

A Letter from a Fellow Elder

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Preface

An Open Letter to the Governing Body

To the Governing Body – Dear Brothers in Christ,

I write to you as a fellow elder and brother in Christ, one who has served in many lands.

I remain unnamed for now, to keep the focus where it belongs: on the message, not the messenger. I speak from conscience, as in *Acts 24:16*, striving to maintain “*a clear conscience before God and men.*”

I conducted several theocratic schools in regions where religion was tightly bound to politics, traditions, and the veneration of saints. In such places, the Witnesses taught people to open their Bibles, to call on God rather than saints, to reject war and nationalism, and to leave behind some religious lies.

For that work, I remain grateful. But now, as a brother who continues to pray, study, and seek truth, I must ask:

Have we truly placed the Son of God in His rightful place?

I write not to criticize, but to appeal.

Not to challenge, but to ask.

Can we allow sincere questions without fear (*1 Thessalonians 5:21*).

If we truly want to reflect the first-century model, should not Christ, along with God, be at the center of all teaching, with no human leader or body acting as a competitor to His headship?

Should we not point people directly to the Son, who reveals the Father?

Please take this letter as a heartfelt plea from a brother who longs to see the full light of Christ’s truth restored among us (*Revelation 2:5*).

The topics are organized with brief commentary and graphs for clarity. Data tables and sources are in the appendices as needed.

May we love truth more than tradition, and the Son more than structure.

Your brother and fellow elder in Christ,

Grateful for the past, praying for the future.

Part I – Christ and the Good News

1. Has the Focus of Baptism Shifted Away from Christ?

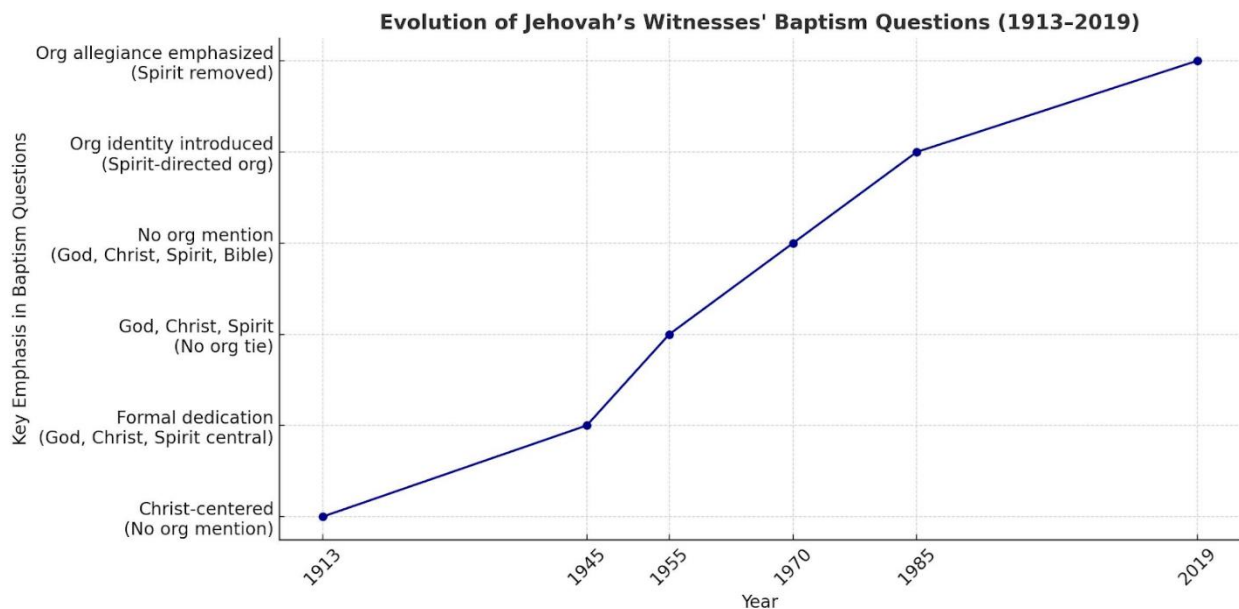
I have given the last two versions of the baptism talk at conventions, and my conscience continues to trouble me because of it.

The second baptism question shifts the focus from Christ to organizational allegiance; something not found in the Bible.

Scripture shows a clear pattern — *Matthew 28:19–20; Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5* — baptism is commanded in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and carried out in the name of Jesus. Today that focus appears blurred.

Excuses cannot replace obedience. Saul failed — *“To obey is better than sacrifice” (1 Sam. 15:22)*. Jesus obeyed — *“I do exactly what the Father commanded Me” (John 14:31)*. Baptism must be kept pure — just as God commanded, in Christ alone.

Graph: Evolution of Baptismal Questions (1913–Present)



See:

- [*A1: Baptism Questions Shift \(1913–2025\)*](#)

for data and references.

2. Is Jesus Michael the Archangel?

- **No verse teaches this:** “Do not go beyond the things that are written” (1 Corinthians 4:6).
- **Michael is “one of” many:** “One of the foremost princes” (Daniel 10:13). Jesus is “before all things” (Colossians 1:16–17). If He were Michael, He would be called “the foremost prince,” not one among many.
- **Paul distinguishes them:** “The Lord Himself... with an archangel’s voice and with God’s trumpet” (1 Thessalonians 4:16). Three distinct elements. Just as sounding God’s trumpet does not make Christ Jehovah, speaking with an archangel’s voice does not make Him the archangel.
- **Form matters:** Scripture says Jesus existed in God’s form and then took human form (Philippians 2:6–7); Scripture never shows Him in angelic form.
- **Michael vs. Jesus’ titles:** Michael is called “the great prince” (Daniel 12:1) — one prince among others, though great. If Jesus were in that category, He would be called “the greatest prince.” Instead, Scripture calls Him “Mighty God, Prince of Peace, King of kings” (Isaiah 9:6; Revelation 19:16).
- **Leading angels ≠ being one:** Michael leads angels (Revelation 12:7). Jesus comes “with His angels” (Matthew 25:31), just as Jehovah comes “with His holy myriads” (Jude 14–15). That does not make Jehovah—or Jesus—an archangel.
- **Jude separates them:** Jesus Christ, “our only Master and Lord” (Jude 4, 25), is distinct from Michael the archangel (Jude 9). Michael appeals, “May the Lord rebuke you” (Jude 9; Zechariah 3:2). Jesus commands directly, “Away with you, Satan!” (Matthew 4:10).
- **Angels bow to Him:** “Let all God’s angels do obeisance to Him” (Hebrews 1:6). If Jesus were Michael, He would bow with them — but instead, He is the One to whom they bow.

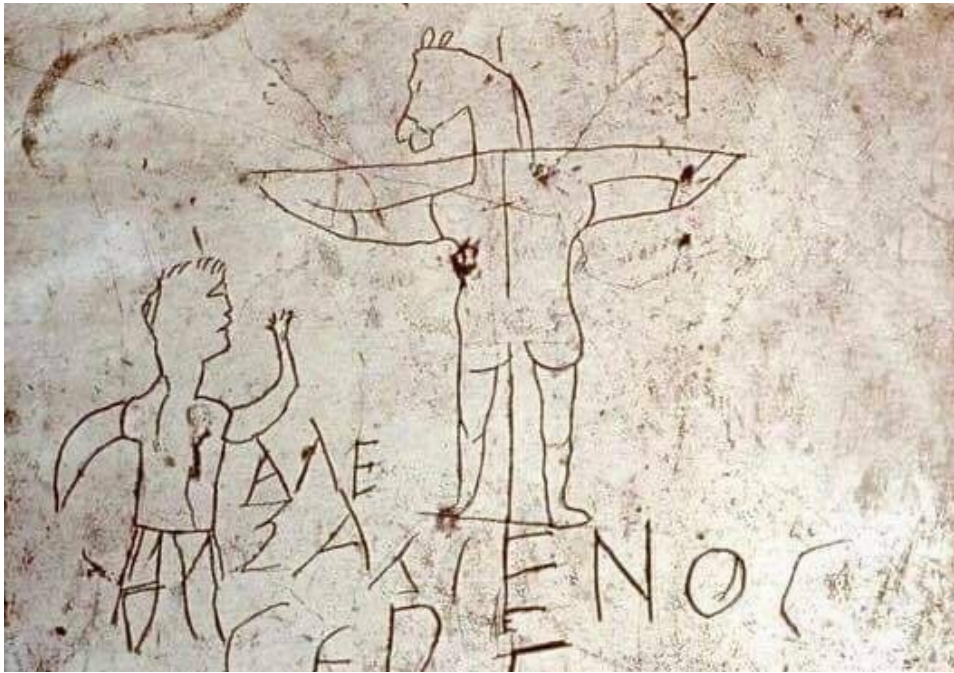
3. Cross or Stake? Scripture and History Examined

In 1936, Joseph Rutherford rejected the traditional belief that Jesus died on a Roman cross, claiming instead that He was executed on a simple upright stake. But Scripture, history, language, early Christian testimony, and archaeology all show otherwise.

Scripture: Matthew 27:37 says the charge, “*This is Jesus, the King of the Jews,*” was placed “above His head.” If His hands had been raised above His head on a stake, the sign would have been above His hands, not His head. Likewise, John 20:25 records Thomas saying, “*Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails ...*” The plural “nails” shows each hand was nailed separately, fitting a cross, not a single stake.

History: The Alexamenos Graffito — a Roman wall carving from the late second century, depicts a man worshipping a crucified figure on a cross-shaped structure with a donkey’s head. Although intended to mock Christians, it provides early, independent confirmation that both

pagans and Christians of that time understood Jesus' execution to have taken place on a cross rather than on a simple stake.



It would have been impossible for Jesus to carry a full upright stake, since the vertical beam was usually fixed at the site and could weigh over 100 kg. In Roman crucifixions, the victim carried only the horizontal beam (the *patibulum*), which weighed about 35–50 kg, across the shoulders. This fits *John 19:17*, “He went out, bearing the cross [stake] for Himself,” and *Luke 23:26*, where Simon of Cyrene was compelled to carry it behind Him.



Language: The Greek word *σταυρός* (stauros) once meant “stake,” but by the first century it was commonly used for the Roman cross with a crossbeam. Lexicons such as BDAG and Liddell-Scott confirm this, and Roman writers like Seneca, Tacitus, and Josephus describe crucifixions on T-shaped or †-shaped crosses, never stake-only executions.

Early Christians: Justin Martyr (c. 100–165) compared the cross to the shape of a ship’s sail (*Dialogue with Trypho* 91). Irenaeus (c. 130–202) described it with both upright and crossbeam (*Against Heresies*). Tertullian (c. 160–220) openly spoke of Christians who worship a crucified God and referred plainly to the cross (*Ad Nationes* 1.12).

Archaeology: In 1968, archaeologists discovered the remains of a crucified man named Jehohanan, buried near Jerusalem and dating to the 1st century. A large nail was still embedded in his heel, driven from the side, showing that each foot had been fastened on opposite sides of the post. On a single stake, the body hangs forward with arms raised above the head, so the feet must be nailed in front to keep balance; side-nailed heels would throw the body off balance. But with arms stretched out on a crossbeam, the torso is stabilized, making side-nailed feet both possible and practical. The evidence therefore supports the cross, not the stake.



Part II – Shaping a New Faith Identity

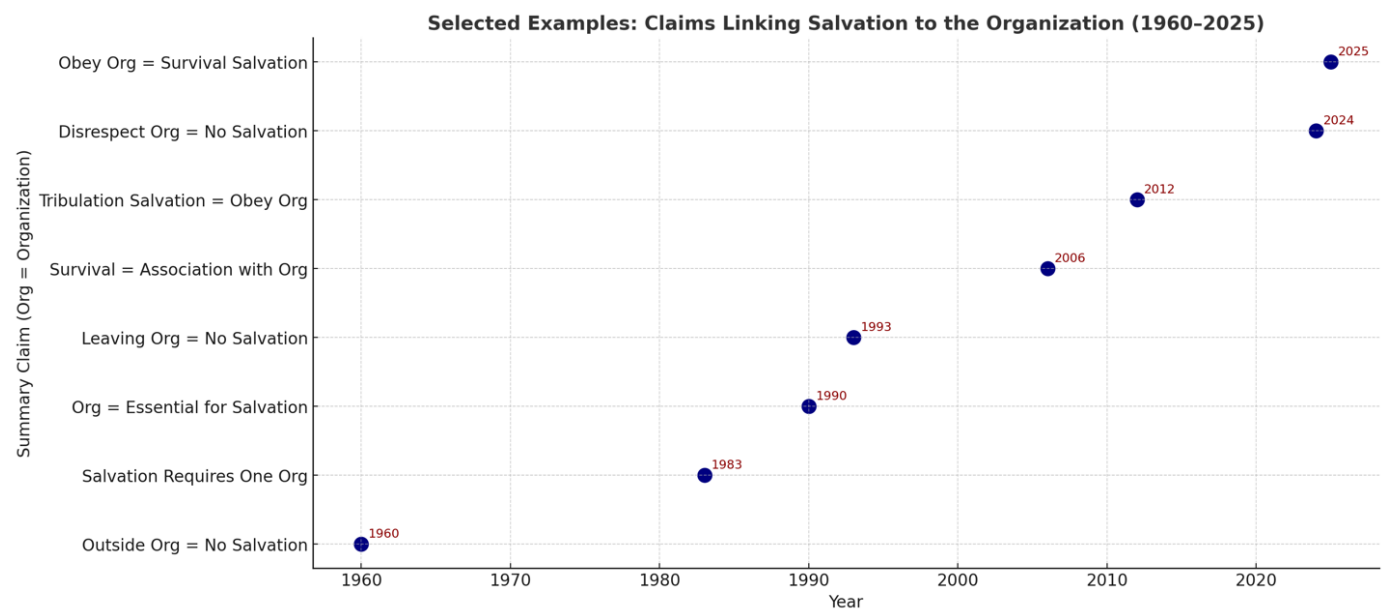
4. Teaching Salvation Through the Organization

Salvation has increasingly been linked to loyalty to the organization. Statements implying that survival or salvation is only possible within “The organization of Jehovah’s Witnesses” replace the clear biblical teaching that salvation is through Christ alone. *“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12). The Scriptures further declare, *“No one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ”* (1 Corinthians 3:11).

This is striking when contrasted with the Watchtower’s own words: “We cannot take part in any modern version of idolatry... or the imputing of salvation to a person or an organization.”

