

So Close! ...And Yet So Far?



The Teachings Of Jesus In Dialogue With Other Beliefs

Part 6: "Honey, Someone's At The Door"

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



Introduction – Christ's Sacrifice For All

Matthew 26:26-28

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Romans 10:1-4

2 Peter 3:16

Beginnings & Beliefs

- i) Charles Taze Russell begins to publish (1879)...
- ii) Heavy reliance on their own _____...
- iii) New World Translation of the Holy Bible...
- iv) Jesus is really _____, the archangel...
- v) Jesus was resurrected in _____ only...
- vi) Two kinds of salvation...
- vii) A closed mental system...

What Can We Learn From Jehovah's Witnesses?

- i) We must never stop _____.

2 John 1:9

- ii) If you want to catch fish, go where the _____ are.

Acts 20:20

- iii) Peace should not be achieved through _____.

Matthew 5:38-47

- iv) Christ calls us to a _____, not just a belief.

What Can Jehovah's Witnesses Learn From Jesus?

- i) Jesus encourages _____ investigation

Matthew 11:2-5

- ii) The Bible encourages _____ thought.

Romans 14:2-5

- iii) God encourages total dependence on _____ alone.

Acts 8:26-40; 17:11

1 John 2:27

1 Timothy 2:5

Conclusion – Who’s Witness Are You?

iv) The Bible encourages thoughtful _____.

Acts 17:16-34

Acts 1:8; 11:26

v) Using God’s _____ does not guarantee His approval.

Matthew 7:21-23

FOR FURTHER STUDY...

The Official Jehovah’s Witness Web Site = www.watchtower.org

Support For JW’s Wanting Out or Seeking Answers =
members.aol.com/beyondjw

vi) Truth is _____ and is known through _____.

John 17:3

John 14:6

2 Timothy 3:7

About Cults & Their Techniques (specifically JW’s) = www.freeminds.org

vii) Sometimes you just have to admit when you’re _____.

• **John 2:19-21**

• **Revelation 7:9, 15, 19:1**

v) Salvation is a _____ offered to _____ who receive it by faith.

1 John 5:1

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

1. After reviewing Sunday’s message, share what aspect of Jehovah’s Witnesses you are a) most attracted to? b) most ‘turned off’ by?
2. Have you ever had contact with practising JW friends or missionaries? What has been your experience?
3. In **Acts 8:25-40** we read about how God uses individuals to help other individuals grow in their understanding. a) What two ways did God guide Philip? (See **v. 26 & 29.**) How open are you to God’s moment-by-moment guidance? How can we know if He really is speaking to us? b) What was the core content of what Philip shared with the seeking Ethiopian? (See **v. 35.**) How does this differ with the gospel according to JW’s? (Also see **2 Corinthians 11:3-4.**) c) How does **v. 38** counter the JW emphasis on dependence? Do you think you are too dependent on the church or any group or individual for your spiritual growth? If so, what can you do about this?
4. If you are a believer in Christ, are you proactive in sharing your faith with others? Would you be willing to go door-to-door sharing your faith? Why? Why not? What other methods do you use? Pray for each other in this area.

Bruxy Cavey @ Upper Oaks Community Church, Sunday, June 11, 2000