

“JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES” Various Peculiar Doctrines

INTRODUCTION:

1. Although there are many well meaning people in any man-made religion, it is not surprising that more and more of those organizations go further and further away from God.
2. *Why is this so?*
3. Because in any group that has its existence because of sidestepping God’s will — and all man-made religions do — continued sidestepping will take place that will take them further and further away from God!
4. This is clearly seen in many of the decisions such organizations have made through the years, and even up to the present time.
5. This lesson, VARIOUS PECULIAR DOCTRINES OF THE JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES, is one that will show how the misguided doctrines of this man made religion do not come from the will of God, but from the arrogant mind of man.
6. It is eternally sad that thousands upon thousands of dedicated individuals have had their minds and souls stolen by such charlatans (*frauds, fakers*)!
7. It is my hope that a study of some of their erroneous doctrines will help prevent others from falling under their charm.

Jehovah’s Witnesses teach:

I. “BAPTISM BY COMPLETE IMMERSION SYMBOLIZES DEDICATION”

(JEHOVAH’S Witnesses In The Twentieth Century, Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania, c. 1978, pg. 13)

A. Definitions.

1. A symbol is:
 - a. *An authoritative summary of faith or doctrine: Creed.*
 - b. *Something that stands for or suggests something else by reason of*

relationship, association, convention, or accidental resemblance; esp = a visible sign of something invisible.

2. Dedication = *A devoting or setting aside for a particular purpose.*

B. They use as scripture references to prove their statement:

1. Mark 1:9, 10 — which depicts Christ's baptism.
2. John 3:23 — which speaks of John's baptizing, "***in Aenon near to Salim.***"
3. Acts 19:4, 5 — where Paul teaches Christ's baptism to some disciples who had been baptized unto John's baptism after Christ's baptism came into effect.

C. As one considers these references, it is interesting to note that they do not speak, nor has any other Bible passage ever spoken, of baptism as "*a symbol of dedication*"!

1. Jesus' baptism, according to Jesus Himself, was "***to fulfill all righteousness***" — not to "symbolize dedication" (Matthew 3:15).
2. Matthew mentioned nothing of baptism being "a symbol of dedication," but rather, he said that John was baptizing people in fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, "***The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight***" (Matthew 3:3).
3. Neither did Paul say anything about baptism being "a symbol of dedication," but recognizing the importance of baptism, and the danger of not being baptized properly, corrected those who had been baptized erroneously.

D. Clearly, Bible baptism has specific purposes which concerns the salvation of the soul!

1. Peter says it is baptism that saves us, being the answer of a good conscience that we have obeyed God (1 Peter 3:21).
2. Paul said:
 - a. Through baptism we "put on" Christ (Galatians 3:27).
 - b. By it we "wash away sins" (Acts 22:16).

- c. We must be baptized “for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38).
- d. By it we are made free from sin (Romans 6:17, 18).

Jehovah’s Witnesses teach:

II. “THE HUMAN SOUL CEASES TO EXIST AT DEATH.” (*ibid.*)

- A. In various writings, such as on pages 134-150 of, “*Things In Which It Is Impossible For God To Lie,*” (*Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society of Pennsylvania, c. 1965*), they claim all of the words referring to the soul are speaking of ones “breath” or “physical life.”
 - 1. One of the proof texts used in *Jehovah’s Witnesses In The Twentieth Century,* (*Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania, c. 1978, pg. 13*), is John 11:11-14.
 - 2. Evidently, they think their position is bolstered by the fact that death is referred to as sleep.
 - 3. Yet, the inspired writer explains that the word used figuratively was “sleep,” and that in reality, **“*Jesus spake of his death,*”** and thus, because of their confusion Jesus said plainly, **“*Lazarus is dead*”** (John 11:13, 14).
 - 4. He did not say Lazarus’ soul was dead, but that he was dead!
- B. The context of any passage must determine its meaning; which the “so called” Jehovah’s Witnesses have a hard time understanding.
 - 1. This is clearly seen in Genesis 1:27 and 2:7.

Genesis 1:27 “*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*”

Genesis 2:7 “*And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*”
 - 2. The J. W. doctrine claims that both verses refer to the “breath” of mankind.
 - 3. They say in “*Things In Which It Is Impossible For God To Lie,*” (*Watch Tower*

Bible & Tract Society of Pennsylvania, c. 1965, page 139), "...man is 'in God's image' in that he is created with moral qualities like those of God, namely, love and justice, and he has powers and wisdom above those of animals, so that he can appreciate the things that God enjoys and appreciates, such as natural beauty and the fine arts of music, writing, reading, speaking, reasoning, the science of numbers, and such processes of mind of which the lower animal creatures are not capable."

