

Sermon Notes - Jehovah's Witness Compared to What We Believe Pt 2

Topic: The 144,000

Scripture Text: Acts 22:12–15

03/04/2018

“The key to heaven was hung on a cross”

Acts 22:12–15 (NKJV) ¹² “Then a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good testimony with all the Jews who dwelt *there*, ¹³ came to me; and he stood and said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that same hour I looked up at him. ¹⁴ Then he said, ‘The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth. ¹⁵ For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard.”

Core to Watchtower doctrine (Not their bible) is that only 144,000 humans will go to heaven, where they are to rule as kings and spend eternity with God. This number is based on misinterpretation of Revelation 7 and 14.

They believe in a two-class salvation and eternity

Most Jehovah's Witnesses are not considered part of the “anointed group” of 144,000 and do not expect to go to heaven. Rather, they believe themselves part of the Great Crowd that will never die, but rather reside forever on this earth. Therefore, many do not consider themselves worthy to partake of the Lord's supper.

ANSWER: *John 6:53–54 (NKJV) ⁵³ Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

They believe that this earth will remain forever.

ANSWER: *Revelation 21:1 (NKJV) ¹ Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea.*

Eternity

The 144,000 have what the Jehovah's Witnesses call the heavenly hope to spend eternity with God. Those who are not among the 144,000 will enjoy what they call the earthly hope—a paradise on earth ruled by Christ and the 144,000.

Are they saying that in eternity God will be one place and Jesus another?

ANSWER: God, Jesus and believers are together.

Revelation 21:3 (NKJV) ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.”

Revelation 21:22 (NKJV) ²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple

They believe that they are the only true witnesses

ANSWER: Israel is the true witness of God

Isaiah 43:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ “You are My witnesses,” says the LORD, “And My servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, nor shall there be after Me.

They dropped the ball.

But in Revelation 7 they are restored to their original purpose.

Revelation 7:2–4 (NKJV) ² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” ⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

The chapter goes on to list who the 144,000 are. 12,000 from the 12 tribes of Israel. (12 x 12 = 144,000. This is the easiest of the claims to refute.

Message Scriptures: **Acts 22:12–15**, *John 6:53–54*, *Luke 12:32*, *Revelation 21:1*, *Revelation 21:3*, *Isaiah 43:10*, *Revelation 7:2–8*, *Revelation 14:1*, *Luke 24:46–48*, *Colossians 2:8*.

END

Resources:

History of Jehovah's Witnesses

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Jehovah%27s_Witnesses

Basic Facts

<https://www.jw.org/en/jehovahs-witnesses/worldwide/>

How to Respond to Jehovah's Witnesses by Randall Watters

<http://www.freeminds.org/doctrine/respond.htm>

10 Important Questions for the Jehovah's Witness Worldview

<http://coldcasechristianity.com/2014/some-important-questions-for-the-jehovahs-witness-worldview/>

False doctrines of the Jehovah's Witnesses reviewed!

<http://crossbearer-brian.tripod.com/id56.htm>

Jehovah's Witnesses Organization

<https://carm.org/jehovahs-witnesses>

Jehovah's Witness an Adventist Cult?

https://www.watchtowerlies.com/origins_of_jehovah_s_witnesses.html

Watch Tower Society Unfulfilled Prophecies

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watch_Tower_Society_unfulfilled_predictions

How to Respond to Jehovah's Witnesses

<http://www.freeminds.org/doctrine/respond.htm>

YouTube Video reference to Michael

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bspmOpqE_4s

JW New World Translation Study Bible

<https://www.jw.org/en/publications/bible/study-bible/books/john/5/>

<http://www.lovetoshareministries.com/jehovahs-witnesses/jesus-raised-a-spirit.html>

Names of God

<http://www.bibleinfo.com/en/questions/names-of-god>

<https://www.jw.org/en/publications/books/bible-teach/who-is-michael-the-archangel-jesus/>