied it to the Remnant. (See: *MAN CLOTHED IN LINEN*)

MANN, BOBBIE (1958-)
A former JW in Indiana (USA) who authored a personal testimony on the Internet titled *From Fear to Freedom*. She writes of hearing the "new light" as a ten-year-old in 1968 that Armageddon would occur in 1975:

> From that day on, we…never missed a meeting. We were constantly in the field ministry trying to bring as many as we could into the "truth" before it was too late, all the while hoping Jehovah would look favorably on us at Armageddon. School work or material possessions were of no importance to us. Just the basic necessities, because the time was short. For the next seven years, the elders were constantly talking of how we should be working as hard as we could for Jehovah, so we would be prepared for Armageddon…
>
> I can also remember the date December 31, 1975. This is one of those dates that will be frozen in my mind forever. The Watchtower Society had said that they could not see beyond 1975. This had to be the day. Mom made all of us go to bed early that night. By this time, there were six children. I lay in my bed wondering what the world would look like the next morning.

Bobbie Mann married in 1978 and reduced her involvement with the sect:

> The pressure that I got from the Witnesses and from my parents never ceased. I couldn't help but wonder that they could still believe this to be the truth after the 1975 prophecy, but I never asked for fear of being disfellowshipped… Sometimes depression would take over me to the point that I didn't know if I could go on another day.

She eventually met Paul Blizzard, another former JW, who helped her break free completely.

> That night we sat in Mr. Blizard's office and we prayed. I prayed a prayer I had never prayed before. I asked God to forgive me for all the years I had spent worshipping a religion and not him. I asked him to come into my heart, the tears flowing down my face. Instantly, I felt a release. The only way I can describe it is that I felt like a thousand pounds had been lifted off my shoulders.

When she met JWs again and ask about 1975 they denied the prophecy was ever made: "I could not believe my ears! I was speechless. How could they sit there and lie. I was there! I heard it."

The elders "formally disassociated" her.

MAN'S RULE ABOUT TO GIVE WAY TO GOD'S RULE (1968)
WTS booklet.

MAN'S SALVATION OUT OF WORLD DISTRESS AT HAND (1975)
An official WTS book aimed at old JWs born before 1914 who constituted the final generation before Armageddon whose salvation was "at hand".

JWs at the time of publication were confused because the prediction of Armageddon in 1975 was appearing dubious. (See: *DATES*) Many wondered that if 1975 turned out wrong what about 1914 and the last generation?

The book was intended to negate such considerations and encourage JWs not to give up. It taught that old JWs who had experienced 1914 were still part of the last generation and that Armageddon as well as "salvation" were still "at hand".

The phrase "twentieth century" occurs 16 times in the book to reinforce the official belief at the time that Armageddon would occur in the 20th century when some of the oldies of 1914 would still be alive.

In 1995 when almost all such oldies had died, the Governing Body changed the definition of "generation", in effect made it two generations. Perhaps those last oldies who were young in 1914 remembered the WTS pamphlet *Has Religion Betrayed God and Man?* (1973) and realized they were betrayed but were now too old and frail to do anything about it.

MANUALS
Manuals are small-circulation instruction publications intended for elders (or a subset of elders such as at branch offices, or circuit overseers, etc). Recipients of manuals must not let family members see them, and are prohibited from making copies, and have to return their own copy if they cease being elders.

Pioneers who attend an official two-week study course run by the WTS also get manuals that cover the study course.

Some manuals are marked "Confidential" or "No Copies To Be Made".

Individual publishers may receive manuals on issues that affect them such as *Preparing for Child Custody Cases*.

The following list of restricted manuals is not exhaustive. Many can be read or downloaded at: http://avoidjw.org/manuals/

- *Bethel Home Rules* (1916)
- *Bethel Home Rules & Regulations* (1930)
- *Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society Peoples Pulpit Association* (1916)
- *Dwelling Together in Unity* (1952) Instruction book for live-in volunteers at JWs Bethel Homes
- *Manual of Theocratic News Service Information* (1956)
- *Media Relations Manual* (2016)
- *Jehovah's Witnesses alternatives to blood transfusions* (1973)
- *Developing A Blood Conservation Care Plan For Jehovah's Witness Patients With Malignant Disease* (2007; 2012)
- *Blood Conservation Plan* (2012)
- *Preparing for Child Custody Cases* (1988)
- *Child Custody Litigation and the Christian Family* (1991)
- *Preparing for Child Custody Cases Involving Religious Issues* (2008)
- *Child Safeguarding Policy* (2011)
- *Jehovah's Witnesses and Child Sexual Abuse* (2016)
- *Child Safeguarding Policy of Jehovah's Witnesses in Australia* (2017)
- *Child Safeguarding Policy Of Jehovah's Witnesses In The United Kingdom And The Republic of Ireland* (2017)
- *Child Safeguarding Policy UK* (2017)
- *Suggestive Hints To New Colporteurs* (1912)
- *Shining as Illuminators in the World* (1977; 2004) A text book for pioneers for use in the Pioneer Service School

- *Fully Accomplish Your Ministry* (2014; 2016) A "Service School" course of instruction for pioneers
- *Pay Attention to Yourselves and to All the Flock."—Acts 20:28 Kingdom Ministry School Textbook* (1977; 1979; 1981; 1991) An instruction-course book for elders
- *Shepherd the Flock of God* (2010; 2012; 2015) Instruction book for congregation elders
- *Branch Organization* (1977; 2003; 2015)
- *Branch Organization Guidelines revisions* (2016)
- *Correspondence Guidelines* (2007; 2011)
- *Standards Manual American English Publications* (1998)
- *Literature and Magazine Request Guidelines* (2011)
- *Circuit Organization Guidelines* (2013)
- *Traveling Overseers Guidelines* revisions (1999-2003)
- *Circuit Overseer Guidelines* (2015)
- *District Conventions Operations* (1997)
- *Regional Building Committee Accounting Manual* (2007) 50 pages
- *Kingdom Hall Construction Guideline For Lands With Limited Resources* (2008)
- *User Manual for Regional Building Committee* (2011)
- *User Manual for Regional Committee Cardholder* (2011)
- *Watchtower Purchasing Card Program and Procedures For Regional Building Committees* (2011)
- *Kingdom Service Questions* For Congregation Committees (1961)
- *Insurance Manual for Congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses* (1980)
- *Kingdom Hall Manual* (2009)
- *Disaster Preparedness Plan* (2012)
- *Bible School for Christian Couples* (2014)
- *Ministerial Training School Manual* (2014)
- *School for Kingdom Evangelizers Office Guidelines* (2014)

Some WTS books have a restricted circulation not meant for the public, but are not called "manuals" and are available to all JWs:

- *Course in Theocratic Ministry* (1943)
- *Your Word Is a Lamp to My Foot* (1967)
- *Kingdom Ministry School Course* (1972)
- *Organization for Kingdom Preaching and Disciple Making* (1972)
- *Organized To Accomplish Your Ministry* (1983; 1989)
- *Benefit From Theocratic Ministry School* (2001; 2012)
- *Organized to do Jehovah's Will* (2005; 2015; 2016)
- *Research Guide for Jehovah's Witnesses* (2014; 2015; 2016; 2017)

MANWARING, DAVID R.
Author of *Render Unto Caesar: The Flag Salute Controversy*, 1962, University of Chicago Press, 320 pages.

Manwaring gives a detailed coverage of the JWs opposition to flag-saluting and, to a lesser extent, other controversies between JWs and governments.

The theology of JWs requires them to be loyal citizens only to the extent that disloyalty-to-God, as defined by "Judge" Rutherford and later the Governing Body, is avoided. JWs are primarily citizens of God's 1914 Kingdom as administered on Earth by the Governing Body through the WTS.

Manwaring gives a short history of flag-saluting in schools and of the organizational development of JWs. He discusses background issues such as the Constitution, the meaning of religious freedom, the limits of parental and state authority over children, and the "secular regulation" rule.

This rule influenced courts until the Supreme Court's reversal of it in the 1943 Gobitis case and says: "a person cannot be exempted [from obeying a law] on the basis of religion, if the law deals with a non-religious basis." (pinkmonkey.com/studyguides/subjects/am_gov/chap12/a1212202.asp)

MAP
JWs use street maps for their door to door activity.

Each congregation has an assigned area or "territory" to preach in. The territory is subdivided into sections large enough for a group or carload of JWs to cover in 1 or 2 hours. Maps of each section are prepared, based on street directories. Each group leader obtains a "map" from the elder in charge of issuing maps and organizes his group so as to cover all the streets and houses. The date the area was "witnessed to" is recorded so that the same map is not issued too often.

MARK/MARKED
JWs who do not fully conform to official standards but are not rebellious enough to be disfellowshipped are "marked". (w1985 4/15 30-31) This means that the elders warn the congregation to limit their association with such ones and be cautious in their company:

> If some refuse to abandon a disorderly course, the elders might have to alert and warn the congregation about the course or trait.
> We ought then to feel that we individually should 'mark' (2 Thess. 3:14, 15) any who are thus disorderly.
> If we do so, we would avoid social association with such ones, BUT we also should fulfill our obligation to help and admonish such disorderly ones, for they are still our Christian brothers…
> It is to be hoped that the "marked" individual will become ashamed. He may realize that it is by Scriptural direction that you are avoiding his social company. (w1981 9/1 21)

A marked person can still be greeted and addressed as "brother" or "sister" but is undesirable for social activities.

MARKED DATE

"Marked date" in reference to 1914 obscures the fact that all of Russell's predictions failed.

For example in 1969 we read:

> As explained in detail in the book *The Time Is at Hand*, published by the Watch Tower Society in 1889, Bible prophecy, including that at Daniel chapter 4, pointed to the year 1914 as a **marked date**. This was to be the end of "seven times," or 2,520 years of uninterrupted domination of the earth by the nations under Satan. It would be the time for the promised "seed" to take kingdom power in heaven. And indeed, the world war that came in 1914 as a start of the "pangs of distress" was a clear proof that Satan's system of things was now entering its last days. (w1969 10/1 589)

Actually, *The Time Is at Hand* did not predict a mere "marked date". It predicted world rule by the Old Testament Hebrew/Israelite "worthies" such as Abraham and Moses who would be resurrected to physical life in 1914.

These resurrected men would be guided by God's kingdom set up in heaven 1878 (not 1914) composed of "saints" (numbering 144,000) who, starting in 1878, would be resurrected as spirits or ghosts to heaven. Armageddon would be finished in 1915 at which time the resurrected worthies on Earth, guided by the spirits in heaven, would administer global restoration toward peace and paradise. *The Time Is at Hand* did not predict the "last days" for 1914 — the last days, according to the Russellite cult at the time, began in 1799 and would end in 1914/1915!

The underlined parts in the above quote are new interpretations that came years after the predictions of C.T. Russell failed. The comment about a "marked date" allegedly foretold in 1889, followed by a list of interpretations produced in the 1920s or later, tricked readers into assuming that the predictions in *The Time Is At Hand* are true. *The Watchtower* quote does not straightforwardly call Russell's predictions "true", "correct" or "fulfilled" but deviously sums them up as a "marked date" to nudge uninformed readers into wrongly believing they all came true.

The "marked date" and "marked year" phrases is a regular Governing Body strategy to mislead the uninformed into false assumptions. Governing Body member Fred Franz, who probably wrote the 1969 article, had 56 years of religious study behind him, which made him a knowledgeable deceiver.

(See also: *MARKED YEAR*)

MARKED IN THE FOREHEAD (EZEKIEL 9)

Interpreted by Rutherford in 1931 as people other than the remnant who survive Armageddon. After 1935 these became the "great crowd".

MARKED YEAR

Rutherford claimed that Russell had predicted a "marked year":

> The faithful ones studying carefully the prophecies and the chronology of the Bible saw that the year 1914 was a marked year, indicating that at that time some great event in connection with the kingdom would come to pass. (w1931 12/1 357)

However, Russell had not merely predicted that 1914 would be a "marked year" — he had predicted many specific events, all of which failed to occur. To hide the fact that every prediction failed, but to also not lie too blatantly, the JWs leaders have regularly stated that a "marked year" was predicted.

For example:

> They particularly heralded that the year 1914 was a marked year for the ending of "the times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24, *AV*) and for the time of the establishment of Christ's kingdom in heaven. (w1966 9/15 557)

> For over thirty-five years in advance Jehovah's witnesses proclaimed that 1914 would be a marked year. As early as 1877 their publications warned that 1914 would see Gentile rule interrupted by the kingdom of God. (w1967 5/1 261)
>
> We were right. 1914 was a marked year. (w1967 5/15 315)
>
> They expected great changes to take place, and the facts confirm that 1914 was, indeed, a marked year. (The Truth That Leads To Eternal Life 1968, 91)
>
> Jehovah's witnesses pointed to that year as early as 1876 in an article written by C. T. Russell and published in the *Bible Examiner.* Thirty-eight years later that marked year of 1914 arrived. (g1973 10/8 19)
>
> As far back as 1876, Jehovah's Witnesses realized that Bible prophecy marked the year 1914 C.E. as a time when major events would take place that would have far-reaching effects on human affairs. (True Peace and Security… 1986, 69)

Other phrases employed to obscure the failed predictions for 1914 include "year of great significance", "marked date" and "epoch-making date". The Russellites for example:

> …pointed forward … to the date 1914 as an epoch-making date in Bible chronology. (w1984 12/1 4)

The JWs leaders routinely claim that their forbears predicted a "marked year", thereby implying that they were right, when in fact all the specific predictions were wrong. It's a tactic to deceive uninformed readers into assuming that the prophecies were fulfilled although they were false.

> (See also: *DATES; GENTILE TIMES; KINGDOM*)

MARRIAGE

JWs were an anti-marriage cult from the 1920s until after World War II:

> …the great multitude will marry and produce children … during the reign of Jesus Christ. Should they marry now?… No, is the answer supported by the Scriptures. (w1938 11/1 323)

In the 1970s the advantages of singleness were still emphasized (without singleness being compulsory) because single publishers can focus more on "spreading the good news" and because Armageddon was so very near.

Distraction from preaching

The JWs leaders reduced their anti-marriage propaganda after WWII allowed members to decide for themselves. However, the counsel that marriage distracts from door to door preaching and that having children could make the trials preceding Armageddon worse (w2011 10/15 13) continued. For example:

> ... numerous couples have decided to remain childless ... to remain free to serve Jehovah ... putting Kingdom interests above some of the privileges that go with marriage... Jehovah will not forget their work, and the love they show for his name... There will be a great tribulation ... it will be difficult time for us adults and children alike ... (w2008 4/15 19)
>
> Although Noah's three sons were all married, none fathered children until after the Deluge. While this does not imply that it is wrong to have children today, many Christian couples decline to have children so as to become more fully involved in the urgent work that Jehovah has given his people to do. Some couples have waited for a time before having children; others have decided to remain childless and consider the possibility of bearing children in Jehovah's righteous new world. (w2000 8/1 21)
>
> If the expansion of Christianity was to come about mainly by childbearing, Jesus would not have encouraged his disciples to "make room" for singleness "on account of the kingdom of the heavens." (Matthew 19:10-12)
>
> How should Christians view marriage and childbearing today, in this "time of the end"? (Daniel 12:4) It is truer than ever that "the scene of this world is changing," or, as another translation puts it, "the present scheme of things is rapidly passing away."-1 Corinthians 7:31, Phillips. Now, as never before, "the time left is reduced." Yes, only a limited time remains for Jehovah's people to finish the work he has given them to do, namely: "This good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations; and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:14) That work must be

accomplished before the end comes. It is, therefore, appropriate for Christians to ask themselves how getting married or, if married, having children will affect their share in that vital work. (w1988 3/1 19)

Today there is a great crowd of people who are confident that a destruction of even greater magnitude is now imminent. The evidence is that Jesus' prophecy will shortly have a major fulfilment, upon this entire system of things. This has been a major factor in influencing many couples to decide not to have children at this time. They have chosen to remain childless so that they would be less encumbered to carry out the instructions of Jesus Christ to preach the good news of God's kingdom earth wide before the end of this system comes. (g1974 11/8 11)

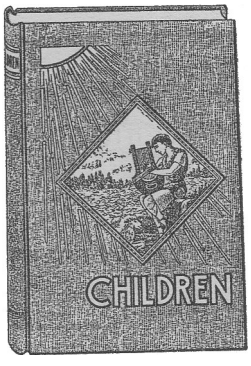
Rutherford's Divine Plan

Rutherford argued that the Divine Plan or Mandate to "fill the earth" applied after Armageddon. He regarded marriage ceremonies as a clergy racket to make money. He all but banned marriage among JWs. (Salvation 1939, 318-331)

Rutherford's book *Children* (1941) used fictitious 20-year-old John and 18-year old Eunice as a background to present "truths" regarding marriage such as:

Should men and women, both of whom are Jonadabs or "other sheep" of the Lord, now marry before Armageddon and bring forth children? They may choose to do so, but the admonition or advice of the scriptures appears to be against it. (Children 1941, 312-313; 280)

Hence, in the book, John and Eunice decide to wait a "few short years" till after Armageddon. (pp 280-281, 228) They would now be over 100 years old and still waiting. The "few short years" are a false prophecy.



