

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

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The 11 Beliefs You Should Know about Jehovah's Witnesses When They Knock at the Door

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1. The divine name.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that God's one true name—the name by which he must be identified—is Jehovah.

Biblically, however, God is identified by many names, including:

God (Hb. 'elohim; [Gen. 1:1](#)),
God Almighty (Hb. 'El Shadday; [Gen. 17:1](#)),
Lord (Hb. 'Adonay; [Ps. 8:1](#)), and
Lord of hosts (Hb. yhwh tseba'ot; [1 Sam. 1:3](#)).

In NT times, Jesus referred to God as “Father” (Gk. *Patēr*; [Matt. 6:9](#)), as did the apostles ([1 Cor. 1:3](#)).

2. The Trinity.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the Trinity is unbiblical because the word is not in the Bible and because the Bible emphasizes that there is one God.

Biblically, while it is true that there is only one God ([Isa. 44:6](#); [45:18](#); [46:9](#); [John 5:44](#); [1 Cor. 8:4](#); [James 2:19](#)), it is also true that three persons are called God in Scripture:

the Father ([1 Pet. 1:2](#)),
Jesus ([John 20:28](#); [Heb. 1:8](#)), and
the Holy Spirit ([Acts 5:3-4](#)).

Each of these three possesses the attributes of deity—including

omnipresence ([Ps. 139:7](#); [Jer. 23:23-24](#); [Matt. 28:20](#)),
omniscience ([Ps. 147:5](#); [John 16:30](#); [1 Cor. 2:10-11](#)),
omnipotence ([Jer. 32:17](#); [John 2:1-11](#); [Rom. 15:19](#)), and
eternality ([Ps. 90:2](#); [Heb. 9:14](#); [Rev. 22:13](#)).

Still further, each of the three is involved in doing the works of deity—such as creating the universe:

the Father ([Gen. 1:1](#); [Ps. 102:25](#)),
the Son ([John 1:3](#); [Col. 1:16](#); [Heb. 1:2](#)), and
the Holy Spirit ([Gen. 1:2](#); [Job 33:4](#); [Ps. 104:30](#)).

The Bible indicates that there is three-in-oneness in the godhead ([Matt. 28:19](#); cf. [2 Cor. 13:14](#)).

Thus doctrinal support for the Trinity is compellingly strong.

3. Jesus Christ.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus was created by Jehovah as the archangel Michael before the physical world existed, and is a lesser, though mighty, god.

Biblically, however, Jesus is eternally God ([John 1:1](#); [8:58](#); cf. [Ex. 3:14](#)) and has the exact same divine nature as the Father ([John 5:18](#); [10:30](#); [Heb. 1:3](#)).

Indeed, a comparison of the OT and NT equates Jesus with Jehovah (compare [Isa. 43:11](#) with [Titus 2:13](#); [Isa. 44:24](#) with [Col. 1:16](#); [Isa. 6:1-5](#) with [John 12:41](#)).

Jesus himself created the angels ([Col. 1:16](#); cf. [John 1:3](#); [Heb. 1:2, 10](#)) and is worshiped by them ([Heb. 1:6](#)).

4. The incarnation.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that when Jesus was born on earth, he was a mere human and not God in human flesh.

This violates the biblical teaching that in the incarnate Jesus, “the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily” ([Col. 2:9](#); cf. [Phil. 2:6-7](#)).

The word for “fullness” (Gk. *plērōma*) carries the idea of the sum total. “Deity” (Gk. *theotēs*) refers to the nature, being, and attributes of God.

Therefore, the incarnate Jesus was the sum total of the nature, being, and attributes of God in bodily form.

Indeed, Jesus was Immanuel, or “God with us” ([Matt. 1:23](#); cf. [Isa. 7:14](#); [John 1:1, 14, 18](#); [10:30](#); [14:9-10](#)).

5. Resurrection.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus was resurrected spiritually from the dead, but not physically.

Biblically, however, the resurrected Jesus asserted that he was not merely a spirit but had a flesh-and-bone body ([Luke 24:39](#); cf. [John 2:19-21](#)).

He ate food on several occasions, thereby proving that he had a genuine physical body after the resurrection ([Luke 24:30, 42-43](#); [John 21:12-13](#)).

This was confirmed by his followers who physically touched him ([Matt. 28:9](#); [John 20:17](#)).

6. The second coming.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the second coming was an invisible, spiritual event that occurred in the year 1914.

Biblically, however, the yet-future second coming will be physical, visible ([Acts 1:9-11](#); cf. [Titus 2:13](#)), and will be accompanied by visible cosmic disturbances ([Matt. 24:29-30](#)). Every eye will see him ([Rev. 1:7](#)).