4. They then go on to say, on page 140 of the same book, in referring to both Genesis 1:27 & 2:7, *"The 'living soul' was the man himself."*
 5. Yet, Genesis 1:27 cannot refer to the physical part of man, for God is not physical (John 4:24), hence it speaks of the spirit, or soul, of man!
- C. We might ask, *"If their statement of belief on this subject is true, what are the following verses referring to?"*.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 *"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."*

Matthew 10:28 *"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."*

Matthew 16:26 *"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"*

2 Corinthians 4:16 *"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day."*

1 Thessalonians 5:23 *"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

James 1:21 *"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls."*

James 2:26 *"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."*

**The body without the spirit is dead, thus showing a distinction between the physical and spiritual.

Jehovah's Witnesses teach:

III. "HELL IS MANKIND'S COMMON GRAVE."

(JEHOVAH'S Witnesses In The Twentieth Century, Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania, c. 1978, pg. 13)

A. To believe and teach such a doctrine, many Bible passages have to be ignored that teach:

1. It is better to be physically maimed in this life and enter the kingdom of God,
2. Than to be physically perfect in this life and sin, thus being cast into the fires of hell.

Matthew 5:29, 30 *"(29) And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. (30) And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell."*

Mark 9:43 *"(43) And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: (44) Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. (45) And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: (46) Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. (47) And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: (48) Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."*

B. Luke 12:5 makes it clear that the soul continues "after death," and therefore the common grave cannot be "hell"!

"But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him."

1. Jesus tells us that the one who kills the body is not to be feared.

2. But rather, the one that can cast one into hell — AFTER DEATH!

Jehovah's Witnesses teach:

IV. "TAKING BLOOD INTO BODY THROUGH MOUTH OR VEINS VIOLATES GOD'S LAWS." (*Ibid.*)

- A. This is a very interesting doctrine, which is derived from the misapplication of passages with the combination of a good imagination.
- B. They use as their proof texts:
 1. Genesis 9:3, 4 — which gives instructions to eat the flesh of animals, but not their blood.
 2. Leviticus 17:14 — which declares to the Israelites, in part, "***Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof.***"
 3. Deuteronomy 12:15, 16 — which gives the right to eat the meat of animals, "***Only ye shall not eat the blood; ye shall pour it upon the earth as water.***"
 4. Acts 15:28, 29 — which forbids, among other things, the eating of blood.
- C. It is very clear that mankind has always been commanded to "not" eat blood, because "life is in the blood" — for all mankind (Acts 17:26).
- D. The question which must be answered is:
 1. "*Does one eat blood when receiving a blood transfusion?*"
 2. Or, using their language, "*Does one violate God's law when taking blood into the body through veins?*"
- E. The word "transfuse" is defined as: *To cause to pass from one to the other. To transfer (as blood) into a vein of a man or animal.*
 1. Nothing is said about "eating"!
 2. This being true, "*How does having a blood transfusion violate God's laws?*"

3. It doesn't!
4. To teach that it does is to clearly misapply the scriptures!

Jehovah's Witnesses teach:

V. "KINGDOM UNDER CHRIST WILL RULE EARTH IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE." (*Ibid.*)

A. They use as their proof texts:

1. Isaiah 9:6, 7 & 11:1-5 — in which Isaiah prophecies of the coming of Christ and the building of His kingdom.
2. Daniel 7:13, 14 — in which Daniel, by dream and vision, saw the coming of the Son of God and the setting up of His kingdom.
3. Matthew 6:10 — in which Christ, in His sermon on the mount, is teaching His followers how to pray, saying, "***Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.***"

B. There is nothing wrong with these verses, for they do teach that Christ will come and set up His Kingdom — and they have been fulfilled!

1. He HAS come!
2. He HAS set up His Kingdom!
3. But there is nothing said, in these or other verses, that teach that Christ will set up an earthly kingdom in which He will rule earth in righteousness and peace!

C. *What then does the Bible teach in this regard?*

1. Jesus Christ, after his death, burial and resurrection, ascended into heaven.

Mark 16:19 ***"So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God."***

Luke 24:51 ***"And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven."***

Acts 1:9-11 **“(9) And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. (10) And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; (11) Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”**

2. Before He left, Christ promised to take the faithful where He would be going.

John 14:1-3 **“(1) Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. (2) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”**

3. This physical world is held in store by Him and will be destroyed by Him.

2 Peter 3:10-12 **“(10) But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. (11) Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, (12) Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?”**

- D. It will be hard for Christ to rule over earth when it will no longer exist!

CONCLUSION:

1. These are only a few of the false doctrines of this group.
2. They call themselves “Jehovah’s Witnesses,” yet they have never been eye witnesses to anything Christ has done!
3. Nor do they faithfully “witness”, as the term is wrongly used, what He teaches through His word!!
4. Seeing they could not defend their teaching in versions as the Bible, such as the KJV and the ASV-1901, they even wrote their own translation — “New World

Translation of the Holy Scriptures,” (*Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society of Pennsylvania, c. 1961*).

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