Children was produced with the spirit of the Lord:

Children … has been accepted by all servants of the King as a gift from Jehovah… Children is an outstanding publication, and by the people of good-will it is greatly appreciated. The spirit of the Lord was poured upon Brother Rutherford when he was privileged to write this book.
…and when one has completed the book, if he is seeking meekness and righteousness, he will take the same stand and do the same thing as John and Eunice. (Yearbook 1942, 51-52)

Would it be Scripturally proper for them to now marry and to begin to rear children? No, is the answer, which is supported by the Scriptures. Referring to the prophetic picture: Noah's sons and their wives had no children before or during the flood, and none were born of them until after the flood dried up… (Face The Facts 1938, 46)

The Scriptures fully support the conclusion that the filling of earth is not due to begin before, but after Armageddon…
Those Jonadabs who now contemplate marriage, it would seem, would do better if they wait a few years, until the fiery storm of Armageddon is gone... (Face The Facts 1938, 47 & 50)

...mark the words of Jesus, which definitely seem to discourage the bearing of children immediately before or during Armageddon. (w1938 11/1 324)

That Delusion Called Love

God's consecrated people do well to refrain from marriage unless they find themselves continually tormented with desire for sexual intercourse, in which case they should marry. For those of the younger or older who have need to marry *on this score*, let them dispose of the matter in candor and honesty shunning the blight, the delusions and illusions of "love" so called and courtship, which bring reproach on the holy name of Jehovah. (g1937 1/27 268)

SOMEONE writes an anonymous letter to The Watchtower as follows- "*The Golden Age* recently published an article entitled 'That Delusion Called "Love"', in which a warning is given to

> God's consecrated people to shun love-making with the opposite sex because it is one of the things the Devil has fostered and, leads away from undivided devotion to Jehovah and therefore brings reproach upon His name. Many brethren would like to know whether *The Watchtower* is of the same opinion and would give the same advice to those desiring to be wholly devoted to Jehovah, seeing that this article puts the matter in rather a new light."
>
> Had the writer been studying *The Watchtower since* 1925 to date he would not have found it necessary to ask this Question. This is not putting the matter in "a new light". *The Watchtower* fully endorses the article in *The Golden Age*, above mentioned. The article gives the same advice, identically, to those who desire to serve Jehovah. There are two forces operating toward all persons: (1) Passion, which is induced by the influence of others upon the person that is influenced; (2) principle, or law, that is, God's law or rule of action, prescribing the way that is right and proper. Those who are devoted to Jehovah are governed by his law and follow his commandments. The publiccations of the Society for the last ten or twelve years have emphasized the very thing that is set forth in the article in *The Golden Age*. (w1937 3/1 77)

Untramelled by domestic cares

Russell wrote:

> Yet, with very rare exceptions, the consecrated can best fulfill their covenant by walking alone with God … untrammeled by domestic cares.
> (wr1893 7/1 1554; Studies VI, 509)

Russellite elders reflected this attitude:

> In view of the shortness of the time would it not be better to crucify the flesh with the desires thereof and set our affections more completely on the things above...
> (Convention Report 1913, 121-122)

After Rutherford's death Knorr and Franz at first continued to oppose marriage. They drew a parallel with the Bible characters Jephthah and his daughter. Jephthah pictured the 144,000 and the daughter pictured the "other sheep". Jephthah devoted his daughter to a life of virginity. (Judges 11) On this basis Franz concluded:

> …the Lord's other sheep ... must now remain a 'virgin company'. Hence marriage now was no part of fulfilling the divine mandate and was inadvisable according to the Scriptures.
>
> [The other sheep] are thoroughly in harmony with all such prophetic scriptures... They rejoice at God's gracious provision for them and are willing that whatever was pictured in miniture should be enacted completely toward themselves. (w1942 12/1 357-364; w1944 8/15 255-256)

Doctrine against marriage changed

The ban on marriage among Bethelites (workers at JWs headquarters) was amended in 1950 and couples who had worked at Bethel at least 10 years could marry. Knorr, the WTS president, was the first beneficiary at Brooklyn Headquarters of the new rule.

Thus most of WTS leaders themselves, apparently became "tormented with desire for sexual intercourse", and began to repudiate "meekness" and "righteousness" and the "gift from Jehovah", and married.

One reason for the doctrinal revision was that Armageddon did not come in the 1940s and new calculations implied it could delay until the 1970s — which was too long for most JWs to postpone love, marriage and sex. Another reason is that the Bible foretold the coming of hypocritical liars who "fall away from the faith … forbidding to marry" (I Timothy 4:1-5) and it was obvious that critics would in this recognize the JWs leaders.

The book *AID to Bible Understanding* (1971) states, "the inspired Scriptures have foretold a vicious attack on the family institution…" (pp 564-565) but omits to mention the clear role of the JWs leaders in this "vicious attack on the family institution"!

After 1950 Governing Body opposition to marriage decreased but WTS articles continued to be slanted against marriage until the 1970s. After the failure of Armageddon in 1975 a pro-marriage, pro-family stance was adopted and the JWs leaders urged people to "Honor Godly Marriage". (w1983 3/15 27)

In criticising immorality and child sexual abuse by Catholic clergy *The Watchtower* says:

> Many people feel that most of these problems would be eliminated if priests were allowed to marry… The Catholic Church, however, has forbidden priests to marry since the 12th century. Interestingly, when referring to the great apostasy from true worship that would set in after the death of the apostles, Paul wrote that "some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to misleading inspired utterances and teachings of demons, by the hypocrisy of men who speak lies…forbidding to marry."—1 Timothy 4:1-3.

JWs leaders readily remind people of the Catholic requirement that priests be unmarried. But their own "misleading inspired utterances and teachings of demons, by the hypocrisy of men who speak lies" — which they tried to enforce on **all** JWs not just on elders — is not mentioned.

Child sexual abuse by Catholic priests has sometimes been blamed on celibacy. However, the presence of tens of thousands of child molesters among JWs, after the sect stopped its attack on marriage, proves that marriage does not prevent child sexual abuse. (See: *CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE; ROYAL COMMISSION*)

MARSH, RAY (c.1923-)
Ray and Marilyn Marsh were an American married couple who left JWs after 50 years.

In 1985 they gave a testimony of their lives as JWs at the Witnesses Now for Jesus Convention, New Ringgold, PA. A condensed transcript was later published on the Internet.

Ray's parents were Methodists who got involved with JWs after his mother wrote to the Society in 1930. Marilyn's mother began attending a Russellite Class in 1911 at age eight. Marilyn's parents converted to JWs in 1931 after hearing Judge Rutherford speak on radio.

Ray was baptized in 1936, Marilyn 1939. During WWII Ray spent three years in prison for not obeying the draft orders.

They married in 1947. Ray began a radio and television career, and they had three children.

After getting information from Ron Frye and other former JWs they, in 1981: "walked away from the Jupiter, Florida, congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, never to return again."

MARSHALL ISLANDS
Publishers and Memorial attendance on Marshall Islands and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	55	351		
1975	156	161		
1980	150	167	529	47
1985	174	178	915	34
1990	167	265	1,058	42
1995	196	249	1,079	45
2000	217	298	1,251	52
2005	218	326	1,300	55
2010	186	347	877	74
2015	223	238	914	58
2018	226	309	793	88
	Av.			
2019	140	421	771	77
2020	112	527	462	128
2021	117	513	663	91
2022	119	504	708	85
2023	123	496	742	82
2024	131	420	651	84
2025	140	264	659	56

The publisher ratio for 2015 looks anomalous, probably due to a mistaken population total (53,000) compared to 69,000 in both 2014 and 2016. Also mysterious is the decline in publishers in 2019.

MARTIN, Walter R. (1928-1989)
Author of several books about JWs, and founder of the Christian Research Institute (CRI).

CRI was an evangelical Christian apologetics ministry and one of the pioneering organizations of the Christian counter-cult movement. It was established in New Jersey in 1960, relocated to California in 1974, and to North Carolina in 2005.

Martin wrote or co-wrote *Jehovah of the Watchtower* (1953), *The Rise of the Cults* (1955) and *The Christian and the Cults* (1956).

From 1955 to 1960 Martin was a contributing editor for *Eternity* magazine, writing on apologetics, doctrine and social issues.

Martin gave this statement of purpose for the CRI:

> The Institute's purpose is to supply primary data on all the cults, and non-Christian missionary activities, both here and abroad. It is the function of this Institute to index the major cults and to supply resumes of their origin, history,

and doctrines, with bibliographical material aimed at specifically evangelizing and refuting their respective teachings. (Wikipedia)

Martin delivered seminars throughout North America, utilized audio tapes, hosted radio shows, developed a library of books on cults, started a computer data bank of apologetics information, taught at Melodyland School of Theology, appeared on national television, and wrote booklets and tracts about JWs.

In 1977 CRI launched the *Christian Research Institute Newsletter* which became the *Christian Research Journal* in 1987 and covers apologetics, cults and theology.

Martin's critique of JWs is spoiled by over-use of emotive language. *Jehovah of the Watchtower* (1981), for example, has expressions such as:

- "Scriptural double talk"
- "absurd and plainly dishonest"
- "veneer of scholarship"
- "arrogant attitude"
- "hollow scholastic fraud"
- "egotistical pseudo scholars"
- "pathetic"

The book *Kingdom of the Cults* (1965) is similar:

- "pseudo scholastic material"
- "will not listen to honest biblical truths"
- "argue in circles and dodge artfully"
- "texts mauled and mangled"
- "fractured system of theology".

Such expressions are proper if treated as conclusions from evidence or as accusations for which the evidence is subsequently supplied. Martin, however, often does neither or does it inadequately.

Sometimes Martin uses emotive criticism in cases where JWs are correct and himself wrong. Regarding the translation of "parousia" as "presence" in *The New World Translation* Martin claims:

- "not one great scholar in the history of Greek exegesis has ever held this view."
- "denounced by every competent scholar"
- "it is simply not good grammar"
- "parousia can be translated "coming" or "arrival" in passages which speak of Christ's return the way all scholarly translators render it"
- "One could wish that Jehovah's Witnesses are honest … but they are not."

"Not one great scholar" — yet, the translators or compilers of *Young's Literal Translation*, *The Emphasized Bible*, *The Companion Bible*, and *The Concordant Literal New Testament* all say that "parousia" can consistently be rendered "presence".

Martin died in June, 1989 at age 60 but the CRI continued under a new president. Revised editions of *Kingdom of the Cults* came out in 1997 & 2003.

MARTINIQUE

Publishers and Memorial attendance on Martinique (an island in the Caribbean) and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	604	546		
1975	1,056	313		
1980	1,121	294	3,246	102
1985	1,885	174	4,848	68
1990	2,961	121	6,949	52
1995	3,828	94	9,314	39
2000	4,019	95	9,026	42
2005	4,215	90	9,392	40
2010	4,659	87	10,873	37
2015	4,820	82	10,613	37
2018	4,901	79	10,233	38
	Av.			
2019	4,688	80	10,317	36
2020	4,726	79	9,903	38
2021	4,956	76	12,145	31
2022	4,945	74	11,315	33
2023	4,814	76	10,497	35
2024	4,776	73	10,581	33
2025	4,763	75	9,981	36

MASTURBATION

"Some youths manipulate or play with their organs so as to gain sexual relief. This is wrong and can, in the long run, create other problems." (g1990 2/8 15)

JWs are supposed to avoid masturbating but the practice is not a disfellowshipping offence. (w1972 2/1 92-94; w1973 9/1; g1988 3/8 20-23) Elders are permitted temporary bouts with the problem but are supposed to step down if they fail to overcome it.

Your Youth—Getting the Best out of It (1976) says that indulging in masturbation is "weak" and can lead to homosexuality. (p.39) Also: "Can anyone rightly engage in the practice without feeling guilt before his Creator?" (w1972 2/1 92)

The same article promotes anxiety with reminders of Armageddon and by implying that masturbation leads to bad marriage, fornication and homosexuality. (pp 93-94)

"How Serious Is Masturbation?" (g1987 9/8 19-21) says it's not as serious as "gross sexual immorality" but will leave adolescents feeling guilty, ashamed, embarrassed, dirty, abnormal and unclean. Christians should fight against the habit and "if you are sincere, he [God] will give you the realization of a cleansed conscience."

Awake! 1987 advises self-control by avoiding the "mental fuel" of books and television programs that include immorality. It adds that masturbation is often a "tranquilizer" for anxiety, tension, depression, loneliness and stress but is "a childish way to react to problems." It is better to show "thinking ability and attack the problem itself." (g1987 11/8 18-20)

MATERIAL RICHES

JWs are urged by their leaders to avoid material riches. Yet their Organization is one of the largest organizations on Earth with vast "material riches". Sometimes this contradiction is justified by claiming that the resurrected heroes of the Old Testament will use the facilities of the WTS after Armageddon.

Similarly, Rutherford's holiday mansion, Beth Sarim, supposedly existed so that Daniel, Abraham and other Bible heroes would have a home after their resurrection! But the mansion was sold after Rutherford's death. (See: *BETH SARIM*)

MATURE/MATURE ATTITUDE

Words used to describe JWs who obey the the Governing Body and preach their doctrines and sells their books. (w1984 12/15 12-14)

JWs are "mature happy ministers" whose maturity leads to "increase in numbers". (Yearbook 1953, 29) To have ideas or opinions different to the WTS is incompatible with "Christian maturity". (w1985 5/1 10)

To be disappointed over the false prophecies is "not spiritually mature":

> There had been considerable speculation, and failure of some of these personal hopes to materialize could lead to disappointment, especially on the part of those not spiritually mature. (Yearbook 1979, 97)

Jesus did not discuss "disappointment" over false prophecy since his followers were to avoid false prophets, therefore would not be disappointed by them. He warned: "And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray…" (Matthew 24:11, 24)

MAURITIUS

Publishers and Memorial attendance on Mauritius (an island east of Madagascar) and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio1 to
1970	238	3,391		
1975	349	2,452		
1980	443	2,086	1,007	918
1985	747	1,318	1,637	601
1990	906	1,151	2,150	485
1995	1,226	883	2,803	386
2000	1,324	865	3,346	342
2005	1,536	746	2,794	410
2010	1,722	742	4,125	310
2015	1,815	733	4,124	323
2018	1,917	661	4,234	299
	Av.			
2019	1,879	676	4,322	294
2020	1,929	637	4,707	261
2021	2,030	605	6,710	183
2022	2,103	597	5,575	225
2023	2,088	582	5,017	242
2024	2,125	573	5,036	242
2025	2,131	563	4,841	249

MAYOTTE

Publishers and Memorial attendance on Mayotte (an island located between Malawi and Madagascar) and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1980	1	45,000		
1985	17	3,412	35	1,657
1990	31	2,419	88	852
1995	44	2,147	124	762
2000	64	2,146	140	981
2005	60	1,671	104	964
2010	70	2,714	183	1,038
2015	162	1,422	338	682
2018	177	1,469	358	726
	Av.			
2019	179	1,486	427	622
2020	181	1,508	349	782
2021	151	1,854	413	678
2022	146	2,233	306	1,065
2023	134	2,507	366	918
2024	144	2,229	363	884
2025	122	2,697	303	1,086

MEAT

Meat or spiritual meat refers to deeper teachings, additional to what householders are taught by JWs who visit them to conduct a "bible study".

"Meat" may include chronological calculations, the main study articles in *The Watchtower*, blood components acceptable to JWs, and doctrinal responses to other religions.

MEAT IN DUE SEASON
See: *FOOD AT THE PROPER TIME*

MEDIATOR
Jesus is the mediator only for 144,000 and not for all Christians. (w1979 4/1 31; 11/15 21-27; w1989 8/15 30-31)

> So in this strict Biblical sense Jesus is the "mediator" only for anointed Christians. The new covenant will terminate with the glorification of the remnant who are today in that covenant mediated by Christ. The "great crowd" of "other sheep" that is forming today is not in that new covenant. However, by their associating with the "little flock" of those yet in the covenant they come under benefits that flow from that new covenant. (w1979 4/1 31)

> He [Jesus] is the Mediator between his heavenly Father, Jehovah God, and the nation of spiritual Israel, which is limited to only 144,000 members. (Worldwide Security Under the "Prince of Peace", 1986, pp 10-11)

> While Jesus' mediatorship operates solely toward those in the new covenant, he is also God's High Priest and the Seed of Abraham. In fulfilling his duties in these latter two positions, he will bring blessings to others of mankind, for all the nations are to be blessed by means of Abraham's seed. Those in the new covenant are first blessed by Christ, the primary Seed (Gal. 3:16, 29), being brought in as associate members of the seed. Being made kings and priests by reason of the new covenant that he mediated, they will share in administering the blessings of Jesus' sacrifice and of his Kingdom rule to all the nations of the earth. Christ's mediatorship, having accomplished its purpose by bringing 'the Israel of God' into this position, thus results in benefits and blessings to all mankind. (Insight 1988 II, 362-363)

This doctrine of Jesus being the mediator solely of the so-called "anointed remnant" positioned this group between Jesus and the majority of JWs, the "other sheep". To know God the "other sheep" have to go through or rely on the "anointed". This doctrine, together with the claim that the "anointed" alone understand the Bible, functioned to make JWs spiritually dependent, fearful of doing research, unwilling to think for themselves.

The Bible says:

> For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all… (I Timothy 2:5-6)

MEDICAL ALERT CARD
An annually re-issued card, carried by JWs, which forbids administering of blood transfusion in the event of unconsciousness after an accident. (w1984 12/1 25)

MEDICAL QUACKERY

> The Journal of the A. M. A. [American Medical Association] is the vilest sheet that passes the United States mail... It is conducted meticulously on the principles of graft. Nothing new and useful in therapeutics escapes its unqualified condemnation. Its attacks are generally *ad hominem*. Its editorial columns are largely devoted to character assassination... Its editor [Morris Fishbein] is of the type of Jew that crucified Jesus Christ. (g1934 9/26 807)

> We do well to bear in mind that among the drugs, serums, vaccines, surgical operations, etc., of the medical profession, there is nothing of value save an occasional surgical procedure. Their whole so-called "science" grew out of Egyptian black magic and has not lost its demonological character...

> Readers of *The Golden Age* know the unpleasant truth about the clergy; they should also know the truth about the medical profession, which sprang from the same demon-worshipping shamans (doctor-priests) as did the "doctors of divinity." ... Hippocrates was the grandson of Apollo...

> Medicine originated in demonology and spent its time until the last century and a half trying to exorcise demons. During the past half century it has tried to

exorcise germs. Its methods are the same in both efforts at exorcism, and instead of injuring the demon or the germ, the injury is often to the patient. (g1931 8/5 727-728)

For decades the WTS in *The Golden Age* magazine gave a voice to quacks and hear-say and campaigned against medical science, ridiculed it, claimed its origin is in black magic, and advocated quackery in place of it, putting health and lives at risk.

The WTS was trying to show that perfect health in the Millennium was possible and therefore cited advocates of unorthodox treatments and gullibly took them at their word. Modern medical science and its discoveries were not promoted much because their origin and practice was associated with mainstream Christianity, which in WTS ideology was demonic and about to be destroyed.

