## 85 - Christian Cults - Jehovah's Witnesses THE WATCHTOWER

Jehovah's Witnesses: Originally a "Bible Student" publishing corporation in the 1870's. The religious group was incorporated as "Zion's Watchtower Tract Society" by Charles Taze Russell in 1884 and eventually adopted the name "Jehovah's Witnesses" in 1931. This is a particularly dangerous religious cult due to their extensive efforts put toward distributing their heretical publication "The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom". It's estimated Russell wrote nearly 50,000 printed pages during his lifetime and an estimated 20 million copies of his books were printed and distributed around the world by his death in 1916. Some of the heretical doctrines promoted include: God is not a trinity, Jesus did not physically rise from the dead, there will be no literal or physical second coming of Jesus Christ, there will be no eternal torment for the wicked, and only 144,000 specially chosen individuals will go to heaven.



Founder: Charles Taze Russell Year Founded: Circa 1872 A.D. Non-Canon References: Awake!, Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom, New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures. Leadership: Anointed Class, Overseers, Elders, Ministerial Servants, Baptized & Unbaptized Publishers, Students, and Associates. Approximate Members: 8 Million

became the 2<sup>nd</sup> president.

Nathan Knorr became the 4<sup>th</sup> president after the death of Rutheford. Fredrick Franz became the 5<sup>th</sup> president after the death of Knorr.

William Henschel became the 6th president after the death of Franz

Don Adams became 7th and current president.

Rutheford

1870

1872

1876

1876

1877 1878

1879

1879 1881

1884

1916

1917

1917

1918

1919

1931

1942

1977

1992

2000

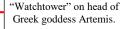
## **Charles Taze Russell**

- Born February 16, 1852 in Allegheny, PA - Died October 31, 1916 (64 Years Old)
- Wife: Maria Frances Ackley
- Parents: Joseph Russell, Ann Birney
- Members of the Presbyterian Church
- At age 13 he left the Presbyterian Church
- To join the Congregational Church.
- Was obsessed with Hell and punishment.
- At the age of 16, he began questioning
- Christianity but after listening to Jonas Wendell preach, he had his interest renewed.

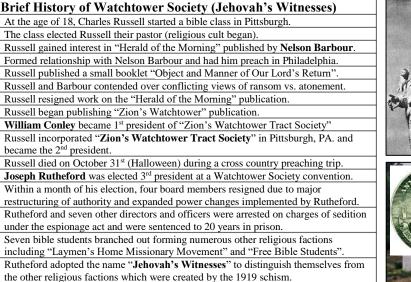


## Leadership Structure

- Seven-member governing body located at Watchtower headquarters in Brooklyn, NY - 90 worldwide branch offices (Bethel's) operated by volunteer "Bethel Families". These are the locations responsible for regional publishing of Watchtower Literature. - Congregations for local religious services run by a body of Elders and Ministerial Servants. Teach volunteers how to distribute literature. - Volunteers include Baptized & Unbaptized Publishers, Students, and Associates.



Watchtower Publishing Facility











Satanic (all-seeing eye of Horus) memorial placed near Russell's grave site at the Rosemont United Cemetery in Philadelphia, PA.

	Jehovah's Witness Perverted Doctrine	True Christian Doctrine	Supporting Scripture(s)
1	Jehovah is God the Father and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are not God.	God is a trinity comprised of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.	Genesis (1:26, 11:7), Matthew (3:13-17, 28:18- 20), 1 <sup>st</sup> John (5:5-10).
2	Jesus Christ was Jehovah's 1st creation and is not God.	Jesus Christ is God and has always been God.	John (1:1, 10:30), Revelation (1:7)
3	The Holy Spirit is simply "God's active force" and not a person or God.	The Holy Spirit is a person and is God.	Matthew (12:31), Acts (5:1-4, 13:2)
4	Jesus only rose from the grave in a spiritual form and not physically with His body.	Jesus rose in both His physical body and His spirit.	Luke (24:36-46), John (2:18-22, 20:26-29)
5	The second coming of Christ will only be spiritual and not physical.	Jesus will return physically and literally.	Acts (1:9-11), Titus (2:11-14)
6	Hell is only the grave that everyone goes to after death and the "unchosen" will be completely annihilated.	All non-believers will be cast into the lake of fire for eternity.	Matthew (5:22, 25:41), Revelation (20:11-15)
7	Only 144,000 chosen will go to heaven to rule with Christ and everyone else will stay on earth.	The 144,000 are 12,000 chosen from each of the 12 tribes. All Christians will rule with Christ.	Revelation (7:4-8, 9:4, 14:1, 20:4)
8	Jesus didn't die on a cross but on a stake.	Jesus was crucified on a cross on Calvary.	Matthew (27:32-35), John (19:23-25)
9	Their "light" gets brighter changing truth as time goes on.	Jesus is the truth and the life and never changes.	John (14:6)
10	Only prayers using the name "Jehovah" will be heard and answered.	All prayers are heard and prayers in the will of God are answered.	Isaiah (65:24), Micah (7:7), 1 <sup>st</sup> John (5:14-15), James (5:13-18)
11	Participating in non-religious holidays brings God's condemnation.	We are at liberty to celebrate any holiday we want to.	Luke (4:18), Galatians (5:1), Colossians (2:16- 17), Romans (14:5-13)