



Topics and News from First & Last Ministries

# COVER-UP?

**Elder resigns from Watch Tower Society after accusing it of shielding sex-offenders.**

**THE Watch Tower Society has been rocked by claims that it is shielding known sex abusers and child molesters from the law.**

The Society is under growing attack by some of its own members for policies they say can allow child molesters to go unreported, putting church members and the public at increased risk.

The claims come after a long-serving elder resigned because he could no longer condone the Society's actions.

William Bowen, of the Drafenville congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, in Kentucky, said the policy also allows some confessed molesters – whose offences are usually kept secret – to remain Witnesses, sometimes with tragic results.

"I refuse to support a paedophile refuge mentality," said 43-year-old Mr. Bowen.

"I am referring to a Watch Tower policy to keep information about paedophiles confidential," Bowen wrote in his resignation letter.

"Paedophiles are protected by a code of silence and in many cases remain (in leadership positions or as members in good standing) while their victims suffer in silence or face sanctions. This policy is unethical and immoral in my opinion."

But the Watch Tower Society do not agree.

In an interview, shown on Kentucky television, channel 6, the Society's Director of Public Affairs, J.R. Brown, said: "We have a VERY AGGRESSIVE policy to handle child molestation in the congregations, and it is primarily designed to protect our children."

*Feature on pages 8 and 9*

# Comment

In this issue of Concern, we have a tale of mixed fortunes for the Watch Tower Society.

In Russia, the Moscow congregations have at last won their battle against the local authorities and will not be banned from meeting.

While across in the US one man has stirred up enough trouble for the Society to keep it busy for a good while yet.

Just how Mr Bowen will fare remains to be seen, but one thing is for sure, the Watch Tower Society will not be growing very much until public confidence is restored.

If you have anything you would like to say regarding the Watch Tower Society, please remember to write to us at the address on the back page.

**Paul Bacon**  
Editor.

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## Convention 2001 October 5th - 7th

This year's Ex-Jehovah's Witnesses convention is now being planned.

If you would like to register your place then please write, before July 1st, to:

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## TO THE EDITOR:

I HAVE been raised as a Christian, by my father, who left my mother 3 years ago for a close family friend, who is a Jehovah's Witness.

I have just found out that they have a baby due any day.

The mother of the baby wants the baby to be raised as a Jehovah's Witness.

Please tell me what the JW's believe as regards raising children in their faith.

Is there anyway that she will let the baby be raised as a Christian?

What dangers is the child in, apart from the obvious one of losing out on God's grace and the threat by not being allowed a blood transfusion?

I continue to pray for the child to be raised learning of God's love for us.

Please help me.

**Rachel Sykes,  
Via Email.**



## TO THE EDITOR:

I REALLY appreciated your information. I was aware of some of it but was glad I could share it with a widow I know who has been being approached by witnesses since her husband died. I know this is one of their tactics. She is unsure of her own beliefs and

is reading some of their literature, so needs prayer so as not to be misled. Thanks for your ministry. Praise to the God of the bible!

**Jacqueline Bickford  
Lincoln  
USA**



## TO THE EDITOR:

DO ALL Witnesses make others lives a living hell?

Living next door are two Jehovah's Witnesses, they complain to the association I rent from about things such as noise.

While I was on holiday. They, and others from their church spread rumours regarding my family.

I have 3 children, the eldest is disabled, they complain about her. I have tried to be nice but they just do their best to upset us.

I have no idea why they have ruined our lives so much.

My children can't play outside because of them and their attitude.

A member works in my local post office and I have even had to listen to her spreading rumours which are not true

I cannot see them going to God's kingdom after making all our families lives unbearable.

**R. McAdam,  
Via Email.**

## send your letters to:

**First & Last Ministries**  
248 Chester Road  
Loughton, Essex IG10 2LR.  
UNITED KINGDOM



# WORLD NEWS

## New president takes over as Society makes changes.



**EX-PRESIDENT:**  
**Milton Henschel**

THE Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania has a new president after the Society carried out the biggest restructuring exercise in its history.