The WTS:

- Campaigned against aluminium cooking pots, attributing to them many ailments including cancer;
- Denied that germs are agents of disease;
- Opposed pasteurization of milk;
- Promoted and approved of dubious treatments such as radionics, radiesthesia, iridology, Zone therapy (Reflexology), Grape Cure (for cancer) consisting of a diet limited to grapes), and
- Published the views of Homeopaths, Naturopaths and Chiropractors such as A.G. Eckols (who treated Rutherford):

"Dr. A. G. Eckols, of this city, and the writer gave been arrested, tried and convicted by the medics for having practised Chiropractic without obtaining a license from the State Medical Board. The latter will not give a license to Chiropractors, as they will not recognize any school or college of Chiropractic whatever. In other words. the medical men of this state are endeavoring to kill our science in California and to drive us out of the state. They are digging their own grave, however, and digging it deep." (g1921 4/27 437)

Against Medical-Science

The WTS's opposition to vaccinations is more fully documented under that heading. Below are some of the dubious medical claims that the WTS passed on to its readers:

One of the simplest [remedies] we know of for La Grippe and Typhoid Fever, especially in their earlier stages, is to put the bulk of a pea of cayenne pepper into a little milk, stir it thoroughly and swallow it. Do this twice a day for about three days. (wr1915 5/15 5689)

Few people know that the normal functioning of the bowels and a clean intestinal tract make it impossible to become sick...
A few minutes occasionally devoted to taking an enema before retiring is one of the greatest factors in promoting and maintaining a healthy condition of the body...
From four to six quarts of warm water injected into the colon is what constitutes an internal bath. It should be taken every day for at least six months... (g1920 3/31 437-438)

It has been discovered that many dentifrice's, widely advertised, widely used, and alleged to be excellent for the teeth and gums, are the principal cause of the disease pyorrhea, which is ... causing millions of people to lose their teeth long before they need to...
Take the advice of THE GOLDEN AGE; discontinue all other dentifrice's, use the cheapest and best dentifrice in the world, [brush teeth with] common baking soda, and be forever free from pyorrhea. (g1921 6/8 534)

Vaccination summed up is the most unnatural, unhygienic, barbaric, filthy, abhorrent, and most dangerous system of infection known. Its vile poison, taints, corrupts, and pollutes the blood of the healthy, resulting in ulcers, syphilis, scrofula, erysipelas, tuberculosis, cancer, tetanus, insanity, and death. (g1923 1/3 214)

But the dog-rabies-vaccine imposition is the latest... When it has been shown conclusively that there is no such thing as rabies! (g1923 1/1 214)

It has never been proven that a single disease is due to germs. (g1924 1/16, 250)

Needless to state, if ten thousand doctors swore on ten thousand Bibles that aluminum ware is harmless to human beings, I would not believe them for my own experience has proved that it is a deadly but very slow and insidious poison... (g1928 7/25 695)

If the organs are diseased, heal them by correcting your diet. Avoid the use of aluminum cooking utensils and alum baking powders as they are injurious to your health, poisoning your blood stream and causing a large percentage of the stomach trouble that we are afflicted with today.
Sleep on the right side or flat on your back, with the head toward the north so as to get benefit of the earth's magnetic currents.
Avoid serum inoculations as they pollute the blood stream with their filthy pus.
(g1929 11/12 107)

Dr. W.G. Scott … said to me, in effect : "I have attended thousands of smallpox cases, the vaccinated and the unvaccinated, and one had the disease as bad as the other…" (g1828 7/25 695)

All human ailments have their start in the intestines. If these do their work properly the man is a well and happy man…
The posture above indicated is essential for proper evacuation. The knees against the chest thrust the thighs in against the abdominal cavity, open the rectum, straighten out the sigmoid flexure, and with proper food, i.e. little or no white bread, and little or no food cooked in aluminum, make evacuation natural, easy, voluminous and enjoyable. (g1928 11/28 133)

Quite likely there is some connection between the violation of human blood [by vaccines] and the spread of demonism... (g1931 2/4 293)

It was noted that some contracted general systemic poisoning by the ingestion of aluminum which dissolved from their cooking utensils or was taken into the body by drinking faucet water or eating baked goods containing alum (aluminum) baking powders. Many were completely cured by no other therapy than discontinuing the use of aluminum cooking utensils and alum products. (g1935 2/27 343)

Scalded milk, for either adults or children, is very constipating. This in turn causes more deaths and resulting ailments than do all other causes combined, I surely believe. (g1929 7/24 682)

We do well to bear in mind that among the drugs, serums, vaccines, surgical operations, etc., of the medical profession, there is nothing of value save an occasional surgical procedure. Their so-called "science" grew out of Egyptian black magic and has not lost its demonological character. By their own admissions, more deaths are caused by their practices in this country than from any other cause. (g1931 8/5 727-728)

Hydrophobia (Rabies) is more of a mental hoax than a reality. (g1936 9/23 814)

Far from being a public benefactor, Pasteur's teachings have cost untold millions in health and they have destroyed unnumbered lives in the world... Pasteurization of milk is only good to preserve it, but bad for the consumer... (g1936 9/23 814)

Acetylsalicylic acid, aspirin, is potentially a dangerous drug, and its unqualified use as a home remedy is a menace to good health, and should be discouraged. (g1936 9/23 822)

Some Weird Therapies Endorsed by WTS

Cancer cure

Russell Has Cancer Cure:
"Pastor" Russell's latest beneficence on behalf of mankind is the propagation of an alleged cure for cancer…
Those who write for the cure receive the following:
"One ounce of chloride of zinc, granulated, dissolved in as little water as possible, and bottle the liquid.
"Take a little plain wheat flour, just enough to constitute a dough, or paste-plaster for the surface cancer. Make the dough, or paste, with the flour and the zinc solution. Change four times daily, making a fresh little plaster each time.
"The claimed effect is that the contact kills the cancer…"
(Brooklyn Daily Eagle, 1913 August 22, p.3)

Electronic Radio Biola

The Electronic Radio Biola, which means life renewed by radio waves or electrons. The Biola automatically diagnoses and treats diseases by the use of the electronic vibrations. The diagnosis is 100 percent correct rendering better service in this respect than the most experienced diagnostician. (g1925 4/22 453-455)

Radium

The Golden Age promoted the medical use of Radium to cure a range of illnesses and to destroy cancer cells:

> THE article by Dr. Coolidge concerning the application of radium as a vital force is interesting to me. About a year ago I suffered from *a* severe case of pleuro-pneumonia, and Dr. Coolidge was my physician. During the period of convalescence he provided me with a radio-solar pad, or belt, which I wore with great profit to myself. I have since recommended it to others, who have likewise benefited by it.
> This pad I understand is manufactured by the Radium Appliance Company of Los Angeles, California, and the process of manufacture is to diffuse through a mass of paste by the power of electricity a small quantity of radium, and out of this the pad is manufactured. If the pad is held in the sunlight for five minutes, it can be taken into a dark room and will photograph itself. In other Words, it absorbs the energy of the sun and transmits that to the human system. I believe that this will prove very beneficial to humanity; and so recognizing it, I am glad to call attention to it.
> (By J.F. Rutherford g1920 6/23 607)

An ad for radium was published in 1921:

> Will Radium At Last Open
> The Door Of The Great Unknown?
>
> If you are sick and want to Get Well and Keep Well write for literature that tells How and Why this almost unknown and wonderful new element brings relief to so many sufferers from Rheumatism, Sciatica, Gout, Neuritis, Neuraligia, Nervous Prostration, High blood pressure and diseases of the Stomach, Heart, Lungs, Liver, Kidneys and other ailments. You wear this Radio-Active Solar Pad day and night, receiving the Radio-Active Rays continuously into your system, causing a healthy circulation, overcoming sluggishness, throwing off impurities and restoring the tissues and nerves to a normal condition—and the next thing you know you are getting well…
>
> For full information write today—not tomorrow—to the nearest office:
> [Three addresses here supplied]
> (g1921 1/19 239)

g1921 2/2 258-259 says radium cures cancer and page 260 reports it's even endorsed by demons:

> The demons that infest the atmosphere of our earth … are said to have made the statement, either through the Ouija boards which they operate, or through so-called spiritualist mediums whom they control, that in the discovery of Radium humanity has come very close to the secret of life. Of course these "lying spirits", as the Scriptures call them, cannot be trusted; and yet even a liar will sometimes tell the truth, so that the may have the greater influence when he does lie…
> All this is an indication that the dawn of the Golden Age is breaking upon the world.

Another ad for the Radio Active Pad plus an endorsement by a customer "well pleased" with it appeared in g1921 5/11 480.

Bloodguilt

The WTS argues that religions whose members fight in wars or accept blood transfusions are "bloodguilty" before God and to avoid bloodguilt people should leave those religions:

> The Scriptures show that if we are part of any organization that is bloodguilty before God, we must sever our ties with it if we do not want to share in its sins. (Rev. 18;4, 24: Mic. 4:3)
> (United in Worship of the Only True God, 1983, p.155; w1978 6/15 25)

Until the 1950s JWs must have suffered much needless illness and even deaths due to their leaders condoning and promoting medical quackery and criticising medical science. Are those leaders therefore "bloodguilty"?

(See also: *ALUMINIUM*; *GERM THEORY*; *VACCINATION*)

MEEK SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH, THE (1945)

This booklet begins with the claim that the Catholic Church launched World War II:

> …for the purpose of setting up again the so-called Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, but this time on a global scale. (p.5)

The Catholic scheme will fail, however, because the "Theocratic Government" began in 1914 (p.11) and will rule via the "capital organization" (p.26) i.e. the JWs Organization

of corporations, branches congregations, etc. After Armageddon will come the resurrection of "somewhat over 20 billions".

In short, there won't be a Catholic empire on a "global scale", rather a JWs empire!

MEETING FOR SERVICE

Publishers preparing to go door to door usually begin with a 10 to 20 minutes meeting. They discuss the *Daily Text*, discuss what to say to the householders, and say a prayer.

MEETINGS 1 — 1870s-1880s

Russell attended Advent Christian Church meetings led by George Storrs and George Stetson in the early 1870s.

Meetings as a separate group from the Advent Christian Church may have started by 1874. Whether Russell at this stage was the leader is unknown.

By 1879 Russell's followers were an independent, distinct group. A Lord's supper commemoration at Conley's house is mentioned in wr1880 April. Meetings also took place at Russell's home. In 1881 they were using a hall.

Three meetings each week

The group held three regular weekly meetings:

1. The "Dawn Circles" for studying Russell's books were usually on Friday;
2. On Sundays there were public talks;
3. Prayer, praise and testimony meetings, usually on Wednesday night, consisted of individuals narrating their experiences in overcoming problems, field (proselytising) experiences, and evidences of God's help. This meeting included songs and prayers.

Rutherford in the 1920s introduced the "Watchtower study" in which the "company" or congregation studied *Watchtower* articles. The study conductor would read out the question for each paragraph. Someone would answer the question by quoting from the paragraph and then the paragraph was read aloud. The Sunday Bible lectures of Russell's time were discontinued and replaced by a "Service Meeting" at which people received instructions on how to distribute WTS literature. There was also a weekly book study of Rutherford's books.

Five meetings on three weekly occasions

After Rutherford died, a two-hour weekend meeting consisted of a public discourse (one hour) followed by a study of a *Watchtower* article. The question(s) at the bottom of each page were asked by the study-conductor, and audience members wanting to answer raised a hand. One or more were chosen to answer each question and then the paragraph was read by a second person on the platform pre-selected for that purpose. Since 1980 the paragraphs are read first, before the question is answered.

The "Book Study", usually Monday or Tuesday evening, was a one-hour study of a WTS publication in groups of about ten in private homes. It followed the same procedure as the Watchtower study — a "study conductor" asked the set questions at the bottom of the page, those present raised their hands to answer, followed by a previously assigned "brother" reading the paragraph aloud.

The "Theocratic Ministry School" (formerly called "Kingdom Ministry School") followed by the "Service Meeting" was a two-hour, mid-week, evening meeting at the Kingdom Hall. The former consisted of short discussions by publishers as practice for door to door preaching. The latter consisted of talks by elders and servants about doctrine, organizational procedures, preaching campaigns, and instructions on offering material at doors.

Thus, until 2008 there were five one-hour meetings per week held on three occasions.

Five meetings on two occasions each week

To reduce the stress on publishers the meeting times were reduced in 2009.

In January 2009 the Book Study was renamed "Congregation Bible Study", reduced to 25 minutes, and tacked onto the mid-week evening meeting at the Kingdom Hall. There were still five meetings per week but now on two occasions rather than three and also shorter.

The mid-week meeting as of January 2009 consists of:

1. Congregation Bible Study (the new name for the "book study") 25 minutes;
2. Theocratic Ministry School 30 minutes;
3. Service Meeting 35 minutes.

With 5-minute introductions and songs for each segment, and concluding comments and final song after the Service Meeting, the total time is 1¾ hours.

The reduction of trips to meetings from three to two per week was announced as a concession to the increased pressures of modern life.

The book study meetings had usually taken place in private homes, were more informal than Kingdom Hall meetings, and sometimes speculative discussion occurred (which the Governing body doesn't want). A habit of absence, with attendances at the book study in decline, could also carry over to other meetings. Making the book study part of the main midweek meeting reduced such problems and increased book-study attendance. The question of liability in the event of theft, violence, injury or sexual abuse at a meeting in private homes was probably also an issue.

MEMBERSHIP LOSSES
See: *DEFECTION*

MEMORIAL
A once-yearly meeting to commemorate the death of Christ, equivalent to the Eucharist or Lord's Supper in Christian denominations.

Until 1879 Russellites celebrated the Memorial every few weeks; after that yearly.

The annual commemoration corresponds to the date of the Jewish Passover, Nisan 14 and takes place after sunset usually on the full moon near Easter:

> The date is calculated by counting 14 days from the new moon nearest to the Spring Equinox, March 21-22, as it would be visible at Jerusalem in the land of Palestine. (Organized to Accomplish Our Ministry 1983, 80)

The unleavened bread and the wine represent the body and blood of Jesus. (Studies VI, 463-479) The *New World Translation* translates "this is my body" as "This means my body." Russell allowed the juice of boiled raisins to be substituted for any "saints" for whom wine might kindle temptation to drunkenness. (w1891 March, p.1292)

JWs believe that only members of the 144,000 who will rule with Christ in heaven should partake of the wine and unleavened bread.

Until 1935 all JWs were of the "remnant of the 144,000" and all partook. In 1935 the doctrine was introduced that the opportunity to go to heaven ended in 1935 — the door is closed — and that new converts thenceforth belong to the "great crowd" who get eternal life on Earth.

In 1935 the "great crowd" with an "earthly hope" began to be converted. These attend the Memorial as observers and do not partake.

People studying with JWs are also invited to the Memorial to observe. Invitation leaflets are also distributed to the general public but very few of these attend.

Memorial attendance and partakers since 1935:

Year	Attendance	Partakers
1935	63,000	52,465
1938	69,000	36,732
1940	97,000	27,620
1950	511,000	22,723
1960	1,520,000	13,911
1970	3,226,000	10,526
1975	4,926,000	10,550
1980	5,727,000	9,564
1985	7,792,000	9,051
1990	9,950,000	8,869
1995	13,147,000	8,645
2000	14,872,000	8,661
2005	16,383,000	8,524
2006	16,675,000	8,758
2007	17,672,000	9,105
2008	17,791,000	9,986
2009	18,168,000	10,857
2010	18,707,000	11,202
2011	19,375,000	11,824
2012	19,013,000	12,604
2013	19,241,000	13,204
2014	19,950,000	14,121
2015	19,863,000	
2016	20,085,000	18,013
2017	20,175,000	18,564
2018	20,329,000	
2019	20,919,000	20,526
2020	17,845,000	21,182
2021	21,368,000	20,746
2022	19,722,000	21,150
2023	20,462,000	
2024	21,119,000	23,212
2025	20,635,000	

The number of partakers was supposed to keep on declining until Armageddon — the increase since 2005 is therefore contrary to prophecy. Also with the door closed in 1935 except to replace a few who became "apostates" the numbers at the turn of the century should have been down to a few hundred. Therefore, statistically and theologically, almost all partakers by 2000 CE were frauds and the thousands added since then are also frauds.

There were 52,000 partakers in 1935 plus thousands in the 1st century when all Christians according to JWs theology partook, plus others in every intervening century. Further increase beyond the 23,000 in 2024 could bring the absolute total past 144,000, refuting the JWs doctrine that only 144,000 go to heaven.

[See also: *REMNANT; MORDECAI CLASS; ONE HUNDRED & FORTY FOUR THOUSAND*]

MEMORIAL PARTAKER(S)

JWs who partakes of the bread and wine at the annual Memorial of Jesus' death. Most people who attend the Memorial are of the "great crowd" and do not partake:

> So, then, at the celebration of the memorial of Christ's death, only those who make up "the Israel of God" should partake of the emblems of bread and wine. This body of spiritual Israelites will number 144,000, who will rule with Christ in his heavenly Kingdom. (Revelation 14:1) On the other hand, the vast international company of "other sheep," who do not partake, will enjoy everlasting life on the Paradise earth, receiving the benefits of the Kingdom rule. (w1983 3/15 9)

"Memorial partakers" are members of the 144,000. JWs believe that in 1918 the dead among the 144,000 — i.e. those who died in the previous 19 centuries — were raised to life in heaven to be with God; but those who die since 1918 go to heaven straight away.

The Memorial partakers were collectively also, according to JWs doctrine, the "faithful and discreet slave" and Jehovah's end-time prophet. (See: *FAITHFUL SLAVE*)

In 1935 God ended the "call" to join the 144,000 and the door to heaven was shut — except to replace a few of the 144,000 who left the sect.

Prior to 1935 all baptized members at the Memorial partook of the bread and wine; visitors from the public may have abstained:

Attendance at the Memorial to 1935

1900	3,000	1923	42,000
1905	5,500	1924	63,000
1910	11,000	1925	90,000
1915	15,000	1926	89,000
1917	21,000	1927	88,000
1919	18,000	1928	17,000
1920	22,000	1935	63,000
1922	33,000	-------	--------

Other denominations reject the idea of two classes of Christians and believe <u>all</u> believers should partake of the bread and wine. They quote John 6:53-57:

> Accordingly Jesus said to them: "Most truly I say to YOU, Unless YOU eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, YOU have no life in yourselves. He that feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has everlasting life, and I shall resurrect him at the last day; for my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink...

JWs reply that all 1st century Christians were of the 144,000 and were in "covenant for a kingdom" to rule/reign with Christ. To "rule" implies there would be subjects to rule over, hence a second category of the saved.

MEMORIAL PARTAKERS INCREASING

The 144,000 who go to heaven as ghostly "spirits" to rule with Jesus were chosen from 33 CE to 1935 when God [Rutherford] closed the door to heaven except to replace a few unfaithful ones:

> For 19 centuries there was only the one calling, the heavenly one, with Jehovah being very selective as to who would serve with his Son to make up the Kingdom government. *Many would be invited but only a precious few chosen*. (Matthew 22:2, 14) In time the prescribed but limited number of 144,000 would be reached. After this no more would be anointed by holy spirit as witness that they had the heavenly hope, unless, in a rare occurrence, the unfaithfulness of one of the remaining 'chosen ones' made a replacement necessary." (w1982 2/15 30)

> Logically, the calling of the little flock would draw to a close when the number was nearing completion, and the evidence is that the general gathering of these specially blessed ones ended in 1935. (w1995 2/15 19)

Continual decrease until they die out

This doctrine implied that the number of partakers at the Memorial should decline continually from 1935 onwards as they died off. JWs also believed that some would still be alive at Armageddon and for a while afterwards. Therefore the yearly decrease was viewed as a further proof of the nearness of Armageddon.

> Six Convincing Lines of Evidence" that we are in the Last Days…
> Sixth, the number of genuine anointed disciples of Christ is dwindling, though some will evidently still be on earth when the great tribulation begins... Most of the remnant are quite elderly, and over the years the number of those who are truly anointed has been getting smaller. (w2000 1/15 13)

The entry *MEMORIAL* reveals that the "remnant" stopped decreasing after 2000 CE and since 2006 has increased. The preceding quotes, by predicting that the anointed should be getting fewer, imply that almost all of the new partakers are frauds not "truly anointed".

