

**After disconnecting from the Jehovah's Witness Cult and many years of personal study; please find below my rebuttal to some of the False Teachings being peddled by this Cult in the name of Truth.**

## **1. Seven Thunders - Revelation 10 v 4**

Several years ago I was minded to research into the Then Is Finished The Mystery of God book on this point of the Seven Thunders, as published by the Jehovah's Witnesses in 1969, no explanation was given therein. I then compared Then Is Finished The Mystery of God book, with the Revelation Climax At Hand book, as published by the Jehovah's Witnesses in 1984, and no further insight was provided into the meaning of this aspect of the Revelation prophecy. Thereafter I felt compelled to write to New York Bethel Headquarters to enquire as to why the Cult has been proclaiming since 1918 that the Revelation Prophecy is explained and finished when they have omitted to explain this point of doctrine. I received a reply which fell far short of giving any satisfactory answer, in fact, it was quite patronizing and said 'you are to be commended for writing on this point' etc., but showed by the selection of different verses chosen from the bible to address my question, that they bore no correlation to the subject matter on the definition of the seven thunders, and that they didn't have a satisfactory answer to the question posed.

Further years went by and in 2025 I was guided to buy The Finished Mystery published posthumously in 1918 by The International Bible Students Association. Therein it clearly states that Charles Taze Russell was the seventh angel referred to in Revelation 10 v 7. I will concede that C T Russell had written this seventh volume of Studies in the Scriptures and his followers published the work after he passed away, so we can't be sure whether C T Russell actually called himself the seventh angel, or if it was his followers after he had passed away that did so, but he did claim to be directed by the angels, however, I would argue it's words are more demonic in origin than angelic by the judgmental overriding arch of the narrative.

Moving on I then studied The Secret Doctrine by Helena Blavatsky, published by The Theosophical Publishing House in 1893, and came across an alternative explanation as to the meaning of the seven thunders which this Philosopher referred to as 'seven sounds and forty nine powers'. This quotations was taken by Blavatsky from The Pistis Sophia discovered in 1773 and generally accepted to have been written around the third and fourth centuries, to be translated by G R S Mead in 1896. Within the Pistis Sophia it clearly states that the 'seven sounds and forty nine powers will lead souls to the light of lights.' Providing a very different connotation away from the more judgmental and thunderous meaning intimated by the International Bible Students Association and their follow-on Religion the Jehovah's Witnesses founded by Judge Rutherford. Again, no implicit explanation as to the meaning of the seven thunders was given by Blavatsky or Mead. This begs a number of questions: one, when will the definition of the seven thunders be revealed? Two, of the Jehovah's Witnesses, why are they presuming that this prophecy is a 'finished mystery' when quite clearly there are aspects to this passage of scripture which are still yet to be fulfilled? This clearly remains an UNFINISHED Mystery!!! In Revelation 22 v 18 John expresses the severe penalties for overstepping as mortals when it comes to claiming to have insight as to its meaning: "I am bearing witness to everyone that hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone makes an addition

to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this scroll; and if anyone takes anything away from the words of the scroll of this prophecy, God will take his portion away from the trees of life and out of the holy city...' Even despite these words the Jehovah's Witnesses Cult claiming from as early as 1918 that Revelation was a *Finished* Mystery. Three, does the meaning of the seven thunders have any application to this current race of mankind living on planet earth in any way, shape or form?