Don Adams, 75, is the new president, taking over from former president,

Milton Henschel, 80, who resigned from his post on October 7 as part of the reorganisation,

Three new corporations were also formed.

The Kingdom Support Services Inc., will focus on the everyday needs of individual congregations.

The Religious Order of Jehovah's Witnesses, will interact with full-time workers, who take a vow of poverty.

While the third, the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, will oversee religious matters.

Henschel, and six other directors remain members of the Governing Body, an oversight panel that will now be dedicated to religious matters in conjunction with the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses.

"Basically, there's a lot of politics going on," said ex-Jehovah's Witness Randall Watters of Manhattan Beach, California. A former employee and elder at the group's "Bethel"

"They're trying to become less hierarchical, to keep liability at [a] lower level," Watters said. "They think when lawsuits come, they can isolate

particular committees."

Jehovah's Witnesses have been no strangers to litigation usually involving its highly controversial doctrine of not allowing blood transfusions to its members.

Jehovah's Witnesses spokesman James N. Pellechia said that while "any group needs legal protection," the changes will help the Witnesses plan for and manage growth.

"You reach a certain point where, if you do not start delegating, you cannot continue to grow," he said.



## Governing body loses another member.



**LYMAN SWINGLE:**  
"Grandfatherly"

LYMAN Swingle, a member of the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses, died on March 14th 2001 in Brooklyn, New York.

Ninety-one-year-old Swingle began working at the Watch Tower Society's Brooklyn headquarters in April 1930 before being elected to the board of directors of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society in 1945.

He remained on the board until the society's restructure in October 2000. He was Secretary-Treasurer from 1983 to 2000.

In the last two decades, millions of Watch Tower children heard the "grandfatherly" voice of Mr Swingle as he read from the publication My Book of Bible Stories on audiocassette.

A memorial service was held on Monday, March 19, 2001, at the Brooklyn Heights Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

# WITNESSES IN MOSCOW WIN BATTLE FOR FREEDOM.

## UPDATE

AN ATTEMPT to ban the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses in the Russian capital of Moscow has failed.

The two-and-a-half year court battle, was brought by the "Committee to Protect Youth from Totalitarian Sects" under article 14 of Russia's Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Association.

It accused the Watch Tower Society of breaking up families, fomenting national discord, curbing individuals' rights and converting minors without their parents' permission.

The society also rejected allegations that they have put lives at risk by opposing blood transfusions as contrary to God's law.

The civil case against the Jehovah's Witnesses -- which resumed at the Golovinsky intermunicipal court on 6 February -- was launched by the prosecutor of Moscow's Northern Administrative district in September 1998.

It was suspended on 12 March 1999 to allow expert opinions on the group's literature to be gathered.

Of the five specialists in religion, psychology and linguistics consulted, four supported the prosecutor's accusations, while the fifth rejected them.

But on February 23rd, 2001 the Judge, Yelena Prokhorcheva, announced her decision to dismiss the charges against Jehovah's Witnesses and ordered the Prosecutor's office to pay costs.

Speaking after the decision Russian lawyer, Galina Krylova declared: "Today is a historic day for religious freedom in Moscow and throughout Russia."

Meanwhile, Artur Leontyev, lawyer for Jehovah's Witnesses, expressed his pleasure with the verdict in a trial that lasted over two years, stating: "We are delighted for the 10,000 Witnesses in Moscow who were not allowed to renovate and build places of worship while this trial was in progress."

"Moscow should now come in line with the Federal Government and the 360 communities across Russia that have already legally recognised Jehovah's Witnesses," he said.

