

No. 22 Autumn 1997

Topics and News from First & Last Ministries

THE July 15th 1997 issue of the Watchtower magazine contains an article entitled "The Investigative Judgment" A Bible Doctrine?"

The article is basically a refutation of a key doctrine held by the Seventh Day Adventist Church, based on Daniel 8 14, which teaches that upon Christ's ascension to heaven, He entered the holy part of Sanctuary of the Heavenly

But, in the year AD 1844 compartment where cleansed the sanctuary by His blood (as depicted by the High the Day Priest on Atonement) and began a work judgment on professed Christians (living and dead) to see if they were worthy or not to be written in the Lamb's Book of Life

Now while the above WT article, in the main, does a fairly good job in refuting this teaching, in usual fashion the WT Society shoots a big hole in its own foot during the process

For example, on page 26 as part of its arsenal against the SDAs, the WT Society quotes Professor Anthony A Hoekema to back up its article, but fails to say where the quote own eye comes from

oversight is that Anthony possible "Thou Hypocrite!"

## by Philip Mawson

Hoekema made his statement on page 146 of his major work "Four Major Cults" A book in which Jehovah's Witnesses also have their own boat blown clear out of the water

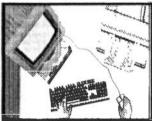
So while the WT article He entered the Most Holy quotes and documents other He statements from different sources, it wants rank and file JWs to be kept in ignorance of their quote from Professor Hoekema's work

> For while the Governing Body may read opposition literature, it doesn't want rank and file JWs to do the same (information control is a cult hallmark)

> So, in this brief treatment of the WT article we have to reach our own investigative judgment which can be none other than that of our Lord Jesus Christ in His stern words of Matthew 7 1-5

> The WT Society attempts to remove a splinter from the eye of Seventh Day Adventism, while a huge plank lies in its

In the words of Jesus The simple reason for this Christ we offer the only verdict



First & Last Ministries ioins information super-highway.

FOR some time now, First & Last Ministries has been aware of the growing popularity of the Internet.

Now we are pleased to announce our first steps into cyber-space.

Readers with computer and modem. who wish to contribute to our pages, can E-mail us on the Internet at:-

concern@firstandlast. prestel.co.uk

Over the coming months shall be putting together a Web-site which will allow thousands of people world-wide to learn about the work of First and Last Ministries.

We would very much value your prayers in this

matter.

While Seventh Adventures half to some irrelating discrines, it must be admitted that there are some fine Born Again believers among them.

This, however, is not true of Jehovah's Witnesses who are light years away from historical



IT is fairly easy for the average Christian Jehovah's Witness.

However, if the only appeal in talking to they are a Witness is so that you can "put him in

this magazine is not for you.

other to counter his mis-use of Scripture Nor is it about stating triumphantly that "the Watch Tower religion is of the reader Devil" to the Witness on your door-step. who may at that moment be utterly convince he is "in the truth"

## What you will read in Concern is TOPICS

We will bring you news about what the Watch Tower Society is currently up to This is helpful to the Christian who wants of the Watch Tower He will appreciate 5.20) how well the Society controls its people, and he can learn something of the ways the Organisation operates in spreading its appealing message to the populace.

## What you will read in Coucous is TEACHING

It's a known fact that the best way to detect a counterfeit is to be acquainted with "the real thing" So with Christianity Every true believer knows how he/she was saved But can we relate our conversion experience to a JW (or anyone else) in a SIMPLE, CLEAR, BIBLICAL way?

## What you will read in Coucous is TESTIMONIES

No one, who is still clinging to the hope of being saved by works, (or some kind of mixture of faith and works) has a testimony that Jesus Christ is Lord and IG10 2LR.

that we are saved by trusting in His shed blood alone to reconcile us to God

But many readers send us letters relating how they now know God after years of being held "in the Tower" If you are a Christian, whether an ex-JW or not, and have a real love to see JWs turning to our Lord Jesus, we think you will like Concorn

While refuting error is an essential part to be able to win an argument with a of dealing with cultists, it is also vital to have a genuine compassion for them as

Concern encourages an attitude of his place", or "straighten him out", then compassion to a Witness Only after a Witness senses he is befriended and Evangelising cultists is not about accepted (even though his beliefs are not) pulling out "proof texts" one after the will he start to consider listening to a Christian's viewpoint

> We want to be of help to you, the While we do not carry advertisements, if you are involved in reaching Jehovah's Witnesses for Christ we can help make your work known to

others.

