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## A WORD ABOUT THE SERMON

This message was delivered by Dr. John S. Wimbish to a thronged congregation in the auditorium of the famed Calvary Baptist Church, during the summer of 1953 when the international conference of the Jehovah's Witnesses was being held at the Yankee Stadium. The sermon was made available in printed form to the radio listeners of Calvary Baptist Church and has received a wide distribution.

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# What Is a Jehovah's Witness?

In the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew we behold Jesus sitting on the gentle slopes of Olivet. The shadow of the cross is upon Him. Soon He will be hanged on the ignominious tree.

The disciples have just heard the Lord Jesus predict the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, and they inquisitively gather about Him and ask, "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"—that is, "the consummation of the age" (Matt. 24:3).

Then Jesus enumerates the perilous characteristics of the age--wars, universal unrest, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, and widespread persecutions.

And He went on to tell His disciples that many cults would seek to counterfeit Christianity. Notice verses 23 and 24:

"Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

And throughout the epistles we find that the Holy Spirit directed the apostolic writers to warn against the apostasy that would plague Christendom, during this dispensation. Over and over again Paul and Peter, James and John, lashed out against the demoniacal heresies that would seek to undermine the foundational truths of the Gospel. And in his first letter to Timothy, the great apostle said:

"The Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving beed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a bot iron."...I Tim. 4:1,2.

Unquestionably the false prophets prophesied by the Son of God and the Spirit of God have appeared. Down through the centuries the Christian church has been subtly and yet severely attacked by Satan. Seldom has the onslaught come from professed paganism, but rather from spurious religions which have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof.

These cultists emulate Christianity; their voluminous writings are sprinkled with biblical quotations; they talk much about Jesus and Jehovah, and claim to have the only true interpretation of the Scriptures.

Even in the days of primitive Christianity there was a noticeable falling away from the 'faith once for all delivered to the saints'; however, in recent years, especially since the latter part of the nineteenth century, there has been a decided increase of demon activity manifested by the springing up of many diabolical sects.

Foremost among these systems of error is the cult under consideration—JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES.

At the outset, it would be wise for us to review

# I. The Creation of the Cult

It is commonly known today, among informed people, as RUSSELLISM, deriving this sobriquet from Charles Taze Russell, its founder.

Now the cult-"Jehovah's Witnesses"-has had a variety of names. Back in 1874, at its inception, it was called MIL-LENNIAL DAWN. When it was exposed under this title, the self-styled Pastor Russell changed the name to WATCH TOWER AND TRACT SOCIETY. Later it was known as THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT ASSOCIATION, and to some as THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE. And, shortly before the founder died aboard a Santa

Fe train, the cult became known as THE INTERNATIONAL BIBLE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

Charles Taze Russell is one of the tragedies of the Christian church. We are told that his parents were God-fearing Congregationalists. He spent his boyhood in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where, during his youth, he was haunted by a great fear of Hell.

Eventually he succumbed to the teachings of an infidel who was an apostate from Christianity. This man convinced him there was no place of eternal punishment. Soon Russell was found spending his time and talents trying to convince all who would listen to him that there was no literal Hell.

It is not surprising to learn that he was one of the most brazen men imaginable. He has been called "The Great Paraphraser," so promiscuously did he alter the meaning of Scripture to suit his purposes.

To say that he employed exaggeration and subterfuge to further his ends is an understatement indeed. Once he promoted the sale of what he called "Miracle Wheat" at the exorbitant price of \$60 a bushel. It was supposed to grow five times as much as the average wheat and could be purchased only by the "faithful."

When his wife sued him for divorce, he admitted his improper relationship in court and later transferred his property to corporations and societies of which he himself had control in order to avoid paying alimony.

However, despite his unorthodox practices and tarnished reputation, at the convention of the Jehovah's Witnesses held in Yankee Stadium several years ago, this statement appeared in the New York press:

When the history of the Church of Christ is fully written, it will be found that the place next to Saint Paul in the Gallery of Fame as expounder of the Gospel of the Great Master will be occupied by Charles Taze Russell.

Now, when Russell died in the fall of 1916, his funeral oration was delivered by ex-Judge Joseph Franklin Rutherford, who was destined to take up the reins of leadership.