# FROM DECEPTION TO JESUS - THE REAL TRUTH

The testimony of Janet Hayes - Part Three

I guess I was what you might call an average Jehovah's Witness, putting in a regular 10 or so hours a month in field service and occasionally auxiliary pioneering. About five years before I left I started meeting a lot of Christians during my door to door witnessing. They would tell me that they were born-again, rather than what church they belonged to and I liked talking with them as I enjoyed a good debate and used to get tired of people saying, "I'm not interested.". However, these Christians did bother me somewhat because they seemed to have a real joy in their lives. Also they had bible studies and I thought how nice it would be in a group like theirs and be able to offer your own opinion (there is no freedom of thought in the Watchtower Society). These Christians seemed to have a real relationship with Jesus. They certainly had something I didn't have. As the Watchtower Society insist that everyone outside of the organisation is "of the Devil". I thought these Christians were being deceived, but this was hard to believe. Sometimes I would pray to Jehovah to show me clearly if the Christians were be-

ing deceived but I would feel very guilty praying this way and I really did believe God had a ready shown me the truth by bringing me into his organisation.

In 1987 I met a Christian who made a remark that clearly had an effect on me. He said "you are trying to take away what I've got". I knew it was true - he had got something that I had not got whatever it was it seemed very good.

The real turning point came in January 1988 when I met yet another Christian on the ministry. He talked to me about Jesus for about an hour and I flitted around the bible in the usual manner showing him all the Watchtower "proof texts". At the end of the conversation he gave me a small booklet called "Journey into Life" and I gave him a Watchtower leaflet. (Jehovah's Witnesses are not supposed to accept literature from Christians but I felt that if I wanted him to except my leaflet I should take his).

When I got home I read the booklet (feeling very guilty) and when I read the Gospel I then read the prayer at the end of the booklet and it occurred to me



that Jesus could be with me as a friend - the simple unadulterated Gospel - it was as if "the penny dropped" and I finally understood why the Christians always said that they knew they had eternal life. (I used to think that they were being presumptuous). I had always found the explanation of the ransom sacrifice of Jesus as given by the Watchtower Society very confusing and hard to explain to anyone, but when I came across the Gospel in its simplicity, I knew that Jesus had died for my sins and that by accepting him as my saviour I could have eternal life. It was so simple and straightforward. Suddenly I realised why Jesus had cried out "My God, my God why have you forsaken me?". I knew he had been cut off from his father because of the sins of mankind and that he had died spiritually and physically to take the punishment for my sins, so I could be set free from the penalty of sin. I then read the prayer at the end of the booklet and it really touched me that Jesus could be with me as a friend.

A few days later, (feeling very guilty as I felt I was being disloyal to "Jehovah's Organisation"), I decided to pray the prayer in the booklet, although I didn't pray to Jesus as I had been taught that I shouldn't, but I prayed to Jehovah, telling him that I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour. I had felt that if I didn't pray this prayer I might miss something very important. I know now of course that the Holy Spirit was drawing me. As I prayed, Jesus, for the first time, became real to me. It is hard to explain but I was suddenly aware of the reality of him. God had always seemed a long way off to me and I could never understand how he could hear my prayers. As I prayed I felt a love for Jesus which I had never had before. I was born again

that evening and the following day I put a ring around the date on the calendar and I knew it was a date I wanted to remember. Two scriptures kept going through my mind at this time - one was "we love because he first loved us" and I knew that the love I felt for Jesus was the result of him first loving me. The other was "my grace is sufficient for you"; obviously God was impressing on me that I could not work for my salvation, it was a free gift.