(Watchtower, Nov. 1, 1990, p.26) <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1990806?q=1+John+5%3A21&p=par>

Graph: No Salvation Outside the Organization: Selected Examples



See:

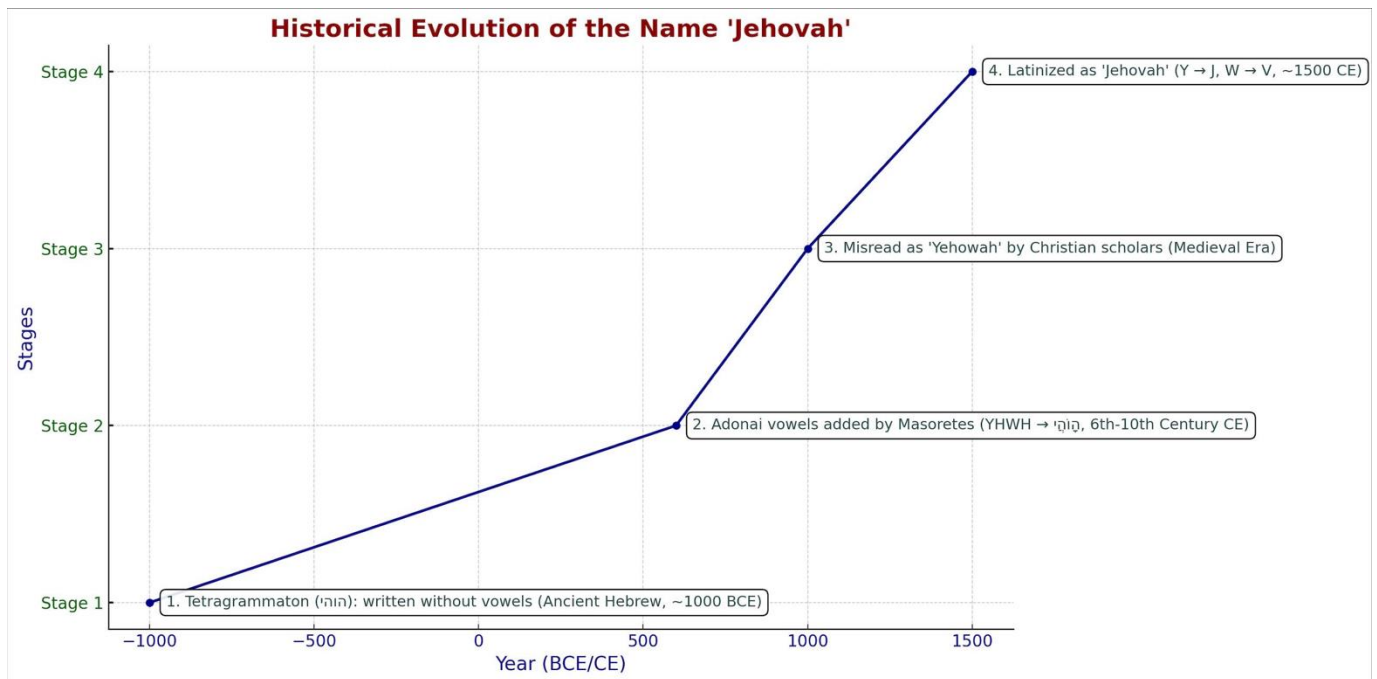
- [A2: Salvation Through the Organization](#)
- [A3: Organization Loyalty, Christ Forgotten](#)

for data and references.

5. The Invention of the Name “Jehovah”

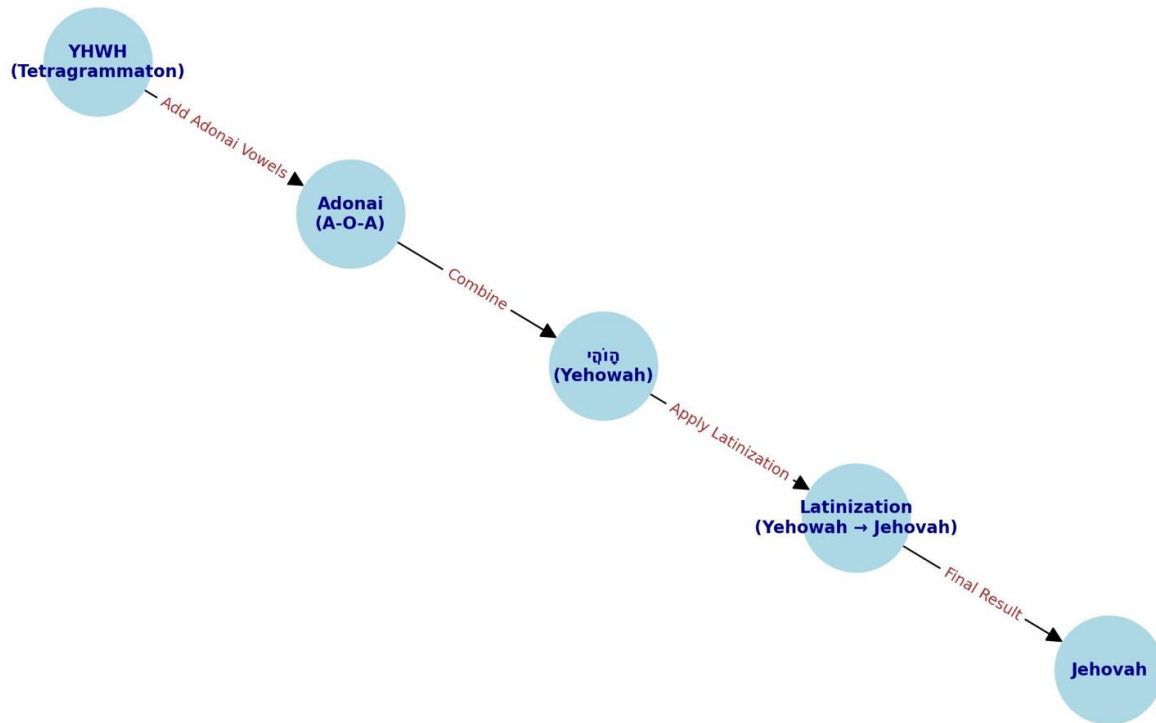
The form “*Jehovah*” is not God’s original name but a later **invention**. The Tetragrammaton (YHWH), likely pronounced *Yahweh*, was written without vowels. Between the 6th and 10th centuries CE, the **Masoretes** added the vowels of *Adonai* (Lord) to YHWH as a **reading aid**—a visual reminder to say *Adonai* instead of pronouncing God’s name aloud. In the medieval era, Christian scholars misunderstood this invention as the true name, and when Latinized ($Y \rightarrow J$, $W \rightarrow V$), it became “Jehovah.” Thus, the form comes not from inspired Scripture but from a later scribal convention misunderstood by translators.

 **Graph: Historical Evolution of the Name ‘Jehovah’**



 **Graph: Transformation of YHWH to Jehovah**

Transformation of YHWH to Jehovah



6. Latinizing Hebrew Names with Adonai Vowels

The form “*Jehovah*” arose when the vowels of *Adonai* were added to YHWH and later Latinized. If the same were done with other names, the results would look quite different from the originals:

Original	With Adonai Vowels	Latinized	Original Sound
יהוה (YHWH)	יהוה	Jehovah	Yahweh (uncertain)
דוד (David)	אדוד	Adovad	Dah-veed
אברהם (Abraham)	אברהם	Avoraham	Ahv-rah-hahm
יוסף (Joseph)	אדספ	Adosef	Yo-sef

Note: These examples suggest how the process that produced “*Jehovah*” creates forms far removed from the names as originally spoken.

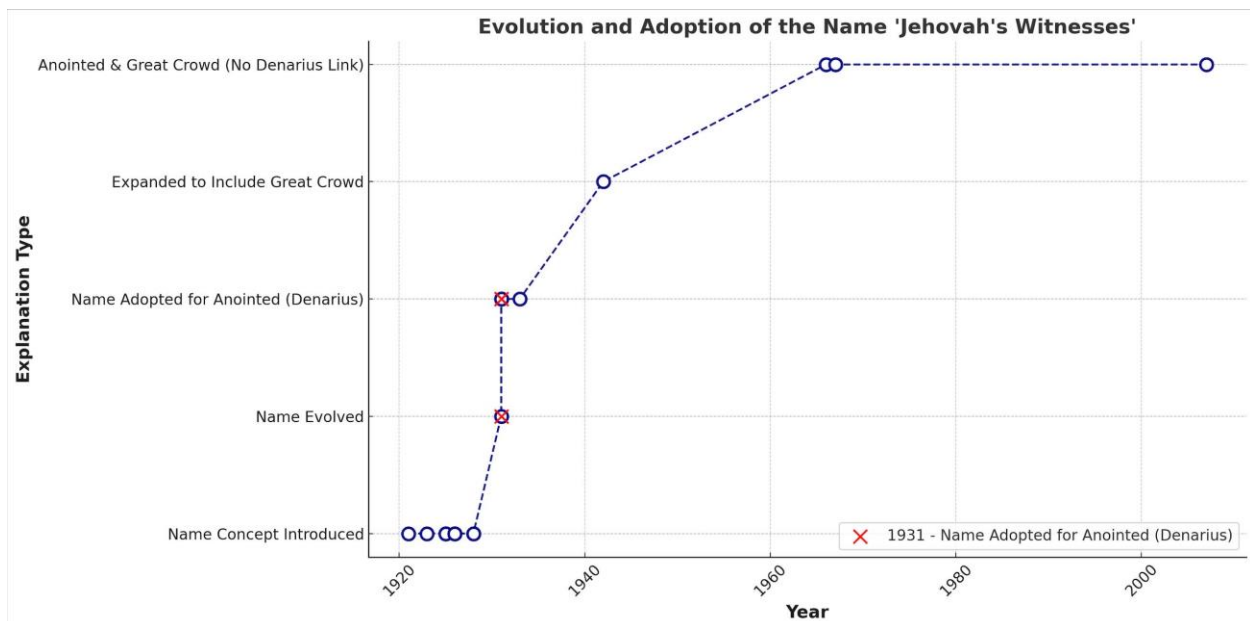
7. Should God's Name Be Restored to the New Testament?

Sections of *Daniel* (2:4b–7:28) and *Ezra* (4:8–6:18; 7:12–26) were written in Aramaic, yet under inspiration the writers did not use YHWH, but honored Him with titles such as *Elah Illaya* (“Most High God”) and *Melek Shemaya* (“King of Heaven”). Likewise, the earliest New Testament manuscripts — P45, P52, P66, P75, Codex Vaticanus, and Codex Sinaiticus (2nd–4th centuries, written in Greek) — do not contain the Tetragrammaton but consistently read *Kyrios* (“Lord”) or *Theos* (“God”).

8. The Origin of the Name ‘Jehovah’s Witnesses’

The idea of being “witnesses” took shape in 1921, and in 1931 the Bible Students formally adopted the name “*Jehovah’s Witnesses*.” They believed it was a divine reward, based on a mistaken interpretation of Jesus’ parable in *Matthew 20:1–16*—the twelve hours being applied to the years 1919–1931, with the name itself as the “denarius.” At first, this title was applied only to the anointed remnant until 1942. In 1966, however, it was admitted that this interpretation was in error; the name was not a reward from God and had no link to the anointed’s calling. Beyond this misinterpretation, however, the designation “*Jehovah’s Witnesses*” diverges from the divinely given name recorded in Scripture: “*The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch*” (*Acts 11:26*).

Graph: Evolution and Adoption of the Name 'Jehovah's Witnesses'



See:

- [*B1: The Name 'Jehovah's Witnesses': Origins, Adoption, and Redefinition*](#)

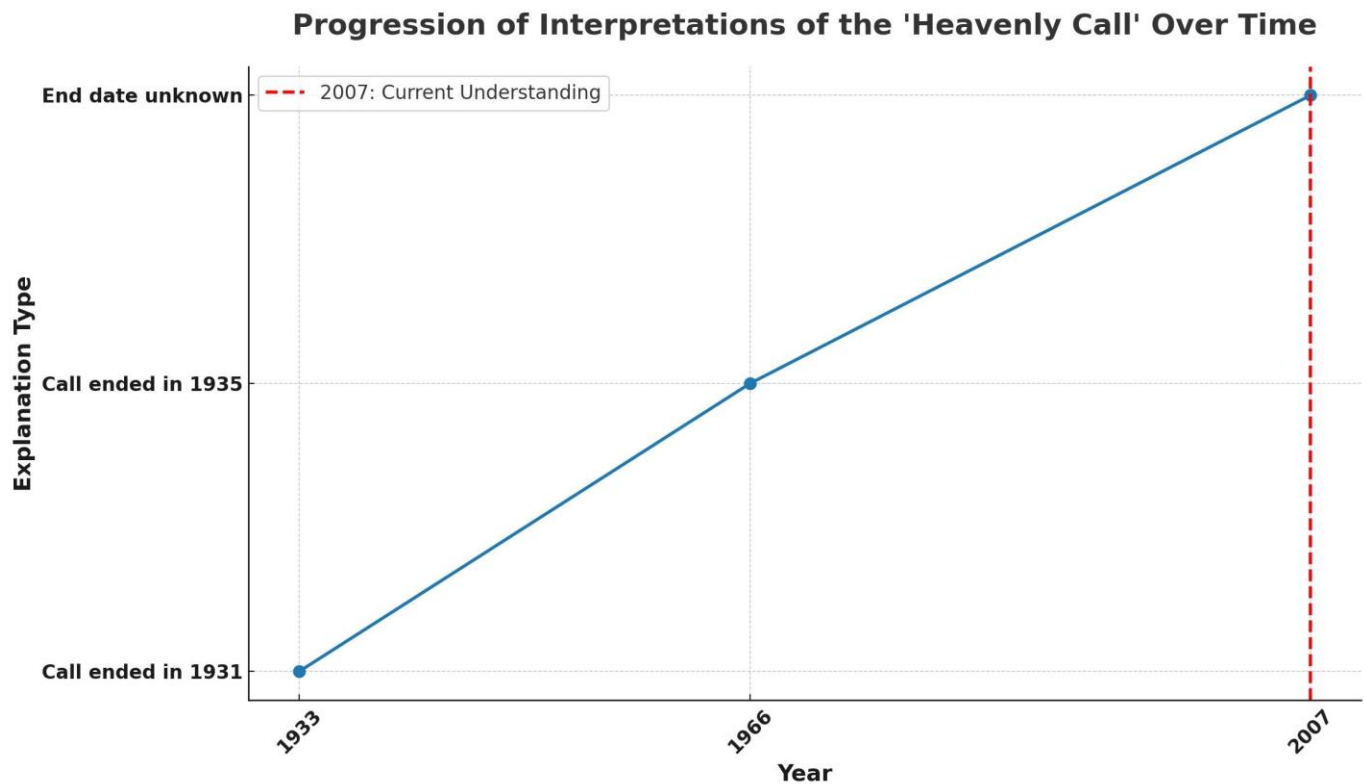
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Part III – The Two Hopes and the Appointed Slave