This is what he said of the beloved "Pastor" who had taught the erroneous theory of "soul sleep," i.e., the dead sleep until the resurrection:

Our dear brother sleeps not in death, but was instantly changed from the human to the divine nature, and is now forever with the Lord.

Now, this man Rutherford was both militant and mysterious, and was disliked by a number of his members. However, he was able to keep things going, even through the year 1925 when Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were to have returned to set up their kingdom, as Judge Rutherford himself had foretold.

By 1931 the new leader had stopped the sale of Russell's books and had caused all mention of the founder to cease. He changed the name of the organization to "Jehovah's Witnesses," and convinced his followers that every one of them was one of the final messengers to the nations.

Rutherford died in 1942, and as yet no successor of the cunning and color of Russell and Rutherford has arisen. However, under the leadership of the current president, Nathan H. Knorr, who was elected after the "Judge's" death, and who closely follows the fallacious theories of his predecessors, the cult moves on, with its headquarters in the fabulous borough of Brooklyn.

The cult has spread with such rapidity that the property of its home base is valued at millions. It owns a large printing concern which up to this time has produced an estimated half-billion pieces of literature. It also owns a modern apartment building, spacious offices, a farm, a radio station and a Bible school. Since the school's opening in 1943, it has sent out one thousand missionaries.

Incidentally, we understand there are seventy thousand

Jehovah's Witnesses who distribute literature on the streets and from door to door in New York City and its environs!

During the aforementioned convention of the Jehovah's Witnesses, I received a letter from an official of one of the leading business concerns in our city. The correspondent, who is an intelligent and informed Christian, said:

While the Jehovah's Witnesses were in New York, I made it a point to question a few on their doctrine, and it is a wonder to me how these poor, unfortunate, seemingly sincere people, can be so gullible and misguided. They repeat their teachings in parrotlike fashion, as if they had been drilled into them, and they have expressionless countenances.

Whether consciously or unconsciously, these people are doing more harm to the Christian world than the communists, primarily because they call themselves Christians. And they certainly are contributing to the cause of the enemies of our country.

Notice this sentence once again: "They repeat their teachings in parrotlike fashion as if they had been drilled into them, and they have expressionless countenances." I have made the identical observation. Down through the years I have talked with many of these poor people, and I can truthfully say all of them seem to have been drugged by some powerful narcotic.

Now understand, we are not opposed to these deluded cultists. If there ever was a group of people on the face of the earth that needs spiritual illumination and guidance, it is these "Witnesses." However, we are definitely opposed to the evil system of teaching that has blinded them to the Truth.

Contemplate with me, if you will

## il. The Concoction of the Cult

If ever there was a poison brewed by the Devil himself, we find it in the books and pamphlets of Russellism.

The great Bible scholar, Dr. James M. Gray, was right when he said; "Russellism contradicts almost every fundamental revelation," and Dr. William E. Biederwolf was equally right when he declared: "Pastor Russell has left scarcely one great truth or fundamental doctrine untouched with his unholy and unwarranted conclusions."

The scholarly pulpit orator of the South, Dr. A. C. Dixon, said: "Its plan of salvation is a plan of damnation," while Dr. H. A. Ironside, the late minister of Moody Memorial Church in Chicago, said: "This is indeed a sect of perdition; and its teaching is rightly labelled 'damnable heresy.' 'From such turn away.'"

Never in the history of the Christian religion has there been such a distortion of the Scriptures, such a twisting of the truth, such a devilish presentation of error.

The founder of this cult was a complete egotist. Once he made this ridiculous statement with reference to his Studies in the Scriptures, which statement appeared in his publication, The Watch Tower, of September 15, 1910, page 298:

If the six volumes of "Scripture Studies" are practically the Bible, topically arranged with Bible proof texts given, we might not improperly name the volumes "The Bible in an arranged form." That is to say, they are not mere comments on the Bible, but they are practically the Bible itself. Furthermore, not only do we find that people cannot see the Divine plan in studying the Bible by itself but we see also that if anyone lays the "Scripture Studies" aside. even after he has used them, after he has become familiar with them, after he has read them for ten years-if he then lays them aside and ignores them and goes to the Bible alone, though he has understood his Bible for ten years, our experience shows that within two years he goes into darkness. On the other hand, if he had merely read the "Scripture Studies" with their references and had not read a page of the Bible as such he would be in the light at the

end of two years, because he would have the light of the Scriptures.

