

Understanding the Jehovah's Witnesses

THEIR BEGINNING

The JW's were founded by Charles Taze _____ (1852-1916).

At around age 16, Russell began to question the doctrine of eternal _____ and became a skeptic.

Russell began to study the Bible and write articles in order to disprove the doctrine of hell and to _____ Christians and their "grievous errors and departures from the faith."

Russell gained quite a following and eventually founded the Jehovah's Witnesses under the name of Zion's Watch Tower and Tract Society in _____.

Russell's success was due to:

His way with _____

His _____ (Though unbiblical, it was somewhat rational.)

His appeal to the _____

His denial of the doctrine of _____

His fascination with the _____

His widespread _____

THEIR BELIEFS vs THE BIBLE

JWs believe there is one almighty God who is only one _____. The doctrine of the Trinity is to be rejected.

The Bible teaches that there is one God (Deut. 6:4; Isa. 45:5; Rom. 3:30) who exists in _____ distinct Persons all of the same Substance, co-equal, co-existent and co-eternal (Genesis 1:26; 11:7; Isa 6:8; Matthew 28:19). God clearly reveals Himself as the Father (Malachi 2:10; Eph. 4:6; Php 4:20), the SON (Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1, 14) and the Holy Spirit. (Mark 3:29; Acts 5:3-4)

JWs believe Jesus was God's first creation and definitely _____ to God the Father. They will say he is a mighty "god", but he is not to be worshipped.

The Bible teaches that Jesus is the _____ God who is before all things (Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1, 14; John 8:58; Romans 9:5; Titus 2:13; 1 John 5:20; Col. 1:17), and who in his very nature is equal to God the Father (John 10:30, 14:9; Php 2:6; Col. 2:9; Heb. 1:8; Rev. 1:8, 22:13). He is to be worshipped just as God the Father is worshipped. (Matthew 2:11; 14:33; 28:9; John 5:23; 9:38; Heb. 1:6; Revelation 5:11-14).

JWs believe Jesus is a created spirit being by the name of _____, the archangel.

The Bible teaches that no _____ has ever been called God's Son (Heb. 1:5). Jesus is far superior than Michael (Jude 1:9; Matt. 4:10, 16:23) and all the other angels (Matt. 4:11, 26:53, and He is to be worshipped by them (Heb. 1:6; Rev. 5:11-12).

JWs believe the Holy Spirit is neither a _____ nor God. Rather, the Holy Spirit is God's impersonal "active force" for accomplishing His will.

The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is a person (John 14:16; John 15:26; Acts 8:29) who is, in fact,

_____ (Mark 3:29; Acts 5:3-4). He has a mind (1 Cor. 2:10-11; Rom. 8:27), emotions (Eph. 4:30), and a will (1 Cor. 12:11; Acts 16:6). He teaches (John 14:26), He testifies (John 15:26), He convicts (John 16:8), and He leads (Romans 8:14).

JWs believe that hell is simply the _____ (i.e., the place where mortals wait the resurrection). They deny the idea of eternal punishment. Instead, all who reject Jehovah will be annihilated.

The Bible teaches that there is an eternal punishment reserved for the _____, his angels, and all unbelievers (Matt. 25:41; Luke 12:45-46, 13:27-28; Rev. 21:8). It is a place of everlasting conscious torment (Daniel 12:2; Matt 13:42; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 14:9-11; 20:10) where the lost are separated from God's presence forever (2 Thes. 1:9; 2 Pet. 2:17)

JWs believe salvation by grace through faith is necessary, but it must be completed by their _____. Ultimately, salvation for a Jehovah's witness is impossible apart from total obedience to the Watchtower Society and vigorous participation in its programs. As a result, Jehovah's witnesses cannot know for sure if they have salvation during this life.

The Bible teaches that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone and _____ from any works of our OWN (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Romans 3:20-28, 4:5; John 3:16; John 6:29; 2 Tim. 1:9; Rom. 11:6). It is all the work of God from beginning to end (John 1:12-13, 10:27-29, 15:16; Romans 8:29-30, 9:14-16; Eph. 1:4-5, 13-14, 2:10). Believers can know that they have eternal life (1 John 5:11-13; Romans 8:15-16; Gal. 4:6; John 5:24; 4:30).

THEIR AUTHORITY

JWs believe the Bible is their authority, but they rely on their terribly _____ and blasphemously biased version known as The New World Translation.

God's Word is our authority (Deut. 6:17; Psalm 119:4; 2 Timothy 3:16) and is not to be altered or added to in any way (Deut. 4:2, 12:32; Proverbs 30:5-6; Rev. 22:18-19).

JWs believe the Watchtower organization and its writings are the basis for all _____ understanding. The Watchtower claims to be God's prophet on earth today. To question the organization is to question God.

The Watchtower and its leaders have consistently proven to be _____ prophets (Deut. 18:20-22). Claiming to be spokesmen for God, they have wrongly predicted 1874, 1878, 1914, 1918, 1925, 1975 to be the years for events such as the second coming, Armageddon and the end of the world.

THEIR MINDSET

JWs are under a constant fear of losing out on _____.

JWs are under a constant pressure to do what the _____ says or else.

JWs have no concept of having a real _____ with Jesus Christ. The organization and its authority stands in the way.

HOW TO WITNESS TO A JEHOVAH'S WITNESS

Pray that God would give you a heart for these poor folks who are _____.

Try to demonstrate that the Watchtower is not _____, and is in fact a false prophet.

(In 100 years of giving prophecies the Watchtower has had a 100% failure rate!)

Encourage them to seek who _____ truly is. (Preferably from a different translation than the NWT!)

Share the Gospel, share your salvation testimony, give them a tract, and invite them to church.

BOOKS

Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Jehovah's Witnesses – Ron Rhodes
The 10 Most Important Things You Can Say to a Jehovah's Witness – Ron Rhodes
The Facts on Jehovah's Witnesses – John Ankerberg & John Weldon
Answering Jehovah's Witnesses Subject by Subject – David A. Reed
The Kingdom of the Cults – Walter Martin

WEBSITES

www.freeminds.org
www.witnessinc.com
www.kevinquick.com
www.johnankerberg.org
www.aomin.org
www.carm.org/witnesses.htm

November 26, 2006

Pastor Matt Hsieh