Let us know what you are involved in, so that we can announce it to readers of Concorn

We need your prayers, that God will be pleased to work in many JW hearts, bringing them to confess Jesus Christ to to be aware of the magnitude and potency be "the true God and eternal life" (I John

> Les Kerr. First & Last Ministries.

# Register now for help-file.

IF you run, or know someone who runs, a ministry reaching out to Jehovah's Witnesses then let us know

First & Last Ministries is planning to compile a directory listing as many outreach organisations as possible

If you would like to be included, or would like to include any organisation you have found helpful in the past, then please send us the details, including the organisation's name, address, phone number and most importantly, what it does, to OUTREACH HELP-FILE. 248 Chester Road, Loughton, Essex

#### TO THE EDITOR

GREETINGS in OUL Saviour's precious and worthy name

I am writing to ask for some of your excellent leaflets "There Is a Way that Seems Right

Also, I would value a list of other items you supply

also supply photograph of the market stall that the Lord has opened up since May 1996 All glory belongs to HIM alone

I obviously get a chance to speak to folk of all different beliefs as well as it being a gospel outreach

I am amazed at how many Bibles are taken (everything is offered free. I am not allowed to trade)

For example, these last three weeks, around 200 items (tracts. books. leaflets, children's items) including 59 Bibles and five new testaments have been taken

Obviously there is some mockery. laughter and indifference, but the main thing is the amount of misguided people people who pass by and read the texts

What is very humbling for me is that not so long ago, saints risked their lives to smuggle Bibles into iron curtain countries

I enclose a "call to arms" leaflet which, not only has spoken to me, but possibly others as well

I know of a dear brother who now wishes to take the narrow way a bit more seriously! We all know John 33, but are not so aware of Hebrews 12:141

May the Lord continue to bless your labour and ministry to His glory

Kindest Christian regards in the name of Jesus Christ

Norman Smith. Addlestone, Surrey.

#### TO THE EDITOR

THANKS for the latest copy of Concorn

I have a few additional copies of varous JW books Do you know anyone that evil may find them useful

May God bless you and encourage you as you the Word spread Salvation

With you in Jesus Christ, Pastor Gary J. Hall, Liverpool.

## TO THE EDITOR

UNTIL recently I was vet another ignorant Christian TO THE EDITOR who didn't realise that Jehovah's Witnesses belonged to a cult.

The preaching of blatent lies to brainwashed followers ruins lives, and I'm very pleased that there is a movement to enlighten

The Apostle John solemly warns us in Revelation 22 18-19 not to change words in the bible, which is exactly what the

of leaders Watchtower Society have done

etters

I urge every reader to tell of thier friends and family what the Watch Tower Society is really like How else will they find out?

> Yours sincerely. Jasmine Paget, Loughton, Essex.

I AM in touch with a good friend, and ex-JW, who has a ministry in our area.

Also, a Curate in a church down the road asked me for info, so I hope I was of some use He has borrowed my "Witness at Your Door"

I would like to still support your ministry and would also like to be able to receive your magazine Concorn

One side of our family are all still in the Witnesses

We will keep praying for your ministry.

In His love and service, Roy and Judi Allen, Werrington, Peterborough.

# SEMB YOUR LETTERS

First & Last Ministries 248 Chester Road. Loughton. Essex 1910 2LR

E-mail us

concern(a) firstandiast. prestel.co.uk



## by Paul Bacon

"The description of Leviathan at Job 41:1-34 aptly fits the crocodile."

So says the June 8th 1997 issue of the Awakel magazine in a two-page article investigating the background of the creature, which is mentioned six times in the book of Job

But has this view always been held by

the Watch Tower Society.

Unsurprisingly the answer is no In fact, at one time the Society didn't even believe Leviathan was a creature at all - but, instead, a steam train!

On page 84 of Charles Taze Russell's posthumous work The Finished Mystery, readers are given an imaginative description of the beast of Job 41 where it says:-

"Behold now one with great heat (the stationary steam engine), which I have made to be with thee; he will consume fodder (peat, wood, coal) as do cattle. Behold now his strength is in his loins (boiler plates), and his power is within the parts bent in a circle (boiler shell) of his belly. His tail (smoke stack - opposite the feeding end) will set upright like a cedar, the couplings of his leaping parts (connecting rods, pitmans) will be clamped together. His bones are tubes of copper, his solid bones (grate bars) are as hammered-out bars of iron. He is the greatest of the ways of power. He that made him (the Lord) can make his sword (Word) to approach unto (reveal) him.

