



Jehovah's Witnesses,
Proclaimers
of
God's Kingdom?

True or
False?

JWTR02E

Taking up the Challenge:

The Watchtower (WT) magazine of January 18, 1933, p.252 challenges us as follows: "If the message Jehovah's Witnesses are bringing to the people is true, then it is of the greatest importance to mankind. If it is false, then it is the duty of clergymen and others who support them to come boldly forward and plainly tell the people where the message is false."

It is not religious persecution!

"It is not a form of religious persecution for anyone to say and to show that another religion is false. It is not religious persecution for an informed person to expose publicly a certain religion as being false, thus allowing persons to see the difference between false religion and a true religion...To make a public exposure of a false religion is certainly of more value than exposing a news report as being untrue; it is a public service, instead of religious persecution." (WT, November 15, 1963, p.688)

Review the record:

If the Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society (WTB) is a false religion, as Orthodox Christianity has been saying for years, then we need to consider what this Organisation has been teaching. The WTB tells us how, "The only way this can be done, is to review the record." (WT, July 4, 1972, p.197)

God's only organisation:

"...Jehovah's organization alone, in all the earth, is directed by God's holy spirit or active force (Zech 4:6) Only this organization functions for Jehovah's purpose and to his praise. To it alone God's Sacred Word, the Bible, is not a sealed book." (WT, July 1, 1973, p.402)

Jesus present since 1914:

1. "Christ's return does not mean that he literally comes back to earth...Bible evidence shows that in the year 1914 C.E. God's time arrived for Christ to return and begin ruling." (WTB: You Can Live Forever In Paradise On Earth <Paradise>, 1982, p.147) What has He been doing since?

2. "...since Christ returned and sat down on his heavenly throne, all humankind has been on judgement...During the present judgement people are being separated as 'goats' to Christ's left hand or as 'sheep' to his right." (Paradise, p.183)

3. "The Scriptures show that his (Jesus') second presence was due in 1874...This proof show that the Lord has been present since 1874..." (WT, March 1, 1923, p.67) **How can anyone doubt it?**

4. "Surely there is not the slightest room for doubt in the mind of a truly consecrated child of God that the Lord Jesus is present since 1874;..." (WT, January 1, 1924, p.5)

Question: Which is right 1914 or 1874?

Not only is the WTB confused about the date, but they are also uncertain about the separating of the sheep and goats:

5. "...Jesus' 'sitting down on his glorious throne' for judgement, mentioned in Matthew 25:31, applies to the future point when this powerful King will sit down to pronounce and execute judgement on the nations...the rendering of judgement on the sheep and the goats IS FUTURE." (WT, October 15, 1995, pp.22-23, capitals mine)

Question: Did the separating of the sheep and goats start in 1874, 1914, or is it still due?

Is this not a complete turn about from the "Biblically evidenced" position of the judgement which started in 1914 to being in the future?

An "adjusted understanding":

This "adjusted view" is published in *The Watchtower* of October 15, 1995. The WTB Society's Board of Directors, known as the Governing Body (GB <the remnant>), explains this "adjusted view" in great detail in words like: "An adjusted understanding, this refinement, this deeper understanding, an adjusted view" and "this clarifies our understanding of the timing of Jesus' parable which shows when the sheep and goats will be judged." (pp.19,22-23)

When the meanings of these phrases are checked out in dictionaries it is found that these words mean just what the WTB says, "A small adjustment or refinement", BUT MOST CERTAINLY NOT a completely new view! The GB is cleverly using these words to get readers' minds off the true implication of what they are doing (a method of mind control), changing from their previously held position of the separating of the sheep and goats that were being done by Jesus since 1914 to a completely new view!

Is this honesty? And that from an organisation that claims to be God's only organisation, as we have seen! Their normal explanation for a changed view is that this is now "New Light". But does this explanation hold any water?

New Light:

As long ago as 1881 Charles Taze Russell, founder of the WTB said: "A new view of truth never can contradict a former truth. 'New Light' never extinguishes older 'light,' but adds to it...So it is with the light of truth; the true increase is by adding to, not substituting one for another." (WT, February 1881, p.3) This view agrees with Scripture which the JW's normally will quote in support of their new light theory:

"But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines brighter and brighter until the full day." (Prov 4:18, NASB) **Note:** There is no indication of a change in light. The righteous (believers) have the light of truth, and as they grow in faith the light increases. It is not a matter of extinguishing one light and lighting another one, something which the GB has done by giving a completely different interpretation to the separating of the sheep and the goats. Watch out for this tactic whenever they tell you, "this is new light". Not only does the GB receive marvellous "new light" but they also claim to have a direct line to the throne of the Most High:

Directed by God's "holy spirit" and angels:

