

Recommended videos on Death:

What JW.ORG is not telling you about DEATH (What does "die" mean in Genesis 2?)

<https://youtu.be/s9gBT64Bp6E>

From the days of Charles Taze Russell till the present, reason, not Scripture revelation, has been the foundation of key Watchtower doctrines. For example, when JW's think about death, they define it the way the world defines it -- biologically. Is this the biblical definition of death? If you don't understand what the Bible says about death, you will find it impossible to understand what the Bible says about eternal life, about salvation, about life after death, about what God accomplished in Christ -- about Christ's unique message or Gospel. In effect, most important Christian teachings are intimately related to the simple truth revealed in Genesis chapter 2 -- God's first conversation with the first human beings.

What JW.ORG is not telling you about DEATH (part 2 -- Jesus, according to John 5)

<https://youtu.be/oZxUTDzGfIU>

Does Jesus, according to the Gospel of John, agree with the Watchtower's definition of death? Is eternal life a promise which one must wait more than a thousand years to realize? The Gospel of John presents the Gospel of Jesus -- "He who hears my word and believes him that sent me HAS everlasting life, and he does not come into judgment but HAS passed over from death to life." (NWT, John 5:24). Do Jehovah's Witnesses believe what their own Bible says?

What JW.ORG is not telling you about DEATH (part 3 -- Do JW's have "sayings of everlasting life"?) <https://youtu.be/w0WwO4fHK6w>

It is tragically ironic that Jehovah's Witnesses do NOT proclaim the unique message of Jesus --the "sayings of everlasting life". Peter summarized Christ's message by that very phrase, identifying "sayings of everlasting life" as the difference between ALL religions -- even Judaism -- and the Gospel of Jesus. The Watchtower does NOT proclaim the "sayings of everlasting life" which were so revolutionary a message that Jews stumbled and no longer followed Christ. It was not just that the message of Jesus was "new light" to Jewish ears -- which it was -- but that this "eternal life" which Christ offered was ONLY given by Him personally. Even Moses could not offer his own flesh and blood to save sinners. Only Jesus could say "if anyone keeps My word he will never see death" (John 8:51).

What JW.ORG is not telling you about DEATH (pt 4 - If not "in Christ", we are dead, says Paul)

<https://youtu.be/kqgcNldQDEw>

What Ray Franz, Ed Dunlap and several other members of headquarters staff found in Romans 8 led them out of the Watchtower. There is no third category, no "earthly hope" in Paul. Either you are In Christ, indwelt by the Spirit. or you are in death, condemned. And according to Paul, if you are led by the Spirit, then you are a son of God, heir of eternal life. There is NOW no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus.

What JW.ORG is not telling you about DEATH (pt 5 -- "Mystery": Is the Kingdom heaven or earth?) <https://youtu.be/4821NMfhZEQ>

Paul does not use the word "kingdom" as much as we might wish if we are JW's. Nor do the other Apostles in their public utterances in Acts, or in their epistles. When you are in the Watchtower you assume that because Jesus uses the word so often in His preaching, therefore the early disciples also preached "the kingdom". So when Paul DOES use the word, we want to pay particular attention to the specific use he makes of it. In 1 Corinthians 15:50, a favourite JW prooftext, Paul says "flesh and blood cannot inherit God's Kingdom". A JW does not usually notice -- Paul does NOT say "heaven", he says "God's kingdom". So Paul's view is consistent with the view of Jesus (in John) -- unless ANYONE is

born again, he cannot see or enter the kingdom of God (John 3:3,5). Do Jehovah's Witnesses hear this message from JW.ORG?

What JW.ORG is not telling you about DEATH (pt 6 -- Walking dead, according to Paul in Ephesians 2) <https://youtu.be/Bjwj0ZiiR60>

Alienated, separated, strangers, excluded, far off, without hope, dead in trespasses and sins -- this is the Apostle Paul's summation of the perilous status and dire predicament of those who are not "in Christ" (Eph 2:1-13). Where does this leave Jehovah's Witnesses? JW.ORG tells JW's that being "in Christ" is the exclusive privilege of 144,000 "anointed", and NOT the hope Christians must hold and preach today. Paul, however, insists Christians have only ONE HOPE (Eph 4:4). Without THAT HOPE, we are without Christ, dead in trespasses and sins. Therefore Jehovah's Witnesses are preaching a false gospel.