## **2 Shunning/Disfellowshipping/Disassociation**

This preposterous notion that someone who was once a Jehovah's Witnesses, and through conscientious study and application comes to a different point of view to the pseudo-theology preached by the Jehovah's Witnesses, should then be considered an apostate and disfellowshipped from the congregation, is at best a definite misrepresentation of what Paul's intention probably was when speaking about 'removing from your midst' the non believer. The overarching message of Christianity in all its Religious forms is that true Christians show love to people, abide by Caesar's laws and avoid confrontation if it depends upon them, in other words be peaceable with all men. An important point from Taoist philosophy is found In The Tao Of Nature p149 which was written 4BC where there is a definition of the 'eight defects and four evils' which any human being should seek to redress prior to the point of being able to be taught from above. One of the defects stated therein is that those who separate friends and families are termed 'malevolent'. One of the four evils is Bigotry which is defined as someone 'who smiles when you agree with them and then when you disagree disowns and despises the person.' Take for example Mother Theresa of Calcutta whose Catholic faith motivated her to dedicate her life to living with the poor and caring for them, she didn't shun people because they didn't share the same Religion as herself but took action to make a positive difference in peoples daily lives. In my own case I grew up from the age of about four in the Jehovah's Witness Cult, fed on a diet of constant condemnation of all other Religions than the Jehovah's Witnesses, who were termed 'false Religion' i.e., anyone who wasn't a Jehovah's Witness was in false religion, the criticism was especially directed towards Catholicism. When I separated myself from the Jehovah's Witness Cult I found thousands of Christians working tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of others in predominantly practical ways, including the one such example as quoted above of Mother Theresa.

Hence it begs the question, on what level do the Jehovah's Witnesses justify to themselves the condemnation of all other Religions and by extension the faith of all other individuals, when they as a collective Cult do little to alleviate the burden upon others within the world at large. As the scriptures say of what good is it if you do good to your fellow brother even people of the nations do so, but Christians are admonished to love their enemies. In allegorical terms test the limits as to how far a person is prepared to go in coming to the aid of fellow man. Another point to mention is that I researched the accounts for the International Bible Students Association Britain for 2024, to see what the financial status currently is relating to the Jehovah's Witnesses as I had turned away from the Religion nearly thirty years ago, and was out of touch. I was dismayed to find that the income runs into the hundreds of millions of pounds UK sterling. Whilst they state they give a large proportion of this to Charity, on researching which Charity this was, it turned out to be one established by the Jehovah's Witnesses to serve their own interests in building kingdom halls etc.

### **3. Legally Establishing the Good News - Phil 1 v 7**

This is a term used continually by the Jehovah's Witnesses to justify, largely, their preaching activity, and yet its roots stem from what I perceive to be a mistranslation of Philippians 1 v 7. I have always been dismayed at the level of antagonism shown by the Jehovah's Witnesses towards local authorities and international governments in their quest to secure rights to proselytize from house to house. In 1 Cor 6 Paul recommends to avoid going to court against ones brother but to try to make peace and settle any disagreements before seeking redress in the secular Courts, so why do Jehovah's Witnesses engage in consummate litigation in order to 'legally' establish the good news. The Divine needs no such secular basis upon which to dispense spiritual food to mankind. I compared several other translations of this verse within the Holy Scriptures and found by comparison that the Douay-Rheims, King James Version and American Standard Bibles all use the word 'confirmation' in this verse, there is no reference to 'legally' establishing the good news. In fact the KJV in its commentary on this particular verse specifically ruled out any legal connotation to which this verse should be applied.

In Matthew 11 v 30 reference is made to Christ's load being 'light' and 'kindly', something children and young people understand quite naturally, they follow their conscience and by doing so are without question following good principles, there is no heavy load to carry even a child knows how to trust in Christ. This need for the Jehovah's Witnesses to justify their position when resistance is met by the secular authorities in taking numerous cases to court, all under the umbrella of the consequences being a necessary and expected form of persecution, usually explained as because they are delivering an unpopular message to mankind which will not be welcomed by the public, or well received, does not fit with what Christ said about the load to be carried as Christians being light and refreshing, and stands in direct opposition to what would identify the load of a true Christian. I remember terms used within the Cult when I was trapped within it to the effect that we need to 'put our nose to the grindstone', 'shoulder to the wind' and 'it's a test of our faith', being trotted out regularly when animosity came the way of the Jehovah's Witness Cult because of their contentious approach to supposedly 'legally' establishing the good news and their preaching work not being well received. This flies in the face of the words of Matthew quoted herein where Christ states, again, that his load is light and kindly, implying that if it becomes heavy and onerous then the group has lost Christ's approval. Clearly the Divine has no need for a right of redress to the secular authorities to 'legally establish the good news' when the allegory was used in scripture in the sense that even the 'stones would cry out' if a witnessing work was necessary. The preaching work was never intended to be taken literally, in fact the scriptures cautioned to 'live quietly' and only 'give a response for faith if asked for directly.'