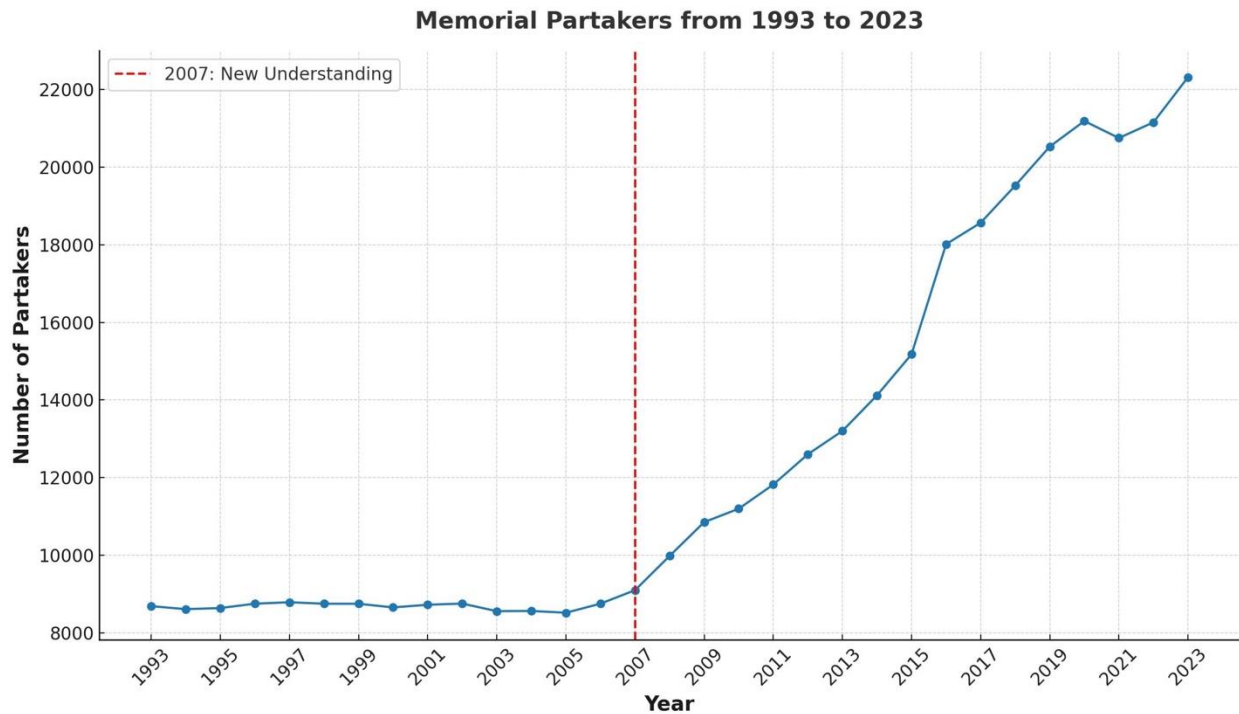
9. Shifts in the ‘Heavenly Call’ Teaching and Its Impact

The teaching about the “Heavenly Call” shifted over time. In the early 1930s, Jesus’ parable of the denarius (*Matthew 20:1-16*) was applied to 1919–1931, leading to the belief that the call ended in 1931 and that the “denarius” was the new name *Jehovah’s Witnesses*. Afterward, 1935 was introduced as an update to 1931, tied to the “great crowd,” reinforcing the idea that the call had closed. From 1966 onward, it was taught that the call ended in 1935, and this view was maintained for decades. In 2007, however, it was clarified that Scripture never sets an end date. That same year, partakers rose sharply—881 more in 2008 alone—indicating earlier teachings may have discouraged some from considering a heavenly hope. And since the teaching shifted so often, it invites reflection on how accurate the original claim truly was.

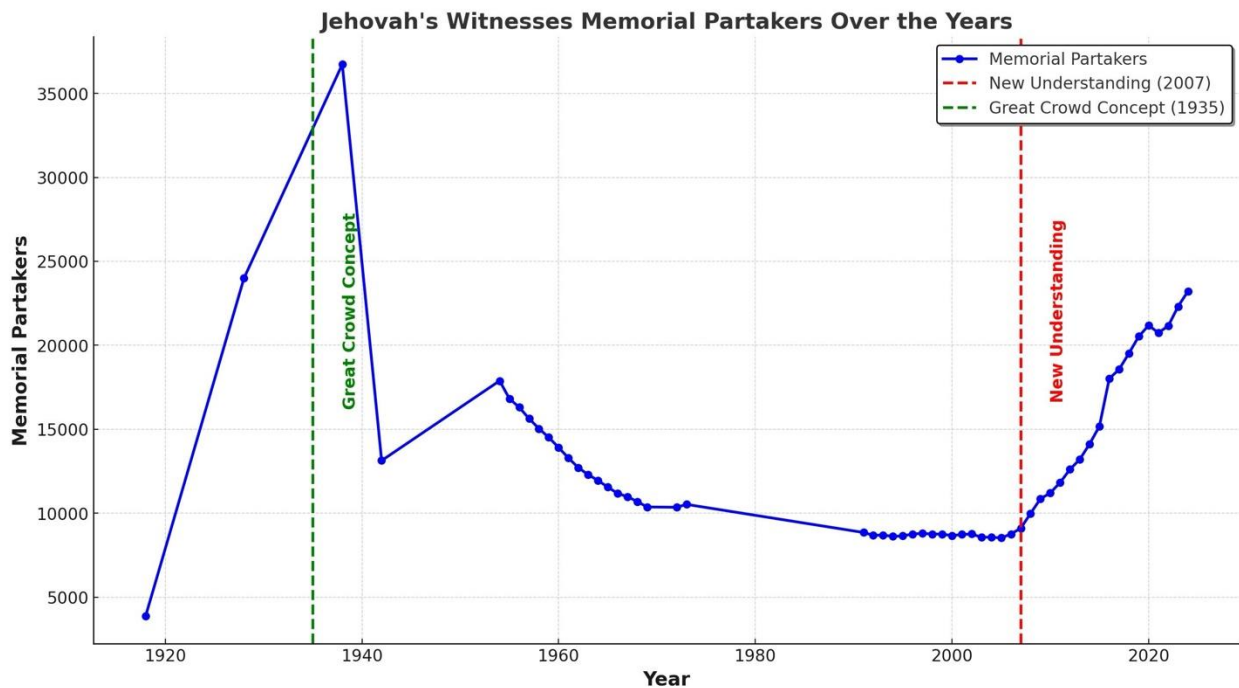
 **Graph: Progression of Interpretations of the ‘Heavenly Call’ Over Time**



Graph: Memorial Partakers from 1993 to 2023



Graph: Jehovah's Witnesses Memorial Partakers (1918–2024)



See:

- [*C1: Progression of Interpretations of the 'Heavenly Call' Over Time*](#)
- [*C2: Memorial Partakers from 1993 to 2023*](#)

- [E1: Jehovah's Witnesses Membership](#)

for data and references.

10. The Transformation of an Anointed Congregation

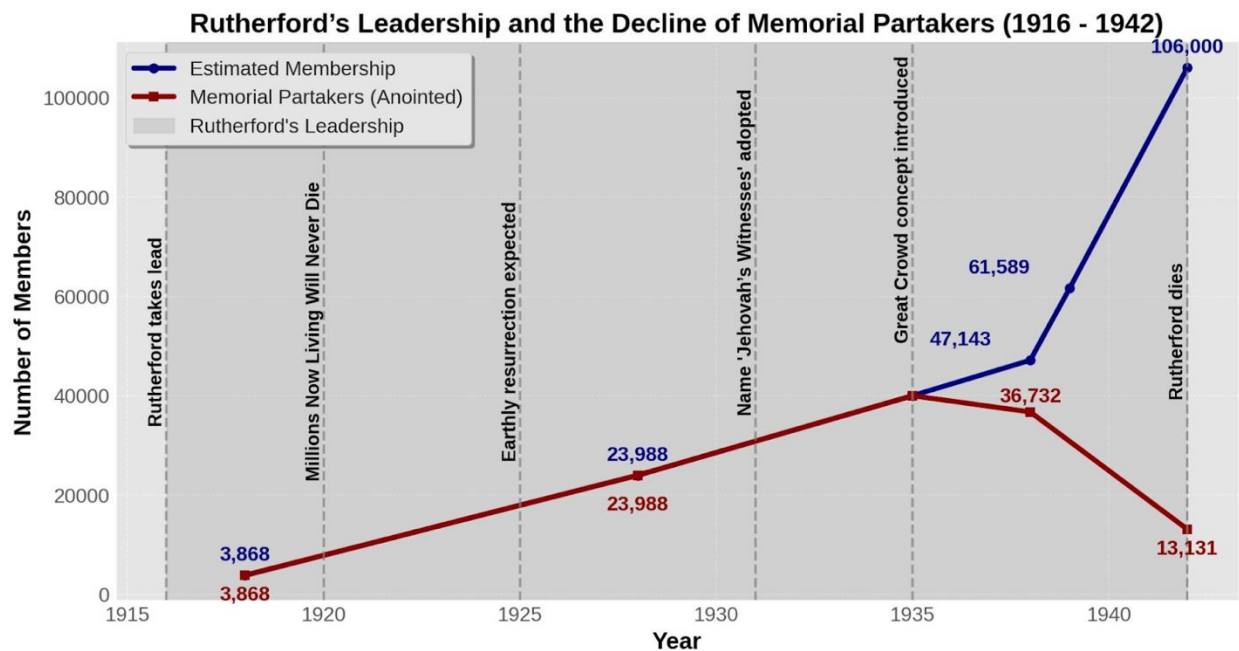
Hebrews 12:23 says the true Christian congregation is “enrolled in heaven.” Under Russell’s leadership, all members were viewed as anointed, part of Christ’s body.

Rutherford introduced a doctrinal shift, redefining most as “non-anointed publishers.” As a result, the majority were no longer counted as part of the Christian congregation.

Many accepted this change, believing they belonged to the “*Great Crowd*” of *Revelation 7:9–14*, those who “come out of the great tribulation.”

Yet all who embraced this hope have since passed away, never recognized as part of the anointed, nor as the Great Crowd itself.

 **Graph: Rutherford’s Leadership and the Decline of Memorial Partakers (1916–1942)**



See:

- [E1: Jehovah's Witnesses Membership](#)

for data and references.

11. The Real Identity of the So-Called Non-Anointed Congregation

They are not part of the Christian congregation, which the Scriptures describe as “the congregation of the firstborn” (*Hebrews 12:22–23*) — those who will reign with Christ in heaven. They remain outside the olive tree, not grafted in by faith. Like the unbelieving Israelites who were broken off for lack of faith (*Romans 11:20*), they are not in union with the Head and therefore not members of His Body (*Ephesians 4:15–16*).

In the judgment, they will be counted among the nations (*Matthew 25:32*), not among the Body, and will be judged like the Gentiles in *Romans 2:14–15* — guided by conscience, yet without true knowledge of the Son or fellowship in His sufferings (*Philippians 3:10*). Like the sheep in *Matthew 25:31–40*, they may have served Him unknowingly yet were not prepared to suffer or die with Him (*Luke 14:27*).

12. The Great Crowd: Foundational Validity in Question

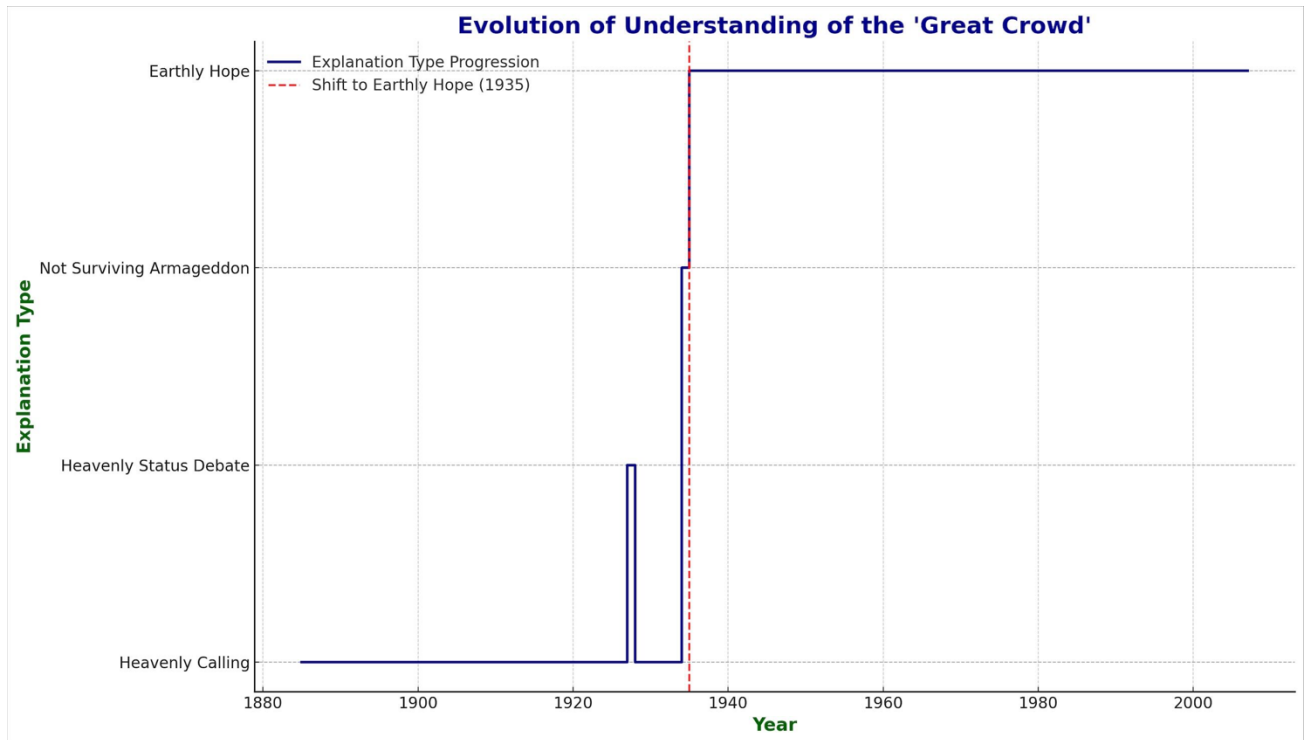
Paul wrote: “*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope... one Lord, one faith, one baptism*” (*Ephesians 4:4–5*). Even the Jan 15, 1927 Watch Tower admitted: “The Scriptures show that during the Gospel Age there is but one call, and that is to the high calling.”