7. The Holy Spirit.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the Holy Spirit is an impersonal force of God and not a distinct person.

Biblically, however, the Holy Spirit has the three primary attributes of personality:

a mind ([Rom. 8:27](#)),
emotions ([Eph. 4:30](#)), and
will ([1 Cor. 12:11](#)).

Moreover, personal pronouns are used of him ([Acts 13:2](#)). Also, he does things that only a person can do, including:

teaching ([John 14:26](#)),
testifying ([John 15:26](#)),
commissioning ([Acts 13:4](#)),
issuing commands ([Acts 8:29](#)), and
interceding ([Rom. 8:26](#)).

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity ([Matt. 28:19](#)).

8. Salvation.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that salvation requires faith in Christ, association with God's organization (i.e., their religion), and obedience to its rules.

Biblically, however, viewing obedience to rules as a requirement for salvation nullifies the gospel ([Gal. 2:16-21](#); [Col. 2:20-23](#)). Salvation is based wholly on God's unmerited favor (grace), not on the believer's performance.

Good works are the fruit or result, not the basis, of salvation ([Eph. 2:8-10](#); [Titus 3:4-8](#)).

9. Two redeemed peoples.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe there are two peoples of God: (1) the Anointed Class (144,000) will live in heaven and rule with Christ; and (2) the "other sheep" (all other believers) will live forever on a paradise earth.

Biblically, however, a heavenly destiny awaits all who believe in Christ ([John 14:1-3](#); [17:24](#); [2 Cor. 5:1](#); [Phil. 3:20](#); [Col. 1:5](#); [1 Thess. 4:17](#); [Heb. 3:1](#)), and these same people will also dwell on the new earth ([2 Pet. 3:13](#); [Rev. 21:1-4](#)).

10. No immaterial soul.

Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe that humans have an immaterial nature. The "soul" is simply the life-force within a person. At death, that life-force leaves the body.

Biblically, however, the word "soul" is multifaceted. One key meaning of the term is man's immaterial self that consciously survives death ([Gen. 35:18](#); [Rev. 6:9-10](#)). Unbelievers are in conscious woe ([Matt. 13:42](#); [25:41, 46](#); [Luke 16:22-24](#); [Rev. 14:11](#)) while believers are in conscious bliss in heaven ([1 Cor. 2:9](#); [2 Cor. 5:6-8](#); [Phil. 1:21-23](#); [Rev. 7:17](#); [21:4](#)).

11. Hell.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe hell is not a place of eternal suffering but is rather the common grave of humankind. The wicked are annihilated—snuffed out of conscious existence forever.

Biblically, however, hell is a real place of conscious, eternal suffering ([Matt. 5:22](#); [25:41, 46](#); [Jude 7](#); [Rev. 14:11](#); [20:10, 14](#)).

ANNOUNCEMENTS: WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LBC?

MENS BREAKFAST – Please join us April 20th at 8:30am for a time of food, fellowship and worship. Rev. Adam Callaway will be speaking. Adam serves as the director of the Timothy Trust and is also the Young Adult's Pastor at the MET in Ottawa. All men are encouraged to attend!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY – Both of the studies continue to take place on Fridays at 9:30 am. They are held at LBC. Talk to Aprile Dempsey or Janis Sharp for further details.

COMMUNITY LADIES DROP IN – The next drop in takes place April 16. It continues to be held at LBC and takes place from 9:30 to 10:30am.

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS - This study of the New City Catechism continues to be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm, in the basement of LBC. For more information please contact Ron Cowle or Aprile Dempsey.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – Bible Study resumes Wednesday April 3th. It continues to be held at LBC at 7:30pm. We will be starting a new study on the book of Micah.

BOOK OF THE MONTH – This month we are featuring 'Charles Price' short work, '**Paul: Moulded by His Message.**' Charles Price brings Paul the Apostle before us as one with whom we can identify; a man of intellect who could call himself a fool for Christ; a man of strength who would glory in his weakness; a an set alight by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and therefore moulded by the message entrusted to Him.

EVENING SERVICE – This month's evening service will take place on April 21st at 7pm. Please join us for a time of worship, corporate prayer, and study of God's Word.

BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP CLASSES – We hope to offer the Baptism class in May, and the Membership classes in June. If you are interested in learning more about these classes, please contact Pastor Eric or one of the elders.

FOOD BANK SUNDAY – Please remember that April 28th is this month's Food Bank Sunday. Not sure what to bring? A list of items are posted on the Food Bank box at the back of the sanctuary. Cash donations are also gladly welcomed.

RESOURCES - Be sure to take advantage of the resource section at the back of the church. This includes material regarding specific life issues, a variety of sermons, as well as the monthly Tabletalk resources.