From this point God really began to show me the truth. A few days later I picked up the New English Bible which I hardly ever used and turned to Romans 8, verse 9 which says "if anyone does not have the spirit of Christ he is not a Christian". I knew that the Watchtower Society talked about the indwelling Holy Spirit, which is only for the born again ones, the 144,000 and I thought, "so where does that leave the other sheep". (The "other sheep" make up over 95% of Jehovah's Witnesses who claim they do not need to be born again and have the indwelling Holy Spirit). Then I turn to John chapter 14 and thought it was beautiful and it dawned on me that maybe, just maybe, it was really for me personally and not just the limited number of 144,000. At this point I did not really know what to think and I was very confused. I still believed the Watchtower Society had most of their doctrines right (I know differently now of course) and yet somehow I knew that salvation was all to do with Jesus and having a relationship with him. I felt I was on the verge of a big adventure but did not know quite what.

next issue  
before the committee.



## Special Report: Does the Watch Tower Cover up Child Mole

**THE Kentucky elder, who has stepped out and accused the Watch Tower Society of shielding child molesters is standing resolutely to his word.**

William Bowen (pictured below) has opened up a can of worms which may take the Society more than a few well chosen words to clean up.



So keen is the Society to rid itself of these worrying allegations, it's team of highly paid legal eagles have quickly acted to defend itself.

In an interview on Kentucky television J.R. Brown, WT Society Director of Public Affairs told reporters that the Society never gets involved with the decision of whether or not to inform police of paedophilia in Kingdom Halls.

"...When it comes to the matter of reporting... then that's something the parents can decide. We certainly NEVER tell them not to report a case of child molestation," he said

"I think we have to consider where this responsibility is primarily taking place. From our point of view, the scriptural point of view, the responsibility primarily for protecting the children is with the parents."

And even Bowen's father, Bill J. Bowen, denounced his son's actions in a videotaped interview produced and distributed by the church.

"What (my son) is saying is just absurd," the older Bowen said. "I've got to hope that my son will turn around, and change his mind."

## "I simply cannot that . . . has har

WILLIAM Bowen is quite clear what it will take before he once again resumes his role as an elder in Jehovah's Witnesses.

In a letter to the Watch Tower Society he demands that the Society:

- 1. Apologize to all who have suffered as silent lambs due to Watch Tower policy.**
- 2. Open all congregation confidential files and have any record of pedophile behavior reported to the authorities.**
- 3. Amend Watch Tower policy so that when any report of molestation is reported to elders it immediately is reported to the police for investigation.**

The Watch Tower policy he is referring to is publicly stated in *The Watchtower* magazine of November 1, 1995, on pages 28-29, regarding how church officials should handle molestation:

*"If the accusation is denied, the elders should explain to*



**t agree with an organizational policy  
med thousands. . .”**

*William Bowen, December 2000*

*the accuser that nothing more can be done in a judicial way. And the congregation will continue to view the one accused as an innocent person. The Bible says that there must be two or three witnesses before judicial action can be taken. (2 Cor. 13:1, 1 Tim. 5:19) Even if more than one person “remembers” abuse by the individual, the nature of these recalls is just too uncertain to base judicial decisions on them without other supporting evidence. This does not mean that such “memories” are viewed as false (or that they are viewed as true). But Bible principles must be followed in establishing a matter judicially.”*

Mr. Bowen says he believes this policy affects “thousands of children everyday”.

“Let me ask you, how often are there any witnesses to an act of child molestation? How can there be “supporting evidence” of molestation when 90% of the time the crime is reported weeks or sometimes years later? How many paedophiles will tell the truth knowing if they do they could go to jail?”

Listing numerous cases and testimonies from those who say they were abused while in the Society, Mr. Bowen said, “In my forty-plus years as a member, I have yet to find one church among Jehovah’s Witnesses that

does not have problems with child molestation.

“I believe, rather than the church involving itself in determining whether an accused person is innocent or guilty, the first step the church should take is to notify the local authorities who will investigate whether the accusation has merit. Then if found guilty in a court of law, the paedophile will be publicly identified and punished. This protects the innocent and could help give closure to the victim. Until that day happens, the lambs have been silenced, the victimized little ones, who look to their ministers for protection, but instead are crushed and ostracized by an organizational policy when they need help the most.