1. "...in heaven, (1) Jehovah God originates his utterances, and then (2) his official Word...known as Jesus Christ, transmits the message; (3) God's holy spirit is the active force that is used as the medium to carry the communication earthward; (4) God's prophet on earth is the receiver of the message [who] then publishes it for the benefit of God's people..." (WTB: "All Scripture Is Inspired Of God And Beneficial, 1963, p.9)

2. "...angels are invisible to human eyes and are there to carry out the orders of the Lord. No doubt they first hear the instruction which the Lord issues to his remnant and then these invisible messengers pass such instruction on to the remnant." (WTB: Vindication III, 1932, p.250)

3. "In line with Revelation 14:6, 7, mankind now is hearing a warning message of judgment declared by Jehovah's Witnesses UNDER ANGELIC DIRECTION." (WT, October, 15, 1995, p.12-capitals mine)

Not only do the angels communicate with the Governing Body but so do their dead anointed brothers:

4. "It is fitting then, that one of the 24 elders, representing anointed ones already in heaven, should stir John's thinking by raising a pertinent question...Yes, that elder could locate the answer and give it to John. This suggests that resurrected ones of the 24-elders group may be involved in the communicating of divine truth today." (WTB: Revelation. Its Grand Climax At Hand!, 1988, p.125). (**Note:** "anointed ones" = literally 140 000-a special class of Jehovah's Witnesses. The GB is of this group. "The 24-elders group" is of the 144 000 who have died and have been resurrected as spirit creatures who are in heaven)

5. "This verse (Rev 8:3) shows that, though Pastor Russell has passed beyond the veil (died), he is still managing every feature of the Harvest work." WTB: The Finished Mystery, 1917, p.144) **How does this rhyme with the following?**

6. "There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times (astrologer), or an enchanter, or a witch, or a charmer (hypnotist), or a consulter with familiar spirits (spirit medium), or a wizard, or a necromancer (consults the dead)." Not only does the WTB confirm this but they also state that God condemns the angel movement. Yet we have seen they believe in these satanic practices!

7. "...inquiring of the dead or seemingly receiving messages from them is yet another facet of the angel movement that is not approved by God." (WT, November 1, 1995, p.6)

Question: What can we believe - that this organisation is directed by angels, the dead or an active force, a force that cannot be the Holy Spirit, or is the GB perhaps under the influence of demons? No wonder the WTB tells us that their gospel is a different one:

A New Gospel:

The GB makes so much of 1914 and for years it has been such an important date that Jehovah's Witnesses cannot do otherwise, but go around and preach this gospel.

1. "Let the honest-hearted person compare the kind of preaching of the gospel of the Kingdom done by the religious systems of Christendom during all the centuries with that done by Jehovah's Witnesses since the end of World War I in 1918. They are not one and the same kind. That of Jehovah's Witnesses is really 'gospel,' or 'good news,' as of God's heavenly kingdom that was established by the enthronement of His Son Jesus Christ at the end of the Gentile Times in 1914." (WT, May 1, 1981, p.17)

2. "Today, Jehovah's Witnesses alone are declaring the good news that the Kingdom has been functioning in the heavens since 1914 with Jesus Christ as King." (WT, July 15, 1984, p.15) The natural question is, Who gave birth to this Kingdom of 1914? They give the answer.

3. "'Arise, O woman,' commands Jehovah. Obediently, God's heavenly organization has arisen from a centuries-long barren, desolate condition to a state of fruitful productivity. In 1914 she (the organization!) gave birth to the Messianic Kingdom." It is clear from this that neither their gospel nor their emphasis on 1914 is Scriptural! Now that the generation of 1914 has been thrown out of the window (refer to our tract, JWTR01E) they have also lost their gospel. No wonder this happened because the true gospel of the Bible is entirely different:

4. "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,..." (1 Cor 15:3-4) Certainly not a gospel of 1914 or of a heavenly kingdom! No wonder Paul warns the Corinthians about different Jesus', gospels and spirits. "For if one comes and preaches AN-

OTHER JESUS, whom we have not preached, or you receive A DIFFERENT SPIRIT which you have not received, or A DIFFERENT GOSPEL which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully." (2 Cor 11:3-4, NASB-capitals mine) Shall we believe the Bible, or accept what they teach and that despite the track record we have seen so far? But wait, the matter becomes more confusing:

Separation since 1935!

"Those gathered to the King's right hand of favor as 'sheep' ...[and] those gathered to the King's left hand...as 'goats' include people of all nationalities...Such separation of all peoples in general has been going on particularly since the year 1935...It is HIGHLY IMPORTANT for us to recognise what the 'sign' means-Christ's invisible presence in his capacity of King." (Things In Which It Is Impossible For God To Lie, 1965, pp. 342, 343-capitals mine) So, why was 1935 important?

