

Week 3: Jehovah Witness

- There are _____ Jehovah Witnesses in the world and _____ in the United States.

History of the Jehovah Witness Church

- In _____, Charles Taze _____ started an independent group to study the Bible.
- In _____, Russell and Nelson _____ published the book '*Three Worlds*'.
- In the book they taught that Christ had returned _____ in 1874 and that _____ would mark the "end of the Gentile times."
- After a split between Russell and Barbour, Russell began publishing the '*Zion's _____ and Herald of Christ's Presence*' in 1879.
- In _____ Russell founded Zion's Watchtower and Tract Society.
- Russell died in _____ and was succeeded by Joseph _____.
- In 1917 Rutherford released the '*Finished _____*' and falsely advertised it as the posthumous work of Russel.
- In _____ Rutherford announced the new name Jehovah Witness based on _____ 43:10.
- 1932 Rutherford changed the doctrine that all Jehovah Witnesses were part of the _____ that would reign in heaven with Christ to two different classes: the 144 000 and the rest of the followers who would live in a restored _____ on earth.

- In 1938 Rutherford introduced a _____ organizational system.
- After Rutherford's death, Nathan _____ became president and commissioned the New World Translation of the Bible released in _____.

What Do They Believe?

Doctrine	Jehovah Witness	Evangelical Christianity
God/Supreme Being	God is a single person, not a Trinity, who does not know all things and is not everywhere	One eternal God in three persons – omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent
Sin	When Adam sinned, the paradise which God had created for them was ruined	All men are sinful and are therefore separated from God Romans 3:23
The Person of Jesus Christ	Jesus was the created Archangel Michael and when it came time for the savior to be born, Michael the Archangel became a human, in the form of Jesus	Jesus is fully God and came to earth as fully man to die on the cross for mankind 1 Timothy 3:16
Resurrection	Jesus rose from the dead as a spirit, not physically, his body was dissolved and taken by God	On the third day after His crucifixion, Christ rose from the dead in the same body John 20:26-28
Sacred Text	Bible – New World Translation	Bible alone
Origin of Authority	The Bible – New World Translation and the Watchtower organization	God alone as given through the revelation of His Word the Bible
The Afterlife	Only 144,000 people spend eternity with God. Other “good” people stay and inhabit earth, which will always exist. Everyone else dies into nothingness. There is no hell.	Two eternal fates: those who accept Christ go to heaven, those who reject Him go to hell, Mark 9:43-44
Salvation	Salvation by grace and works	Salvation by grace alone Romans 5:1

The Failed Predictions of Jehovah Witnesses

- **1877:** Christ's kingdom will come in _____
- **1916:** World war I would end with _____ and the rapture of the saints
- **1920:** God's kingdom would be established in _____
- **1924:** God's restoration would begin shortly after October 1st 1925 and would involve the resurrection of Abel, _____, _____ and John the Baptist
- **1938:** Armageddon was too close for _____ or child bearing
- **1966:** 1975 would be appropriate for the beginning of Christ's _____ year reign and of the last days
- **1984:** There were many indications that the end was closer than the end of the _____ century

How Can We Witness to Jehovah Witnesses?

- They have added their own restorationist and end times beliefs to Christianity even _____ the Bible to fit these beliefs.
- Jehovah Witnesses do some things well:
 - they have a commitment to _____
 - have a high _____ standards
 - they are very _____ and _____
- Never slam your _____ but show them God's _____, **Ephesians 3:17-19**
- Share your _____ with them, it could be the tool God uses to plant a seed or change their _____, **John 20:26-28**