7. There is no salvation through Jesus since he is not God but Michael. Salvation is by faithfulness and strict obedience to the requirements of the JWs. A JW can't declare to be saved; the JW can only hope that their obedience is enough to get to Paradise.
8. JWs must refrain from giving or receiving blood transfusions, using any kind of tobacco, celebrating birthdays and Christmas, observing Thanksgiving, saluting or pledging allegiance to the flag, and serving in the military.
9. JWs believe in an afterlife. There will be an elite group of 144,000 who actually go to heaven. The rest of the JWs will live on the new earth established in the Millennium. Everyone else will be annihilated or disappear after death. There is no hell.

V. Notes & Questions

Resources:

- *Kingdom of the Cults* – Walter Martin
- Apologia Studios
- Waltermartin.com

Evangelizing Jehovah's Witnesses

"If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does not take place or come true, that is a message the Lord has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously. Do not be afraid of him."

Deuteronomy 18:22

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

Galatians 1:6-9

I. Introduction

1. Historical Perspective
   a. Charles Taze Russell
   b. Judge Rutherford
2. Recent History
3. Publications
   a. *New World Translation Bible*
   b. *The Emphatic Diaglott*
   c. *The Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures*
   d. *Reasoning From The Scriptures*
   e. *New World Translation of The Holy Scriptures (Study Edition)*
   f. *The Bible in Living English*
   g. Bible Study Aids:
      i. *My Book of Bible Stories* (for children)
      ii. *Revelation – Its Grand Climax at Hand!*
      iii. *Mankind's Search for God*
      iv. *Questions Young People Ask – Answers That Work*
      v. *The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived*
      vi. *Life – How Did It Get Here? By Evolution or By Creation?*
   h. Bible Reference Aids:
      i. *All Scripture Is Inspired of God and Beneficial*
      ii. *Insight On The Scriptures*
   i. Books
      i. *Knowledge That Leads to Everlasting Life*

ii. *The Bible – God's Word or Man's?*
iii. *Let Your Kingdom Come*
iv. *Happiness – How To Find It*
v. *The Secret to Family Happiness*
vi. *True Peace and Security – How Can You Find It?*
vii. *Listening to The Great Teacher*

4. Activities
    a. Fieldwork (door-to-door recruitment, sidewalk soliciting, "book" studies w/prospective new members). *Pioneers.*
    b. Congregations – Overseers or elders: Presiding Overseer, Service Overseer, & Ministerial Servants.
    c. Circuits – 20 congregations
    d. Districts – group of circuits (22 in USA) – district overseer.
    e. Branches – group of districts.
    f. Zones – group of branches
    g. Headquarters – Brooklyn Society office
    h. *Memorial of Christ's Death* (only ceremony – annual.
    i. 5 weekly meetings: Public Talk, Watchtower Study, Theocratic Ministry School, Service Meeting, Book Study.
5. Society Assets
6. Structural Assets
7. Structural Authority

II. <u>Basic Beliefs</u>

1. Some of The Doctrines of Jehovah's Witnesses
    a. The Holy Trinity – Doesn't exist.
    b. The Deity of Christ – Christ isn't God; he is a spirit creature.
    c. The Holy Spirit – not a person but God's active force.
    d. The Virgin Birth – not incarnation or by the Holy Spirit.
    e. The Atonement – relieves believers of inherit disability.
    f. Salvation by Grace – salvation is by faithfulness to Watchtower.
    g. The Resurrection of Christ – raised as a spirit, not a man.
    h. The Return of Christ & Human Government – Christ has returned, human governments are of the Devil.
    i. The Existence of Hell & Eternal Punishment – a lie from Satan.
    j. Man, The Soul, His Nature & Destiny – the soul of the sinful man ceases to exist at death.
    k. The Kingdom of Heaven – 144,000 rule with Christ, all others who aren't annihilated will be on earth being ruled.

A Refutation of Watchtower Theology

a. The Triune Deity
b. JWs vs. The Scriptures, Reason, & The Trinity
c. JWs and The Holy Spirit
d. The New World Translation of The Bible
e. The Watchtower's Scriptural Distortions
f. The Deity of Christ
g. The Resurrection of Christ
h. The Atonement of Christ
i. JWs & Human Government
j. The Existence of Hell & Eternal Punishment
k. Satan – The Devil
l. Man, The Soul, His Nature & Destiny
m. The Kingdom of Heaven

Selected Terms & Texts Misapplied by Jehovah's Witnesses

<u>III. Evangelism</u>

1. Define Terms.
2. Know the Trinity.
3. Pray for them – ask them how you can pray for them.
4. Know church history – Church fathers & councils. (Arianism)

IV. Quick Facts on Jehovah's Witnesses.

1. Jesus isn't Jehovah God; he is the first and only direct creation of God and the agent through which Jehovah made all <u>other</u> things.
2. Jesus' true followers are known by their worship of the true and almighty God, Jehovah, who is not a Trinity.
3. JWs believe there is 1 God – Jehovah – & that is the only correct name for God. Jesus is Michael the archangel, the 1st of God's creations. When Michael came to earth, he took the name Jesus. After his resurrection & return to heaven, Jesus resumed the name Michael. The Holy Spirit is not God; he is more of an active force rather than a person.
4. Jesus was raised from the dead, not with a physical body, but as a mighty spirit Creature.
5. The second "coming" of Jesus was an invisible spiritual presence that began in 1914.
6. The dead exist only in God's memory: the wicked won't be punished with conscious torment but will be annihilated.