Can you imagine anything more audacious than that! This man who said that it was better to ignore the Scriptures and study his books than to scan the Scriptures and neglect his books was constantly guilty of taking the text from the context and arriving at a pretext. And those who have succeeded him are likewise guilty.

Isaiah admonishes us: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20).

Well may we heed these words for, as someone has reminded us, "the only way to determine whether a system of teaching is of God is by examining the system through the lens of Holy Scripture"—that is, viewing the system in the light of the Bible, and not viewing the Bible in the light of the system.

Now, let us turn the searchlight of God's Word on some of the teachings of this cult

First of all, what do Jehovah's Witnesses say about

## 1. THE HOLY TRINITY?

Notice! "This view the doctrine of the Trinity of the Godhead suited well the Dark Ages, which it helped to produce." This is taken from the fifth of Russell's six-volume work, Studies in the Scriptures, page 166, which constitutes the basis for the dogma of this cult.

In the same volume, and on the same page, we also find the two following quotations:

This...theory is as unscriptural as it is unreasonable.

...if it were not for the fact that this trinitarian nonsense was drilled into us from earliest infancy and the fact that it is so soberly taught in theological seminaries by gray-haired professors,...nobody would give it a moment's serious consideration.

But what does the Bible say about the Trinity?

In Genesis 1:26 we read: "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

Notice "us" and "our." Here Jehovah, in speaking of creation, applies plural pronouns to Himself.

In Genesis 11:7 we read: "Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language...."

And in Isaiah 6:8, we read: "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

In the latter two verses, as in the first verse, the Holy Trinity is referred to as "us."

In Matthew 3:16 and 17 we read:

"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Here we have the witness of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost--the Trinity appearing together.

In Matthew 28:19 we read:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

These are the words of the Lord Jesus, and here we have the witness of the Son to the Trinity.

Scripture is replete with references to the Trinity, and yet these poor people ignore the biblical teachings of the Triune God.

And Jehovah's Witnesses have this to say concerning

## 2. THE DEITY OF CHRIST

Our Redeemer existed as a spirit being before he was made

flesh and dwelt amongst men. At that time, as well as subsequently, he was properly known as "a god"--a mighty one. As chief of the angels and next to the Father he was known as the Archangel [highest angel or messenger], who se name, Michael, signifies, "Who as God," or God's representative.

As he was the highest of all Jehovah's creation, so also he was the first, the direct creation of God, the "only Begotten," and then he, as Jehovah's power, and in his name, created all things,—angels, principalities and powers, as well as the earthly creation (Studies in the Scriptures, Vol. V, page 84).

And they further comment on the deity of Christ:

Some insist that Jesus when on earth was both God and man in completeness. This theory is wrong, however....It is also easy to be seen that Jesus could not be part God and part man, because that would be more than the law required; hence divine justice could not accept such a ransom (The Harp of God, pages 101 and 128).

And think of this: these cultists say that "God the Father created Jesus and God has two sons—Jesus and Satan." They maintain that the Devil is the brother of Jesus, the Lord. This information is taken from their book entitled *Creation*, pages 18 and 53.

Now, can you think of anything, anywhere, that is more blasphemous than that?

But what does the Bible say concerning the deity of Christ?

In John 1:1 we read: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

Here we have three tremendous assertions:

- (1) "In the beginning was the Word" (Logos).

  This affirms the eternal existence of Jesus.
- (2) "And the Word was with God."

The Word being WITH God affirms the distinct personality of Jesus.

(3) "And the Word was God."
This, of course, affirms the deity of Christ.

Also, we have the testimony of Jesus, Peter, Paul and John concerning the deity of Christ:

JESUS said:

"I and my Father are one..." -- John 10:30.

"He that hath seen me, hath seen the Father..."-John 14:9.