# RAMBLING

On page 85 of the book this nonsensical rambling continues with a translation of Joh 41:1-34

"Thou wilt lengthen out leviathan (the locomotive) with a hook (automatic coupler) or with a snare (coupling pin) which thou wilt cause his tongue (coupling link) to drop down. Wilt thou not place a ring (piston) in his nostrils (cylinders) or pierce through his cheeks (piston ends) with a staff(piston rod)? Will he make repeated supplications unto thee (to get off the track)? Or will he utter soft tones unto thee (when he screeches with the whistle)? Will he make a covenant with thee, that thou mayest take him for a servant forever (without repairs)?....."

And so the translation continues

# **PROOF**

As I write this article and read the Watch Tower book for myself, even I find it hard to believe people actually took all this in

Nowadays, of course, the Society would never own up to believing such rubbish and present-day Witnesses will probably have no idea that the article even exists

But, if proof was ever needed of the lengths the Watch Tower Society will go to, in order to make the Bible fit in with its own theology, then this must surely be

# REPORTS



Suicide cult begins search for new converts.

**APPLEWHITE** 

MEMBERS of the Heaven's Gate cult held their first meeting in August, since 39 of

them committed mass suicide earlier this

year
The gathering in the California university town of Berkeley has horrified university officials and cult-watchers who fear a repeat of the gruesome discovery, six months ago, of the United States'

largest ever group suicide.

The bodies of cult founder Marshall Applewhite (pictured above) and his followers were found dead in a San Diego mansion, laid out on their beds under purple shrouds. They had drunken vodka, eaten apple sauce laced with drugs and suffocated themselves with plastic bags

Now the group, led by 55-year-old computer programmer Chuck Humphrey, has been leafleting new students at the university in an effort to recruit new

converts.

A Heaven's Gate Internet site is already attracting 50 visitors a day and offers copies of a promotional video by mail order

# ARE YOU MOVING?

Make sure you send your new address to us

as soon as
possible if you
don't want to
miss future
issues of

Concern.



# New outreach ministry to Jehovah's Witnesses launched in UK.

THE Kingdom Publisher's Journal and Watchtower Observer has been set up by former Jehovah's Witness Pete Stanton

The ministry runs a 24-hour helpline with a recorded message and prints an eight-page A4 newsletter - The Kingdom Publisher's Journal

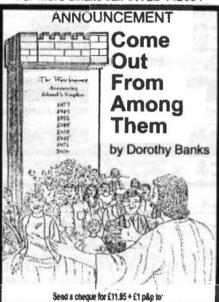
For more information on the ministry, or to receive a copy of their latest newsletter, send a first-class stamp to

The Kingdom Publisher's Journal P.0.Box 708, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV12 5GH.

# Ex-Witness convention in October.

THE Kingdom Publisher's Journal and Watchtower Observer has announced it is to host the 1997 Witnesses Now for Jesus Convention

The two-day event, on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th October, will be held at Pelsall Evangelical Church, Walsall For more details call 01922 442084



# hat You've Misse

Concorn is produced every three months to provide up-to-date news, testimony and encouragement for those seeking to evangelise Jehovah's Witnesses

If you have any comments on past issues or ideas for articles in future editions please feel free to let us

know.

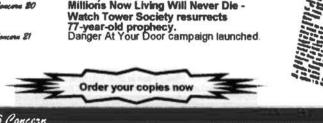
Maybe this is the first issue of Concern you have seen, or maybe you have simply missed past issues. If so, all our previous issues are still available and can be ordered from us at 50p each

To place your order, please write to us at the address on the back page telling us what issues you

would like and the quantities you require

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This page may be photocopied.

# A Christian Response to the Watchtower Article "What Do The Scriptures Say About the Divinity of Christ?"

THE Bible clearly teaches there is only one God. Isaiah 45 5 He alone is the true God But the Bible also teaches there are many gods Because the same Hebrew and Greek words are used for "God" and "gods", the Bible translations have used a capital letter when referring to God

Christians believe this God to be the Creator, Sustainer of our world and Saviour Because of this. He alone is

worshipped

We cannot bow down to, serve, pray to, sing praises to or sacrifice at the table

of any other god

The article asks a very important question Unless Jesus is god, we cannot bow down to Him, serve Him, pray to Him, sing His praises or sit at His table To do any of these things would be idolatry

Firstly then: Is Jesus the Creator? The down before Him

Bible says "Yes" He is!