They may also be emotionally disturbed:

> Over the years some, even ones newly baptized, have suddenly begun to partake. In a number of cases, after a while they acknowledged that this was an error. Some have recognized that they partook as an emotional response to perhaps physical or mental strain. But they came to see that they really were not called to heavenly life… There is every reason to believe that the number of anointed ones will continue to decline as advanced age and unforeseen occurrences end their earthly lives. (w1996 8/15 31)

With partakers increasing and even including Governing Body members born after 1935 (e.g. Geoffrey Jackson), a major revision in doctrine was due:

> As time has gone by, some Christians baptized after 1935 have had witness borne to them that they have the heavenly hope. (Romans 8:16, 17) Thus, it appears that we cannot set a specific date for when the calling of Christians to the heavenly hope ends**.**
>
> How should a person be viewed who has determined in his heart that he is now anointed and begins to partake of the emblems at the Memorial? He should not be judged. The matter is between him and Jehovah. (Romans 14:12) However, genuine anointed Christians do not demand special attention. (w2007 5/1 31)

Two years later this change in doctrine along with the increases in the "anointed" were apparently denied:

> …the number of anointed ones on the earth has decreased over the decades… (w2009 2/15 27-28)

Since 2009, however, the increase has continued. This may eventually threaten the doctrine, taught since the 1880s, that only 144,000 chosen since Pentecost in 33 CE go to heaven to rule as kings and include all faithful first-century Christians.

A selection that stops and resumes

The selection of the 144,000 ended:

- In 1881(Thy Kingdom Come p.362)
- In 1931 (Let God be True 1946 edition, p.298)
- In 1935 (w1995 2/15 19-20)
- Not sure (w 2007 5/1 31)

Other religions see no Bible basis for preaching that the "heavenly call" closed in 1881, 1935 or any other date. Outstanding among religions that make the Bible teach nonsense and proclaim the nonsense as "the truth" is JWs.

MENTAL ILLNESS

WTS publications glamorize the happiness of JWs. We often read things like:

> What a wonderful sense of security is experienced by all loyal Witnesses as they associate with multitudes who are truly united in the happy service of the creator.

New WTS publications every year have hundreds of occurrences of the words "joy", "happy", "glad", and "blessed" and synonyms of these. Other adjectives may be added giving phrases such as "bubbling with joy", "our godly joy", "genuine happiness". Such repetition of joy-phrases together with other repetitions to be "loyal to God's organization" and "give a good witness" put JWs under pressure to proclaim how content and "really happy" they are.

Mental health surveys

The Mental Health of Jehovah's Witnesses (1987) by Jerry Bergman is an inquiry into the happiness of JWs. Bergman summarized previous studies and examined "Factors influencing the high mental illness rate among Witnesses".

In 1977 a report by Havor Montague titled "The Watchtower Cult's Effect On The Human Mind" appeared in *Social Compass*, Volume 14. The summary said:

It is a common observation among mental health personnel, supported by all published studies, that the mental illness rate among JWs far surpasses that of the population as a whole. Many factors are found to contribute to this—JWs tend to recruit individuals with emotional problems; there is a great deal of pressure to conform within the congregation, and there is a belief structure which clearly causes emotional turmoil. The fact that JWs are recruited from the lower socio-economic statuses of society and tend to seriously alienate and often force out of the movement the more intelligent and better educated is also highly instrumental in contributing to the mental illness rate.

Once a JW develops emotional problems he is actively encouraged to avoid accepting "worldly advice" either from secular books or secular mental health personnel. The psychiatric profession as a whole is severely criticized and Witnesses are encouraged to consult only their Elders most of whom are poorly equipped to deal with most normal inter-personal frictions let alone what might be termed neurotic and psychotic maladjustment. In dealing with members, Elders tend to offer poor advice and rely on punitive criticism or threats ("If you do not…you will not survive Armageddon…") to change behavior. This approach typically elicits increased guilt and/or a high level of aggression in the Witnesses. This factor is probably influential in the high rate of aggressive crimes found among Witnesses.

How do former JWs view themselves in "self image" and closeness to God? The following table is from a paper titled *What Are The Effects Of Shunning On Former Jehovah's Witnesses?* (Michael Henry, March 1988)

Likert Scale (1) Strongly agree; (2) Agree; (3) Disaqree; (4) Strongly disagree

Statements for agreement or disagreement	Likert Scale	No. of JWs	%
As JW, Self Image Positive	1	22	43%
	2	12	24%
	3	8	8%
	4	9	18%
Self Image Positive Today	1	40	77%
	2	9	17%
	3	2	4%
	4	1	2%
As JW, Felt Separated From God	1	5	10%
	2	11	22%
	3	6	12%
	4	29	57%
Feel Separated From God Today	1	0	0
	2	1	2%
	3	1	2%
	4	50	96%
As JW, Felt Close To God	1	19	37%
	2	17	33%
	3	6	12%
	4	10	20%
Feel Close To God Today	1	46	88%
	3	4	8%
	3	1	2%
	4	1	2%

Note, the Likert Scale is an agreement scale used in psychology on survey forms or questionnaires to measure respondents' agreement with various statements. A higher number signifies greater agreement with statements.

John Spencer (British Journal of Psychiatry, 1975, Volume 126, pp 556-559) examined the records of 7546 admissions to Western Australia Psychiatric Hospitals in the period January 1971 to December 1973.

Fifty admitted to being JWs. Western Australia at the time had about 4000 JWs. The yearly rate of admission per thousand JWs was 4.17 [50÷4÷3=4.17]

For the whole population of Western Australia Spencer calculated 2.54 per thousand. The rate for JWs was therefore over 1½ times as high as the general population.

Yon J. Janner reported a psychiatric study of 100 imprisonments for objection to military service in Switzerland. Some 63 were classed as "conscientious objector" and of these 54 (85%) were JWs. Janner concluded this group was "mentally subnormal". Five of the JWs had also been convicted of crimes including paedophilia and exhibitionism.
(Schweizerische Medizinische Wochen-schrift, Volume 93, No. 23, 1963, pp 819-826)

Two studies of JWs took place in the 1940s but the results would not apply today. Fringe religions tend to attract people who have personal problems and that is true of JWs. Since the 1940s, however, JWs have progressed from attracting most of their recruits from lower economic and educational backgrounds to middle class.

M.J. Pescor, an American psychiatrist, investigated persons imprisoned for

conscientious objection. About 7% were psychotic; 1% psychopathic; 1% mentally deficient. This was in the USA in 1949. (The American Journal of Psychiatry, Volume 105, No.9, 1949, pp 641-652)

Rylander (1946) studied 126 JWs conscientious objectors in Sweden. He found that 75 had preaching their religion as their only interest in life and 50 felt they should associate only with other JWs. Rylander also diagnosed 29 as neurotic, 39 with personality disorders, 28 retarded and five brain damaged (some individuals were in several of these categories).
(Nordisk Medicin, Volume 29, 1946, No.1, January-March, pp 526-533)

There are no studies that score a large random sample of JWs on a happiness questionnaire and compare them with a random sample from the general population. The high JWs membership turnover, however, suggests discontent with conditions within the sect.

When sacrifices are in vain

Many new JWs make sacrifices such as giving up education, breaking with previous friends, giving up employment, selling the home to finance preaching activity, etc. They in effect "burn their bridges".

Later they encounter false prophecy and other changes to what they had believed to be "genuine Bible truth" and become anxious that current teachings are also unreliable and their sacrifices therefore pointless or in vain. They can't discuss such matters without appearing to criticize which could lead to disfellowshipping. The Organization urges members to "avoid independent thinking" and to avoid questioning decisions of "God's organization". Members, therefore, risk being labelled "proud", "puffed up", "rebellious" and "stubborn" if they ask awkward questions.

Another frustration for many JWs is that they have little talent for preaching. They may be shy, introverted, poor speakers or uneducated. They have to suppress talents that they may excel at and use their "free" time doing what gives no success or satisfaction.

Realizing they've been misled, but having followed instructions and "burned their bridges", they find themselves unable to discuss the problem and compelled to do what they're unqualified for and what's now meaningless. The situation is destructive to mental health and happiness.

(See also: *JOY*)

MENTALLY DISEASED

In 2011 the Governing Body labelled ex JWs who criticise the Organization as "mentally diseased".

Biblical precedents to such language could be the phrases "corrupt mind", "depraved in mind" and "darkened in understanding". (I Timothy 6:5; II Timothy 3:8; Ephesians 4:18)

The Watchtower said:

> Suppose that a doctor told you to avoid contact with someone who is infected with a contagious disease. You would know what the doctor means, and you would strictly heed his warning. Well, apostates are 'mentally diseased', and they seek to infect others with their disloyal teachings. (w2011 7/15)

Jerome Taylor, the Religious Affairs Correspondent of *The Independent*, reported:

> The official magazine for Jehovah's Witnesses has described those who leave the church as "mentally diseased", prompting an outcry from former members and insiders concerned about the shunning of those who question official doctrine.
>
> An article published in July's edition of The Watchtower warns followers to stay clear of "false teachers" who are condemned as being "mentally diseased" apostates who should be avoided at all costs…
>
> A copy of the magazine, distributed by Jehovah's Witnesses around the world, was given to The Independent by a current member of the church who has become unhappy with official teaching but is afraid to leave for fear of losing his family.
>
> "Many like me remain associated with the Witnesses out of fear of being uncovered as an 'apostate' and ousted, not just from the organisation, but from their own friends and families," said the man, who would only give the name John. "I find I am now branded as 'mentally diseased' – giving any who discover my true beliefs free licence to treat me with disdain."
>
> As a faith with a centralised leadership, many forms of discipline are used to counter criticism of doctrine, with

punishments ranging from restriction of official duties to excommunication. Those who have been thrown out of the church often find themselves ostracised by fellow believers.

A growing number of former and current Witnesses have begun to argue that the church's use of the word "mentally diseased" to describe defectors could be in breach of Britain's religious hatred laws. A group of former Witnesses in Portsmouth have now made an official complaint to Hampshire Police about the article and police are currently investigating.

Angus Robertson, a former Witness "elder" from Hampshire, who was present at the meeting with police officers, said: "The way scripture is being used to bully people must be challenged. If a religion was preaching that blacks or gays were mentally diseased there would be understandable outrage."

Critics are also considering whether to complain to the Charity Commission. The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Britain, which prints church doctrine in the UK, is a registered charity.

Rick Fenton, a spokesperson for the Watchtower Society, insisted last night that ostracisation was "a personal matter for each individual to decide for himself". "Any one of Jehovah's Witnesses is free to express their feelings and to ask questions," he said. "If a person changes their mind about Bible-based teachings they once held dear, we recognise their right to leave."
Tuesday 27 September 2011
http://www.independent.co.uk

The real problem

The real problem is that thousands of teachings were **not** "Bible-based". The pretence that everything is "Bible-based" and revealed by God implies that dissenters are always wrong and the leaders infallible. But thousands of revisions in doctrine prove the leaders are **not** infallible. With this being the real situation and the leaders nevertheless inflexible in claiming to have divine guidance and authority, the number of "apostates" continually increases and the conflict escalates.

The offending article with the "mentally diseased" claim is titled 'Will you heed Jehovah's warnings?' (*The Watchtower* 2011 7/15) which also says:

> Jehovah, the Great Physician, tells us to avoid contact with them. We know what he means, but are we determined to heed his warning in all respects? What is involved in avoiding false teachers? We do not receive them into our homes or greet them. We also refuse to read their literature, watch television programmes that feature them, examine their websites, or add our comments to their blogs. Why do we take such a firm stand?
>
> Because of love. We love 'the God of truth', so we are not interested in twisted teachings that contradict his Word of truth.
>
> www://independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/war-of-words-breaks-out-among-jehovahs-witnesses-2361448.htm
> www.telegraph.co.uk 2011 Sep 27.htm

Notice that to close one's mind and shut out alternative information is "love" of God and avoids "twisted teachings". Again, this implies that the leaders are always right, therefore infallible, and that their thousands of errors never happened, and dissenters are always wrong.

A Defender of JWs

A defender of JWs on the "Web", using the name Bar Anerges writes:

> First, [many] are mistaken as to *who* said that apostates are "mentally diseased." The *Watchtower* article was **quoting** GOD'S WORD at 1 Tim. 6:3-5. So it is God Himself who uses the term "mentally diseased" or "mentally depraved" of those who teach contrary doctrine!!
>
> Second, you notice that critics of [Jehovah's] Witnesses must always in some way misrepresent what was said by Witnesses. The article was not talking about "those who leave" the Witnesses but about a specific group: Apostates.
>
> So as usual, you will notice that those who criticize the Witnesses require from their hearers an ignorance of the Bible (or blindness). Because when they criticize the Witnesses they end up criticizing God Himself and His Word!! That is called blasphemy!

> Lexicons, dictionaries, commentaries and other versions make it clear what God has said here. The Greek word (NOSWN) literally does denote a sickness or disease–in this case of the mind! The *NIV* says they have "corrupted minds" in verse 5!
>
> *NWT*: "If any man teaches other doctrine and does not assent to healthful words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, nor to the teaching that accords with godly devotion, he is puffed up [with pride], not understanding anything, but being mentally diseased over questionings and debates about words...men corrupted in mind and despoiled of the truth." …
>
> The *Watchtower* article only applied this to Apostates—those who have once been JWs and rather than just leave peacefully have now turned on and attacked true Christians using deceptions, misrepresentations and lies.
>
> While the *Watchtower* only applied this to "Apostates" God's Word actually applied it to ANYONE who "teaches false doctrines" (NIV)!!!
>
> No, people who believe incorrectly and even criticize the true Christian religion are not ‘‘automatically mentally diseased." Some are just ignorant like the Apostle Paul before his conversion. However, ANYONE who purposely continues to use misrepresentations and lies to argue against Biblical Truth is mentally warped!...
>
> It is ludicrous to accuse God of being unfair for calling non-believers "mentally diseased" and "corrupted in mind." And it is just as ludicrous to criticize the Witnesses when they pass on God's thinking by quoting the Bible!
>
> Source: Bar_Anerges

Notice again the implication that JWs are 100% correct — those who leave have "changed their mind about Bible-based teachings" and "apostates are anyone who teaches false doctrines" and are "mentally depraved" and "mentally warped"..

Regarding these claims we need to remember that JWs have altered thousands of their interpretations including an estimated 1300 in just *The finished Mystery* (1917); made false predictions for more than 25 dates and routinely lied about it afterwards; changed or discarded every major doctrine; and even made God a liar by claiming that their prediction of the post Armageddon "new world" within the lifetime of people who experienced 1914 is "the creator's promise".

They have made God a liar many times by attributing to God fantasies like this one:

> Revelation 16:16 calls it the "war of the great day of God the Almighty," Armageddon. This war will come in the twentieth century. (g1961 2/22 5-8)

If "ANYONE who teaches false doctrines" is "Apostate" and "mentally diseased" then JWs and Bar Anerges are apostates and mentally diseased.

The JWs hierarchy orchestrates hate and loathing of ex JWs who studied WTS history and left over what they discovered. Hate prevents communication and shields JWs from recognizing the ignorance that they mistake for spiritual paradise.

MERRIT, NATHANIEL J.
Author of *Jehovah Unmasked!* (2005).

Merritt became a JW at 15, ran away from home at 17, and was disfellowshipped at 19. He became a born again "Jesus freak" (1973) and a Baptist minister (1980-1995) before turning to Zen Buddhism for ten years.

MESSAGE
A central message proclaimed by JWs to the public is the 1914 Kingdom, the destruction of all nations at Armageddon, and the need to join JWs to survive:

> Jehovah's witnesses and their companions … are now diligent to carry the message to the people of and concerning that THEOCRATIC GOVERNMENT. The people of good will who hear and understand that message quickly discern that religion is a snare of the Devil to lead men to destruction, and hence those of good will hasten to put themselves under the protection of the Lord… The message is not the message of any man, but it is the message of Jehovah God…" (Religion 1940, 342-343)
>
> Those who remain with the religionists are certain to go down in that great catastrophe of Armageddon. Those who will find protection and salvation must obey the Lord by fleeing from religion and religionists and diligently seek

protection under Christ Jesus. (ibid p.268)

Escape and deliverance shall be found in no other place than in the Lord God's organization… (ibid p.271)

MESSAGE OF HOPE/DOOM
The JW preaching delivers a "message of hope" and a "message of doom". The WT Library CD (2007) has the former phrase 177 times, the latter 31 times. The "message of hope" is for people who join JWs and anticipate getting "eternal life in paradise on earth" — but this hope failed in 1914, 1925, 1930s, 1942, 1975, 2000 and several other dates. The "doom" applies to non-JWs for whom JWs predict extermination at Armageddon — but the doom failed on the same dates as the hope failed. (See *DATES*)

MESSENGER, THE
A WTS newspaper published from the 1920s to the 1940s, often daily, and varying from several pages to about 50 pages. It functioned to magnify Rutherford's presidency and afterwards the new Knorr/Franz leadership.

METZGER, KURT (1977-)
American comedian who was raised as a JW but left them at age 31.

Metzger performed stand-up in the Philadelphia area during his early career, before performing in comedy clubs in New York City. In 2015 he was a semi-finalist on *Last Comic Standing*.

Metzger appeared on *The Late Show with Craig Ferguson* in February, 2011. In June that year Comedy Central Records released an hour-long album of Metzger performing in Philadelphia titled *Kurt Metzger Talks to Young People About Sex*.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurt_Metzger

MEXICO
JWs expand best in Christian countries which have freedom of religion but also poverty and breakdown in law and order. Mexico with its drug wars almost on the scale of civil war is ideal. In such conditions more people listen when JWs claim: "These are signs that Armageddon is very near."

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

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1930	c.100			
1940	c.1,000			
1950	8,100			
1960	22,900	1380		
1970	49,000	985		
1975	80,481	747		
1980	98,200	687	444,000	150
1985	173,000	454	782,000	101
1990	305,000	266	1,135,000	71
1995	444,000	206	1,483,000	62
2000	554,000	185	1,656,000	60
2005	594,000	179	1,784,000	60
2009	690,000	156	2,051,000	52
2010	710,000	153	2,148,000	51
2015	833,000	146	2,243,000	54
2018	871,000	151	2,215,000	59
	Av.			
2019	863,000	148	2,259,000	57
2020	864,000	149	1,955,000	66
2021	865,000	151	2,442,000	53
2022	856,000	154	2,208,000	60
2023	856,000	155	2,184,000	61
2024	866,000	151	2,158,000	61
2025	879,000	150	2,129,800	62

The slowdown from 1975 to 1980 due to the disappointment for 1975 is less evident in Mexico than most other countries. This may reflect lower education standards, less access to JWs history and older WTS publications, and therefore greater WTS control over information available to people.

MICHAEL (Revelation 12:7)
According to JWs the one and only archangel is Michael who is also Jesus in his role in heaven. (w1984 12/15 26-29)

Michael was therefore the first angel God created and who then created everything else. He entered Mary's womb and was born as Jesus who after his resurrection returned to heaven and was Michael the Archangel again.