What JW.ORG is not telling you about DEATH ... & LIFE (pt 7) Do we choose God? Peter answers https://youtu.be/jxvnA3A_nWk

Jehovah's Witnesses have a very Old Testament view of salvation. Their favourite proof text is Matt 24:13, "but he that has endured to the end is the one that will be saved". Their view of "saved" might be better rendered "delivered", as the salvation they hope for is merely deliverance from Armageddon. It does not connote eternal destiny. Where a Christian thinks of "eternal life" as a present gift from God, the JW thinks of it as a reward for personal faithfulness -- earned. A JW also goes to the Old Testament for his notion of how the process of "salvation" begins. He will think of a text such as, " ... I have put life and death before you ... you must choose life ..." (Deut 30:19). Oblivious to the context -- Israel entering Canaan -- the JW appropriates this thought to define human free will as the beginning of salvation. The New Testament doctrine of personal election -- that is, God chooses US, not the reverse -- completely eludes Jehovah's Witnesses. The only "election" JW.ORG will allow is the corporate choosing of the 144,000 -- and that is numerical, not individual.

What JW.ORG is NOT telling you about JUDGMENT DAY -- Paul's good news to Greeks -- & JW's! <https://youtu.be/sXUcSM6-gIc>

In Acts 17:22-31, we have the only New Testament specimen of a public message of Paul -- or ANY apostle -- to highly educated pagans. This sermon, therefore, becomes our best model for how WE should communicate the Gospel to the modern unbeliever. These 10 verses are often a shock to Christians -- for what they leave out, as well as what they emphasize. For Jehovah's Witnesses, the greatest shock should register when they notice (only with our help, most likely!) what is NOT in Paul's public proclamation.

What JW.ORG is NOT telling you about JUDGMENT DAY (pt 2) -- Paul's preaching versus JW's <https://youtu.be/9RIupsHVAc4>

When we read Paul's great sermon in Athens (Acts 17:22-31), we might easily not notice what is MISSING from Paul's message. Not only Jehovah's Witnesses are bound to be surprised at the omissions. Even Christians may have trouble dealing with Paul's emphases, and even more difficulty with the "evangelical elements" which are just not there. Paul is the perfect messenger for the educated Gentile. He is versatile, agile, familiar with THEIR pet theories and sources -- from our vantage point, almost infinitely adaptable to all audiences. As Paul himself puts it (1 Cor 9:19-22), "I became all things to all men". In our multi-cultural society, shall we be content with a goal less than Paul's?

What JW.ORG is NOT telling you about LIFE AFTER DEATH (Job's hope -- and Handel's -- vs JW's) <https://youtu.be/c28pneeXfss>

[thumbnail pic: Georg Frideric Handel, who gave us MESSIAH -- and an unforgettable rendering of Job's hope] What Handel gave us, in his great oratorio MESSIAH, is also most of the time a straight

rendering of the Bible text. Many of the most memorable Messianic passages in Scripture form the texts for Handel's exquisite music. One of the most famous arias is the soprano solo, "I know that my Redeemer liveth". In this unforgettable setting, the hope of Job is made absolutely clear. Job sees, with the eyes of faith, his Redeemer standing on the earth. He also sees, in his future resurrected body, God Himself. Is this the hope of Jehovah's Witnesses?

What JW ORG is NOT telling you about LIFE AFTER DEATH (part 2 -- Was Job agnostic?)

https://youtu.be/BCGck_xzJUI

If you are one of Jehovah's Witnesses, you are trained incessantly to use Scripture in a piecemeal, yet dogmatic, fashion. Texts, often taken at random from Old and New Testaments, are selected for their usefulness in "proving" Watchtower teachings. The Book of Job, for example, is often cited to "prove" Job believed in a future resurrection. Yet in the very passages the Witness is trained to use -- Job 14 and Job 19 -- verses surrounding the "prooftexts" give a very different impression of Job's convictions, or better stated, Job's moods and hopes, which seem to fluctuate even within a Bible chapter.