"Before Abraham was, I am..." -- John 8:58.

You will notice He did not say, "Before Abraham was, I WAS." He said, "Before Abraham was, I AM," indicating that He has always been, from everlasting to everlasting. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and to day and for ever" (Heb. 13:8).

PETER said:

"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."-Matt. 16:16.

PAUL said:

"God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself."
--II Cor. 5:19.

"It pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell."
--Col. 1:19.

"In him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." -- Col. 2:9.

JOHN said:

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? .... Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father."
--John 2:22,23.

And then, too, Jehovah's Witnesses say this concerning

#### 3. THE EFFICACY OF THE BLOOD ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

One unforfeited life can redeem one forfeited life, but no more. The man Christ Jesus redeems Adam (Studies in the Scriptures, Vol. I, page 133).

Christ gave Himself a ransom that He might give to every man an individual trial for life. The ransom does not guarantee everlasting life, to any man, but guarantees a second chance (Ibid., Vol. I, page 150).

The Bible has this to say concerning the blood atonement of God's Son:

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."--John 3:16.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."-John 6:47.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."--Acts 16:31.

"Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God,"-John 3:3.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power [or authority] to become the sons of God..."--John 1:12.

But let us consider what Jehovah's Witnesses say about

## 4. THE BODILY RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

They say that "Jesus no longer exists in human form" (Studies in the Scriptures, Vol. II, page 107).

They say:

It was necessary not only that the man Christ Jesus should die, but just as necessary that the man Christ Jesus should never live again (Ibid., Vol. V. page 454).

And they further assert:

Our Lord's human body...did not decay or corrupt...whether it was dissolved into gases or whether it is still preserved somewhere...no one knows (Ibid., Vol. II, page 129).

He was put to death a man, but was raised from the dead a spirit being of the highest order of the divine nature...For our Lord Jesus to have been raised a man would have implied two evils: (1) It would have implied the taking back of our ransom, which would have left us as much under sentence of death as before. (2) It would have implied to him an everlasting loss of the higher nature which he had left in order to become a man, and to be our Redeemer....The man Jesus is dead, forever dead (Ibid., Vol. V, pages 453, 454).

But what does the Bible say concerning the resurrection of Christ?

In the twenty-fourth chapter of Luke we read--(Bear in mind this was after the crucifixion and resurrection of our blessed Lord)--

"And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have, And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet."--Vss. 36-40.

And I am sure when Thomas was asked of the Lord to reach hither his finger that he did not brazenly put the Master to the test of physical touch but, rather, instantaneously fell to his knees and cried out, "My Lord and my God!"

And in Acts 1:3 we read:

"To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God."

# Now, what do Jehovah's Witnesses say relative to

#### 5. THE VISIBLE RETURN OF CHRIST?

Their deluded founder stated that Christ "is no longer a human being. Since he is no longer in any sense or degree a human being, we must not expect him to come again as a human being" (Vol. II, The Time Is at Hand).

In their book, Let God Be True, page 185, these spiritually blind people say:

"Christ Jesus comes, not as a human but as a glorious spirit creature."

And in their devilish volume, The Truth Shall Make You Free, page 295, this is the bit of blasphemy that we find:

"It is a settled scriptural truth, therefore, that human eyes will not see him at his second coming, neither will he come in a fleshly body."

Now these "heavenly witnesses" actually teach that Christ has already come-that He came in 1914! This is set forth in their volume, The Truth Shall Make You Free, page 300.

Now, on the basis of their assumption that Christ is a spirit, He would not be visible, and they erroneously affirm He has been here since 1914, wrestling with the forces of evil. World Wars I and II, so they say, attest this struggle.

They claim that the final conflict, Armageddon, will take place in the near future, and this will be the decisive battle between Jehovah and the Devil. At that time Christ, as a spirit creature, will not be visible, but He will lead His loyal legionnaires--the 144,000 Jehovah's Witnesses--against the hordes of Satan, comprised of Catholics, Protestants, and other unenlightened individuals.

But what does the Bible say about the visible return of Christ?

Our blessed Lord, of course, has not yet returned. But He may descend the skies at any moment to catch away His church.