Russell's interpretation was that Michael is "the Pope". (The Finished Mystery 1917, 188) Rutherford changed this in the 1923 edition of *The Finished Mystery* — "Michael, who is Christ the Lord…" (p.186)

MICKENS, JIM
A JW elder who became a Catholic deacon.

Mickens was raised in the JWs sect, baptized in 1956, became a "ministerial servant" in 1971, and an elder in 1982. He began to question the JWs Bible and teachings, left the

sect in 1987, and had a Catholic baptism in 1994. His retirement from his ministry for Catholic singles was reported in *The Catholic Sun* (28 February 2013) :

> **Former Jehovah's Witness turned deacon bids farewell to local Catholics**
>
> Ambria Hammel
>
> He was a married deacon who found his calling among Catholic singles. Deacon Jim Mickens, who touched the hearts of many Catholic singles in the Diocese of Phoenix, said farewell Jan. 27. Ongoing health problems forced him and his wife, Janice, to move closer to his wife's family in Pennsylvania.
>
> "He always promoted that the most important thing in life is the search for Christ, even if that means losing your family, even if that means losing your job," said Eric Nanneman, who was instrumental in getting the deacon involved with the Catholic Retreat for Young Singles group nine years ago.
>
> Deacon Mickens has no connection with his own family because he chose to follow Christ…
> https://www.catholicsun.org/2013/02/28/former-jehovahs-witness-turned-deacon-bids-farewell-to-local-catholics/

On Catholic Radio Mickens gave replies to 71 questions. For example:

> Reply
> The important difference with the conversions is not the numbers. It is the knowledge. The JWs who become Catholic are the most knowledgeable JWs. While the Catholics who become JWs are the most ignorant Catholics. That's the only way they could sit in the KH and read the utter stupidity that the WT prints about the Church and history. I was a 3rd generation JW — the one always called on to give last minute sub talks in the KMS [Kingdom Ministry School] because I knew everything about their teachings; the one always taken along to HBS [Home Bible Studies] when there were difficult questions.
>
> Reply
> Whatever its doctrines, if a group uses deception in recruiting and retaining members, it is identified as a cult. Authority within a cult group is abusive and is maintained by manipulative communication and coercive control. Isolation, either physical or psychological, contributes to the siege mentality and paranoia of cult members – while it fosters pride in the exclusivity of membership in the group…
> The process of joining a cult involves deception… The laws which protect us against false and misleading advertising and which provide for judicial redress in the case of fraudulent claims simply do not apply to religious charlatans and con-artists. Cult leaders are masters at using the religious freedom available in this country to rob American citizens of their own ability to make decisions in their own best interests and they do so with legal impunity... As a result there exist, within our borders, United States citizens who live like people under a totalitarian government. They live in fear of informants – other members of the group who can turn them in for associating with a forbidden person, reading a forbidden book or attending a forbidden meeting...
>
> I finally came to understand that it was a completely systemic problem, that the lies and deception was so entrenched that the only course of action for anyone who really desired the truth and a relationship with Jesus Christ was to get out…
> © Copyright 2014 - The Catholic Sun.

MILK

The simpler teachings of the Bible are "milk" or "the milk of the word" and the more difficult doctrines "meat".

MILLENIUM



w1967 4/15

The Watchtower pictured above rejects the Catholic interpretation, promoted in the 4th century CE, that the millennium is the

Christian era of the Church and leads to world conversion. (pp 231-237)

This *Watchtower* portrays a literal 1000-year global peace which begins after Armageddon has destroyed all opposition worldwide, in the 20th century:

> For centuries now the Bible chronology as worked out by Archbishop James Ussher has been followed by both Catholics and Protestants. This chronology reckons that the first man Adam was created in the year 4004 before Christ, and so six thousand years of human existence will end before this twentieth century ends, or in 1996 C.E. According to a more recent calculation of the Bible timetable, six thousand years of man's existence will end in the latter half of the year 1975, which is well within this century. The Bible millennium is ahead of us … and approaching. (pp 235-236)

Supporting the implication of Armageddon and the start of the millennium occurring in the 20th century is the comment:

> …the Holy Bible strongly indicates that a remnant of these heavenly Kingdom heirs [the 144,000] will be preserved through the war of Armageddon for earthly service before their earthly demise…(p.237)

When this was published it was official doctrine that the selection of the 144,000 ceased in 1935. Very few from 1935 survived the 20th century and are now surely **all** dead.

With all non-JWs destroyed at Armageddon, and Satan the Devil imprisoned there will then be peace for a thousand years. (pp 240-242)

The next article in the same *Watchtower*, titled "The Most Urgent Warning Ever Given" informs readers it is a warning that "the danger of sudden death is staring you in the face". It is:

- "so very near";
- "from God, who has given reliable warnings in the past"; and
- "it is only a few short years ahead of us." (pp 243- 244)

This was written to "you", the human readers in 1967. The "few short years" have turned out to be many years. Therefore "the danger of sudden death" in Armageddon was **not** "very near" or "staring **you** in the face" nor "only a few short years ahead", and God's "reliable warnings in the past" have become unreliable thanks to the JWs leaders.

Russell's Millennium

According to Russell the millennium began in October 1872. The first 40 years of the millennium would be a time of trouble followed by world peace in 1914. (Studies II, 33-40, 363; Studies III, 127)

He also taught that the Millennium began in 1873:

> They have shown us that since 1873 we have been living in the seventh millennium; that the lease of Gentile dominion, "The Times of the Gentiles," will expire with the year 1914; and that the advent of him whose right it is to take the dominion was due in 1874. They have shown us that in the days of these Gentile kings, before their lease of power expires, the God of heaven will set up a Kingdom, and that the setting up of that Kingdom has actually been in progress since the year 1878; that there the resurrection of all the dead in Christ was due; and that therefore, since that date, not only is our Lord and Head invisibly present in the world, but all these holy messengers are also with him. And observe, further, that this date of the resurrection of the dead in Christ parallels the date of the resurrection of the Head of the body. Our Lord's resurrection occurred three and a half years after his advent as the Messiah, in A.D. 29; and the resurrection of his body, the Church, we have seen, was due in the year 1878, three and a half years after his second advent, in October 1874. (Studies III, 305)

In 1913 Russell spoke of a 1,000-year rule by the saints with Jesus, starting in 1914. This did not contradict 1872 (or 1873) because there were two overlapping millenniums, one starting in 1872 and the second in 1914. (Convention Report 1913, 309, 364)

Rutherford in 1917 made the millennium start in 1874 to coincide with the supposed return of Christ in that year. (The Finished Mystery 1917, 386)

During the millennium Abraham and other Hebrews would return from the dead and rule the world in cooperation with the Kingdom in heaven (which began in 1878). Until 1925 Rutherford taught that their rule would start in 1925. (See: *PRINCES*)

Millennium after Armageddon

After the failure of millennial promises based on 1872-1874 and 1925, Rutherford made the Millennium a future event, to commence after Armageddon.

After their predictions for Israel's restoration and Armageddon failed in the 1920s the JWs leaders spiritualized many Old Testament prophecies. Prophecies of Israel at peace were applied to the JWs Organization which they call a "spiritual estate" and a "spiritual paradise".

Nevertheless JWs rejected St Augustine's interpretation that the Millennium represents a perfect spiritual estate of the Church on Earth. (w1984 12/1 7) Armageddon followed by the Millennium and a physical paradise are to JWs literal beliefs.

Eternal life on Earth

For the present, while awaiting the Millennium, JWs must work for the WTS. They must cooperate in preaching and other demands: "to assure our getting there." (w1982 8/1 16)

During the Millennium JWs will avoid boredom by study, work and travel. (w1983 11/15 5-7) They will teach the resurrected people, who will return progressively in manageable numbers, their WTS truth. JWs will also make planet Earth a "sparkling paradise". At the end of 1000 years Satan returns and organizes a final rebellion which God suppresses and all survivors then live happily ever after.

MILLER, MARK HEBER
Ex JW born 1938 in Norfolk, Virginia, who at age 20 in 1959 partook "communion" thus professed to be one of the "anointed remnant" i.e. a member of the alleged "faithful and discreet slave" (which until 2012 meant the 144,000).

He writes: "I was looked up to as a very knowledgeable Christian who had read practically everything ever published by the Watchtower Society." In *Messianic Confessions* (1997) he says:

> I spent more than 40 years as a "false prophet… Others trusted my knowledge and as a result I lead them down the same blind path which I had loyally followed.

Miller also authored:
The Nazarene Commentary: 21st Century Version of the Christian Scriptures Volume I (2007), Volumes II & III (2010).

MILLER, RALPH T.
Author of the book *Jehovah's Witnesses - Victims of Deception* (1995).

Ralph T. Miller was "a veteran of a western Kentucky police department" who served 20 years and "retired in 1990 with the permanent rank of Captain".

MILLER, WILLIAM (1782-1849)
American Baptist preacher born in Pittsburgh, Massachusetts. Founded the Adventists or Millerites in the 1830s and predicted the Second Coming of Christ or Second Advent for 1843 and then 1844.


From Wikipedia

Miller was a US Army Captain in the War of 1812. He started intensive Bible study in 1818 and concluded that Jesus Christ would return visibly in 1843. He preached this message in small-town congregations throughout New York, New England, and eastern Canada in the 1830s and gained a wide following.

"Adventism" began in 1833, in New York State, when Miller published the pamphlet *Evidences from Scripture and History of the Second Coming of Christ about the year 1843, and of His Personal Reign of One Thousand Years*.

In Boston in 1840 he met Joshua V. Himes whose public relations skills brought Miller to national attention. Prominent preachers who also joined included Charles Fitch, Josiah Litch, Joseph Bates and George Storrs.

Miller's end point for the apparent 1260 days of Daniel 12:7 was 1793-1798. For the end of the 1290 days (Daniel 12:11), 1335 days (12:12) and 2300 days (8:14) he proposed 1843.

Miller's followers used time charts to explain God's prophetic plan. They drew numerous parallels between the Jewish Tabernacle/Temple and Christianity with Christ the antitypical high priest who would return and restore his spiritual temple.

After 1844 Miller admitted having been

wrong and did not assist the formation of the various Adventist churches.

MILLERITES/ADVENTISTS

Was the cult of Charles Taze Russell a split-off from Adventism?

Followers of William Miller were called "Millerites" and "Adventists". They expected Christ's Second Coming in 1843 and 1844. They numbered about 100,000 in 1844.

When Jesus did not come in 1843, thus refuting William Miller's prediction, Samuel S. Snow took the lead and set a new date October 22, 1844. Miller was dubious but gave support. In 1844 about 1000 lecturers across the north eastern United States proclaimed Jesus Christ's return to Earth for October 22. Subsequent writers called 1844 "the great disappointment".

Under the general label of "Second Adventists" six denominations developed from the shambles of "the great disappointment" of 1844 along with many smaller groups :

- **Evangelical Adventists (1845)**
  Leading Millerites met at Albany, N.Y., in 1845 and adopted a statement declaring their belief in the visible return of Christ when the resurrection of the dead would take place and the millennium begin. They called themselves Evangelical Adventists.

- **Seventh-Day Adventists (1844-1855; 1863)**
  The SDAs started in 1844-1855 under the leadership of three American Millerites — Joseph Bates (1792-1872); James Springer White (1821-1881); Ellen G. Harmon (1827-1915) who became Ellen G. White in1846.

  The SDA's adopted Saturday as the Sabbath and were formally organized in 1863 with Ellen White as leader and prophetess. They eventually became the largest Adventist body.

  Ellen White was converted to Adventism in 1842 and married another convert James White in 1846. They re-interpreted Christ's predicted return of 1844 as being instead a cleansing of heaven and also promoted the Saturday Sabbath. The SDA concept of the millennium is that Christ will return visibly and then reign in heaven for 1000 years while the earth lays desolate. Only Christians with Adventist beliefs will be saved and resurrected.

- **Church of God (Seventh Day) (1858)**
  Sabbatarian Adventists who rejected the visions of Ellen G. White. From this group defected Herbert W. Armstrong (1893-1986) who founded the Radio Church of God.

- **Advent Christian Church (1861)**
  This was formed by a branch of Miller's followers led by Jonathan Cummings. He edited the *World's Crisis* and predicted Christ's return for 1853-1854. Cummings formed the Advent Christian Conference which in 1861 became the Advent Christian Church. It now has a U.S. membership of about 30,000. They reject the SDA observances of the Saturday Sabbath and the dietary laws. They coordinate their work worldwide through the Advent Christian General Conference of America.

- **Life and Advent Union (1863)**
  In 1863 a small group of Adventists, led by George Storrs (1796-1879, founded the Life and Advent Union. This had only 300 members.

  George Storrs had joined William Miller in 1842 and was one of his most prominent supporters. Storrs published essays titled *Six Sermons on the Inquiry: Is There Immortality in Sin and Suffering?* by which he got many early Adventists to believe in conditional immortality. Miller, however, did not accept these ideas.

  After 1844 George Storrs continued to preach the Advent of Christ. In 1871 he reactivated his magazine *The Bible Examiner* and taught the doctrine of a ransom for everyone — that God's plan for human recovery and eternal life applied to everyone and would be realized on Earth.

  The Life and Advent Union merged with the Advent Christian Church in 1964.

- **Church of God in Christ Jesus (1888)**
  Renamed **Church of God** in 1921. Its U.S. membership is about 75,000.

Nelson H. Barbour

Many small sectarian groups, composed of original Millerites, defectors from the above denominations and newcomers, also formed. One small sect was led by Nelson H Barbour and John H. Paton, and amalgamated with Charles T. Russell's cult in 1876.

Nelson H. Barbour experienced the "great disappointment" of 1844. He lost his faith but regained it around 1859. Barbour and co-worker John H. Paton collaborated in preparing prophetic time charts. Barbour's

magazine *The Midnight Cry* predicted Christ's return for 1873 then 1874 then 1875. *The Midnight Cry*'s circulation, among mainly Adventist readers, declined from 15,000 to 200. The cult concluded that Jesus did return but it was an invisible "presence". *The Midnight Cry* discontinued and was reborn as *Herald of the Morning*.

C.T. Russell

Charles T. Russell, a member of the Congregational Church, briefly became a teenage skeptic in 1868. (wr1906 7/15 3821) His faith was rejuvenated in 1869 by Jonas Wendel a preacher of the Advent Christian Church.

From 1870 to 1873 Charles Russell attended a Bible class composed of members of the Advent Christian Church and the Life and Advent Union led by George Storrs and George Stetson.

By 1876 Russell was in charge of this or another group — possibly a split occurred over Storrs' belief in Christ's return in 1873.

Russell writes:

> At this time, myself and a few other truth-seekers in Pittsburgh and Allegheny formed a class for Bible study, and from 1870 to 1875 was a time of constant growth in grace and knowledge…
>
> And here I should and do gratefully mention assistance rendered by Brothers Geo. Stetson and Geo. Storrs, the latter the editor of *The Bible Examiner*, both now deceased. The study of the Word of God with these dear brethren led, step by step, into greener pastures…
>
> Thus passed the years 1869-1872. The years following, to 1876, were years of continued growth in grace and knowledge on the part of the handful of Bible students with whom I met in Allegheny…
>
> During this time, too, we came to recognise the difference between our Lord as "the man who gave himself," and as the Lord who would come again, a spirit being… And we felt greatly grieved at the error of Second Adventists, who were expecting Christ in the flesh, and teaching that the world and all in it except Second Adventists would be burned up in 1873 or 1874… (wr1906 7/15 3821)

Russell was baptized in 1874 probably by someone of the Advent Christian Church such as Stetson or by Storrs. [Stetson and Storrs both died in 1879. wr1879 November p.46; wr1880 January p.71]

In 1875 Russell speculated that Christ's second coming is invisible. In January 1876 Charles Russell received a copy of Barbour's *The Herald of the Morning* and noticed that Barbour believed in Christ's invisible return. This similarity in doctrine led to a meeting, in mid 1876, with Barbour and the subsequent amalgamation of the two groups. Barbour convinced Russell that Christ's invisible "presence" began in the Autumn of 1874. (wr1906 7/15 3822) Russell's first booklet, *The Object and Manner of Our Lord's Return* (1877), was about Christ's invisible return.

Russell also contributed an article on *The Gentile Times* to Storrs' *Bible Examiner* in 1877. This doctrine, which Russell got from Barbour, focused on the restoration of the Jews to Israel by 1914.

In 1877 Barbour and Russell jointly published the prophetic book *The Three Worlds*.

Russell and John H. Paton (Barbour's co-worker) went on preaching tours while Barbour worked on *The Herald of the Morning*.

After Russell split from Barbour in 1879 his major collaborators were Adventists such as John H Paton and H.B. Rice. Rice published a magazine called *The Last Trump* and gave the subscriber list to Russell to help start *Zion's Watch Tower*.

Russell founded *Zion's Watch Tower* in 1879 and the first edition of 6000 came out in July. Russell says, "the readers of the TOWER and the *Herald* were the same…" (wr1906 7/15 3823) — in other words Adventists.

John Paton wrote a book *Day Dawn*. (1880) Russell saw this book as a replacement for *The Three Worlds* and advertised it in *Zion's Watch Tower*.

Russell and the Governing Body

Put briefly, C.T. Russell had his faith restored and was taught by ministers of the Advent Christian Church and the Life and Advent Union. These Second Adventists influenced Russell in doctrine and probably baptized him. Most of Russell's early followers and subscribers of *Zion's Watch Tower* were Second Adventists.