“It is my sincere hope that this action will result in making persons aware of what could also be happening in their own church as well. There has to be a grass roots movement that will force those who have responsibility to completely overhaul their church policy, if it is similar to the policy of Jehovah’s Witnesses, and address this horrific stance of protecting paedophiles and exposing children to danger.”

# THE RUTHERFORD RACKET



By Charles P. Windle

**RELIGIOUS** liberty is a cardinal doctrine based upon the fundamental principle of equal rights.

Your right to worship God in accordance with the dictates of conscience rests upon the same principle that guarantees a similar right to citizens of other faiths.

If any group of our citizens can be penalised, or their civil rights abridged, on account of their faith, then the rights of all the rest of us would no longer rest upon the solid rock of principle but upon the fickle and shifting sands of popular prejudice and passion.

Religious bigotry, like a dragon of old, is the evil genius of the human race. It stands in the pathway of human progress, preventing that unity and understanding so essential to the peace and happiness of a community or a nation.

Bigotry is the greatest menace of Religious Liberty.

This article was written to counteract a veritable Niagara of false and vicious propaganda against the Christian religion – designed to undermine and destroy Christian faith and to foment prejudice.

The author is a non-Catholic who loves the Truth and hates Falsehood – resolved to do his part in making religious freedom a living and indestructible force in the nation. This places him in opposition to every movement calculated to arouse bigotry.

## THE RUTHERFORD ORGANISATION

"Judge" Rutherford has built up an organisation which manufactures and distributes propaganda on a scale befitting the Machine Age in which we live. Whatever his propaganda may lack in quality, it certainly is not deficient in quantity.

His organisation is a world-wide group of sales agents, who are also trained missionaries, who spout the Rutherford propaganda almost as well as the "Judge" himself. Sometimes they descend upon a town like a plague of locusts. They make house to house canvasses. The Rutherford racket is really big business.

Hundreds of thousands of copies of Rutherford's books, pamphlets and magazines are in circulation in the United States, in addition to those in foreign countries.

Thousands of special Rutherford portable phonographs are in use, and 126 different records are available.

Sound trucks operate widely in the United States and many other countries.

The Rutherford magazines, "The Watch Tower" and "Consolation", the latter formally "The Golden Age", are read by millions of people every two weeks.

"Consolation" is published in 12 languages.

Some of the Rutherford books are printed in 36 languages. The first printing of the recent Rutherford book "Enemies", was one million copies. It is a clothbound book of nearly 400 pages with coloured illustrations.

"Judge" Rutherford broadcasts over more than 100 radio stations in the United States from one to five times each week by means of electrical transcriptions of his lectures. Seventeen stations in Australia now carry the Rutherford program.

The "Literary Digest" for May 2, 1936, stated:

"Tucked away in a corner under the Brooklyn end of the Brooklyn Bridge between two warehouses is an eight story, white, oblong building - the power-house of Jehovah's Witnesses. An electric sign winks out in ruby lights the words - riches. Here 196 Witnesses known as the Bethel family toil for Judge Rutherford and the Lord. Their riches are 15 dollars a month. For this sum they print and mail literature and make the 35,000 pounds of ink used annually to print \$700,000 worth of books."

One of Rutherford's headquarters in Chicago houses 80 Witnesses.

"The Golden Age" for October 9, 1935, carries the following item: "THE GERMAN BIBLE - MEIN KAMPF - Advertisements carried in German papers show that Hitler's book "Mein Kampf (My Fight) has received a total printing of 1,820,000 copies. That is nothing at all. In our Brooklyn factory alone 5,620,000 copies have been printed of Judge Rutherford's book. "The Harp of God," 3,403,500 of "Deliverance," 2,774,000 of "Creation 2.058,000 of "Reconciliation," 2,495,000 of "Government," and 10 other bound books of over one million each. The printing of booklets has literally run into the hundreds of millions. Of the last booklet, "Government," 5,000,000 were printed in the first edition."

