

Jehovah's Witnesses

KEY TERMS

144,000/ "anointed class"

According to Watchtower teaching, 144,000 is the number of Christians living between Pentecost (30 AD) and 1935, called the "anointed class" or "little flock", who will live in heaven as spirits forever. (the other class of Christians is called the "earthly class")

Adventism

Followers of various movements inspired by the teaching of American preacher William Miller (1782-1849) who predicted that the second coming of Christ would take place in 1843 or 1844.

Arianism

Originated in the fourth century AD and argues that Jesus doesn't share the same essence with God, and thus does not share in the same divine nature with eternity and authority. The Nicene, Chalcedonian, and Athanasian Creeds are primarily responses to this heresy

Armageddon

According to the Watchtower, this is the final battle between wicked mankind and Jehovah God to end world governments which brings about the establishment of Jehovah's "kingdom rule" on Paradise Earth.

Christ's "Presence"

Watchtower teaching that the second coming of Jesus already took place invisibly in 1914

Christendom

Disparaging term used to describe "professed Christianity"- that is all non-Jehovah's Witness religions that claim to be Christian- in contrast with the "true Christianity of the Bible". Viewed as being under Satan's control.

Jehovah

God's personal name. Nearly all other Bibles have "LORD" for God's name in the Old Testament, but the New World Translation renders it "Jehovah"- and even "restores" the divine name to the New Testament.

New World Translation (NWT)

The official Bible of the Watchtower Society. The Watchtower has stated that other English translations have "fallen victim to the power of human traditions....Inconsistency and unreasonableness have been insinuated into the teachings of the inspired writings." (NWT 1950)

Other Sheep

Another name Jehovah's Witnesses use for the "earthly class" drawn from John 10:16

Theocratic Kingdom

Jehovah's kingdom rule through the Watchtower Society

Torture Stake

The Watchtower Society teaches that Jesus was executed on an upright pole or stake instead of a two beamed cross. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the cross is a pagan symbol and that using it in worship violates the Second Commandments prohibition against idolatry

Watchtower Bible and Tract Society

The Jehovah's Witness organization, which is headquartered in Brooklyn, NY. It's "Governing Body" claims to have sole spiritual authority over Jehovah's people.