Since JWs believe that a "governing body" existed in apostolic times and continued through the centuries we would expect to find the "governing body" in the mid 19th century to be composed of Second Adventists who had JWs beliefs. But no such body is known either in the 19th century or at any prior time. (See: *GOVERNING BODY*)

MILLIONS NOW LIVING WILL NEVER DIE (1920)

Rutherford claimed that during the Millennium Abraham and other Bible heroes, will be raised from the dead and rule the world in cooperation with the Kingdom in heaven. Until 1925 he taught that their rule would start in 1925 — this date is given or implied on eight pages of the book *Millions Now Living Will Never Die*. (1920)

The Millions message was not a "suggestion" but the "truth", "Bible truths", and "God's promises" (pp 7-8) "established by competent testimony" (p.13). Instead of preaching these "wonderful truths contained in the Bible" the clergy "collect money" and "persecute others". (pp 107, 106)

The *Millions Now Living* slogan was such an energizer that Rutherford repeatedly reused it. Even in the 1980s it still cropped up. (w1985 1/1 17; w1983 10/1 8)

In 1924-1925 many Russellites gave up jobs and homes and even refused to buy new clothing because the end was so close. The hopes and lives of 100,000 people were ruined but the Leaders admitted no error. Instead they claimed that the *MILLIONS* book was:

- A publication of, "great value and timeliness". (jp 1959, 100)
- From "Jehovah". (w1934 8/1 29; w1955 11/15 698)
- A "great spiritual blessing". (Let Your Name Be Sanctified 1961, 309-310)
- Prepared for "educating of a great crowd". (w1984 2/1 24)

In 1922 we read:

> The period must end in 1925. The type ending, the antitype must begin; and therefore 1925 is definitely fixed in the scriptures. Every thinking person can see that a great climax is at hand. The Scriptures clearly indicate that the climax is the fall of Satan's empire and the full establishment of the Messianic kingdom. This climax being reached by 1925, and that marking the beginning of the fulfilment of the long promised blessings of life to the people, millions now living on earth will be living then and those who obey the righteous laws of the new arrangement will live forever. Therefore it can be confidently said at this time that millions now living will never die. (g1922 1/4 217)

> "We have no doubt whatever in regard to the chronology relating to the dates of 1874, 1914, 1918, and 1925. It was on this line of reckoning that the dates 1874, 1914, and 1918 were located; and the Lord has placed the stamp of his seal upon 1914 and 1918 beyond any possibility of erasure. What further evidence do we need? Using this same measuring line.... it is an easy matter to locate 1925, probably in the fall, for the beginning of the antitypical jubilee. There can be no more question about 1925 than there was about 1914." (w1922 5/15 150)

> "It is on the basis of such and so many correspondencies—in accordance with the soundest laws known to science—that we affirm that, Scripturally, scientifically, and historically, present-truth chronology is correct beyond a doubt. Its reliability has been abundantly confirmed by the dates and events of 1874, 1914, and 1918. Present-truth chronology is a secure basis on which the consecrated child of God may endeavor to search out things to come." (w1922 6/15)

> "This chronology is not of man, but of God. Being of divine origin and divinely corroborated, present-truth chronology stands in a class by itself, absolutely and unqualifiedly correct..." (w1922 7/15 217)

> "1914 ended the Gentile Times...The date 1925 is even more distinctly indicated by the Scriptures...by then the great crisis will be reached and probably passed." (w1922 9/1 262)

In 1923 and 1924:

> Our thought is, that 1925 is definitely settled by the Scriptures. As to Noah, the Christian now has much more upon which to base his faith than Noah had upon which to base his faith in a coming deluge. (w1923 3/1 106)

> No doubt many boys and girls who read this book will live to see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Daniel, and those other men of old come forth in the glory

of their better resurrection, of perfect in mind and body. It will not take long for Christ to appoint them to their post of honor and authority as his earthly representatives. The world and all the present conveniences will seem strange to them at first, but they will soon become accustomed to the new methods. They may have some amusing experiences at first; for they never saw telephones, radios, automobiles, electric lights, aeroplanes, steam engines, and many other things so familiar to us. (The Way To Paradise 1924, 226)

The year 1925 is a date definitely and clearly marked in Scriptures, even more clearly than that of 1914. (w1924 p.211)

We cannot be blamed for presenting from the Scriptures such evidence as they afford which leads us to believe that a certain event will take place at a given time. Some times the Lord has let His people looking for the right thing at the wrong time, and more frequently they have looked for the wrong things at the right time. But all the enemies of the cause of present truth in the earth are fervently hoping that the Bible students will not be so successful in 1925 in looking for the right thing at the right time as they were in 1914. If they are, however, it will be the other fellow that will have to do the explaining, and not we. (g1924 2/13 314)

In1925 we read:

It is to be expected that Satan will try to inject into the minds of the consecrated, the thought that 1925 should see an end to the work. (w1925 September p.262)

The difficulty was that the friends inflated their imaginations beyond reason; and that when their imaginations burst asunder, they were inclined to throw away everything. (w1925, p.56)

The year 1925 is here. With great expectation Christians have looked forward to this year. Many have confidently expected that all members of the body of Christ will be changed to heavenly glory during this year. This may be accomplished. It may not be. In his own due time God will accomplish his purposes concerning his people. Christians should not be so deeply concerned about what may transpire this year." (w1925 1/1 3)

After 1925 we read:

Some anticipated that the work would end in 1925, but the Lord did not state so. The difficulty was that the friends inflated their imaginations beyond reason; and that when their imaginations burst asunder, they were inclined to throw away everything. (w1926, p.232)

The Scriptural proof is that the period of his presence and the day of God's preparation is a period from 1874 A.D. forward. The second coming of the Lord, therefore, began in 1874; and that date and the years 1914 and 1918 are specially marked dates with reference to his coming. (Creation 1927, 289 early editions, p.310 later editions)

Prophecy cannot be understood until it has been fulfilled or is in the course of fulfilment. From 1874 to 1914 the prophecy concerning the Lord's coming was being fulfilled and could be understood, and was understood, by those who were faithful to the Lord and who were watching the development of events, but not by others. (Creation 1927, 290)

In 1932 Rutherford revised the Millions message as follows:

Those of good will now on earth who do see and who are diligent to perform the requirements of Jehovah will be carried through the battle of Armageddon. Millions of such good people are now on earth, and for this reason it is confidently stated that there are millions now living that will never die. Learn the truth and find the way to life. (What You Need 1932, 55)

"**Those of good will now on earth who do see and who are diligent**..." were at least aged in their twenties in 1932 because preaching by children was not then encouraged. In 2024 the youngest are over 100 years old. They never did number "millions" and were never "carried through the battle of Armageddon." The false prophecies for 1925 were revised with new dates and new details but continued to be false!

(*Investigator Magazine*, Millions Now Living Will Never Die #193, July 2020)

MINISTER

In Christianity a minister (Greek = diakonos) is a person officially appointed to perform spiritual functions. The ministries in the New

Testament include physical caring for others, food serving, letter writing, fund raising, preaching. Ministries were given to individuals who thus became "ministers". I Corinthians 12:5 says there are "varieties of ministries".

JWs leaders limit the term "minister" to one engaged in proselytising activities. (w1984 8/15 10-25) They claim that all Christians have to be "ministers" in the preaching sense. They regard poverty as proof of laziness and that ministries of fund raising, physical caring and food donations therefore merely condone laziness. Also Armageddon is too close to bother with help to the poor. The "ministry" of JWs is therefore limited to preaching current WTS doctrines and selling current publications. (See: *CHARITY*)

To support the idea that all real Christians are preaching ministers, JWs quote:

> …God…through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of the reconciliation; that is, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
> So we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. **We** beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (II Corinthians 5:18-20)

In this passage and throughout II Corinthians the "WE" who are ambassadors with the "ministry of reconciliation" refers to the apostles Paul and Timothy who are distinguished from "YOU" the Corinthian congregation. The latter were not "ambassadors". Similarly I Corinthians 9:16 "For if I preach the gospel … necessity is laid upon me" applies to Paul, not to everyone.

The apostles sometimes urged the churches to "imitate" them. But they also list the areas of imitation (2 Thessalonians 3:7) and these do not include becoming apostles or preachers.

Charles T. Russell attended no college. He did not train for the ministry or pass qualifying exams. Since ministerial functions are delegated by previous ministers (II Timothy 2:2; Acts 6:1-6) and Russell never qualified, he was never a minister. If Russell was never a minister it can be argued that anyone who received authority from Russell cannot be a Christian minister either.

This was a sore point with Rutherford. In the 1930s he applied the title "minister" to all persons who sold his books no matter how ignorant or immoral such persons were. Book selling became proof of being "ministers" and proof' of "ordination". Having stolen the title without having fulfilled the scriptural requirement of delegation from previous ministers, JWs leaders then boasted:

> The leaders of the false religious organizations of Christendom have failed completely to produce ministers of God. (Yearbook 1968, 51)

In the late 1970s JWs restricted the term "minister" to elders and ministerial servants in kingdom halls and branch offices but in the 1980s returned to the previous position where all publishers are "ministers".

(See: *ORDAINED MINISTER*)

MINISTERIAL SERVANTS

"Ministerial servant" is a hierarchical position in a congregation below that of elder that does not involve teaching from the platform (unless elders are unavailable).

"Brothers" who have been baptized for some time and meet various other requirements (I Timothy 3:8-10) such as regularly going door to door may become "ministerial servants".

Ministerial servants operate the book and magazine counters, assign territory maps to publishers, do the accounts, manage the sound equipment, and assist the elders as required.

MINISTRIES TO JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

A pamphlet dated March 1990 published by Bethel Ministries listed 108 U.S. "Ministries to Jehovah's Witnesses".

The number of such "Ministries" increased rapidly when many JWs realized that the prophecies for the "mid 1970s" were not merely slightly wrong but completely false.

(See: *ANTI JWs MINISTRIES; NINETEEN SEVENTY FIVE*)

MINISTRY GALLERY

A business managed by JWs in County Galway Ireland which offers a variety of ministry supplies including bags, diaries, greeting cards, bookmarks, medical alerts, etc. Prices are in Euros and their product line is extensive.

MINISTRY IMPORTANCE

JWs regard their ministry as the most important activity on Earth:

> A conscientious general practitioner may devote as much as seventy hours or more per week to his profession…
> If a conscientious medical practitioner has reason to be busy, has much to do, Jehovah's Christian ministers have even more reason to be busy. How so? Because theirs is a far more important work, that of spiritual healing, which leads to everlasting life… (w1967 1/15 61)

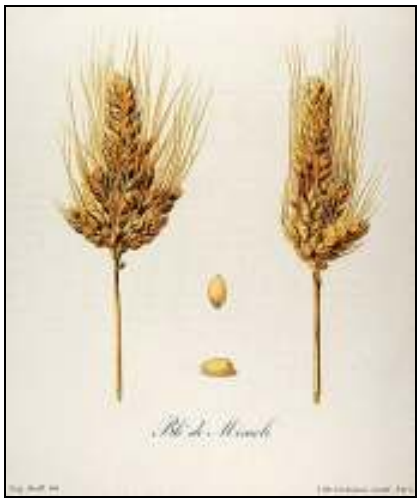
MINISTRY SCHOOL

1. The Theocratic Ministry School is a session at the Kingdom Hall for training JWs in public speaking and door to door "witnessing". Until 2008 it was one hour duration, followed by the "Service Meeting" for a second hour.

As of January 1, 2009 the Ministry School is shortened so as to include 25 minutes for the "Congregation Bible Study" (actually a book study of a recently published WTS book).

2. The "Kingdom Ministry School" consists of classes for training elders held at a kingdom hall or branch office.

MIRACLE WHEAT



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taxonomy_of_wheat#/media/File:Blemiracle

Wheat is cultivated for its seeds. A bushel (60 pounds-weight) has about 1 million individual kernels and produces about 42 pounds of white flour. All species of wheat together make up the genus Triticum. "Miracle Wheat" is a variety in the specie *Triticum turgidum* and designated *Triticum turgidum var. mirabile*.

The first plant of Miracle Wheat was discovered in 1903 by the son of Virginian farmer K.B. Stoner (born c.1843) and: "…was allowed to grow, and had 142 heads".

Russell viewed Miracle Wheat as evidence of God's ability to feed the world, including all people resurrected out of death, during the post-Armageddon Millennium which he predicted would start in 1914/1915.

J.A. Bohnet, a long-time member of Russell's cult, obtained a "few grains" in 1907, planted them, and accumulated a crop which he donated to Russell's WBTS.

In 1911 Miracle Wheat was sold from Russell's headquarters at $1 per pound which was 60 times the ordinary price for wheat. [Today, 2024 CE, allowing for inflation, that's $31 per pound.] *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* published a cartoon which implied Russell was defrauding the public and Russell sued for damage to his reputation — $100,000 [today $3 million]. Stoner had been selling Miracle Wheat for $1.25 per pound which he reduced to about 8 cents per pound after Russell began selling and got noticed by the *Daily Eagle*.

1911 September 29, p.1



The Watch Tower

Stoner had been selling it for $1.25 per pound which he reduced to about 8 cents per pound after Russell began selling.

Details about Miracle Wheat, and praising it, were published in *The Watch Tower* from 1908 to 1916. For example:

"MIRACLE WHEAT"

The public press is telling of the origin of "Miracle Wheat" in answer to prayer. The description has the earmarks of truth to it, in that it gives the address of the man whose prayers are said to have been answered—"K. B. Stoner, a farmer of Fincastle, Botetourt county, Virginia." It would appear from the account that the original stalk of wheat appeared in the midst of a crop of the ordinary kind, but with "142 heads of grain."

We quote:—

"Mr. Stoner was amazed. It seemed incredible. When a Frenchman, in 1842, announced that he had discovered a species of wheat in the Mediterranean country which produced four heads to the plant, people said he was crazy. "But here was a plant with 142 heads!

"Naturally Mr. Stoner carefully preserved the heads, and the next year sowed the seed, continuing to do this each year, for he realized he had discovered a phenomenal brand of grain. And each year his amazement increased.

"That first year after discovering the plant he got 2000 grains. In 1906 he got sixteen bushels, and has now raised the crop of wheat, all carefully preserved for seed, to 800 bushels.

"What is most remarkable about the wheat is this: Whereas there is produced in the wheat sections of that country an average at the best of seventeen bushels to an acre, the average yield of the "miracle wheat" during the last three years has been fifty-six bushels to the acre; and whereas from eight to ten pecks of seed are required to plant an acre in Virginia, Mr. Stoner uses only two pecks, and, in comparison to the yield of ordinary wheat in the neighborhood, which is eight bushels for each bushel of seed, Mr. Stoner gets about seventy-five bushels for one. An ordinary stalk of wheat covers about four inches of space. The miracle wheat covers twelve.

The Government Report

"Last year United States government officials became interested in the remarkable wheat and sent Assistant Agriculturalist H. A. Miller to examine it.

In his report he declares:

"'The wheat, which came from an unknown source, has been grown in the nursery every year since that time, and also has been grown under field conditions the last two years, giving excellent results. The yield has been from two to three times the yield of other varieties grown on the farm under the same condition of culture, except the rate of seeding, which was two pecks to the acre, while other varieties were sown at the rate of eight to ten pecks per acre, which is the common practice of farmers in the vicinity.

"'Milling tests have been made of this wheat, and its quality seems to be as good as, if not superior to, other varieties of winter wheat.' …"

Is It Restitution Wheat?

If this account be but one-half true it testifies afresh to God's ability to provide things needful for the "times of restitution of all things which God hath spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets since the world began."--Acts 3:19-21. (w1908 3/15 86)

Subsequent Watch Tower articles included:

- "I Will Call For The Grain And Increase It" (w1909 7/15 212-213)
- That Ye Bear Much Fruit (w1910 6/15 203)
- Restitution Work Begun (w1910 9/1 279)
- Miracle Wheat And Miracle Rye (w1910 10/1 307)
- A Donation Of Miracle Wheat (w1911 6/15 178)
- Miracle Wheat In Demand (w1911 8/1 226)
- Earth's Imperfection Is Fallen Man's Blessing (w1912 7/1 214-215)
- As Deceivers And Yet True (w1913 2/15 62)
- Proper And Improper Advertising (w1915 7/15, 218)

Other Miraculous Wheats

Other astonishing new wheat varieties also made news. For example w1908 7/15 214 describes "Alaska" wheat produced in Idaho "with stalks like sugar cane and yielding 277 bushels of highly nutritious kernels to the acre" and "so sturdy that storms that ruin other stock affect its giant stems but little".

Alaska wheat was exposed as a hoax or scam which *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*

reported in "Miracle Wheat Has An Alaskan Cousin" (1911 9/27 p.5)

Also dubious was Ward's wheat. *The Watch Tower* reported:

> W. W. Ward, of Dayton, Washington, has discovered a new variety of wheat that has seven distinct heads united to a common base. And each head is larger than the ordinary wheat. Ward figures that the new variety will yield as high as 280 bushels to the acre, with an average of 200 bushels. (1908 10/1 291)

To cultivate Ward's wheat grains of wheat had to be planted 42 inches apart at the bottom of trenches 20 inches deep and covered with 2 inches of soil. The 2-inch covering had to be repeated every 3 weeks until 10 coverings were achieved. With each covering "the grain gives forth three shoots" and "with the final covering the total amounts to 59,049 stalks or head of grain."

Even *The Watch Tower* expressed skepticism: "It is difficult to believe all this—that a single seed could thus produce seventy pounds of grain..." (w1909 7/15, 212, 213)

Miracle Wheat in Demand

The Watch Tower in 1911 reported:

> The notice in THE WATCH TOWER of June 15 that Brother Bohnet has "miracle wheat" in abundance now, and that he will sell it at $1 per pound and donate the entire proceeds to our Tract Fund, has brought in many orders.
> (w1911 8/1 226)

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Russell's $100,000 libel suit against *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* went to trial in January 1913 with the *Daily Eagle* intending to prove Russell's cult "a money-making scheme."

More than 95% of purchasers were members of Russell's cult. If there was cheating, cult members were the main victims. Only one person, a non-member, had sought a refund.

The following news reports can be accessed from *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle Archive* by typing "Miracle Wheat" in the search box at: https://bklyn.newspapers.com/paper/the-brooklyn-daily-eagle/1890/

- 1911 9/22 p.1 Church A Salesroom For 'Miracle' Wheat At $60 Per Bushel
- 1911 9/23 p.1 Easy Money Puzzle
- 1911 9/23 p.1 Skeptical Uncle Sam Seeks To Know More About Miracle Wheat
  Postoffice Inspector Dickson Will Have The Wheat...Tested
- 1911 9/24 p.6 Claims for 'Miracle' Wheat Not Merited
- 1911 9/25 p.1 Miracle Wheat On Demand On The Produce Exchange
- 1911 9/27 p.5 Miracle Wheat Has An Alaskan Cousin
- 1911 9/29 p.1 Easy Money Puzzle
- 1911 10/19 p.1 Pastor Russell Sues Eagle for $100,000
- 1911 11/29 p.3 Michigan Editor Writes About "Miracle Wheat"
- 1911 12/9 p.18 Eagle Files Its Answer in 'Pastor' Russell Suit
- 1913 1/21 pp 1-2 How Miracle Wheat Grew in Virginia
- 1913 1/23 p.3 "Pastor" Russell May Not Testify
- 1913 1/27 p.3 'Miracle Wheat' Low In Government Test
- 1913 1/28 p.2 Russell In Court As Lawyer Sums Up
- 1913 1/29 p.4 "Pastor" Russell And The Eagle
- 1913 1/29 p.16 "Pastor" Russell Loses Libel Suit
- 1913 8/22 p.3 "Pastor" Russell Has "Cancer Cure"
- 1915 2/25 p.2 "Miracle Wheat" Again Being Exploited in an "Ad" Disguised as News
- 1915 4/28 p.3 Don't Like Miracle Wheat
- 1915 5/7 p.1 Eagle Upheld in Libel Suit Victory
- 1915 5/10 p.16 Eagle's Victory Over "Pastor," Complete
- 1916 11/1 p.18 'Pastor' C.T. Russell Dies; Burial Here

The first listed *Daily Eagle* report (**1911 9/22**) mentions Russell's headquarters "the Tabernacle" as the selling address. The price $1 per **pound**, compared to the common price of $1 per **bushel**, was sixty times as expensive! Yet Russell gave no guarantee regarding its alleged productivity. He also denied having anything to do with the wheat other than provide the sales address.