You will remember the words of the celestial messengers to the disciples:

"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." -- Acts 1:11.

Notice the emphasis--"this SAME Jesus"--"shall COME AGAIN.' In other words, when Jesus came forth from the grave, it was in a literal, bodily form. He still bore the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the mark of the spear in His side. His appearance to Thomas attests these facts.

And when Jesus comes again He will do so in a visible, bodily, human form. He will still bear the print of the nails in His hands and feet and the mark of the spear in His side.

He will come back to this earth in the same body in which He was buried, and in which He rose again from the dead.

# Paul says:

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."--I Thess. 4:16-18.

And in Titus 2:13, we read:

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

But what do Jehovah's Witnesses say about

# 6. THE ETERNAL PUNISHMENT OF LOST SINNERS?

In volume I of Studies in the Scriptures, page 127, they say:

Many have imbibed the erroneous idea that God placed our race on trial for life with the alternative of eternal torture, whereas nothing of the kind is even hinted at in the penalty. And on page 128 of the same volume we find these words: Eternal torture is nowhere suggested in the Old Testament Scriptures, and only a few statements in the New Testament can be so misconstrued as to appear to teach it.

And in their volume, Let God Be True, on page 79, they call the doctrine of eternal punishment a "God-dishonoring doctrine."

Also, on page 80 of the same volume they say:

The doctrine of a burning hell where the wicked are tortured eternally after death cannot be true.

But what does the Bible say about the eternal punishment of lost sinners?

Actually, there are more verses in the Bible which speak of Hell than of Heaven. Any informed believer knows that if we want a God capable of love and infinite love, we must accept a God capable of wrath and infinite wrath.

The unregenerated man finds it exceedingly difficult to understand this. Naturally, a man in his sins finds it extremely distasteful to think of being judged by a Holy God for those sins. Consequently, cults with a dogma similar to Russellistic "theology" have flourished, especially in these days of spiritual and moral declension.

No saved person revels in the contemplation of eternal punishment for the unsaved. The great evangelist, Dwight Lyman Moody, once said that no man should ever preach on Hell without tears in his eyes!

The Bible description of the place of everlasting torment causes all of us to shudder, but no sincere student of the Word of God will deny that the Scripture declares Hell as a literal place where those who reject Christ as Saviour will be punished forever.

Permit me to list for you some of the Scripture locations that speak of the doctrine of Hell:

Psalm 9:17; Proverbs 5:5; 9:13-18; 15:24; 23:13,14; Isaiah 30:33; 33:14; Matthew 3:12; 5:29, 30; 7:13,14; 8:11,12; 10:28; 13:30, 38-42, 49,50; 16:18; 18:9, 34, 35; 22:13; 25:28-30; 25:41, 46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 3:17; 16:23-28; II Thessalonians 1:9; II Peter 2:4; Jude 6, 23; Revelation 9:1,2; 14:10, 11; 19:20; 20:10,15; 21:8-

The Bible is explicit in its teaching that those who spurn the call of Christ and die without Him will spend eternity in Hell.

Space will not permit to tell more of the blasphemy of the gospel of Russellism, The teaching of Jehovah's Witnesses is so full of coarse, brutal and devilish error that human language furnishes no vocabulary of sufficiently keen and cauterizing words or phrases whereby I might denounce it.

But notice with me, if you will,

## III. The Conclusions of the Cult

Suffice it to say that with such a faulty foundation their ultimate philosophy is bound to be erroneous.

I am constantly receiving literature from these poor, deluded people, and some time ago one of them wrote: "The enclosed tract presents the truth about WHAT IS A JEHOVAH'S WITNESS, and unless you present the truth regarding the Jehovah's Witnesses to your congregation, you will receive due punishment from Jehovah God." Then there followed quite a few Scriptures about lying, etc.

There you have the typical attitude of these deceived cultists. They feel that any individual, or group of individuals, who disagrees with them is of the Devil.

They are bold to state that all denominations, Protestant as well as Catholic, make up a segment of "Satan's Organization," and only those will be saved who turn to their movement and enter what they call, "The Theocratic Kingdom."

However, the Bible tells us that there is only one way to become a member of the kingdom of God, and that is by experiencing the new birth.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."
--John 1:12.

