

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



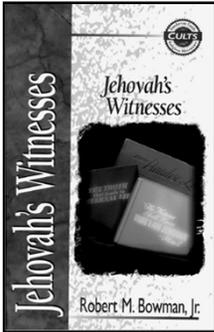

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

1

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



Wittenberg



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

2

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



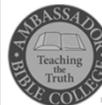
Wittenberg
JW'S
SELLING
BOOKS TO
PROSPEC-
TIVES



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

3

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



LOOKING
THROUGH
THE PEEPHOLE
IN THE DOOR –
YOU SEE ...



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

4

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



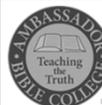
C
O
N
V
E
N
T
I
O
N
S



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

5

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



"Soon, At
Armageddon,
those who do
not submit to
God's rule will
be cut off. Those
who do submit
will survive into
a righteous new
world"



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

6

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

KINGDOM HALL IN RHODE ISLAND



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

7

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

KINGDOM HALL UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN BOURNE, ENGLAND – CAN BE DONE IN 3-7 DAYS.



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

8

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

WORLD HEADQUARTERS - BROOKLYN

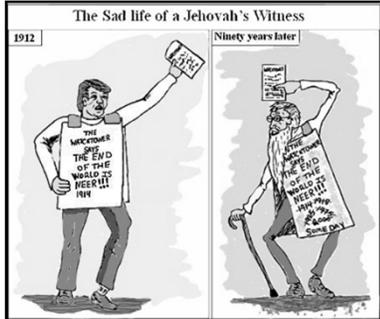


© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

9

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

The Sad life of a Jehovah's Witness

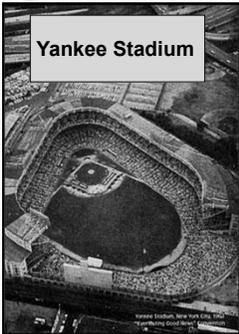


© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

10

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Yankee Stadium



In 1958 the largest audience (JW's) ever for a public talk met at Yankee Stadium for a sermon titled, God's Kingdom Rules – Is the World's End near? – 253,922 were present.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

11

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

DO NOT BELIEVE IN BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

12

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Founder: Charles Taze Russell (1852- 1916)
God(s): Jehovah God. Holy Spirit is not a person but an active force. Jesus Christ is said to be the Archangel Michael and is not God, but "a god" (Heb. 1:8, John 1:1 New World Translation)

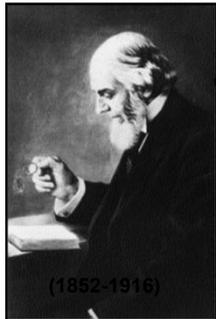
Scriptures: The Holy Bible. Their own translation is widely used

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

13

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

CHARLES TAZE RUSSELL – FOUNDER, PREACHED SOME 30,000 SERMONS AND WROTE 50,000 PAGES OF MATERIAL



(1852-1916)

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

14

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



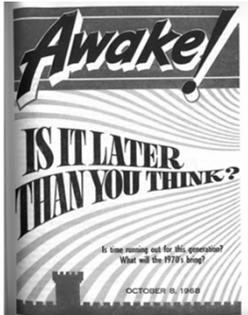
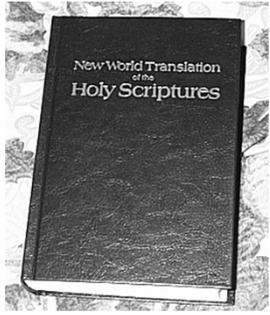
Judge J. F. Rutherford

1869- 1942 SUCCEEDED RUSSELL AS LEADER IN 1916

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

15

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

16

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

History: Charles Taze Russell, a Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania businessman was disturbed by the doctrine of hell. He studied the Scriptures and developed an interest in biblical chronology. He predicted the return of Christ in 1874 and in 1914 Armageddon would begin.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

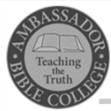
17

Comparative Religion II
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

He began ZION'S WATCHTOWER (Now known as THE WATCHTOWER) magazine in 1879 to proclaim his teachings. He believed that the Messianic kingdom was established in heaven in 1914 and Christ came back secretly. He was zealous for his beliefs and preached some 30,000 sermons and wrote 50,000 pages of material.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

18



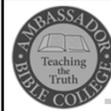
Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

After Russell's death in 1916, Judge Joseph Rutherford (1869-1942) assumed the leadership of the Church. In the beginning he had high praise for Russell, but soon after becoming the leader, he began to remove some of Russell's teachings and the personality cult that was associated with Russell.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

19



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

Because of his militant stance against the war and not saluting the flag, Witnesses were accused of being German agents and detrimental to the USA. Because of persecution, church membership began to wane. In 1942, after Rutherford's death, Nathan Knorr became the new leader until his death in 1979.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

20



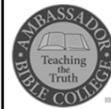
Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

He toned down some of the extreme aspects of Jehovah's Witnesses' beliefs and practices. Rutherford had brought an "orneriness" to the Church. Once persecution subsided, the Church experienced new growth. The current leader of their Church is M.H. Larson.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

21



Comparative Religion II

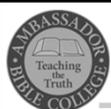
Jehovah's Witnesses

Church Organization:

All members are ministers and are to do their witnessing. Every square mile of a country is assigned to a member to "witness" to the people in that area. Brooklyn, New York is the location of their Headquarters.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

22



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

Church Organization:

All full-time workers and officers receive room and board plus a small financial compensation. Women do not preside over congregations, but are still considered ministers.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

23



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

Beliefs and Characteristics:

- They are the one true faith
- Sunday worship, but every day is the Sabbath
- Do not observe Xmas, Easter or other worldly holidays
- Soul sleeps at death, awaits the resurrection
- No voting

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

24



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

Beliefs and Characteristics:

- No tobacco use
- No Gambling
- Drunkenness is proscribed
- Do not salute the flag
- Baptism is complete immersion and makes a person a minister

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

25



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

Special Beliefs :

- Millennium will be on earth – a time of vindication of Jehovah's name and a 1000 year reign by Christ
- Christ has been invisibly present since 1914 on earth
- Passover kept on Nisan 14 – only those of the 144,000 currently alive (9,986 in 2008) partake of the bread and wine

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

26



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

Special Beliefs :

- No blood transfusions – violates Scriptural admonition to not eat blood
- Only 144,000 go to heaven as spirits all other JW's live forever on earth as resurrected physical humans
- Hell is the grave

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

27



Comparative Religion II

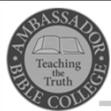
Jehovah's Witnesses

Special Beliefs :

- They are opposed to war and are conscientious objectors
- Jesus Christ was the first created being
- All members must be actively spreading the gospel
- Times of the Gentiles are 607 BC – 1914 AD

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

28



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses

Prominent Locations :

- Worldwide influence with heavy concentration in the USA Over 7 million members in 2008.

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

29



Comparative Religion II

Jehovah's Witnesses



© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

30



Comparative Religion II

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

What Am I's?

1. Only one God-being – Jehovah
2. Christ is the archangel, Michael, and was the first created being.
3. No flag-saluting.
4. No blood transfusions
5. Only the 144,000 become spirit beings

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

31



Comparative Religion II

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



THE END

© 2005 Ambassador Bible Center

32