(verse 8) states

"You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth and the heavens are the work of your hands"

Colossians 1 16 says - "All things were to serve him

created by Him and for Him"

Secondly Does the Son sustain all things? Yes!

consist - cohere, are held together" - The His name in prayer

Amplified Bible

Hebrews 1 3 - "upholding all things by the word of His power - upholding and maintaining and guiding and propelling the universe" - The Amplified Bible

Thirdly Is the Son the Saviour? Indeed

Acts 4 12 - "and there is salvation in and through no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by and in which we must be saved - The Amplified Bible

# Part One by Tom and Elia McCrea

Because of the clarity of these teachings, our Bibles in the New Testament render "theos" as God when referring to Jesus Christ.

To call Jesus god - would mean we could not bow down or serve Him We could not call on His name in prayer, sing praises to Him or sit at His table.

If Jesus is a creature, to do any of these

things would constitute idolatry

Jeremiah 10 11 states, "The gods who did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens"

1 If Jesus is not Creator - He is one of the gods who will perish.

If Jesus is not God - we should not bow

Compare Exodus 20 5 - "You shall not Hebrews 1 10 addressed to the Son bow down to them" (i.e. any god) with Philippians 2 10 - "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow"

3 If Jesus is not God - it would be wrong

Compare Exodus 20 5 - "You shall not serve them" (any god) with Colossians 3 24 - "You serve the Lord Christ"

Colossians 1 17.- "by Him all things 4 If Jesus is not God - we dare not call on

Compare 1 Kings 18 24 - "And call on the name of your gods and I will call on the name of the Lord" with 1 Cor 12 -"with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours'

 What then of singing praises to Jesus? Compare Exodus 15 11 - "Who among the gods is like you, O Jehovah? one to be feared with songs of praise" with Revelation 5 8, 9, 12 - "fell down before the lamb and they sing - a new

song saying you are worthy ... the Lamb that was slaughtered is worthy to receive the power and riches and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and blessing "

Consider Matthew 21 9,15,16 and

Luke 19 40

6 If Jesus is not God - we should never sit at the Lord's table

1 Corinthians 10 16, 17, 20, 21 - "The cup of blessing we participate in and share a fellowship in the blood of Christ

are not those who eat the sacrifices partners of the alter . I do not want you to fellowship and be partners with diabolical spirits .. you cannot drink the Lord's cup and the demon's cup You cannot partake of the Lord's table and the demon's table" Amplified Bible

1 Corinthians 10:21 New World Translation by the Watch Tower Society reads - "You cannot be drinking the cup of Jehovah and the cup of demons, you cannot be partaking the table of Jehovah and the table of demons" note especially 1 Corinthians 10 20 NWT "no, but I say that the things which the nations sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God."

We need to be clear in our own minds When we speak of the Lord's evening meal or the Lord's supper, who is this Lord? If this Lord is "a god" and not God, then indeed we are sharing communion with one who is a creature and so we are guilty of idolatry

In view of all this, it would be very revealing to examine the material found in the Watchtower magazine of January 15th, 1992 on pages 20 - 23

The article poses the question "What do the scriptures say about the Divinity of Christ?"

The article finishes by saying this "Clearly, therefore, the scriptures do not support the idea of the divinity of Christ"

In the next edition of Concern we shall begin our examination of this statement

# COULD YOU WRITE FOR Concern?

COULD you write an article for a future issue of Concern?

We are currently seeking articles on various Watchtower subjects including news on the activities of local congregations in your area.

It doesn't matter how small or insignificant you think the news is, we

would like to hear about it.

Perhaps you are yourself witnessing to members of the organisation and have prayer requests to share with us.

Or, if you run a ministry in your local area, you could give other readers the help and encouragement to start their own.

No writing experience is necessary, as we can advise and help you put an article together.

There is no limit to the length of the article but longer ones may have to be used in two or more editions.

To help us, articles should be written or typed out and be double spaced between lines.

If you would like to submit anything for publication, then please phone or write to the address on the back page, just in case somebody else is preparing a similar article.

To readers who have already sent in articles, still to appear in Concerns, please be patient - they will be printed.

First & Last Ministries.





SINCE the launch of the Danger At Your Door campaign in July, there has been much to give us encouragement.

Many of you have written in to order the 4" x 4" stickers that householders can affix to their front doors asking the passing Jehovah's Witnesses not to call

Now First & Last Ministries is pleased to announce the second part of the campaign - a new warning tract aimed solely at explaining to the public, the dangers of joining the Watch Tower Society

This four-page tract (a copy of which should be enclosed with this issue of Concern) is designed to be presented to the public along with the warning sticker

If you would like to order more of the tracts then please see the order form on page 7 The tracts are free, but we have to make a charge for the stickers

Here at First & Last Ministries, we feel that if just one person is prevented from joining the Watch Tower Society, then the stickers will have done their job

But, we feel that these stickers will be much more powerful

Even if you just order enough to give to your immediate family, the Jehovah's Witnesses will soon get the message

EARLY indications show that our stickers are being well received by both the public and Christians But, we received a letter from a reader who said he felt unhappy about them and felt they could be counter-productive.