<https://jws->

[library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270115/w_E_19270115.html#search=Great%20multitude](https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270115/w_E_19270115.html#search=Great%20multitude)

Yet in 1935 the “Great Crowd” was redefined as an earthly class, separate from the anointed. Before then, it was understood as a heavenly class. This new view rested on claims later abandoned — the supposed end of the heavenly call in 1931, the “denarius” of Matthew 20, and the “temple cleansing” of 1932. Those identified as the Great Crowd in 1935 have all since passed away, though Revelation 7 describes them as coming out of the great tribulation. These contradictions raise valid questions about the reliability of this teaching at its foundation.

Graph: Evolution of Understanding of the 'Great Crowd'



See:

- [C3: Evolution of Understanding of the “Great Crowd”](#)

for data and references.

13. The Great Crowd: A Redefinition of the Good News

Paul declared: “*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope... one Lord, one faith, one baptism*” (*Ephesians 4:4–5*). From the first century, the Christian proclamation was clear — one hope of salvation in Christ.

But in 1935 a new teaching arose. The “*Great Crowd*” (*Revelation 7*) was redefined as an earthly class, separate from those with a heavenly hope. Previously, it was understood as part of the same calling.

This shift redirected the gospel. Instead of centering on Christ’s death, resurrection, forgiveness, reconciliation, and eternal life (*Acts 13:38; 1 Corinthians 15:3–4; Romans 1:16; 2 Corinthians 5:18*), the message became focused mainly on the promise of an earthly paradise for the majority. Today this emphasis is reflected in the brochure *Enjoy Life Forever*, where the emphasis is on life on earth.

14. The Unchanging Good News

The Good News is the announcement that God has fulfilled His promises by sending His Son, Jesus the Messiah, who *“died for our sins... was buried... and was raised on the third day”* (1 Corinthians 15:3–4). Through Him, God grants forgiveness (Acts 13:38), reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18), the gift of the Spirit, entrance into His Kingdom (Acts 28:31), and eternal life to all who believe — *“first to the Jew, then to the Greek”* (Romans 1:16).

This Good News cannot be revised, expanded, or burdened with extra requirements:

“Even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed” (Galatians 1:8–9).

15. Unequal Treatment of Those Who Will Reign with Christ

There are inconsistencies in how those with a heavenly hope are viewed. An elder who partakes of the emblems may be labeled a “partaker,” yet the Watchtower (Jan 2020) suggested some who partake may later stop or even have mental or emotional issues

(<http://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/watchtower-study-Jan-2020/we-will-go-with-you/> Such remarks are not made about the “other sheep.” By contrast, governing body members are accepted without question as rulers with Christ; when they die, it is stated that they have “finished their earthly course” or “received their heavenly reward”

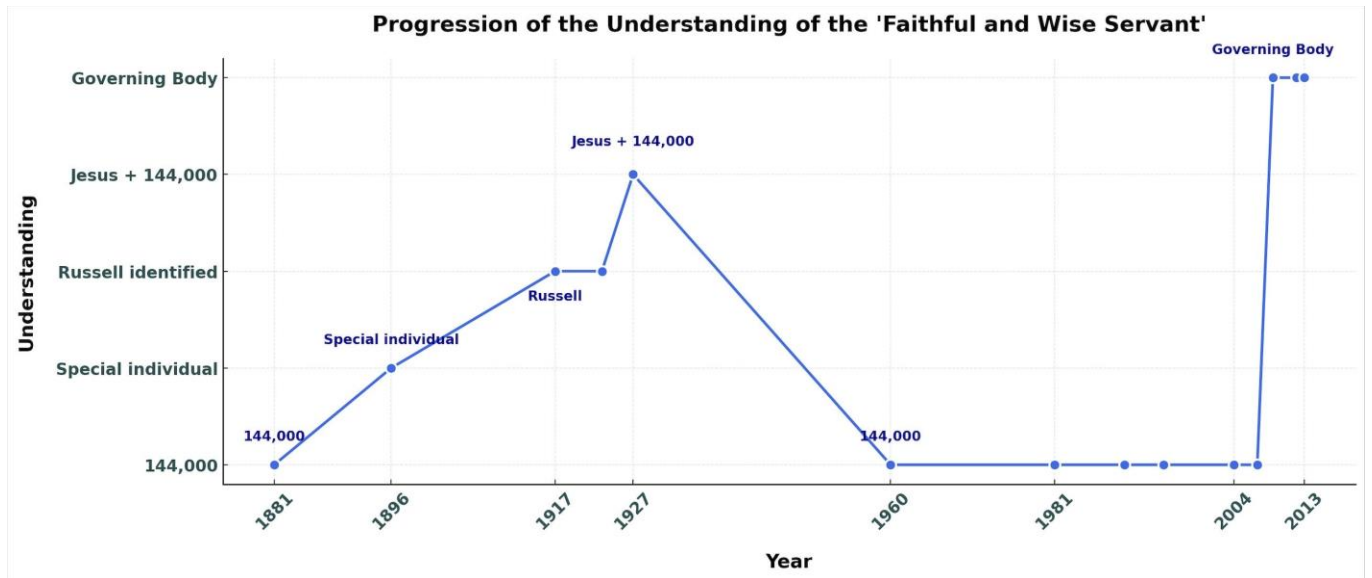
(<http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/197868> ; <http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1994890> . Yet the Bible simply speaks of those sealed with God’s spirit who *“will reign with Christ”* (2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Revelation 20:6), leaving the judgment to Him alone.

16. The Faithful and Discreet Slave: New Light or Shifting Paths?

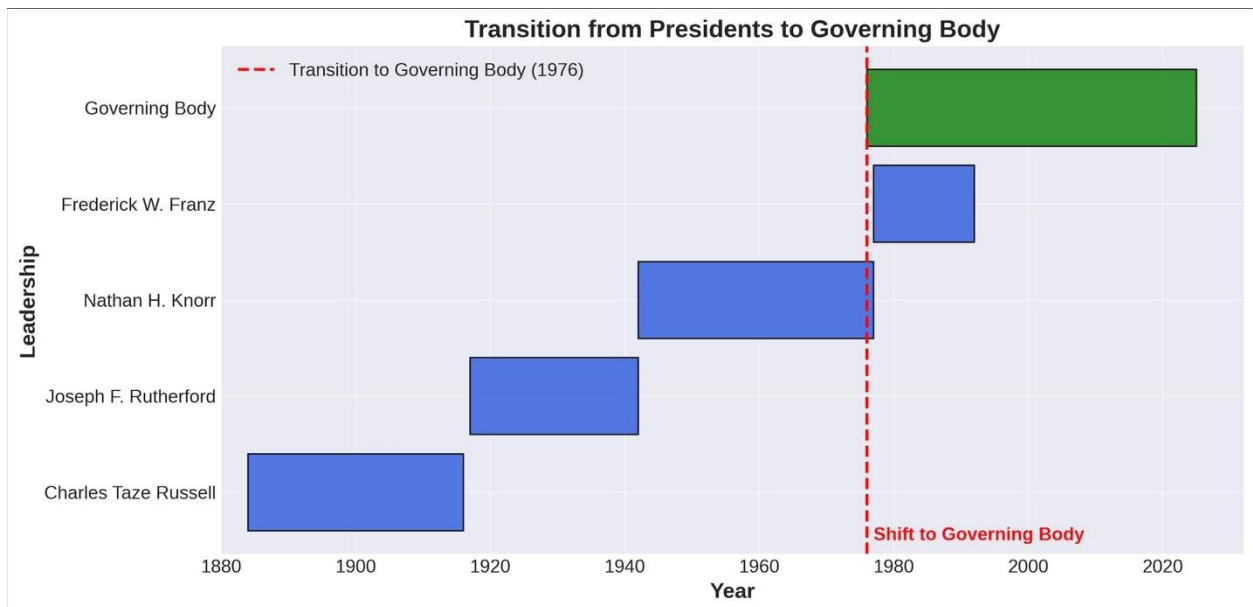
The “faithful and discreet slave” teaching has shifted over time, sometimes even reverting to earlier views. At first, it was understood as the 144,000, later as a special individual, then identified with Russell, then Jesus together with the 144,000, then back again to the 144,000, and today it is said to be the Governing Body.

The current claim that the slave was appointed in 1919 is inconsistent, since no Governing Body existed then—only a president directing the organization. These shifts resemble updating a map for clarity, only to revert to an older version and still call it “new light.” Yet Proverbs 4:18 describes light that grows steadily brighter, not one that moves back and forth, raising the question of whether such changes reflect true light from God or the instability of human interpretation.

Graph: Progression of the Understanding of the “Faithful and Discreet Slave”



Graph: Transition from Presidents to Governing Body



See:

- [C4: Progression of the Understanding of the “Faithful and Discreet Slave”](#)
- [C5: Watch Tower Society Leadership: From Presidents to Governing Body](#)

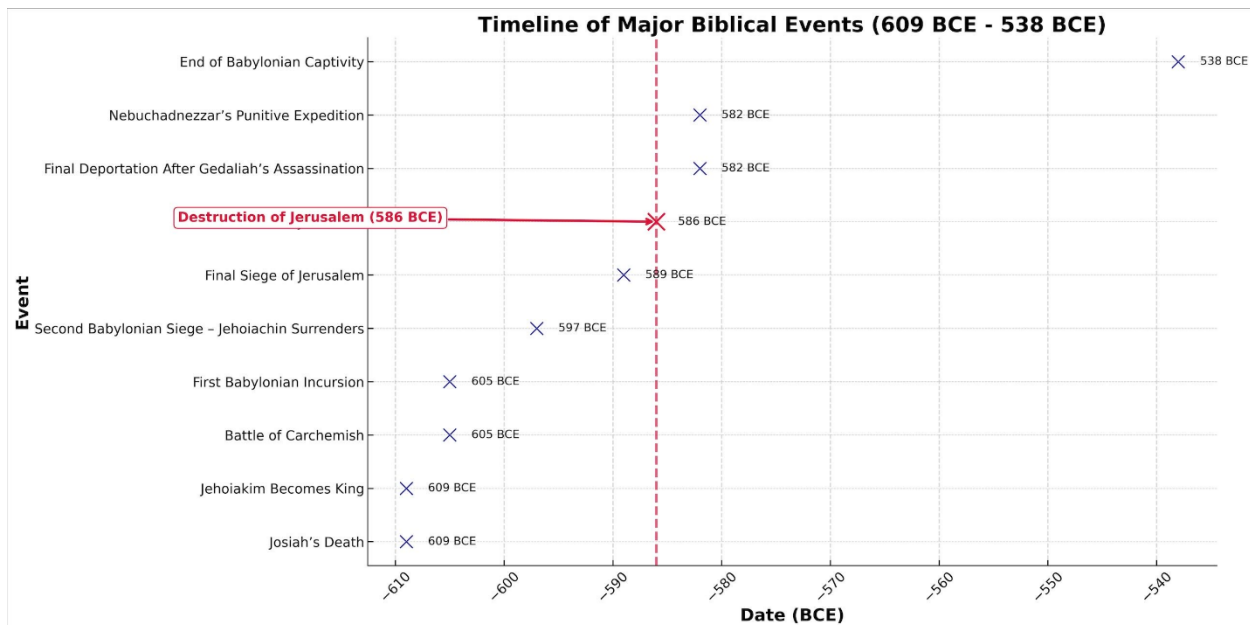
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Part IV – End-Time Predictions and Baptism

17. Why 607 BCE Cannot Stand

The 1914 doctrine — built entirely on 607 BCE as its starting point rests on a historically inaccurate foundation. The Bible shows Jerusalem was destroyed in the 19th year of Nebuchadnezzar (*2 Kings* 25:8–9; *Jeremiah* 52:12–13). Babylonian astronomical records (VAT 4956) fix his 37th year to 568/567 BCE, which places the destruction 18 years earlier in 587/586 BCE. This date is confirmed by Babylonian chronicles, Jewish historians, and archaeology. The 607 date has no historical support and depends only on a forced reading of Jeremiah's 70 years, making 1914 an interpretation built on error.

Graph: From Jerusalem's Fall to Return (609–538 BCE)



See:

- [*D1: Chronology of Jerusalem's Fall and Babylonian Captivity \(609-538 BCE\)*](#)
- [*D2: VAT 4956: Astronomical Diary of Nebuchadnezzar's 37th Year \(568/567 BCE\)*](#)

for data and references.

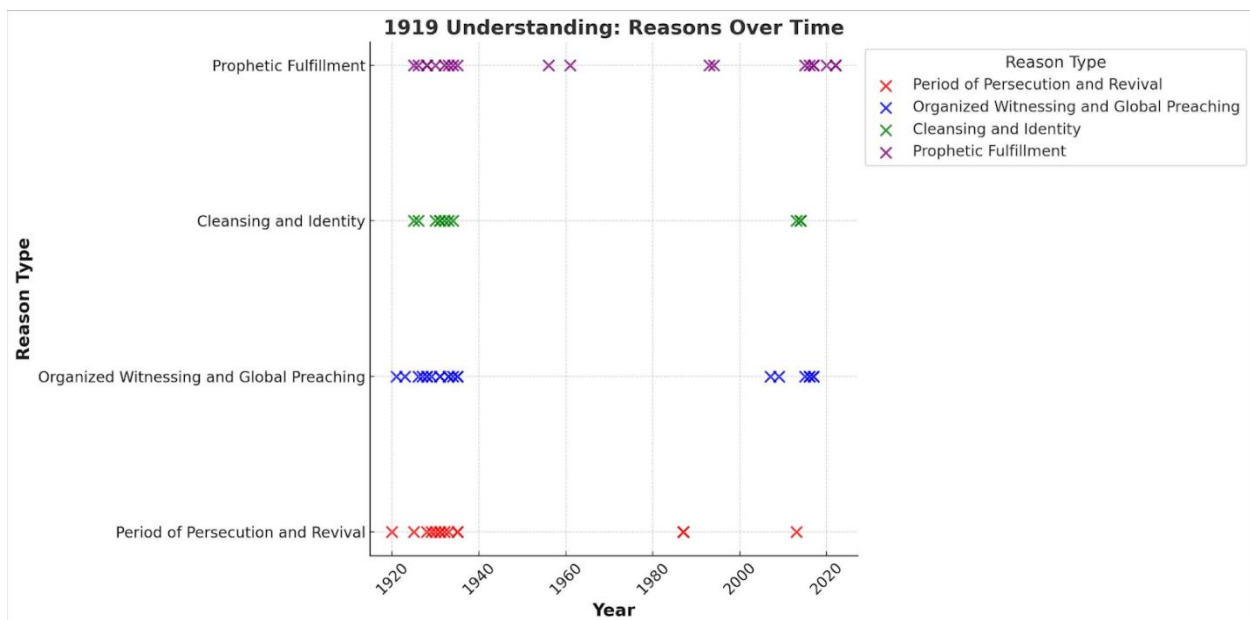
18. Re-examining 1919: A Question of Scriptural Foundation

The Bible speaks of Christ judging his servants at his return (*2 Corinthians 5:10*), not in 1919. The significance given to 1919 lacks prophetic clarity, consistent teaching, or divine confirmation.