### **4 1914 - Revelation 12 v 7**

This passage of scripture has often been quoted where the prince Michael battles with Satan and war breaks out in heaven as the basis for Satan being cast to earth, which the Jehovah's Witnesses say happened in 1914. Firstly the Jehovah's Witnesses lump three terms as one entity i.e., Dragon, Devil and Satan from these verses, when clearly there may be three entities at play here. They also

dumb theology down to one god and one Satan, when clearly a more nuanced approach could imply that they are not three into one but separate entities from one another entirely. Even many further iterations thereof may exist in the celestial regions?

My rebuttal to this point would be to draw attention to the passage of scripture in Luke 10 v17. Now as far as I am aware from studying various translations of the scriptures it is only the New World Translation which gives exact dates for when the gospels were written, they clearly state at the beginning of the New World Translation 1984 edition, that Luke's epistle was completed in 61CE. Most other bible scholars tend to be more circumspect with dates and are more general in saying the epistles were written during the 1<sup>st</sup> Century. If as Luke shows in verse seventeen, the Messiah states 'I already beheld Satan cast like lightening from heaven' in this passage of scripture, which was written nearly two thousand years ago, why do the Jehovah's Witnesses choose 1914 as the date for when this battle in heaven happened? Surely as a Christian Cult you would err on the side of the words of the Messiah rather than create your own version of when the events took place. On this basis the verse in Luke renders the date 1914 redundant because by their own reasoning the event would have already taken place approximately two thousand years previously.

On the point relating to lumping three entities into one, it would be impossible for the Jehovah's Witnesses to then backtrack to try to claim that it was a *different* Satan Luke was referring to in his passage of scripture rather than the one John is referring to in Revelation, because they have already stated in their dogma that there is only *one* Satan who is credited with all the evils of this world and even has his own organization which stands in opposition to God. It should also be noted that upon closer inspection of the term 'conclusion of a system of things' mentioned in Matthew 24, that in the footnotes it highlights that this was not referring to a literal 'end time' or literal 'generation' but a 'manner of life'. There would be no specific timescales involving dates with beginnings and endings if taking this more general meaning as to its interpretation.

## **5 Trinity - 1 John 5 v 8**

As shown before the Jehovah's Witnesses are willing to place, Satan, Devil and Dragon, potentially three different entities into one being i.e., becoming one entity, which could loosely be termed a trinity? Yet the Jehovah's Witnesses refute one of the basic concepts of theological practice which is belief in the Trintiy as referenced by John in 1 John 5 v 8. Scripturally 'truth' was defined as Christ's spirit, the apostles stated that if Christ's spirit was with someone then they had 'Truth'. John teaches that if they do not have Christ's spirit then they do not belong to Christ. Hence, the flesh and blood (i.e., human being) with Christ's spirit, makes for the basis of the Trinity doctrine one of the foremost and fundamental beliefs amongst Christian Religions based on this verse.

Many Religious Christians have stated that they don't believe a person needs to be 'born again' in order to serve Christ, and the Jehovah's Witnesses also equally take the lead in stating that their members do not need to be 'born again' in order to serve Christ, even though it is an unequivocal passage of scripture as stated by Saint John in John 3 v 2. Again, preferring to contradict the Saints and place their own views ahead of them, the Jehovah's Witnesses take an opposing view. The Jehovah's Witnesses often use the expression when joining the Cult that an individual has 'Come

into the ‘Truth’ but a clearer understanding of John’s words in this section shows that being ‘born again’ does not mean becoming a member of a specific Religion, but having Christ’s spirit dwelling within a person’s heart. Hence, by extension, many people may be ‘born again’ without any other individual ever knowing of it having happened and likely will apply to all individuals from all walks of life, Religions, social hierarchies and nationalities. So here again, a cherry picking of a trinity in the reference to Satan, Devil and Dragon, but a complete denial of the trinity as posited by Saint John’s epistles.