That was four years ago and the Watch Tower presses have been busier than ever. As a book salesman Hitler is a piker compared to Rutherford; and as for me I am thinking seriously of printing on the first page of this pamphlet: "First Printing - Not more than 5,000,000 copies."

Apparently Rutherford has unlimited funds to carry on his propaganda on a

gigantic scale. The cost of his radio programs alone is estimated as between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 annually.

Perhaps some explanation of the growth of the "Judge's" unusual organisation may be glimpsed if not completely grasped from an advertisement for workers in the April 27, 1935 issue of his "Golden Age." It is entitled:

**OUT OF WORK? WHY NOT SERVE YOUR FRIENDS WITH THE GOLDEN AGE?"**

Is it possible that the depression paved the way for the great development of the Rutherford organisation? With ample funds to use he could feed and clothe the Witnesses while they were trained as missionaries and sales agents. The Witnesses work for a pittance which makes possible enormous savings in cost of production of literature and carrying on the Rutherford Racket in all its phases.

## Next Issue:

**Attack  
Upon  
Religion**

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## Commons hears JWs are “Potty”



A FORMER Cabinet minister accused Jehovah's Witnesses of being heretical and said that their doctrines were probably “fraudulent”.

Conservative MP for Suffolk Coastal,

John Gummer (pictured above), the former Environment Secretary and Agriculture Minister, made a series of outspoken remarks, in March, as the Commons passed a Bill to allow priests and clergymen to sit as MPs.

Mr Gummer said that Jehovah's Witnesses were “heretical and potty”.



## JW numbers continue to fall in Britain.

BRITAIN has the tenth highest population of Jehovah's Witnesses in the world according to figures published by the Watch Tower Society.

The figures, printed in the January 1st 2001 issue of the Watchtower magazine, shows that in the year 2000 Britain had 126,297 active Witnesses, a drop of just over 1,500 from 1999.

Meanwhile, across the pond in the USA, there were 988,469 active Witnesses. Again this figure shows a slight reduction.

Other countries also reporting zero or negative growth included Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

## Priests lead mob attacks on JWs

FOUR Orthodox priests led a mob of about 150 men on a violent rampage against Jehovah's Witnesses in the city of Sachkhere, western Georgia, in March.

According to Alexi Ichkitidze, one of Jehovah's Witnesses living in Sachkhere, “A mob led by the priest Avto Tshabadze viciously assaulted him, his wife Nana and a visiting friend.”

The mob then targeted an adjacent apartment on the same property, where religious meetings are held. They broke in through a window, looted the premises and burned the religious literature from the apartment.

The priest-led mob went on a rampage through the city. They found a local Witness at his workplace and beat him. Witness passengers in a car were able to escape on foot as the mob damaged and looted the vehicle.

It was the second day of such attacks by the same four Orthodox priests. A day earlier they led a mob of about 20 men in an attack on Jehovah's Witnesses meeting on private property. Four Witnesses were physically assaulted on that occasion.

Even though this and similar recent attacks on Jehovah's Witnesses were brought to the attention of the authorities, no one has been arrested for viciously assaulting members of this religious group.



# Blood Update

More true-life stories from around the world.

## LIVER TRANSPLANT SUCCESS FOR JW SON

THE SEVEN – month – old son of a Jehovah's Witnesses received part of his grandmother's liver in one of the first "bloodless" surgeries of its kind performed on an infant, doctors said.

Aiden Rush was born with biliary atresia, an obstruction of his intestine and later developed end-stage liver disease, which without a transplant, would have been fatal.

In the surgery at Childrens Hospital, Los Angeles Aiden received 20 percent of his grandmother, Vicky Rush's, liver, which should grow back in six to eight weeks.

Instead of using the usual two to three units of transfused blood during the infant's surgery, doctors used drugs to stimulate his production of red blood cells, and the blood from his incisions was recycled.