The GB had problems: The number of followers of the teachings of the WTB now exceeded 144 000 and something had to be done, and voila! A new class is born-The Great Crowd! Up to this point they believed that Christ would return when their membership totalled 144 000 "believers" who would all go to heaven

1. "Under its (the GB's) direction the heavenly hope was held out, highlighted and stressed until about the year 1935. Then as 'light flashed up' to reveal clearly the identity of the great crowd of Revelation 7:9, the emphasis began to be placed on the earthly hope. (Psalm 97:11) It is reasonable to conclude, therefore, that by that time the full number of 144 000 would have nearly been completed." (WT, February 1, 1982, p.28)

2. "These flashes of prophetic light prepared the ground for the historic discourse on 'The Great Multitude,' given May 31, 1935, by the president of the Watch Tower Society, J.F. Rutherford, at the Washington, D.C., convention of Jehovah's Witnesses...In the years that followed, God's organization proceeded to give much attention to the 'great crowd' and their hope of surviving into the Restored Paradise on earth." (WT, March 1, 1985, pp.14, 15)

Ever since then the great crowd only has an earthly hope who through their works hope to find favour in Jehovah's eyes at Armageddon and be awarded with eternal life in the new paradise on earth. That is then why they come with this message of a wonderful new world that is promised by God to the doors of Christians. Is their "two classes system" is not contradictory to God's word, "For there is no partiality with God." (Rom 2:11)?

A more important date:

The year 1914 is not as important as JW's today believe: "The year 1925 is a date DEFINITELY marked in the Scriptures, EVEN MORE CLEARLY than 1914;..." (WT, July 15, 1924, p.211-capitals mine) This date was never revoked so it must still be true, but why was this date so important?

Millions Now Living Will Never Die!

In 1920 "Judge" Rutherford (2nd president of the WTB) published a book, Millions Now Living Will Never Die (Millions) and also delivered this message of hope to thousands of followers at their various conventions. This message promised the resurrection of the heroes of Hebrews chapter 11: "The chief thing to be restored is the human race to life; and since other Scriptures DEFINITELY FIX THE FACT that there will be a resurrection of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and other faithful ones of old...we may expect 1925 to witness the return of these faithful men of Israel from the condition of death..." (Millions, 1920, p.88-capitals mine) They were so certain that the WTB even acquired a house for these

men: "the hundred-acre estate at San Diego, California, [is] held in trust for the New Earth's Princes. The house built thereon he (Rutherford) named 'Beth-Sarim'; it was deeded to those princes." (Consolation {forerunner of Awake!}, May 27, 1942, p.3)

These Biblical men, upon laying claim to this estate, had to prove their identity to the GB before they could live on this estate: "Any persons appearing to take possession of said premises shall first prove and identify themselves to the proper officers (GB) of said Society (WTB) as the person or persons DESCRIBED IN HEBREWS CHAPTER ELEVEN and this deed." (Golden Age {forerunner of Awake!}, March 19, 1930, p.407)

In 1924 W E Van Amburgh (member of the GB) published The Way To Paradise (The Way) in which Jerusalem was to become the capital of the world and stated that the princes would live there. Why then an estate in California for them? He also wrote in this book that believers who "desire to visit Jerusalem and personally interview these princes, or if the princes should desire to make a personal inspection...aeroplanes will soon be so perfected that it will be matter of but a few hours ride to any part of the earth to and from Jerusalem." (The Way, p.226)

Not one of these teachings have been revoked by the Governing Body! In fact these men and their writings are held in high esteem in their latest book, Jehovah's Witnesses: Proclaimers of God's Kingdom, 1993, giving distorted views of their history (a subject for another tract).

A brief overview of their main doctrines:

The WTB teach that:

1. God the Father (Jehovah according to them) is not omnipresent. "He can send out his spirit, his active force, to do whatever he wants even though he is far away." (Paradise, p.37)

2. The Holy Spirit is not God and neither is he a "Person". "[Like a power plant] his (Jehovah's) active force, can be felt everywhere, over the universe." (Paradise, p.37)

3. Jesus is a mighty God but not the Almighty. He is the first and most wonderful creation of Jehovah. He was raised a glorious spirit creature. His body was disposed of by Jehovah. He returned to heaven and once again became Michael the archangel. He came invisibly in 1914 and reigns as powerful King from the heavens.

4. Their gospel is that of the Kingdom that was established in the heavens in 1914.

So here we have all three false teachings in our midst that Paul warned the Corinthians against which we should heed!

The Bible, in contrast, teaches:

1. God is omnipresent: "Can a man hide himself in hiding places, so I do not see him?" declares the Lord. "Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the Lord." (Jer 23:24)

2. The Holy Spirit is a "Person" and God: "...Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit,...You have not lied to men, but to God." (Acts 5:3-4)

3. Jesus is not Michael the archangel but eternal God: God the Father says: "And let all the angels of God worship Him (the Son)" and "Thy throne O God is forever." (Heb 1:6-8, All quotes from the NASB)

4. We have already seen that their gospel is false!

If you need copies of all these documents or the tract, write to:

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