1913 1/23 Report of farmers' testimony —

"All said they had obtained better results from the use of the miracle wheat than any other brands, but admitted on cross examination that they had never tried sewing ordinary wheat as thinly as they did miracle wheat."

1913 1/27 The court testimony of Carlton R. Ball, "a United States Government expert cerealist", who described tests done by the Department of Agriculture:

"When tested under strict rules and accurately measured pieces of ground, the "Stoner" or "Miracle", wheat, was found by the government experts to rank far below other kinds of wheat, when sown at the same thickness..."

"Of about thirty varieties of wheat tested in competition, "Stoner" or "Miracle" wheat ranked No. 18 in yield when sown 6 pecks to the acre. With the planting of 4 pecks to the acre the "Stoner" or "Miracle" wheat ranked third, and at 5 pecks per acre, ranked second..."

1913 1/29 Under the heading "Russell loses libel suit" Justice Kelby, summed up, saying in part:

"Nine farmers from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Indiana, Georgia and Tennessee, were put on the stand to testify... The yield from the "miracle wheat" they testified, was from <u>one and half to two times</u> that of ordinary wheat, when sown very thin. The advertisement of "Pastor" Russell in his Watch Tower had, stated, however, "that the yield ought to be from <u>ten to fifteen times</u> of ordinary wheat," and the claim was not borne out by the evidence."

1915 5/7 The court ordered Pastor Russell "to pay the costs of the court action."

1915 5/10 The Eagle's victory resulted in many newspapers ceasing to publish Russell's sermons and: "Clergymen in numerous cities have banded together to call public attention to the "Pastor's" court record..."

Russell loses defamation case

Russell lost the defamation suit and in February 1913 published the following comments in *The Watch Tower*:

"AS DECEIVERS AND YET TRUE"

MY SUIT against The Eagle for slanderous defamation of reputation has been decided in its favor. A Jury of twelve men have decided that The Eagle was justified in making its vicious onslaughts upon me, notwithstanding the Judge's Charge that, according to the law, the cartoon, at least, was a slanderous, vicious libel…

The Case Briefly Reviewed

I am interested in everything progressive and tending to prove that we are entering the great Thousand Years of earth's blessings under Messiah. In the columns of THE WATCH TOWER I have noted the coming of Divine blessings in fulfilment of the prediction that "The wilderness shall blossom as the rose," "The earth shall yield her increase," etc. Five years ago we quoted in THE WATCHTOWER columns reports respecting "Miracle Wheat." We gave the name and address (Mr. Stoner) of the farmer who discovered this new wheat and his reports of its remarkable qualities. We published also the report of Mr. Miller, the Government expert, who thoroughly investigated it and pronounced upon its superior qualities.

Some of our readers purchased seed from Mr. Stoner at $1.25 per pound and approved it. In 1910 one of the friends of our Society, who had raised some of this wheat, sold it for seed at $1.00 per pound, and donated the proceeds to our Society. In 1911 the same friend, having raised more seed, asked that THE WATCH TOWER give the benefit of this to its readers at $1.00 a pound post-paid, and appropriate the net results to the furtherance of its work. Another friend, who had some of the same seed, also donated similarly, the total amount being twenty bushels.

For the accommodation of our readers, we allowed this seed-wheat to be put up in pound packages and mailed from THE WATCH TOWER Office, just as the U.S. Government handles such seeds at Washington. We did the business at the request of others and in their interest, and credited them on our books with the results, setting aside to them proportionately voting shares in our Society. We made no claim for the wheat on our own knowledge. We merely gave the report of the Government expert, of the originator, and of our friends who had tried the wheat. We merely acted as intermediary.

Nevertheless, everything that was said respecting the wheat was fully proven at this trial by expert witnesses, interested and disinterested, and their testimony

was not shaken. It was also shown that farmer Stoner and his business partner, Mr. Knight, made no sales of this wheat under $1.25 per pound until September, 1911; and that they had a written contract between them that none of the wheat was to be sold at any price until the following year — 1912. Suddenly in September, 1911, they changed their plans, considering that they had wheat enough accumulated, put the price down to $5.00 per bushel, about the time that THE WATCH TOWER wheat was all sold at a dollar a pound. This The Eagle's attorney claimed was proof of fraud on the part of THE WATCH TOWER — sufficient excuse for the slanderous assaults of The Eagle upon me.

It was in vain that my attorney sought to show the Jury The Eagle's malice — that it really was attacking me along religious grounds; that it had set itself as the champion of certain clerical enemies of mine, and was seeking to destroy my influence and, if possible, to drive me from Brooklyn. In the court-room sat about twenty-five of my friends, who had come long distances at their own expense to have an opportunity to speak a word in my behalf. Through some intricacies of the Law respecting evidence, these were unable to be heard in my behalf.

Instead, the Law gave The Eagle's attorney the privilege of saying all manner of evil against me falsely — for the sake of the Doctrines of Christ, which I hold and teach. He was allowed to picture me, as The Eagle had done in its cartoon — as a thief and robber, masquerading in the garb of a minister of Christ. He was allowed to ridicule the "Miracle Wheat," although I had nothing whatever to do with it, nor with the naming of it; and notwithstanding the fact that its superiority was proven.

He was allowed to inveigh against the fact as criminal, that I hold the office of President of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, and to claim that I hold the office in some corrupt or unlawful manner, and that I misuse the Society's income in some unexplained way to my own advantage…

I am the more encouraged because I realize that the great Day of Blessing, the great Thousand-Year Day of Messiah's Kingdom, is near at hand—is dawning now. Soon Satan, the "Prince of Darkness," will be bound for a thousand years, to deceive the nations no more. (Revelation 20:2,3,6) No longer will Darkness be permitted to masquerade as Light, and the Light be slandered as Darkness…. (w1913 2/15 62)

Rutherford

Joseph F. Rutherford, Russell's lawyer and future leader of the cult, wrote that the WTS sold 30 bushels of Miracle Wheat with gross receipts $1800 (equivalent to $55,000 in 2024). This agrees with 1 bushel = 60 pounds and selling price of $1 per pound.

His write-up of the scandal in *A Great Battle in the Ecclesiastical Heavens* (1915) did not produce useful new evidence.

He accused *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle* of having a bad reputation, known for making unwarranted attacks, being the tool of an "Unholy Alliance" of "preachers" who opposed Russell's "enlightening the people", and that the jury was composed of men with "strong religious prejudices". Such opinions and accusations would have been disallowed in court as irrelevant distractions from the question of whether Miracle Wheat lived up to the claims made for it.

The "meat" of Rutherford's booklet was:

> Eleven witnesses testified to its superior quality over other wheat. Following are the names and addresses of the witnesses: Kent B. Stoner, Fincastle, Virginia; Joseph I. Knight, Sr., 1067 38th Street, Brooklyn, New York; Isaac L. Frey, Lower Mt. Bethel, Pennsylvania; Frederick Widener, Belvidere, N.J.; Henry D. Ayre, Cleveland, Tennessee; William Pray, Mansfield, N.J.; William I. Tomlinson, Kirkwood, N.J.; Edward W. Hunt, Stratford, N.J.; Dr. Joseph A. Carlton, Palmetto, Georgia; J.A. Bohnet, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Samuel J. Fleming, Wabash, Indiana.
>
> The eight first named never heard of Pastor Russell or his religious teachings prior to the trial of this case, but had been experimenting with Miracle Wheat and found it far superior to any other wheat…

Rutherford describes the alleged superior results achieved by Stoner and several other farmers and argued:

> The Brooklyn Eagle, to offset all this tes-

> timony of practical farmers and wheat raisers, produced but a single witness, namely, Mr. Ball, of the Agricultural Department of the United States Government, who was neither a farmer nor wheat raiser. Mr. Ball testified that he was "connected with the U.S. Government with the Department of Agriculture as an Agronomist and Acting Cerealist in charge of cereal investigations" (fol. 732). His imposing title was about his only recommend-dation. He produced a memoranda of experiments with Miracle Wheat, supposed to have been made at the Government station, by persons whom he was unable to name.

A final Russellite article in defense of Miracle wheat appeared in *The Golden Age* 1924 4/9 429-431 without explanation why, in view of its alleged superiority, it was almost forgotten and not being farmed everywhere.

Conclusions

Rutherford's belittling of the government expert as only a "single" witness and implying his qualifications meant nothing, was an obfuscation. Summaries by individuals with knowledge or expertise are done all the time; they are part and parcel of daily life. A school teacher, for example, does not discover all knowledge by himself but imparts conclusions built up from millions of experiments and observations of past generations. One "expert" in a scientific matter is usually more informed than many individuals where the knowledge of each is limited to his own experience.

Citing 11 farmers who claimed superior harvests from Miracle Wheat without sufficient details about their tests to replicate them, and without information on how many tests did not get superior results, elevates subjectivity above scientific method. The judge in court noted that the farmers' tests were unscientific:

> On cross examination the farmers were asked if they had ever tested the "Miracle Wheat" by sowing it under exactly the same conditions as they did their old-time brands. They laughed and said they knew very well what ordinary wheat would do, when sown thin at the rate of two pecks per acre. The fact remained, however, that the tests had been loose and inexact.
> (Brooklyn Eagle 1913 1/29 p.16)

Scientific investigation involves controlling for every likely influence including time of year for sowing, density of sowing, weather, soil, temperature, rainfall, fertilisers, insect pests, plant diseases, and natural unexplained variation.

If all influences are kept identical, harvests will still vary from unknown causes. Therefore statistical calculations are needed to test whether the variation from average in any harvest is significant. Psychology also has an effect — a person who wants or expects a certain result may subconsciously introduce differences in how he does an experiment and bias it toward the outcome he hopes for.

Carlton R. Ball, the US Government expert agronomist, described investigations at the experimental station Arlington Park in 1907-1908 where varieties of wheat were planted side by side and 30 varieties compared. (1913, January 27, p.3)

If Miracle Wheat was greatly superior to other varieties why did its use decline and not spread worldwide and prevent 20th century famines? Miracle Wheat still gets occasional mention in specialized texts but they mention it as an inferior variety. For example Svetka Koric (1966) writes:

> The tetraploid branched wheat *Triticum turgidum var. mirabile* has long been known and always attracted attention because of its large branched ears and large number of grains. It has been used for cultivation because it promised much, but always disappointed as it never produced either a high yield or good grain. Its growth habit was too luxuriant and required a low stand density, so that the increased yield per spike could not compensate for the smaller number of ears. It lodged easily and was not resistant to diseases.
>
> It was certainly right to conclude that its big productive spike with 120-150 grains could be a basis for high yield. However, unfortunately, all attempts with the *turgidum* branched wheat have failed. Much work has been done with this type of wheat in the USSR, but without success so that work on tetraploid branched wheats has been almost completely abandoned.

Was Russell therefore a fraud who cheated his own followers (who made up 95% of the buyers)?

Russell knew of at least two other alleged miraculous wheat varieties which failed testing. Obviously some farmers conducted

scams or just made poor observations. If this is true of Stoner, the discoverer of Miracle Wheat, then Russell and his supplier of the wheat, J.A. Bohnet, were duped.

This is not something Russell could have usefully argued in court — "I was duped and the Brooklyn Eagle misinterpreted my gullibility as fraud." Such argument would have called into question his reputation (among Russellites) for incomparable wisdom, besides attacking the integrity of the 11 farmers who testified on his behalf, and would still not have won him the $100,000 [today $3million] that he sought.

MIRACLES

JWs believe in the miracles recorded in the Bible.

They believe that the miracles of Jesus and the Apostles were temporary phenomena intended as evidence to establish the Christian Church. Since Christianity is now established, miracles are unnecessary. (Studies VI, 638)

However, in what sense "Christianity is now established", considering that Russell declared all other religions false and his own prophecies and doctrines needed repeated updating, is unexplained.

Until the 1890s the Russell and his followers believed that miracles of healing were occurring in their midst. *Zion's Watch Tower* reported many examples including old people made young again!

In the 20th century JWs did not believe in miraculous healing and did not pray for healing. Reports of miracles in Pentecostal religions they attribute to "Satan the Devil".

JWs refer to their survival under persecution as "Jehovah's protection" and sometimes as "miraculous" (although Jews have survived far greater persecution). The increase of their religion they consider a "modern miracle" although Adventists have grown faster and Pentecostals faster again.

With so much ambiguity it would seem that miracles to establish who truly is Christian is still needed as much as in the first century.

MISCELLANEOUS PRINTING

Yearbook of JWs (1946, p.37) has the following Production Report for the WTS worldwide not just the Brooklyn factory:

	1945	1944
Books and Bibles	3,468,586	3,297,545
Booklets	21,992,757	20,885,719
The Watchtower	11,575,655	10,437,498
Consolation	7,757,200	7,460,500
Total	44,794,198	42,081,262

Kingdom News	13,500,000	13,500,000
Advertising Leaflets	39,217,500	4,786,000
Calendars	77,798	60,334
Miscellaneous Supplies	14,658,914	27,709,002
Total miscellaneous printing	67,454,212	46,055,336

It's unclear what "miscellaneous printing" in 1945 referred to. It apparently was not "handbills" for advertising public meetings, which page 38 put at 82,820,000.

The following table shows production totals of "miscellaneous printing" in millions in Brooklyn from 1946 to 1970:

1946	61.2	1955	160.3	1964	234.6
1947	96.2	1956	137.1	1965	245.8
1948	105.0	1957	194.0	1966	242.5
1949	100.2	1958	203.5	1967	211.6
1950	121.3	1959	250.8	1968	234.9
1951	147.6	1960	204.2	1969	268.3
1952	153.1	1961	235.9	1970	282.2
1953	150.0	1962	240.1	-------	-------
1954	181.0	1963	238.6	-------	-------

Occasionally the WBTS revealed the worldwide printing of its authorized "miscellaneous material" which now included tracts, placards, resolutions, handbills, letterheads, forms, and leaflets:

Miscellaneous (millions)

1951	278.8
1959	477.1 (Includes 72.3 million copies of a Resolution in 53 languages)
1963	487.1
1968	502.6
1971	592.4

From 1948 to 1967 "Handbills advertising public lectures and tracts" had a total printing of 5,000 million. (Yearbook 1968, 29; w1968 1/1 22)

MISSIONARIES WHO LEFT JWs

A number of Gilead missionaries have left JWs and joined other religions. A few of these are:

- *We Left Jehovah's Witnesses A Non-Prophet Organization* (1979, E C Gruss) has the story of missionaries Kenneth and Monique Guindon.

- *BRCI Quarterly* (Spring 1996) mentions Fred Maes of the 30th class in 1957.

- Raymond Franz graduated from Gilead in 1944 and in his book *In Search of Christian Freedom* (1991) mentions several missionaries who left JWs.

MISSIONARY
JWs trained at Gilead Missionary School for five months and then sent overseas, or appointed as a special pioneer in their home country, are called "missionaries".

By 1978 5633 persons had graduated from Gilead, the WTS-run missionary school, and been sent to 160 countries. (g1978 8/5 14)

About 2,500 were still at it full time in 1978. Of the rest some had died; some became part-timers and some joined other religions.
(See also: *GILEAD*)

MISUNDERSTANDING
An occasional euphemism employed when referring to failed prophecies and discarded doctrines. (e.g. w1984 9/15 10)

MITCHEL, JON
A former secretary of the Governing Body and author of the booklet *Where is the Great Crowd Serving God?* (1998 Commentary Press) The booklet is about Revelation 7:9-17 and the JWs belief in two classes of Christians.

MJC PRODUCTS
Californian company in business since 1996 which sells ministry supplies to JWs to "keep themselves organized". These include calendars, record sheets, and a variety of binders.

MODEL STUDY 1, 2, 3
Question and answer booklets on Rutherford's writings and recorded speeches of 1937-1940.

MODERN DAY WITNESSES OF JEHOVAH
JWs refer to faithful Old Testament characters as "Jehovah's Witnesses". If they make such a statement and then move on to discuss modern times they would refer to their sect as the modern-day Witnesses of Jehovah".

MOIR, MIKE (1946-)
Famous JW photographer in California for *Surfer* magazine who professes to be of the "remnant" of the 144,000.

MOLDOVA
Publishers and Memorial attendance in Moldova and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1995	10,031	457	30,400	151
2000	17,578	244	41,600	93
2005	18,414	214	40,200	98
2010	20,244	202	39,600	103
2015	19,972	204	35,800	114
2018	19,213	210	34,200	118
	Ave.			
2019	18,584	170	32,900	96
2020	18,270	166	34,000	89
2021	18,418	176	42,200	77
2022	18,154	174	34,000	90
2023	17,816	167	33,200	90
2024	19,673	147	36,300	79
2025	15,422	154	27,432	87

MONACO
Publishers and Memorial attendance in Monaco and their ratio to the population:

	Average	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
2024	44	864	96	396
2025	44	864	111	342

MONEY (1).
See: *CONTRIBUTIONS*

MONEY (2)
In the early 1990s the WTS in some affluent countries instituted a donation system for its literature distributed from house to house. This probably reduced cash inflow. Later the food service at JWs conventions was discontinued which also reduced WTS profits. Besides reminding the congregations to donate generously and cheerfully the Governing Body used other methods to raise money.

One website says:

> Today the typical amount of cash sent free and clear to the WTS, generated in the U.S. at district assemblies, amounts

to about $12 per attendee. At the four Washington State assemblies at the Tacoma Dome, for example, this amounted to about $120,000 for each assembly. This is cash **free and clear** after all assembly expenses have been paid.
www.hourglass2.org/wwwboard/messages/283144.html

The above website lists some other WTS methods to raise revenue:

- The WTS sometimes hires parking lots for JWs convention-goers and rents parking spaces to them at profit. Also American cities often split parking lot revenue with the renter.
- The WTS invested heavily in the stock market in the 1990s.
- In the United Kingdom the WTS applied for charitable status for a "Kingdom Hall Fund" used to channel "charitable contributions" to whatever "charity" the WTS chooses — actually to its own Branch Offices.
- During the 1990s the WTS stopped mailing its magazines to subscribers in countries where postal rates were relatively high. Instead, the magazines are delivered in bulk to central locations and local JWs distribute them. Local JWs spend time and money doing what the postal service could do cheaper — but it means profit for the WTS.
- When the WTS cannot hire convention facilities at the price it wants it often stops negotiation and hires a more distant facility. Sometimes thousands of JWs families have to travel many more miles and/or pay for lodging. The extra cost to the JWs community may be $millions but the WTS may save only $thousands.