We enjoy receiving letters from all of you so we print the three reasons this person gave against the stickers and Bill Bacon gives his comments

It could give Christians an easy solution and a way out of witnessing to JWs.

The stickers are not for Christians to stick on their front doors

A Christian, who has been at the same address for 18 months should now be in the JWs' list of houses to stay clear of and not be getting visits from JWs anyway

Secondly, A Christian does not need one of our stickers on their door in order to get out of witnessing the Witness All the Christian has to do is not to open the door to the Witness in the first place, or say they are too busy to speak to them

It could give JWs a further "persecution complex", which they already have, as well as giving the householder, who you give the sticker to, the idea that we have a special vendetta against JWs.

The Jehovah's Witness invents persecution

He is taught it in his first book study

We say any organisation who ducks and dives like the Watch Tower Society is entitled to opposition

Let us not mistake opposition for

persecution

How would we react if we went out visiting in our area and found stickers saying "No visits by Evangelicals please"?

My wife and I lived with our children in a north London road for 22 years

A five minute walk around the corner was the local Evangelical church

In those 22 years this church did not make one visit to us Nor did it leave us

any literature

Later it came to our attention that there was a Baptist family living three doors away from us and they knew my wife was a JW But, again, in 22 years we never had any item pushed through our letter box to give us some warning or history of JWs

I would have given any Christian, who might have come to my door with a sticker or warning tract, the top brick off the chimney

But 99 9 per cent of Christians are

stuck fast in their churches.

The dear people who live in our old road might just as well stick on their door "No Visits By Tibetan Monks Please" Because they have more chance of a Tibetan Monk calling on them than a Christian

What would I say say if the street put up stickers saying "No Visits By Evangelicals Please"? I would say praise God Because it would mean that Christians had at last woken up

As Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones said "Apathy in the Christian church is the

breeding ground of the cults'

# What Do You Think?

Do you think the stickers are a good idea?

Write or E-mail us at the addresses on page three.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT



IF you've ever stood on your doorstep and found yourself wanting to close the door on a visiting Jehovah's Witness then this challenging booklet is for you

Containing 16 pages of helpful advice on witnessing to the Witness, Will You Share Jesus? is written by Bill Browning (a JW himself for 23 years) of New Malden, in Surrey

Bill is also the co-author of Awake! to the Watchtower, which is published by

Reachout Trust

For prices and orders contact— Tom & Ella McCrea 35 Church Crescent, Newtownabbey, C. Antrim N Ireland, BT36 6ES D (01232) 848185

# KINGDOM CAPERS



Quick, sound the retreat before they see us!!!!

# WATCHTOWER

THE Watchtower magazine of May 1st 1987 must surely be a collectors' item It asks

# Do All Prophecies Come From God?

On page four of the magazine we read

"False religion was wiped out in the flood of Noah's day, leaving just the true form of worship practised by Jehovah's prophet Noah. The demons remained though and reintroduced counterfeit prophecies and religious concepts."

As we move on in this WT article, page five gives us some outstanding information (or should we call it spiritual food at the right time in due season?)

"Satan and the demons still inspire false prophecy to deceive and divide mankind, confuse true revelations about God, and establish false ideas and religions."

I'm sure if you ask any Jehovah's Witness about false prophecies they will know some.

This article is quite mind-boggling and the quote on page six is a true classic. It reads -

Since the completing of the Bible, those who have introduced new "prophecies," religions, and sects could not be inspired by God. True prophecies were not given to reveal new religions. They kept the one

Watchtower 1/5/87 p.6

They finish off by saying,"So all who desire to be acquainted with
true prophecy and to practise true
religion need to turn to the Bible. It is
God's book of prophecy, His complete
message to mankind."

So we learn from the following prophecy

"Clearly the battle of the Great Day of God Almighty is now in progress." WT 1/9/1916

According to the Watchtower, that it is a false demonistic prophecy and there is no such thing as "new light"

So it seems Jehovah's Witnesses don't need the Watchtower, new light or God's organisation Instead, they need to take note of this classic Watchtower and go to the Lord Jesus Christ and the finished message of the Bible, which says -

"For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book; If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;

and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

Revelation 22 18-19

Now you can E-mail us at:- concern@firstandlast.prestel.co.uk

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