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."—John 3:3.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."--John 14:6.

"Come unto ME," Jesus said-not to a man-made organization!

If we get no farther than the local church, we will never be admitted into the kingdom of God. We must go past the church to Jesus Christ, and in Him find forgiveness for our sins.

And the "Witnesses" also relegate all human government to "Satan's Organization." They believe all civil authority is of the Devil, and consequently, they will not salute the flag of any nation. They will not vote; they will not participate in public affairs; they will not defend their nation against aggression.

In the correspondence mentioned earlier on page 7 of this message, my informant said this:

I asked one Jehovah Witness if he would defend himself if a robber attacked him on the street and he said he would. I then asked him whether he would defend his country if it were attacked by a foreign power and he said no. He based his answer on the commandment, "Thou shalt not kill."

I pointed out that in defending himself against the robber he was risking the chance of killing him also; then he changed his mind and said he would rather have a policeman apprehend the robber if one were nearby. If not, he would still defend himself. The policeman, you see, is not supposed to believe as he does. Now, any open-minded individual reading Romans 13:1-7, I Timothy 2:1,2, Titus 3:1 and I Peter 2:13,14, immediately sees the fallacy of Russellistic teaching in matters of human government in the light of the plain teaching of the Word of God.

And these words from the lips of Jesus alone should settle once and for all the Christian's responsibility in this matter: "Render...unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's' (Matt. 22:21).

But the fact of the matter is that it is not government or commerce that is evil but rather the sinful people who comprise this sphere of human activity.

The heart of man is evil and the devilish teaching of Russellism will never do anything to cleanse the sinful heart of human-kind, but will rather further blind men to the truth.

Now, another false conclusion of the cult is Judge Rutherford's foolish declaration that Jesus actually returned in 1874 and that the work of restoration began in 1878 and concluded in 1918.

It was then that the Lord was to have come "to His temple," meaning, of course, the "Witnesses" who alone were anointed to catch the significance of His presence.

It was in the year 1914 that Jesus was supposed to have ascended His throne, and the kingdoms of this world became the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.

Satan's rule is said to have culminated in that year, and we are told that the judgment of the emissaries of the Devil has been under way since then.

The clergymen are said to be condemned with no chance of coming into the light.

The "Witnesses" alone are supposed to have on the "wedding garments of salvation," and all churches are said to be under the domination of corrupt politicians and ecclesiastics.

How wonderful it is to rely on the simple statements of the Word of God rather than the contradictory, confusing concoctions of the word of man. Whereas the Jehovah's Witnesses say that salvation rests in their finite organization, the Bible makes us to understand that our salvation rests alone in Jesus Christ--'For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved' (Acts 4:12).

And, whereas Jehovah's Witnesses say that Christ returned in 1914, the Bible makes it explicitly clear that when Jesus returns to set up His Kingdom, wars and rumors of war will be no more. Then He will reign and rule with a rod of iron to smash into pieces, as a potter's vessel, all opposition. Then the prophecy of Isaiah will be fulfilled.

"And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them"—Isa. 11:5,6.

And this leads us to consider

# IV. The Cataclysm of the Cult

In the nineteenth chapter of The Revelation we read that when the Lord Jesus descends the skies with power and great glory, He will come as King of kings and Lord of lords.

And in II Thessalonians Paul says that in that day

"...the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from beaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."—II Thess. 1:7-9.

The Jehovah's Witnesses know not the true God, as their teachings clearly prove. Rather than 'obeying the Gospel,' they deny practically every truth of the Gospel.

Because of this they will be among those who, in the day of manifestation and judgment, will cry out to the mountains and rocks: "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb" (Rev. 6:16).

And in the twentieth chapter of Revelation, we learn further of the ignominious destiny of the devilish cult and all others who deny the faith once for all delivered to the saints:

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."—Vss. 11:15.

What a time of confusion and consternation and cataclysm it will be for the thousands of this cult when they have to bow and confess before the assembled universe that Jesus Christ, whose deity they denied, is Lord to the glory of God the Father:

"Wherefore God also bath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should how, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."--Phil. 2:9-11.

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