Ecclesiastes & life after death -- How JW's ignore CONTEXT (What JW org NOT telling you)

<https://youtu.be/QAxLr40a5fo>

If we are ever to understand Scripture correctly, it is vital that we always consider CONTEXT. And there are at least 4 dimensions of context: 1/ immediate setting (does the use of the text harmonize with the whole passage?); 2/ meaning within its book (i.e. does the passage or even the entire book claim to give God's point of view?); 3/ context in whole Bible (i.e. type of literature, cultural background); 4/ historical & grammatical context (what does the original historical setting contribute to our understanding of the context, the style, the theology. even the vocabulary?)

Ecclesiastes denies survival after death -- WHAT ELSE does it DENY? (What JW org NOT telling)

https://youtu.be/n_dh3s2QekU

Why does JW.ORG love Ecclesiastes 9:5,10? JW's are trained decade after decade to use these 2 verses as their "go to" texts when it comes to answering the question, "What does the Bible teach about death or the afterlife?" Why, though, do you only use the 2 verses? What's in those verses in between, or for that matter, what thoughts lead up to this denial of an afterlife? In short, do Jehovah's Witnesses accept the other clear teachings of this chapter of Ecclesiastes?

HELL & AFTERLIFE (part 1) -- Is JW.org dogmatism justified? Are the dead non-existent, or ASLEEP?

<https://youtu.be/-OfULMgXmBU>

The Watchtower tends to use the same approach to HELL and the afterlife decade after decade. Rather than re-examining their favourite proof texts -- in context -- they rely generation after generation on passages which don't even CLAIM to be inspired. Using Ecclesiastes 9:5,10 (out of context) and joining that passage to Psalm 146:4 (a controversial translation), Jehovah's Witnesses, by continual repetition of these texts, conclude the Bible "clearly" teaches humans cease to exist at death. That the great majority of religious persons in the world -- including Bible-believing Jews and Christians -- interpret the data differently, does not seem to worry them. Arrogance and/or brainwashing might explain their certainty. But the fact that even Bible scholars whom the Watchtower regularly references disagree with the Watchtower SHOULD worry JW's. By far the majority of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish scholars are united at least in this -- the Bible when studied contextually does NOT teach that the dead cease to exist.

HADES (HELL & AFTERLIFE part 2) Jehovah's Witnesses, can you trust JW.org?

https://youtu.be/v_RGA4YxYbk

William E. Vine was a (Plymouth) Brethren Bible scholar, and a contemporary of both Charles Taze

Russell and JF Rutherford. Unlike these Watchtower presidents, however, William Vine had the ear of millions outside his denomination or sect. He was a credible scholar -- and still is. Vine's "Expository Dictionary" has been continuously in print ever since its publication, four generations ago.

GEHENNA (HELL & AFTERLIFE part 3) Fear non-existence? Or something far worse?

<https://youtu.be/xY0BbTaCEzo>

[thumbnail pic: The Valley of Hinnom, outside the wall of ancient Jerusalem] The Watchtower (JW.org) reassures Jehovah's Witnesses -- and everyone else under their "tutelage" -- that the worse that can happen to a human being is non-existence -- loss of eternal life on earth. Judgment day, with "hell" beyond, according to JW logic, is a reality billions -- indeed the majority of human beings who ever lived -- will NEVER have to worry about. But according to Jesus, there is something men should fear far more than physical death and mortal enemies. "Rather fear Him", warns Christ, "who is able to destroy BOTH soul and body in hell [gehenna]." (Matt 10:28) What did the Jews who listened to Jesus believe about gehenna? Bible scholar William E. Vine gives us background insight which Jehovah's Witnesses should soberly consider.