Doctrinal elements once used to support it: types, timelines, and interpretations — have since been revised or abandoned. Their release from prison came after the war's end, not by clear divine act.

Can we humbly re-examine whether this date rests on Scripture, or human assumption?

Graph: Four Main Reasons Given Over Time for Viewing 1919 as a Pivotal Date



See:

- [*D3: Four Evolving Reasons for Making 1919 a Key Date*](#)

for data and references.

19. Has 1919 Been Elevated Beyond What is Written?

As Jehovah's Witnesses, we view 1919 as the time of Christ's "temple inspection" and a restoration of God's favor, based on the imprisonment and release of the brothers, followed by renewed zeal at the Cedar Point convention. Yet this view lacks divine revelation or strong scriptural evidence. Unlike 1914, 1925, or 1975, 1919 was recognized as a pivotal date only two years after the release, when our numbers were still in the few thousands, and much of the prophetic support has since been adjusted.

For example:

- Typologies such as Elijah and Elisha, Philadelphia and Laodicea, 617 & 612 BCE, Naomi and Mordecai, Moses and Aaron, and the crossing of the Jordan are no longer emphasized, as we've moved away from using types and antitypes.

<https://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/w20150315/types-antitypes>

- Other prophetic interpretations have changed — such as the 1260, 1290, and 1335 days. Daniel 12:2 is now seen as referring to the future resurrection of the dead, the Sheep and Goats judgment as future, and the angels gathering the elect during the great tribulation.

The Bible makes clear that Jesus alone will judge his servants at his return (*2 Corinthians 5:10*).

“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled” (*Matthew 23:12*). We must be cautious not to assign to ourselves what belongs to Christ alone.

20. Context of the 1919 Watch Tower Leader's Release

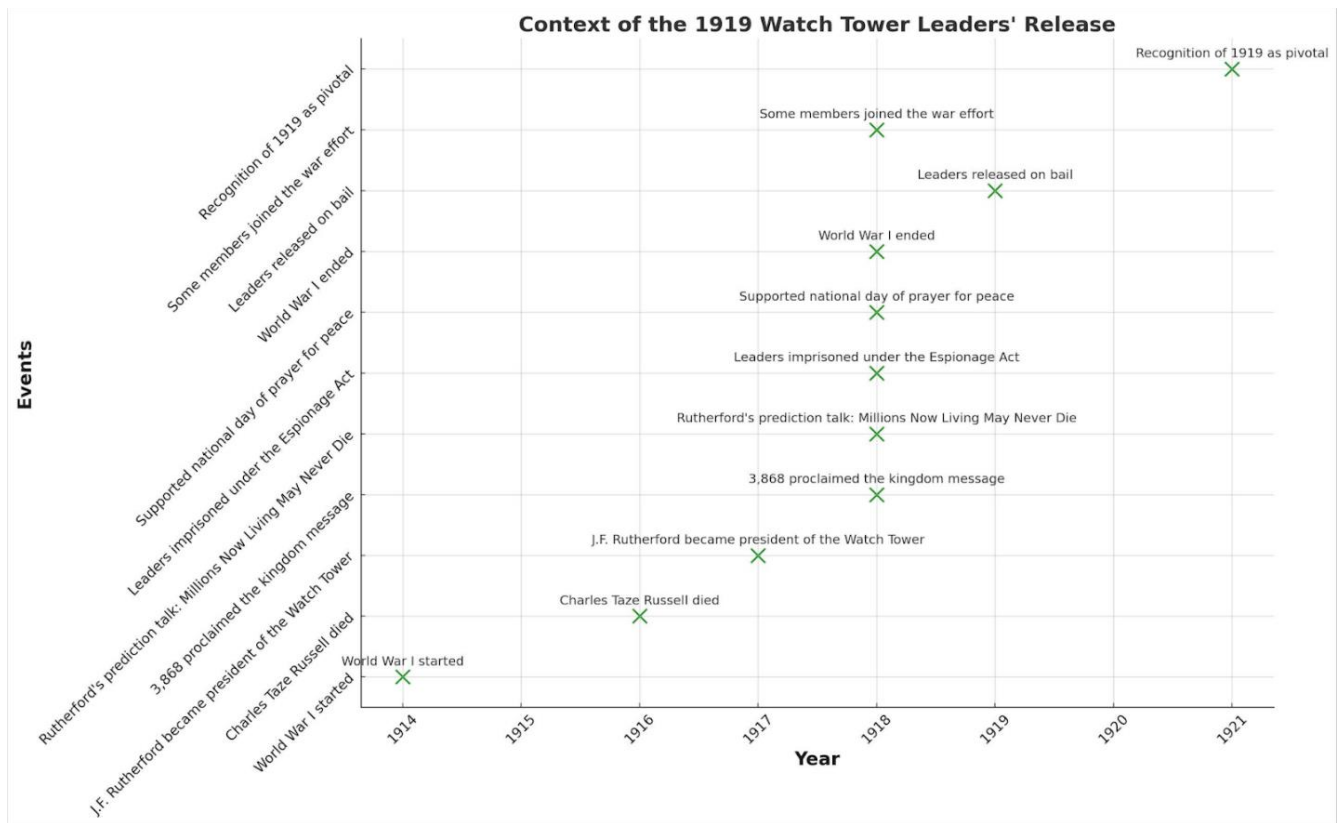
On Feb 24, 1918, J.F. Rutherford gave the talk "The World Has Ended-Millions Now Living May Never Die," a prediction that later proved false. A few months later, on May 7, 1918, Rutherford and seven other Watch Tower leaders were imprisoned under the U.S. Espionage Act for opposing World War I. They were released on bail on Mar 25, 1919 — after the war had ended on Nov 11, 1918 — suggesting their release was political, not a divine act.

While persecution of believers is common (*Acts 5:17–21*), the Bible never links such events to a specific prophetic year like 1919.

Notably, just 23 days after the leaders were jailed, The Watch Tower endorsed a National Day of Prayer for peace (May 30, 1918), signaling political cooperation. Some members even supported or joined the war effort-despite the organization's claim of neutrality.

<https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2016844?q=1919&p=par>

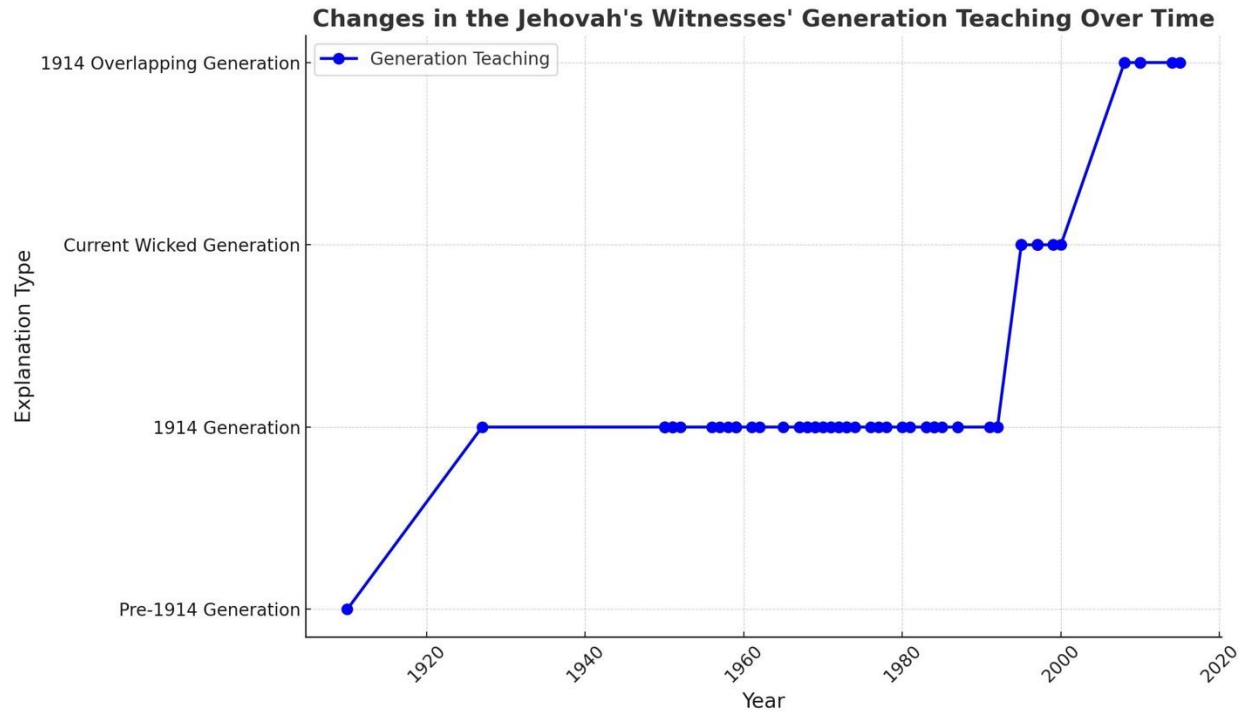
 **Graph: Context of the 1919 Watch Tower Leader's Release**



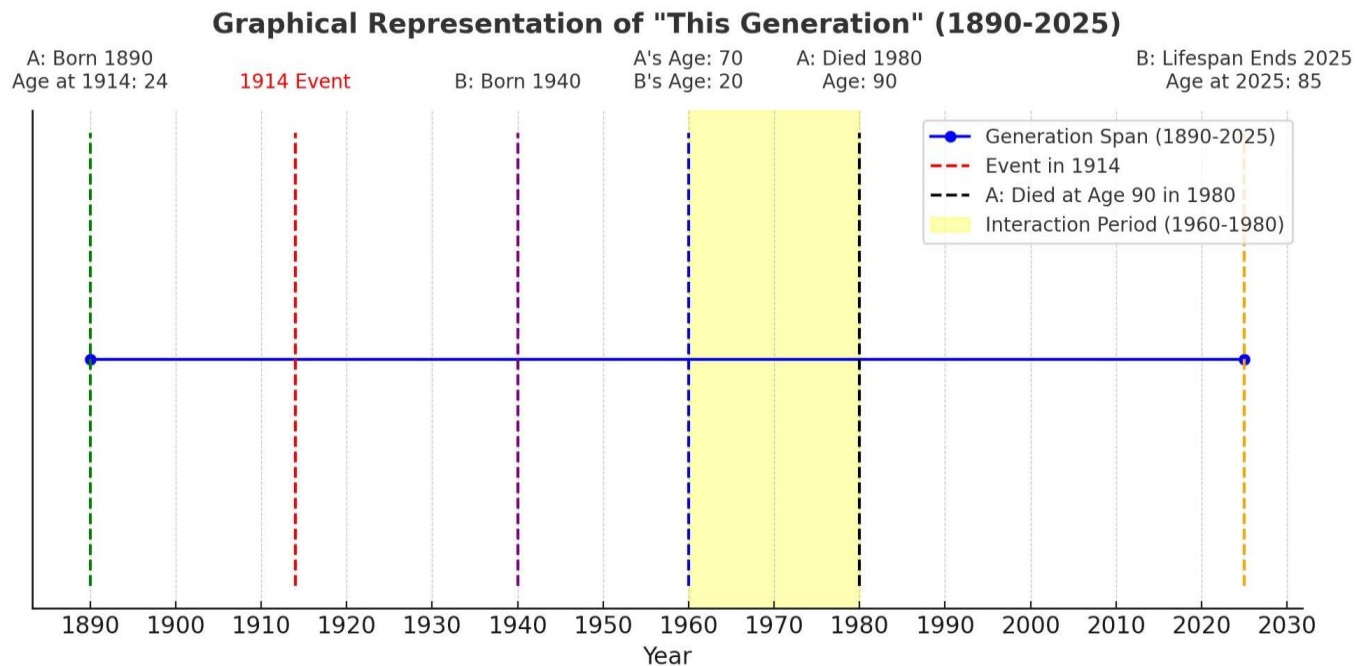
21. The Generation Teaching: Shaped by Time or True Light?

In 1927, it was taught that the anointed alive in 1914 would live to see the end. By 1995, this was unsustainable, since anyone anointed and at least 20 years old in 1914 would already be 101. The teaching then shifted to a broader “*wicked generation*,” applied to those outside the faith. By 2008, even this was untenable—anyone 20 years old in 1914 would have been 114—so the “overlapping generation” idea was introduced to extend the timeline. Even this interpretation, however, places a natural limit implying that the end must occur within the lifespan of those overlapping, roughly pointing to the mid-2020s. Yet Jesus, in *Matthew 24:34*, spoke of those living in his day who witnessed Jerusalem’s destruction in 70 A.D. Extending “this generation” into a modern overlap is speculative and unsupported, showing these changes were driven by the passing of time, not true light from God.

 **Graph: Evolution of Generation Teaching Over Time**



Graph 2: The 2008 “Overlapping Generation” Teaching Projected (1890–2025)



- A = 1890 (born before 1914, old enough to witness it).
- B = 1940 (born later but able to interact with A).
- L = 85 years (average lifespan of B).

Explanation:

- A (aged 70-90) and B (aged 20-40) could have interacted between **1960 and 1980** (highlighted in the graph).
- They share the same generation through this overlap.
- With an average lifespan of 85 years, **the end would be expected around 2025.**

See:

- [D4: Evolution of Generation Teaching Over Time](#)

for data and references.

22. Why the End Has Not Yet Come

Why does God allow suffering and why hasn't the end come? The Bible never says He is waiting for mankind to try every type of government — that is human analysis. When the question “*Until when?*” was raised, God’s answer was clear: “*until the number... was completed*” (*Revelation 6:10, 11*). Paul wrote of a set time “*until the full number of Gentiles has come in*” (*Romans 11:25*) and that “*creation waits for the revealing of the sons of God*” (*Romans 8:19*). These are the ones who will be with Christ, part of His body and glory. Peter explained the delay: “*The Lord is not slow... but patient, not wanting any to perish but for all to come to repentance*” (*2 Peter 3:9*). The end comes only when God’s purpose is complete — when that full number is gathered into Christ—and the exact day and hour rest in His authority (*Acts 1:7*).