MONGOLIA
Publishers and Memorial attendance in Mongolia and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
2000	27	97,074	196	13,372
2005	109	25,608	571	4,888
2010	287	10,596	754	4,033
2015	445	6,650	1,280	2,312
2018	459	6,801	1,269	2,460
	Ave.			
2019	459	7,026	1,433	2,250
2020	444	7,383	773	4,241
2021	436	7,635	1,873	1,777
2022	422	7,993	1,365	2,471
2023	406	8,431	1,337	2,560
2024	441	7,948	1,216	2,882
2025	443	8,002	1,120	3,165

MONSTROSITY
A term for the totalitarian rule of Fascists, Nazis and the Vatican. David's slaying of Goliath pictured Christ destroying the "monstrosity" at Armageddon. (Yearbook 1939, 8-9, 23, 29, 34, 37) Except for the Vatican the "monstrosity" was destroyed not by God at Armageddon but long before Armageddon by the USA, Soviet Union and their allies. It's difficult to find any Bible predictions of JWs that were fulfilled.

MONTAGUE, HAVOR
Pseudonym used by Jerry Bergman in articles about JWs.

MONTENEGRO
Publishers and Memorial attendance in Montenegro and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
2007	205	3,025	613	1,012
2010	230	2,696	660	940
2015	278	2,272	589	1,072
2018	274	2,263	571	1,086
	Av.			
2019	272	2,309	536	1,172
2020	307	2,046	635	989
2021	323	1,944	908	692
2022	328	1,918	884	712
2023	371	1,693	823	763
2024	414	1,541	769	830
2025	434	1,438	759	822

Montenegro declared its independence from Yugoslavia in May 2006. It was initially listed together with Serbia in the Yearbooks of JWs but since 2007 as a separate country.

MONTHS
Rutherford, several times, claimed Armageddon was only "months" away:

> Universal war is absolutely certain to come, and that soon, and no power can stop it... During the few remaining months until the breaking of that universal cataclysm... (Universal War Near 1935 pp 26-27

(See: *DATES*)

MONTSERRAT
Publishers and Memorial attendance on Montserrat (an island in the Caribbean) and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	24	560		
1975	30	411		
1980	23	536	101	122
1985	30	436	118	111
1990	30	396	128	93
1995	39	305	159	75
2000	7	429	36	83
2005	8	375	44	68
2010	13	392	121	42
2015	21	233	108	45
2018	34	156	162	33
	Av.			
2019	34	147	216	23
2020	36	139	76	66
2021	36	139	135	37
2022	35	143	132	38
2023	35	143	138	36
2024	30	133	101	40
2025	27	148	88	45

MORALS AND STANDARDS AMONG JWs
About 2% of JWs are removed each year for immorality but about half of them get reinstated.

(See also: *CHARACTER; DEFECTION*)

MORDECAI and ESTHER
A Rutherford "picture" elaborated in his book *PREPARATION* (1932) and constituting a modern counterpart to the Bible story of Esther.

Mordecai pictured the Russellites active prior to 1919 and who stayed with the sect after 1919. Esther pictured the new converts who joined after 1919. Both groups together constituted the "remnant". (pp 22, 45, 46, 78, 157, 164-166)

Some of the remnant then alive, i.e. 1914 to 1932, would live to survive Armageddon. (pp 158-166; Yearbook 1929 Daily Text November 2)

The remnant to survive Armageddon included the Mordecai class:

> Following Armageddon all the earth shall be subdued under Christ…
> It is stated that Mordecai [after the Jews' enemies were annihilated which pictured Armageddon] was next to the king and went about seeking the wealth of his people and speaking peace to all his see.—10:3
> May this not mean that after Armageddon God will have some of his faithful remnant or servant class on the earth, and assign to them some honorable work for the good of the people... (p.166)

Frederick Franz, baptized in 1913 and therefore himself of the Mordecai class, agreed with this as late as 1970. Referring to the remnant who experienced World War I Franz wrote:

> A number of these should survive still longer to see and go through the war of Armageddon in harmony with Jesus' words, at Matthew 24:33-35. (w1970 15/1 52)

Franz died in 1992. The Mordecai class is now extinct — another false prophecy proved false! The "Esther class" members alive between 1919 and 1932 are probably also all deceased.

MORDECAI or KISH
Esther 2:5-7 says:

> [5] Now in Shushan the palace there was a certain Jew, **whose** name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite;
>
> [6] **Who** had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captivity which had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away.
>
> [7] And **he** brought up ... Esther, his uncle's daughter... (KJ Bible)

Who does '**Who**' refer to — Kish or Mordecai? The "captivity" occurred historically in 597 BCE, but in 617 BCE according to JWs. The story of Mordecai and Esther has its setting approximately 500 BCE.

If "who" means Mordecai then he and cousin-Esther would apparently be too old around 500 BCE for the story to be plausible. Rutherford reasoned:

> It has been contended that Mordecai was carried away in that captivity; but that could not have been true, because that would have made him too old for the time of the events recorded in the book of Esther. (Preservation 1932, 23)

Aid to Bible Understanding (1971) has it both ways — Kish went into captivity", but that Mordecai could be meant by considering him "in the loins of his ancestor, as yet unborn." (pp 1177-1178) The *Aid* book locates the story of Esther in 484-474 BCE which was in the reign of King Xerxes. *Insight on the Scriptures*

says plainly "Xerxes I, in the fifth century B.C.E." (Volume 1, 1988, 761)

If, however, we accept the historical date, 597 BCE, for the captivity, and that the reigning king was Darius (the father of Xerxes) a case can be made for Mordecai without resorting to the implausible "loins of his ancestor" argument. That argument, based on Hebrews 7:9-10 has theological significance and was not an argument for making wrong history appear correct.

MORNING STARS (Job 38:4-7)
Interpreted by Rutherford as Michael (Jesus) and Lucifer (Satan). (Comfort for the Jews 1925, 27)

MORRIS, ANTHONY (1950-)
Governing Body member appointed in August, 2005. He was born in Michigan and was in the U.S. Army for two years, July 1968 to June 1970.

MOSIER, PETER
A former JW in Canada who was forced to shutdown his website when the WBTS filed a $100,000 lawsuit before the Ontario Superior Court in 2005.

Mosier's website had quotations taken from the *Watchtower Library* CD and various publications of failed prophecies, flip-flopping doctrinal changes, alterations to Bible chronology, dubious medical advice, and demonising of the United Nations and the Internet.

The WBTS stopped Mosier's website due to suffering embarrassment and "loss of reputation and goodwill" even though it teaches:

> The Watchtower … invites careful and critical examination of its contents in the light of the Scriptures." (w1950 8/15 263)
>
> Do you dig out older publications to expand and deepen your knowledge on subjects about which questions arise? Have you really studied these earlier publications? … By By checking back through the Society's earlier publications you will learn where to find the answers to questions that arise, and you will rejoice to see your understanding continue to grow.
> (w1957 5/15 313; 315)

MOTHER
A euphemism for "The Organization". (w1952 2 /1 80)

> …show respect for Jehovah's organization, for she is our mother and the beloved wife of our heavenly Father, Jehovah God. (w1957 5/1 285; 274)
>
> If we are to walk in the light of truth we must recognize not only Jehovah God as our Father but his organization as our mother. (w1957 5/1 274)
>
> I have learned to view Jehovah as my Father and his organization as my Mother. (w1995 11/1 25)

MOTHER'S DAY
> To induce the people to bestow special honour and worship upon mothers would be one step toward turning the people away from the worship of the great Theocrat, Jehovah God…
> Just another of Satan's means of preparing for Armageddon. (w1940 5/1 158)

MOTION PICTURES.
See: *FILMS*

MOTIVATION
A chief motivation for JWs to proselytize, obey their leaders, maintain morality and die rather than accept blood is fear of Armageddon. In the course of a year JWs get numerous reminders that Armageddon or the New World is at hand, close or imminent. A steady scattering of such expressions occur throughout WTS literature as well as concentrations of five in individual paragraphs or even 25 in a six-page article. (e.g. w1984 11/15 21-26)

Articles in which JWs leaders give instructions, request money, alter a doctrine or urge more work, often include reminders to: "Do so while there is still time to reap everlasting life." (w1984 11/15 31, 26)

w1972 2/1 89 drives home its points near the article's end with the words "no time", "culmination", "rude awakening", "rapid", "near", "so little time" and "soon".

To persons unaware of the history of WTS manipulation such threats are powerful inducements to conform.

(See also: *CONTROL; ERROR; DATES; JOY*)

MOUNT OF OLIVES
A mountain outside Jerusalem's eastern wall. The Bible prophet Zechariah foretold the Mount of Olives being split into halves separated by a valley. (14:4) To Russell the halves signified the two parts of God's Kingdom — the heavenly part set up in 1878 and the earthly part to be set up by 1914 in Israel and ruled by resurrected Jews. (Studies IV, 651-652) [See: *KINGDOM*]

Rutherford interpreted the Mount of Olives as "Jehovah's universal organization". The split in half meant that the invisible 1914 heavenly kingdom is a distinct segment of this. (Preparation 1933, 295-301)

MOURITZ, HAROLD VIVIEN (c.1927-)
Mouritz was a branch office overseer in Australia, popular speaker at conventions, and a director (1985-1995) of the WBTS of Australia, and finally president.

MOUTHPIECE
C.T. Russell called himself as "God's mouthpiece":

> No, the truths I present as God's mouthpiece, were not revealed in visions or dreams, nor by God's audible voice, nor all at once, but gradually, especially since 1870 and particularly since 1880.

By the 1940's the "remnant" or "faithful and wise servant class" was similarly called God's "mouthpiece":

> The Son has returned as King; he has come to his temple. He has appointed his "faithful and wise servant", who is his visible mouthpiece. (w1943 7/1 204)

MOVIES / MOVIE THEATRES
Banned to JWs in the 1940s by the WTS as a worldly waste of time when Armageddon is so close. In the 1950s advice on controlled viewing replaced outright rejection. Later Knorr and other WTS leaders even accepted gifts from followers of color television sets!

MOVING AHEAD
Construction works of printeries, halls, and branch offices show that: "Jehovah's Organization Moves Ahead". (w1982 12/1 23-31)

Individuals diligent in obedience and in door to door preaching are said to be "moving ahead".

JWs are urged to "Move ahead with Jehovah's organization" which means they should quickly accept all "new truth" revealed through the WTS. Failure to "move ahead" i.e. to quickly confirm to new truth is considered evidence of immaturity, lack of appreciation or rebellion.

MOYLE, OLIN R. (1887-1966)
Olin Moyle joined the Russellites before World War I and was legal counsel for the WBTS in 1934-1939 and stationed at the New York headquarters.

Moyle gave up a "lucrative law practice" to live at Bethel with his wife and son and head the WBTS's newly formed Legal Department.

The department was established by Rutherford to help JWs mount court cases to defend their right to preach and their right not to salute the flag. Moyle filed the petition in 1935 when the first JWs children were expelled from school for refusal to salute the flag. Moyle appeared as a principal witness in other cases and represented the WBTS jointly with Rutherford in several lawsuits. In 1938, Moyle won the Lovell v. City of Griffin case before the Supreme Court of the USA.

Rutherford — Vulgar & Glorified Alcohol

In an open letter of resignation dated July 21, 1939, Moyle accused Rutherford of "allowing filthy speaking and jesting ... vulgar speaking and smut" and promoting a "glorification of alcohol". He claimed that the workers had poor accommodation whereas Rutherford had "many homes". Rutherford promptly expelled Moyle and his wife from Bethel.

Moyle's son, Peter, at first supported his father but then sided with Rutherford:

> On August 8, 1939, when the Bethel family was asked to express their disapproval of the letter of O.R. Moyle, I expressed my disapproval by remaining seated. After prayerful and Scriptural consideration of the matter I am now of the opinion that my action was wrong. I wish to state that I am in full harmony with the Theocracy of Jehovah and I recognize the Society as the visible part. I desire to cooperate to the best of my ability and opportunity. (w1939 10/15 382)

Despite his meek subjection Peter Moyle's name no longer appeared in the *Yearbook* lists of Ordained Ministers. He left JWs, went to various Bible Student groups, but

converted to Judaism before becoming an agnostic. Peter's wife Edna lived her final years at a Bible Students Retirement Center

Olin Moyle's dismissal affected the Minersville School District v. Gobitis case which he had won at the appellate level. When the Minersville School District appealed the Gobitis case to the Supreme Court, Rutherford himself argued before the Supreme Court in 1940 but the Court ruled against JWs. In 1943 the Supreme Court overruled this decision in West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, 319 U.S. 624 (1943) which was argued by Hayden Covington.

Moyle Wins Libel Suit Against WTS

Olin Moyle was castigated at conventions and in print, and compare to Judas who betrayed Jesus. In w1939 10/15 we read Rutherford's response to a letter Moyle wrote:

> …every paragraph of that letter is false, filled with lies, and is a wicked slander and a libel…
>
> For four years past the writer of that letter has been entrusted with the confidential matters of the Society. It now appears that the writer of that letter, without excuse, libels the family of God at Bethel, and identifies himself as one who speaks evil against the Lord's organization, and who is a murmurer and complainer, even as the scriptures have foretold. (Jude 4-16; 1Cor. 4:3; Rom 14:4) The members of the board of directors hereby resent the unjust criticism appearing in that letter, disapprove of the writer and his actions, and recommend the president of the Society immediately terminate the relationship of O. R. Moyle to the Society as legal counsel and as a member of the Bethel family. (w1939 10/15 316)

Moyle brought a libel suit against 11 leaders of the WTS, both the Pennsylvania and New York corporations. (g1944 12/20 21; 1943 6/23, 1943 27-28)

Rutherford presented a public resolution at a 1941 convention against Moyle:

> This same day a sharp judgment of the great Lawgiver against the "evil servant" class (Matt. 24:48-51) was expressed at the beginning of the afternoon's sessions. An ex-army officer of the United States appeared on the platform and asked and was granted the privilege to present a *Resolution concerning one Moyle*.
>
> Said lawyer proved unfaithful to his position of trust m the Lord's organization, slandered and abused the Bethel family at Brooklyn, quit his post of duty, and thereafter sued the Society and its board of directors and others for $100,000 for libel because the facts were published in The Watchtower for the protection of Jehovah's witnesses throughout the land. The Resolution condemned such course of action and such recourse to worldly courts as unscriptural, unwarranted and unjustified. Put to a vote, the Resolution was adopted with a unanimous "Aye" by the vast assembly of more than 75,000. Thereafter copies of the Resolution were given free to all, to take home with them. (w1941 9/15 285-286)

The Court heard both sides of the dispute and judged more objectively than Rutherford or his JWs and awarded Moyle $30,000 in damages, reduced to $15,000 on appeal in 1944.

After leaving JWs, Olin Moyle associated with the Pastoral Bible Institute but eventually started a separate sect and published *Bible Student Inquirer*, later renamed *Bible Student Examiner*. When Moyle died Henry Wallis, also an ex JW, continued until his own death in 1982 when the journal ceased.

[Wallis joined the Bible Students in 1922 after seeing the *Photo Drama of Creation* and became an elder in Baltimore. He left JWs in 1932 when Rutherford began to dismantle the elder arrangement. In 1950 Wallis contacted Moyle and contributed articles for several years before becoming associate editor.]

Moyle also got involved with David Horowitz (1903-2002) a Jew and Zionist who founded the United Israel World Union (1944). Horrowitz authored *Pastor Charles Taze Russell: An Early American Zionist*. (1986)

MOZAMBIQUE

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

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	3,145	2,114		
1975	25,790	318		
1995	19,377	895	70,200	239
2000	35,100	492	133,900	129
2005	41,600	467	174,100	111

2010	49,300	455	230,100	97
2015	57,100	450	291,400	88
2018	64,500	473	306,900	99
	Av.			
2019	65,600	463	334,100	91
2020	66,200	454	238,300	126
2021	69,100	446	269,100	115
2022	73,000	427	286,700	110
2023	81,454	398	352,100	92
2024	92,000	352	411,400	79
2025	103,200	345	405,200	88

MR/MRS/MISS

When JWs in Western countries talk about other JWs they use the term "Brother …" or "Sister …" followed by their first name or last name. When talking about householders whom they visit they might use the first name or otherwise refer to them as "Mr …" or "Mrs …" followed by their last name.

MUNOZ, ANTHONY O. (1932-)

A JW baptized in Chile, S.A. in 1952 who disassociated himself by letter in 2002 after viewing the *Dateline* program concerning pedophilia among JWs. A copy of the letter is on the Internet.

MURDERS BY JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

JW builder bludgeoned client (2024)

> The builder was unqualified to do the floor extension he was hired for. He bludgeoned his client to death when she complained and "led the Jehovah's Witness service the same night" that he killed her.
>
> https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-68139396
>
> https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-13030787/Killer-builders-twisted-24-hours-murderous-Jehovahs-Witness-bludgeoned-female-customer...

Not much research appears available on how often JWs kill non-JWs. It could be that JWs more often kill each other. See: *FAMILY MURDERS*

MWANAWASA, LEVY PATRICK (1948-2008)

Third president of Zambia elected 2001, re-elected in 2006. Mwanawasa obtained a Bachelor of Law (University of Zambia) in 1973 and was Vice-President 1991-1994.

Mwanawasa attended JWs meetings until 2001 but was not baptized. His wife, Maureen, was baptized but disfellowshipped in 2001 for involvement in politics.

An interview with Mwanawasa after his wife's disfellowshipping was reported as follows:

> Mr Mwanawasa also said he believed in the participation of everybody in the country's politics, without undue interference.
> Referring to a question on his participation in politics contrary to the beliefs of Jehovah's Witnesses, Mr Mwanawasa, before revealing the action against his wife, said the Bible recognised respect for civic authority.
> He said he had often referred to Romans Chapter 13 verses 1-7 which particularly discussed how civic authority shall be respected.
> The MMD presidential hopeful explained that even Jehovah's Witnesses applied for national registration cards (NRCs) and saw no reason why they should not obtain voters' cards.

The couple had four children and Levy had two more from his first marriage. After leaving JWs, Mwanawasa and wife reportedly joined the Baptists.

MYANMAR

Publishers and Memorial attendance in Myanmar (formerly Burma) and their ratio to the population:

	Peak	Ratio 1 to	Memorial	Ratio 1 to
1970	559	48,301		
1975	822	34,976		
1980	1,063	29,323	2,950	10,566
1985	1,352	26,257	3,597	9,869
1990	1,763	22,689	4,765	8,394
1995	2,285	19,694	5,270	8,539
2000	2,884	17,337	6,629	7,543
2005	3,111	17,454	7,120	7,626
2010	3,746	14,259	8,373	6,379
2015	4,149	13,171	8,438	6,476
2018	4,499	11,973	9,585	5,620
	Av.			
2019	4,698	11,564	10,437	5,206
2020	4,845	11,303	8,240	6,646
2021	5,027	10,983	11,881	4,647
2022	5,084	10,952	11,670	4,771
2023	5,122	10,962	11,975	4,689
2024	5,221	10,845	11,948	4,739
2025	5,303	9,677	10,543	4,867

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