Similar techniques have been used for heart surgery for years on Jehovah's Witnesses, who say the Bible prohibits them from accepting transfusions of whole blood or blood products.

The "bloodless" operation performed Feb. 7 on Aiden Michael Rush's liver was so successful, it could become routine, doctors said Wednesday.

"We made special arrangements in this case because of this family's religious beliefs, but from now on, we'll do this on every child to reduce our use of blood products," said Dr. Yuri Genyk, a member of the team that performed the surgery at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

The hospital has performed the operation on four adult Jehovah's Witnesses since 1999.

That history drew the Rush family to Los Angeles from their home in Tipton, Iowa.

"I had people tell me flat out I wouldn't find anybody who would do this surgery," said Heather Rush, 26, Aiden's mother. "But I wasn't going to give up until I found someone to help us."

"Now he's just like a normal baby: He smiles, he plays with toys," she said. "It's the first time I have ever heard him laugh out loud."

News Source: <http://www.salon.com/news/wire/2001/02/22/bloodless/index.html>

# BABY LIVES DESPITE MOTHER'S OBJECTIONS.

A PREMATURE baby has been given a life-line by a US Judge despite the objections of the infant boy's mother.

The Pulaski County judge gave University Hospital authority to give the child a blood transfusions to keep him alive.

An affidavit from a University Hospital doctor said the baby's mother declined to consent to the transfusions because of her beliefs as a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Jerri Jackson, spokeswoman for University Hospital, said the baby boy was in a serious condition.

Hospital officials said the baby weighed only 1 pound, 12 ounces when he was born after 26 weeks of pregnancy -- just two-thirds of the normal 39-week period of gestation.

"The state has an interest in the preservation of life of the infant, and in this case the state's interest in preserving the life of the infant outweighs the interests of the parent in practising her religion," Circuit Judge Willard Proctor JR. said in his order.

Proctor ruled on Wednesday, 14th March, after officials of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences sought authority to overrule the baby's

mother. State law allows judges to issue such orders under specific circumstances.

Dr. Whit Hall, the baby's doctor, said in his affidavit that the infant suffers from a lung disease that requires drawing blood to monitor blood gases. Transfusions are then needed to replace that blood, the doctor said.

"I am aware that his mother is a Jehovah's Witness and objects to a blood transfusion for any purpose," he said.

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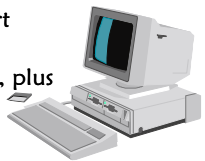
**Mr L.H. Kerr re: First & Last Ministries.**

We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

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## **Visit us on the Internet.**

For help and support in reaching out to Jehovah's Witnesses, plus the latest news on the Watch Tower Society.



Website - <http://www.firstandlast.org.uk>  
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# The Last Days in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century? Part 3



**T**hroughout its history the Watch Tower Society has pointed to the calamities, horrors and disasters in the world, and preached that this signified an imminent end to the world.

Convinced that the time of the end, has always been upon us, the Jehovah's Witnesses have until more recently been falsely prophesying and setting dates for the end of the world.

But a loyal Watch Tower student living at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century would have just as much to get excited about.

As he witnessed and experienced the events of this century, and looked for the "signs" of Jesus' coming, what would he find.

In this series of articles we will see just some of the horrors of the 14<sup>th</sup> century.



## 3. Crime

Following great disasters are always those who prey on the victims. Criminologists who have studied crime during the ages will note that sharp increases in crime has often followed disasters, like plagues and wars.

The 14<sup>th</sup> century was one in which crime was on a steep increase.

Historian George Lucas reports of a "great increase in crime."

At the same time, piracy on the great seas was on the increase.

Violent crime was so prevalent that it may have

contributed to the population decline at the end of this century.

The general fear, materialism and cynicism caused by the Black Plague was no doubt a great contribution to a dissolution of public moral and law and order.

**Next Issue: Famine.**



### PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:

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