23. Baptized Without Full Truth

Most Jehovah’s Witnesses are baptized without knowing the full truth about their history of failed predictions—1914, 1925, 1975, the “house of princes,” and the constantly changing teaching on the “generation.” Even many elders remain unaware of these matters. Some references appear in scattered publications, yet most brothers are unaware of them, and few are diligent readers. Such vital issues should be clearly included in the very book used for baptismal study.

Yet Scripture warns: “*When the prophet speaks in the name of Jehovah and the word is not fulfilled or does not come true, then Jehovah did not speak that word. The prophet spoke it presumptuously. You should not fear him.*” (*Deuteronomy 18:22*). Paul affirmed: “*We have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves*” (*2 Corinthians 4:2*). He also commanded: “*Do not lie to each other*” (*Colossians 3:9*). And Jesus declared: “*Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free*” (*John 8:32*).

For this reason, every person should be fully informed before baptism—especially in light of the policy of branding honest questioning as “apostasy” and treating disassociation as grounds.

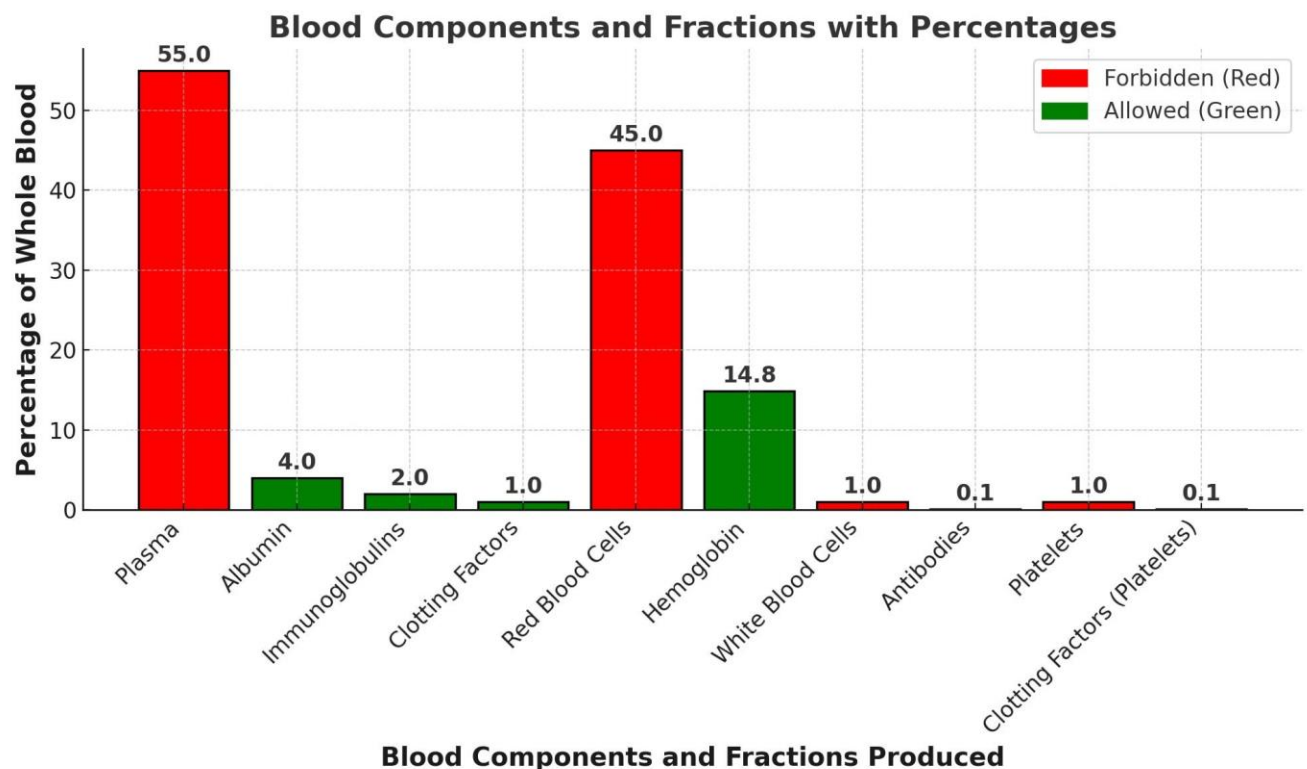
Part V – When Obedience Conflicts with Conscience

24. Inconsistencies in the Blood Doctrine

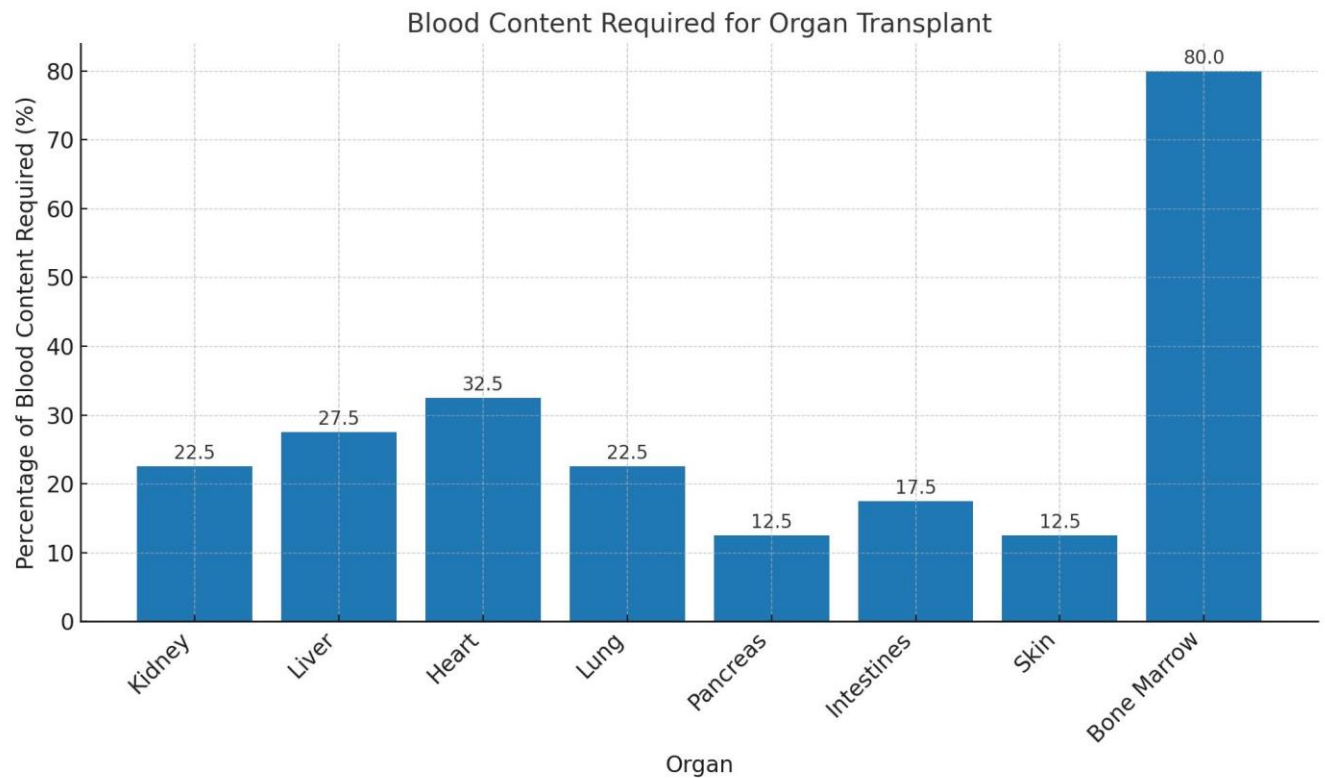
Abstaining from the four main blood components—plasma, red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets—while allowing fractions such as hemoglobin, which makes up one-third of red blood cell volume, creates an inconsistency. Fractions permitted are sometimes larger than entire components that are forbidden.

The same applies with organ transplants. The liver needs about 30% blood, kidneys 25%, and bone marrow is about 80% blood-rich tissue. Accepting these while rejecting blood itself is contradictory. The reasoning must be consistent—either both accepted, or both refused.

 **Graph: Blood Components and Fractions**



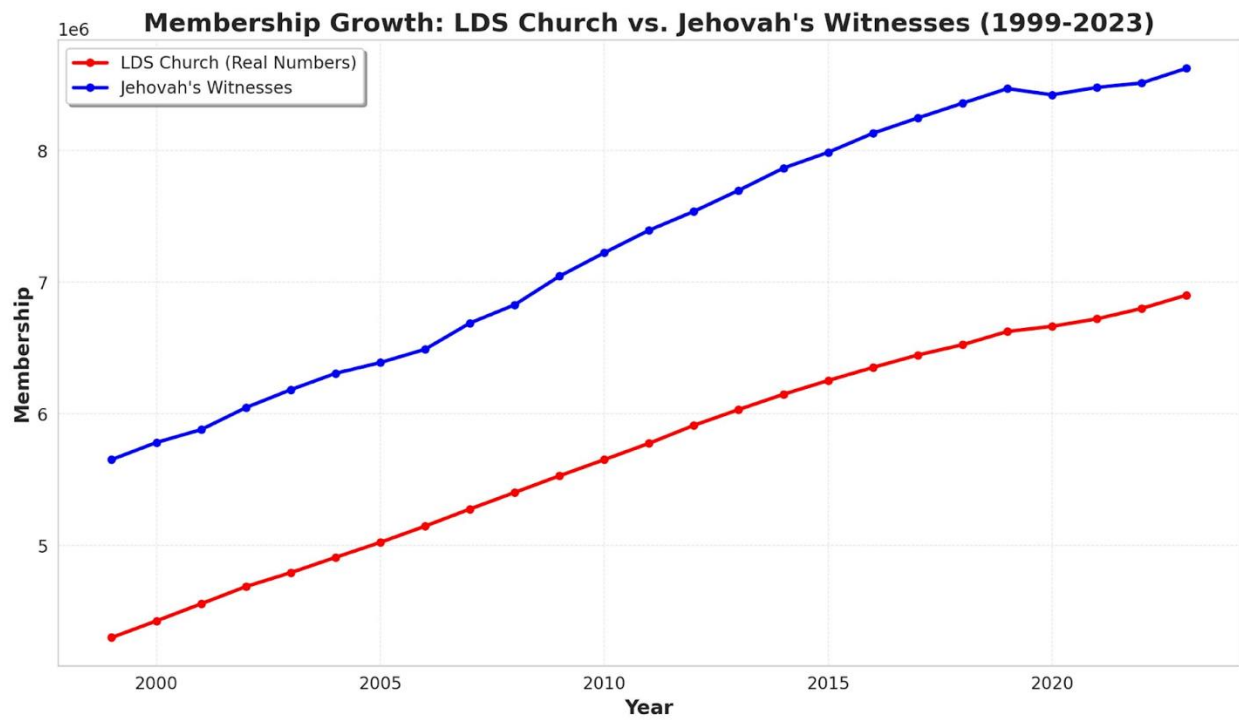
 **Graph: Blood Content in Organ Transplants**



25. Does Growth Prove Divine Truth?

Growth is seen in many religious groups, not just one. While *Isaiah 60:22* is sometimes cited as proof of exclusive divine favor, the reality is that other organizations also expand. Growth by itself is not evidence of God's unique approval. In fact, the data shows that Jehovah's Witnesses and the LDS Church have followed similar growth patterns over recent decades.

 **Graph: Membership Growth: Jehovah's Witnesses vs. LDS Church (1999-2023)**



Graph: Jehovah's Witnesses Membership Growth (1918 – 2024)



See:

- [E1: Jehovah's Witnesses Membership](#)
- [E2: LDS Church Membership](#)

for data and references.

26. When Conscience Is Treated as a Crime

The Scriptures command Christians to “*examine everything carefully; hold fast to what is good*” (1 Thessalonians 5:21) and to “*keep testing whether you are in the faith*” (2 Corinthians 13:5). Conscience is central to Christian life, for “*each of us will render an account for himself to God*” (Romans 14:12).

Yet the *Shepherd book* instructs that if a baptized Witness steps away out of conscience, elders must announce that he is “no longer one of Jehovah’s Witnesses” (ch. 7, ¶37, sfg_E). From that moment, he is placed in the same category as the gravest offenders—treated as though guilty of apostasy or even child abuse (ch. 7, ¶8, sfg_E).

Apostasy itself is defined not as rejecting the Bible, but as rejecting “Bible truth taught by Jehovah’s Witnesses” (Appendix A, ¶41). Even his family risks a judicial committee if they continue associating with him (Appendix A, ¶21).

This policy raises ethical concerns: it punishes a Christian for following conscience, severs family bonds, and demands loyalty to men rather than to Christ. Yet the Lord Himself declared: “*You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free*” (John 8:32).

See:

- [FI: Shepherd Book References on Disassociation and Apostasy](#)

for data and references.

27. Criticism — A Test of Christian Conduct

In recent years, the organization has pursued lawsuits against critics. Courts in Switzerland (Regina Spiess, 2019), Spain (AEVTJ, 2023), and Germany (JZ Help, 2024) — among others — ruled that concerns about practices such as shunning or the handling of abuse were legitimate and in the public interest. Similar legal actions have likewise been taken in other countries to restrict the sharing of critical material.

But Jesus taught: *“Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you” (Luke 6:28).* And Peter wrote: *“If you suffer for doing good and endure it, this is commendable before God... When he was insulted, he did not return the insult; when he suffered, he made no threats but entrusted himself to Him who judges justly” (1 Peter 2:20–23).*

Christ’s example is unmistakable: He endured with blessing, not retaliation. Do our responses reflect His spirit?

Part VI – The Call Back to Christ

Final Appeal – “Outside the Camp with Christ”

What began as a sincere, Bible-based movement has become, over time, a religious camp, where loyalty to an organization and to a ‘faithful and discreet slave’ has at times overshadowed the simple, direct devotion that belongs to Christ alone.

Jesus said, “*You search the Scriptures... yet you refuse to come to Me*” (John 5:39–40), and “*How can you believe when you receive glory from one another?*” (John 5:44). This is the danger of any system that exalts titles and loyalty to men—when glory is exchanged among themselves, the true glory of Christ is overshadowed.

If the Governing Body were to humbly set aside exclusive claims and restore Christ as the one true Head, the camp would no longer be necessary.