## **6 Immortality of the Soul - 1 Cor 15**

The Jehovah’s Witnesses dismiss this theological dogma by saying that it was Greek Mythology which had falsely penetrated into the holy scriptures. Whilst it is a known fact that many ancient civilizations believed in the immortality of the soul, for example the Greeks and Egyptians, prior to any form of organized Christianity becoming manifest on this planet, I would strongly oppose the notion that it is mythological in its origins. The ancient philosophies, including for example, The Emerald Tablet and the Hermetica by Hermes Trismegistus, speak clearly as to the truth within spirituality and were written long before Christianity in its orthodox manner became commonplace as exoteric worship. Again the Jehovah’s Witnesses prefer to place their own views ahead of the ancient wisdom Religions and the words of the Saints of the bible. A classic case in point is the Apostle Paul, who in 1 Cor 15 clearly states, to quote one or two of his terms, that ‘if there is a physical body there is a spiritual one’, ‘if there is a mortal body, there is an immortal one’, ‘flesh and blood cannot inherit God’s kingdom.’ Of all scripture this chapter is probably the most important one for a follower of the spiritual path of Christ. This would clearly make redundant the notion of a resurrection of millions of people to this planet we are now living on and any earthly paradise as a hope for life after death. To introduce here Saint Peter’s words at 2 Peter 3 v 10, ‘Yet the Lord’s day will come as a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a hissing noise, but the elements being intensely hot will be dissolved, and the earth and the works in it will be discovered.’ Peter clearly showing here in allegorical terms a reference to the shift in spiritual status that would take place within mankind, not the literal heavens and earth. No room for an earthly paradise within the context of this scripture. Following on, it also renders the literal interpretation of the number 144,000 as posited by the Jehovah’s Witnesses and referred to in Revelation 7 v 4 as null and void because the potential numbers of mankind with an immortal soul would be infinite not restricted to a specific number, thereby creating a two tier system of hope for its members.

The Book of Revelation is generally considered by most Christian Religions a Divine Mystery, in fact I don’t think any of the other Religions have speculated as to its meaning, rich with symbolic language, so my question would be to the Jehovah’s Witnesses, why interpret this number in a literal sense? Taking a pick’n’mix approach to whether a text should be taken as literal or symbolic, especially when the actual accounts or words by the apostles contradict the doctrinal viewpoint held by the Jehovah’s Witnesses which they have chosen to stake their reputation on.

As mentioned on YouTube, a clip by one of the self appointed ‘anointed’ members of the collective governing body, they encouraged individuals to use their clear thinking abilities and capacities to reason on the scriptures, but it seems that when an individual does so and reaches a completely

opposite interpretation of scriptures to that held by the Jehovah's Witnesses, they are branded as apostate and disfellowshipped from within the congregation. Hence, to actually follow through with this advice by the governing body, anyone with doubts because of their research into scripture, is not encouraged to openly discuss these doubts in an open and honest manner, because the Jehovah's Witness governing body have already put in place a disfellowshipping arrangement for members who do not come to the same conclusion that is presented to them by said governing body. This clearly renders mute ALL its members who cannot speak up for fear of being branded apostates leading to disfellowshipping from the Cult. I would wager this approach is termed circular reasoning.

I would like to state for the record that I wish no ill will to the members of the Jehovah's Witness Cult. Equally, although I am cut off from my family because it is impossible to have any contact with unreasonable persons who want the relationship to be all on their own terms; I do have a natural affection for them. However, I fear for their futures given the falsehood that has been perpetrated in the name of Truth by this Cult. My family didn't speak to me and my late husband for many years, twenty five years or so after we left the Cult, but when Mark passed away from cancer last May 2024, they all descended on me like lifelong friends in order to do, as they termed it, their 'Christian' duty. I suspect with hindsight that their agenda would have been the one of trying to encourage me to return to the Jehovah's Witnesses now Mark was not in the picture.

At the beginning of 2025 when I had recovered somewhat from the shock of losing Mark, I wrote them individually a letter explaining that they had never given me a chance to discuss any of my value systems, which are largely based on the Buddhistic principles of kindness and compassion, and that I thought I should state for their future reference that in my mind the Jehovah's Witnesses are the False Prophet as referred to in Rev 16 v 13. The justification for my coming to this conclusion is that the Jehovah's Witness predictions in the name of the Divine have proved false. A case in point, anyone who saw in 1914 would now be over one hundred and sixteen years old, so we cannot be living in the last of the last days to use one of their current phrases their timescales are wrong.