But if human authority continues to stand in His place, then each disciple must prayerfully respond to the call: “*Let us go to Him outside the camp, bearing the reproach He bore.*” (Hebrews 13:13)

To follow Christ may bring misunderstanding, even reproach. But He is not found in systems built by men. He is outside, still calling His own in love. Let us go to Him.

Appendices – Documentation and Evidence

Appendix A. Baptism & Salvation

A1: Baptism Questions Shift (1913–2025)

Year	Ref #	http Link	Content Summary	Key Change
1913	1	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1913/w E 19130515/w E 19130515.html#search=Have%20you%20repented	1. Repentance & trust in Christ's sacrifice. 2. Full consecration to God's service.	Christ-centered; no organizational language.
1945	2	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1945/w E 19450201/w E 19450201.html#search=Word%20as%20his%20holy%20spirit%20makes%20it%20plain	1. Recognition of sin and salvation through Jehovah via Christ. 2. Dedication through Christ and God's Word via spirit.	Formal dedication language; God, Christ and spirit still central.
1955	3	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1955/w E 19550701/Christian+Baptism+for+the+New+World+Society.html#search=dedicated%20yourself%20unreservedly	1. Salvation from Father through Christ. 2. Dedication via Bible and spirit.	Still God, Christ- and spirit-focused; no organizational tie.
1970	4	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1970364?q=%22through+Christ%22&p=par	1. Sin and salvation via Jehovah & Christ. 2. Will of God through Word, Christ, spirit.	No organization mentioned yet; God, Christ, the spirit, and the Bible still prominent.
1985	5	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1985408?q=%22On+the+basis%22&p=par	1. Repentance & dedication to Jehovah via Christ. 2. Baptism identifies as JW with spirit-directed org.	Major shift: Organizational identity formally introduced.
2019	6	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102014954?q=%22dedicated+yourself%22&p=par	1. Repentance & salvation through Christ. 2. Baptism identifies as JW with Jehovah's org.	Spirit removed; organizational allegiance emphasized.

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1913
- **Link:** <https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1913/w E 19130515/w E 19130515.html#search=Have%20you%20repented>
- <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1964126?q=%22full+consecration%22&p=par>
- **Content:**

- Q1: *"Have you repented of sin with such restitution as you are able, and are you trusting in the merit of Christ's sacrifice for the forgiveness of your sins and the basis of your justification?"*
- Q2: *"Have you made a full consecration of yourself with all the powers that you possess--talent, money, time, influence--all to the Lord, to be used faithfully in His service, even unto death?"*

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 1945
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1945/w_E_19450201/w_E_19450201.html#search=Word%20as%20his%20holy%20spirit%20makes%20it%20plain
- **Content:**
 - Q1: *"Have you recognized yourself as a sinner and needing salvation from Jehovah God? and have you acknowledged that this salvation proceeds from Him and through his Ransomer Christ Jesus?"*
 - Q2: *"On the basis of this faith in God and in his provision for redemption, have you consecrated yourself unreservedly to do the will of God henceforth as that will is revealed to you through Christ Jesus and through God's Word as His holy spirit makes it plain?"*

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 1955
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1955/w_E_19550701/Christian+Baptism+for+the+New+World+Society.html#search=dicated%20yourself%20unreservedly
- **Content:**
 - Q1: *"Have you recognized yourself before Jehovah God as a sinner who needs salvation, and have you acknowledged to him that this salvation proceeds from him the Father through his Son Christ Jesus?"*
 - Q2: *"On the basis of this faith in God and in his provision for salvation have you dedicated yourself unreservedly to God to do his will henceforth as he reveals it to you through Christ Jesus and through the Bible under the enlightenment of the holy spirit?"*

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 1970
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1970364?q=%22through+Christ%22&p=par>
- **Content:**
 - Q1: *"Have you recognized yourself as a sinner and needing salvation from Jehovah God? And have you acknowledged that this salvation proceeds from him and through his ransom, Christ Jesus?"*
 - Q2: *"On the basis of this faith in God and in his provision for redemption have you dedicated yourself unreservedly to Jehovah God, to do his will henceforth as that will is revealed to you through Christ Jesus and through God's Word as his holy spirit makes it plain?"*

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 1985
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1985408?q=%22On+the+basis%22&p=par>
- **Content:**
 - Q1: *"On the basis of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, have you repented of your sins and dedicated yourself to Jehovah to do his will?"*
 - Q2: *"Do you understand that your dedication and baptism identify you as one of Jehovah's Witnesses in association with God's spirit directed organization?"*

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 2019
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102014954?q=%22dedicated+yourself%22&p=par>
- **Content:**
 - Q1: *"Have you repented of your sins, dedicated yourself to Jehovah, and accepted his way of salvation through Jesus Christ?"*

- Q2: “Do you understand that your baptism identifies you as one of Jehovah’s Witnesses in association with Jehovah’s organization?”

A2: Salvation Through the Organization

Year	Ref #	http Link	Content Summary
1960	1	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1960884?q=organisation	Outside God’s organization there is no everlasting life.
1983	2	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1983124?q=organisation	Everlasting life in Paradise requires identifying and serving God within his one organization.
1990	3	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/201990404?q=organisation+++salvation	Identifying with Jehovah’s organization is essential to salvation.
1993	4	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1993685?q=organization+++salvation	No salvation or joy if one leaves Jehovah’s organization.
2006	5	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2006366?q=organisation	Survival compared to Noah’s family—depends on loyal association with Jehovah’s organization.
2012	6	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402012284?q=and+organization	Survival during tribulation depends on obeying instructions from God’s Word and organization.
2024	7	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2024481?q=Jehovah+disapproves	Jehovah disapproves of those who disrespect his organizational arrangements.
2025	8	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2025401?q=leading+our+organization&p=par	Salvation linked to obeying theocratic direction through the congregation; Jehovah leads through the organization.

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1960
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1960884?q=organisation>
- **Content:** “Outside of God’s moral organization there is no everlasting life.”

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 1983
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1983124?q=organisation>
- **Content:** “Jehovah is using only one organization today to accomplish his will. To receive everlasting life in the earthly Paradise we must identify that organization and serve God as part of it.”

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 1990
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/201990404?q=organisation+++salvation>
- **Content:** “Bible students [...] must appreciate that identifying themselves with Jehovah’s organization is essential to their salvation.”

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 1993
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1993685?q=organization+++salvation>
- **Content:** “If we were to draw away from Jehovah’s organization, there would be no place else to go for salvation and true joy.”

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 2006
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2006366?q=organisation>

- **Content:** *“Just as Noah and his God-fearing family were preserved in the ark, survival of individuals today depends on their faith and their loyal association with the earthly part of Jehovah’s universal organization.”*

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 2012
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402012284?q=and+organization>
- **Content:** *“During the great tribulation, Christians will need to obey instructions from God’s Word and organization. [...] We will be saved only if we obey the instructions we receive at that time.”*

Reference #7

- **Year – Month:** 2024
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2024481?q=Jehovah+disapproves>
- **Content:** *“Today we can be sure that Jehovah disapproves of those who disrespect his organizational arrangements.”*

Reference #8

- **Year – Month:** 2025
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2025401?q=leading+our+organization&p=par>
- **Content:** *“Jehovah will give us both angelic protection and lifesaving instructions. [...] We will likely receive such instructions through our congregations. [...] We must draw close to our brothers and sisters, willingly obey theocratic direction, and be convinced that Jehovah is leading our organization.”*

A3: Organization Loyalty, Christ Forgotten

Year	Ref #	http Link	Content Summary
1998	1	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/301998000?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Missionaries are praised for showing loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.
2001	2	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2001725?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Teaching: Loyalty to God includes loyalty to his organization.
2002	3	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2002246?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	During tests, Christians must prove loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.
2006	4	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2006446?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Faithfulness to Jehovah and his organization is required despite injustices.
2007	5	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007882?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Loyalty to God and his organization should surpass loyalty to any human.
2012	6	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2012286?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Governing Body members are admired for their loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.
2014	7	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102008083?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Loyal families show loyalty to Jehovah and his organization by upholding disfellowshipping.
2018	8	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2018565?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Older elders are honored for demonstrating loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.
2020	9	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/202000440?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Teaching: Loyalty to Jehovah’s organization and its representatives must be maintained.
2022	10	https://wol.w.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2022644?q=resolved+to	Christians must remain loyal to Jehovah and his organization and never separate from Him.

2022	11	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2022644?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	A pioneer's loyalty to Jehovah and his organization was rewarded.
2022	12	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2022645?q=organisation	Adversities are tests of loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.
2023	13	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2023442?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par	Christians' hope and faith are linked with loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1998
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/301998000?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “These missionaries have set a fine example in loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.”

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 2001
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2001725?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “Loyalty to God also includes loyalty to his organization.”

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 2002
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2002246?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “Until that hour of test ends [...] are we going to remain loyal to Jehovah and his organization?”

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 2006
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2006446?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “We too should remain faithful to Jehovah and to his organization—regardless of injustices we suffer.”

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 2007
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007882?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “Our loyalty to the true God and his organization should surpass loyalty to any human.”

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 2012
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2012286?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “I treasure [...] the fine example of loyalty to Jehovah and his organization.”

Reference #7

- **Year – Month:** 2014
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102008083?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “Loyal Christian family members [...] loyalty to Jehovah and his organization moves them to uphold the Scriptural arrangement of disfellowshipping.”

Reference #8

- **Year – Month:** 2018
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2018565?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “These dear older elders [...] have shown loyalty to Jehovah and to his organization!”

Reference #9

- **Year – Month:** 2020
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/202000440?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “Loyalty to Jehovah's organization and its representatives must be maintained.”

Reference #10

- **Year – Month:** 2022
- **Link:** <https://wol.w.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2022644?q=resolved+to>
- **Content:** “Be resolved to reject Satan’s lies and to remain loyal to Jehovah and His organization. [...] Let nothing separate you from Jehovah!”

Reference #11

- **Year – Month:** 2022
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2022644?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “Her trust in Jehovah and her loyalty to his organization were rewarded.”

Reference #12

- **Year – Month:** 2022
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2022645?q=organisation>
- **Content:** “When we face adversities, our loyalty to Jehovah and his organization can be tested.”

Reference #13

- **Year – Month:** 2023
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2023442?q=loyalty+organisation&p=par>
- **Content:** “Their strong hope in the resurrection, their love for Jehovah, and their loyalty to his organization touched our hearts.”

Appendix B – Name & Identity

B1: The Name ‘Jehovah’s Witnesses’: Origins, Adoption, and Redefinition

Year	Ref #	http Link	Content Summary	Explanation Type
1921	1	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1921/w_E_19211201/w_E_19211201.html#search=witnesses	Emphasizes that believers are witnesses for God and should be witnesses unto Jesus, acting as God's spokesmen during His silence. Highlights the importance of knowing God's Word to be effective witnesses.	Name Concept Introduced
1923	2	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1923/w_E_19231001/w_E_19231001.html#search=witnesses	God's faithful witnesses are actively proclaiming His salvation and glory, fulfilling Psalm 96 by calling people to honor Jehovah's name.	Name Concept Introduced
1925	3	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250815/w_E_19250815.html#search=witnesses	Urges unity among believers, reminding that Jehovah's words apply now: "Ye are my witnesses." Encourages giving testimony about God's works to honor Him, whether through large or small meetings.	Name Concept Introduced
1925	4	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250901/w_E_19250901.html#search=witnesses	God's anointed ones are chosen to be witnesses that Jehovah is God, helping to establish His name on earth during this significant time.	Name Concept Introduced
1925	5	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w	Identifies God's witnesses as those anointed by the spirit who joyfully obey His	Name Concept Introduced

		E_19250915/w_E_19250915.html#search=witnesses	commands; these individuals are used by the Lord to uphold His standards.	
1926	6	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260101/w_E_19260101.html#search=witnesses	States that God will have witnesses on earth to make His name known, specifically Zion, His organization, whose members are called to be His witnesses as per Isaiah 43:10-12.	Name Concept Introduced
1926	7	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260215/w_E_19260215.html#search=witnesses	Highlights that those still on earth have the privilege to be Jehovah's witnesses, declaring God's plan of salvation to the world.	Name Concept Introduced
1926	8	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260315/w_E_19260315.html#search=witnesses	Explains that God provides witnesses who love Him and keep His commandments to make His name known amid Satan's opposition; now is the time for their testimony as nations turn away from God.	Name Concept Introduced
1928	9	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280101/w_E_19280101.html#search=witnesses	Discusses how Jehovah's witnesses can assist one another and the importance of setting a good example, implying they are already recognized by this name.	Name Concept Introduced
1928	10	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280601/w_E_19280601.html#search=witnesses	Calls the temple class to be Jehovah's witnesses, proclaiming His name and works to all; emphasizes being current with divine truth to effectively honor Jehovah amid opposition.	Name Concept Introduced
1931	11	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310701/w_E_19310701.html#search=witnesses	Declares that the time has come for God to identify His people as His witnesses, distinguishing them from other Christians, to boldly declare Jehovah's name in this day of judgment.	Name Evolved
1931	12	Convention Resolution	An international convention where a resolution was made by "Jehovah's witnesses" assembled, indicating the formal adoption of the name given by Jehovah as prophesied in Isaiah 43:10-12.	Name Adopted for Anointed (Denarius)
1931	13	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310915/w_E_19310915.html#search=Jehovah	Officially embraces and adopts the name "Jehovah's witnesses," declaring allegiance to God and a commission to do His work; desires to be known by the name given by God's own mouth as per scriptural references.	Name Adopted for Anointed (Denarius)
1931	14	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19311001/w_E_19311001.html#search=witnesses	Reaffirms that Jehovah has given His people the name "Jehovah's witnesses," who will represent Him and proclaim His name	Name Adopted for Anointed (Denarius)

			without compromise; they joyfully accept this name by God's grace.	
1933	15	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331115/w_E_19331115.html#search=Denarius	Interprets the parable of the laborers and denarius to mean that from 1919 to 1931, God's faithful received their "hire" in the form of the new name "Jehovah's witnesses," symbolizing the highest honor and close relationship with God.	Name Adopted for Anointed (Denarius)
1942	16	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967043?q=1935&p=par#h=23	The 1942 book <i>The New World</i> included the "great crowd" as part of Jehovah's witnesses alongside the anointed.	Expanded to Include Great Crowd
1966	17	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966844	Acknowledges that from 1919 to 1935, anointed ones were gathered into a unified organization; those added after 1919 were also anointed, indicating the gathering continued beyond 1931.	Anointed & Great Crowd (No Denarius Link)
1967	18	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967043?q=1935&p=par#h=23	Explains that the new name "Jehovah's witnesses" applies not only to the anointed remnant but also to the "great crowd" of "other sheep," meaning the name isn't exclusive and cannot be the symbolic "penny" from the parable; it applies to all faithful ones.	Anointed & Great Crowd (No Denarius Link)
2007	19	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007327#h=1	Reviews earlier beliefs that the name was the "denarius" and the heavenly calling ended in 1931 or 1935; states that the understanding was adjusted in 1966, realizing the parable didn't mark the end of the heavenly call and that no specific date can be set for its conclusion.	Anointed & Great Crowd (No Denarius Link)

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1921 - Dec 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1921/w_E_19211201/w_E_19211201.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "But we are witnesses for God in the measure that we have his Word. [...] The last words of Jesus our Lord come echoing down the centuries, 'Ye shall be witnesses unto me.' (Acts 1:8) [...] God is now silent, but the time is near when he will again speak from heaven... We are to be witnesses unto him, [...] to a person; not merely to a creed, or to doctrines, [...] If we are to be God's witnesses now we must be acquainted with the teachings of God's Word."