My brother-in-law who is an elder in a local congregation and his wife never replied to the letter. My brother who is an elder in Yorkshire wrote straight back saying that the subject of the Religion 'is off the table'. My sister who attends a Kingdom Hall in Leamington replied to say that 'this was the last conversation she would ever have with me on the subject of spirituality'. It was clear to me at the time that I was dealing with family members who have a closed mind-set, not open to rigorous discussion of beliefs, or even prepared to give a defense of their faith. It also confirmed to me my view of the Bigotry shown by the members of this Cult, bigotry being defined as someone who smiles with you when you agree with them, but when you contradict them for valid reasons are shunned. I have not heard from any of my family, by any of the usual means whatsoever, since writing the letters.

On another point the Jehovah's Witnesses have removed the word Charity from their rendition of the bible and replaced it with the word 'love'. By extension it could be argued that this then renders the need to show Charity, corban, the principle of corban as stated in Mark 7 v 11, because as long as love is supposedly being shown to one another, this negates the need to fulfill the charitable works

component of being a Christian. In fact when I grew up in the Cult money was not given to Charities because the implication was that if everyone lived their lives as one of Jehovah's Witnesses then there would be no need for charities in the first place. The Cult always took a very negative view of charities saying most of the money donated went on salaries and didn't get to the source or end users. I believe the current thinking now is that this point of dogma has been replaced with it being a personal conscience matter as to whether a person donates to charities or otherwise. Whereas in the King James Version of the Holy Scriptures, when reading the passages of scripture containing the rendition of the word as charity, a much clearer understanding of the responsibilities of a Christian becomes apparent.

Turning to another aspect of the Organization of the Jehovah's Witnesses, I strongly object to the Governing Body expecting their members to run the Religion for free. There are no paid salaried posts commensurate with experience and academic qualifications within the Cult, a small stipend being paid which is barely enough to cover the costs of running a mobile phone let alone meet the cost of living. In fact, again, on examining the annual accounts for 2024 in Britain as provided by the official Government website, this confirmed that not only was the Religion sitting on hundreds of millions of pounds in the sterling currency, which being a Charity they won't have paid any income tax on, but that the number of employees was 'Nil'. Where does this leave its members when they reach retirement age and need a roof over their head and a pension to live on, for example? The more enlightened souls who have escaped this Cult will have deduced that Armageddon is not coming. In other words where do the members turn to when the Religion doesn't come through for them, as evidenced again by the Governing Body effectively having a clear out of head office of its members, who I don't doubt signed up for a lifetime of service and for free; who now find themselves effectively homeless and without an annual income to live on. How can a Cult rectify their collective conscience with this in terms of scripture, and how will this reflect on, or indeed bring praise and honor to the Divine, especially when claiming to be the sole representatives of the Holy Spirit, and the only 'true' Christians on earth?

Switching to another aspect of the Jehovah's Witness dogma, the blood issue, again a dogma which has been founded arbitrarily on a few sentences in scripture which states 'to abstain from blood' (**Acts 15 v 20**). There was an event within my own family that I would like to recount. My late husband's brother was made a ward of court and given a blood transfusion being heavily jaundiced at birth. I am told second hand via a letter to my mother that the mother of the child, (my former mother-in-law) vehemently denied the child any blood transfusion needed to save its life. Hence it was necessary for the child to be made a ward of court, she even went so far as to try to remove the tube carrying the blood to the baby once the medical authorities had intervened. In my view what is being condoned here is the deliberate killing of a child (or adult) based upon a spurious use of verses in the bible.

Given the context of these verses (Old and New Testament) it's not unreasonable to think that the meaning was probably connected with the bloody sacrificial food offered to the gods in temples. In other words do not eat the blood as contained in the sacrificial offerings to the other Gods. Not an aspect of scripture to be taken in the same context as that to do with the advances in medical science which we now have at our disposal in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Century. These advances in medical science now

offer individuals the chance to preserve and extend life by taking a blood transfusion and if used correctly, will save a life, rather than see a child or adult die as a result of religious fanaticism and by extension medical negligence.

Some years later when this baby boy grew up to become a married man with children of his own I asked my mother-in-law if she was now happy to see that this child had grown into a loving husband and father, and she point blankly refused to acknowledge his existence. The stress this situation had taken on the couple, in making a stand against taking blood as placed on their shoulders by the Jehovah's Witnesses, led my mother and father-in-law to almost getting a divorce, and led to my father-in-law to becoming seriously ill for the rest of his life with rheumatoid arthritis. They both fled their original congregation which had been divided over the issue, half the congregation believing it was a disfellowshipping offence and the other half being slightly more undecided, and moved to another congregation thirty miles away

Turning now to the concept of pioneering, this notion that all the members of the Jehovah's Witness cult cannot class themselves as active Christians if they don't preach zealously from door-to-door. In my past I have also spent several years regular and auxiliary pioneering and I noted a member of the governing body stating that they had sent a brother to serve where the need was great and he'd spent ten years as a missionary and had zero success in converting anyone to the Religion. In my experience also, going back to the 1980's and 1990's, although I spent fewer numbers of years preaching than ten, it was exactly the same outcome. Absolutely no one was interested in anything the Religion had to offer. This is a worrying sign given that the Religion presumes to be the only conduit for Truth as guided by the Holy Spirit to this planet of mankind. In fact the Jehovah's Witnesses have stated on numerous occasions that they are guided by and spokespeople for the Holy Spirit, even going so far as to say that they are the remaining anointed seed of Gods kingdom on earth to use scriptural terminology.

When it comes to the absolute baseline for Christian spirituality, without a shadow of a doubt in my mind it has to be that it is impossible for the holy spirit to make mistakes, it's the absolute Truth upon which Christianity is founded and not negotiable. Ergo if you have a Religion that continually makes mistakes and claims that there are refinements to be made, or the light is getting brighter, it's clearly Not being guided by Holy Spirit, because there would be no need for such adjustments to take place. In addition, to now claim that only the governing body are of the *anointed* is a preposterous notion, ludicrous even, given that the scriptures say that people out of all tribes, nations and tongues will serve God and the scriptures never stated that there would only be one true Religion to guide that path. As Paul says to the Corinthians in 2 Corinthians 1 v 24 'Not that we are the *masters* over your faith, but we are fellow workers for your joy, for it is by *your* faith that you are standing.' My understanding of this verse is that strictly speaking there is no need for the exoteric worship to be found in oecumenical settings, but that we each carry our *own* load and give an accounting to the Gods when we pass through this zone into the next life as to what we have accomplished with our lives. We may attend a Church on occasion to find spiritual succour, but our relationship with the Divine is not defined by numbers of meeting attendance or hours spent preaching from door to door. It is the inner heart through esoteric worship that leads us towards a refined understanding of spirituality. As the Taoist Philosophy teaches, perfect the inner man first



before even deeming to consider advising another person as to what path they should follow. (The Tao of Nature by Chuang Tzu.)

I wanted to conclude by saying that the reason I decided to write this Article is because I was dismayed to find the same rhetoric, religious dogma, dreadful videos emotionally blackmailing children, false teachings being promoted as truth, all those years after me having left this Cult behind more than thirty years ago on the JW.org website.

Bearing in mind all of the foregoing, for me, I think that the definition of Christian Philosophy if this happens to be your path, is that in practical terms it can be boiled down to the words spoken by all the apostles, I happen to have chosen the words of Paul at Galatians 5 v 14 which says, 'For the entire Law has been fulfilled in one commandment, namely: 'You must *love* your neighbor as yourself.' And Luke in Luke 6 v 31: 'Also, just as you want men to do to you, do the same way to them.'

If my testimony can be of comfort to others, then I would feel that something good has ultimately resulted from my personal history with the Jehovah's Witness Cult. Personal knowledge and feelings that I have never discussed with anyone since the 1990's until now. After leaving the Cult I went on to have a very happy and modestly successful life and have had the privilege of meeting many people from all walks of life and nationalities whose faith motivates them individually to walk life's path in harmony with their own life choices; it's the gift from above that as mortals we should be free to do so.

Finally, Never doubt the decision to leave this pernicious Cult. Never be lured back into their Kingdom Halls and their false teachings. And Never look back having escaped from the darkness and the passage through into the Light!!!

Jayne Austin  
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