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 1923 - Oct 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1923/w_E_19231001/w_E_19231001.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "The judgments of the Lord are being manifested in the earth; his glory is being revealed to the nations, and day by day his people tell forth his salvation. (Psalm 96:2) [...] The faithful witnesses of God are now busily engaged in this work, fulfilling the Psalm. They call all kindreds of the people to ascribe unto Jehovah the glory due unto his name (Psalm 96:8)"

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 1925 - Aug 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250815/w_E_19250815.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "Keep in mind always that Jehovah's words apply to the church now: 'Ye are my witnesses.' (Isaiah 43:10) If we are witnesses for the Lord, then we must give the testimony. [...] We are witnesses that God is doing these things, working through natural events; [...] we are witnesses for God, [...] to the honor and glory of God as the Maker and Upholder of all things."

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 1925 - Sep 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250901/w_E_19250901.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "God has chosen his sons, the anointed Christ, [...] to serve him, [...] while on earth, to be witnesses that Jehovah is God (Isaiah 43:10) [...] 'Ye are my witnesses that I am God.' [...] he will use those who honor him, as honor is due him, to help establish his name."

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 1925 - Sep 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250915/w_E_19250915.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "The witnesses of God are those who are begotten and anointed of the spirit, and who joyfully obey his commands. [...] the Lord is using [them] in lifting up his standard."

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 1926 - Jan 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260101/w_E_19260101.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "The time approaches when God will make for himself a name. God will have somebody to be his witnesses in the earth. [...] Jehovah says: 'Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; [...] I am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour.' (Isaiah 43:10-12)."

Reference #7

- **Year – Month:** 1926 - Feb 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260215/w_E_19260215.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "Some of his body members are already with him. Some are still in the flesh. [...] now the privilege of the latter to be witnesses for Jehovah and to declare unto the world God's plan of salvation."

Reference #8

- **Year – Month:** 1926 - Mar 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260315/w_E_19260315.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "Satan and his emissaries have testified against God [...] For this purpose he provides for himself witnesses. Whom should we expect [...] who love him. [...] to such who thus appreciate the goodness of God he says: 'Ye are my witnesses ... that I am God.'"

Reference #9

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Jan 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280101/w_E_19280101.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "How may Jehovah's witnesses assist one another? Is this an obligation or a privilege? What can be said, in this regard, of the power of example?"

Reference #10

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Jun 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280601/w_E_19280601.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "There is a special work now for those of the temple class to do [...] 'Ye are my witnesses, that I am God.' (Isaiah 43:12) [...] to explain the meaning of the great name of God [...] declare unto the people the doings of the Lord. [...] Jehovah is the only true God."

Reference #11

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Jul 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310701/w_E_19310701.html#search=witnesses
- **Content:** "God exhibits his own people before the nations of earth, identifies them as his, and sends them forth with the command: 'Ye are my witnesses [...] that I am God.' (Isaiah 43:9-12) [...] these have been brought into the position of favor that they now occupy in order that they might be made witnesses to the name of Jehovah."

Reference #12

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Jul 26
- **Link:** Convention Resolution
- **Content:** "We unhesitatingly declare our entire allegiance and devotion to Jehovah God and his Kingdom: [...] and we desire to be known as and called by the name, to wit, Jehovah's Witnesses."



Reference #13

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Sep 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310915/w_E_19310915.html#search=Jehovah
- **Content:** "A NEW NAME [...] we unhesitatingly declare our entire allegiance and devotion to Jehovah God and his kingdom; [...] we joyfully embrace and take the name which the mouth of the Lord God has named, to wit, Jehovah's witnesses."

Reference #14

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Oct 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19311001/w_E_19311001.html#search=witnesses

- **Content:** "Jehovah has made it plain that he will have a people for his name [...] joyfully receive and bear the name [...] Jehovah's witnesses."

Reference #15

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Nov 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331115/w_E_19331115.html#search=Denarius
- **Content:** "Approximately 1919 God's organization Zion gave birth to her children, which children here constitute the laborers sent forth in the early morning [...] All of the laborers at the close of that particular time received the same wages or hire. [...] Thus the facts well known to have been brought to pass from 1919 to 1931 exactly correspond with the hours of the day mentioned in the parable. Jehovah's law required laborers to be paid off at the close of the day's work. [...] 'Call the laborers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.' (Matt. 20:8) [...] No greater wage could be paid to creatures on earth than that of receiving a name at the mouth of Jehovah God, and which name shows the close and confidential relationship between Jehovah and his faithful people [...] To such faithful laborers in his vineyard he gives a new name and to them he says: 'I am Jehovah, that is my name; and my glory [honor] will I not give to another.' [...]"

Reference #16

- **Year – Month:** 1967 - Jan 16
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966844>
- **Content:** Later the book entitled *The New World*, published in 1942, indicated that the "great crowd" of the "other sheep" foretold in Revelation 7:9, 10 were also witnesses of Jehovah. (Pages 368, 369, 375) Today the "great crowd" of these "other sheep" that have been gathered into association with the anointed remnant are regularly included among Jehovah's witnesses.

Reference #17

- **Year – Month:** 1966 - Nov 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966844>
- **Content:** "We have had a gathering of the chosen, called, anointed ones since 1919 into a unified organization throughout the earth. This gathering work under angelic direction continued on into the transition years of 1931-1935. Those who were added to the released remnant after 1919 were also anointed with God's poured-out spirit to prophesy."

Reference #18

- **Year – Month:** 1967 - Jan 16
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967043?q=1935&p=par#h=23>
- **Content:** In the year 1933, in the Nov 15 and Dec 1 issues of *The Watchtower and Herald of Christ's Presence* there appeared the leading article (in two parts) entitled "Laborer's Wages." [...] The laborers are those at the temple for judgment, and who engage in the service of the kingdom; the hire or penny is the honor of being given the new name which Jehovah gives to his people. [...] "No greater wage could be paid to creatures on earth than that of receiving a name at the mouth of Jehovah God, and which name shows the close and confidential relationship between Jehovah and his faithful people."
Later the book entitled *The New World*, published in 1942, indicated that the "great crowd" of the "other sheep" foretold in Revelation 7:9, 10 were also witnesses of Jehovah. [...] Today the "great crowd" of these "other sheep" that have been gathered into association with the anointed remnant are regularly included among Jehovah's witnesses.
Thus, the title "Jehovah's witnesses" is now seen as not applying exclusively to the anointed remnant, and so this new name for Christians could not be the symbolic "penny" of Jesus' parable. [...]"

Reference #19

- **Year – Month:** 2007 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007327#h=1>
- **Content:** "From the late 1800's until 1931, the main thrust of the preaching work was the gathering of the remaining members of the body of Christ. In 1931 the Bible Students took the Bible-based name Jehovah's Witnesses, and in the Nov 15, 1933, issue of *The Watchtower*, the thought was expressed that this unique name was the "denarius" referred to in Jesus' parable recorded at Matthew 20:1-16. The 12 hours mentioned in the

parable were thought to correspond to the 12 years from 1919 to 1931. For many years after 1931, it was believed that the call to the heavenly Kingdom had ended in 1931 and that those called to be joint heirs with Christ in 1930 and 1931 were 'the last' called. [...] However, in 1966 an adjusted understanding of that parable was presented, and it became clear that it had nothing to do with the end of the calling of the anointed. [...] In 1935 the "great crowd" of Revelation 7:9-15 was understood to be made up of "other sheep," Christians with an earthly hope, who would appear on the world scene in "the last days" and who as a group would survive Armageddon. [...] Hence, especially after 1966, it was believed that the heavenly call ceased in 1935. [...] Thus, it appears that we cannot set a specific date for when the calling of Christians to the heavenly hope ends."

Appendix C – Heavenly Call, Great Crowd, and the “Faithful Slave”

C1: Progression of Interpretations of the ‘Heavenly Call’ Over Time

Year	Ref#	http Link	Content Summary	Explanation Type
1933	1 & 3 & 5	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331115/w_E_19331115.html#search=Denarius	Laborers in the kingdom receive their wages as a gift from Jehovah. The gathering of the laborers corresponds to events between 1919 and 1931.	Call ended in 1931
1966	2 & 4 & 5	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995124	The heavenly call ended in 1935, with a focus on gathering the "great crowd" of other sheep thereafter.	Call ended in 1935
2007	5	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007327#h=1	Initially, the heavenly call was thought to have ended in 1931, but after 1966, it was believed to have ended in 1935. The exact end date is now considered unknown.	End date unknown

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Nov 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331115/w_E_19331115.html#search=Denarius
- **Content:** "Approximately 1919 God's organization Zion gave birth to her children, which children here constitute the laborers sent forth in the early morning [...] All of the laborers at the close of that particular time received the same wages or hire. [...] Thus the facts well known to have been brought to pass from 1919 to 1931 exactly correspond with the hours of the day mentioned in the parable. Jehovah's law required laborers to be paid off at the close of the day's work. [...] 'Call the laborers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.' (Matt. 20:8) [...] No greater wage could be paid to creatures on earth than that of receiving a name at the mouth of Jehovah God, and which name shows the close and confidential relationship between Jehovah and his faithful people [...] To such faithful laborers in his vineyard he gives a new name and to them he says: "I am Jehovah, that is my name; and my glory [honor] will I not give to another." [...]"

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 1966 - Nov 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966844>
- **Content:** "We have had a gathering of the chosen, called, anointed ones since 1919 into a unified organization throughout the earth. This gathering work under angelic direction continued on into the transition years of 1931-1935. Those who were added to the released remnant after 1919 were also anointed with God's poured-out spirit to prophesy."

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 1967 - Jan 16
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967043?q=1935&p=par#h=23>

- **Content:** In the year 1933, in the Nov 15 and Dec 1 issues of *The Watchtower and Herald of Christ's Presence* there appeared the leading article (in two parts) entitled "Laborer's Wages." [...] The laborers are those at the temple for judgment, and who engage in the service of the kingdom; the hire or penny is the honor of being given the new name which Jehovah gives to his people. [...] "No greater wage could be paid to creatures on earth than that of receiving a name at the mouth of Jehovah God, and which name shows the close and confidential relationship between Jehovah and his faithful people."
Later the book entitled *The New World*, published in 1942, indicated that the "great crowd" of the "other sheep" foretold in Revelation 7:9, 10 were also witnesses of Jehovah. [...] Today the "great crowd" of these "other sheep" that have been gathered into association with the anointed remnant are regularly included among Jehovah's witnesses.
Thus, the title "Jehovah's witnesses" is now seen as not applying exclusively to the anointed remnant, and so this new name for Christians could not be the symbolic "penny" of Jesus' parable. [...]

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 1995 - Feb 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995124>
- **Content:** "In recent years the number of the little flock still on earth has become quite small. [...] Logically, the calling of the little flock would draw to a close when the number was nearing completion, and the evidence is that the general gathering of these specially blessed ones ended in 1935. However, the other sheep in the time of the end were prophesied to grow to be 'a great crowd, which no man was able to number.' [...] Since 1935, the general gathering by Jehovah has been of this great crowd."

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 2007 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007327#h=1>
- **Content:** "From the late 1800's until 1931, the main thrust of the preaching work was the gathering of the remaining members of the body of Christ. In 1931 the Bible Students took the Bible-based name Jehovah's Witnesses, and in the Nov 15, 1933, issue of *The Watchtower*, the thought was expressed that this unique name was the "denarius" referred to in Jesus' parable recorded at Matthew 20:1-16. The 12 hours mentioned in the parable were thought to correspond to the 12 years from 1919 to 1931. For many years after 1931, it was believed that the call to the heavenly Kingdom had ended in 1931 and that those called to be joint heirs with Christ in 1930 and 1931 were 'the last' called. [...] However, in 1966 an adjusted understanding of that parable was presented, and it became clear that it had nothing to do with the end of the calling of the anointed. [...] In 1935 the "great crowd" of Revelation 7:9-15 was understood to be made up of "other sheep," Christians with an earthly hope, who would appear on the world scene in "the last days" and who as a group would survive Armageddon. [...] Hence, especially after 1966, it was believed that the heavenly call ceased in 1935. [...] Thus, it appears that we cannot set a specific date for when the calling of Christians to the heavenly hope ends."

C2: Memorial Partakers from 1993 to 2023

Year	Memorial Partakers	Shift	Year	Memorial Partakers	Shift
1993	8,693	-	2001	8,730	+69
1994	8,617	-76	2002	8,760	+30
1995	8,645	+28	2003	8,565	-195
1996	8,757	+112	2004	8,570	+5
1997	8,795	+38	2005	8,524	-46
1998	8,756	-39	2006	8,758	+234

1999	8,755	-1	2007	9,105	+347
2000	8,661	-94	2008	9,986	+881

Year	Memorial Partakers	Shift	Year	Memorial Partakers	Shift
2009	10,857	+871	2017	18,564	+551
2010	11,202	+345	2018	19,521	+957
2011	11,824	+622	2019	20,526	+1,005
2012	12,604	+780	2020	21,182	+656
2013	13,204	+600	2021	20,746	-436
2014	14,121	+917	2022	21,150	+404
2015	15,177	+1,056	2023	22,312	+1,162
2016	18,013	+2,836	2024	23,212	+900

* **'Shift'** shows the yearly change in Memorial partakers: positive for increase, negative for decrease.

C3: Evolution of Understanding of the “Great Crowd”

Year	Ref #	http Link	Content Summary	Explanation Type
1885	1	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1885/w_E_18850701/w_E_18850701.html#search=great%20multitude	Discusses the development of two spiritual groups: a "little flock" destined for the kingdom and a "great multitude".	Heavenly calling
1902	2	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1902/w_E_19020615/w_E_19020615.html#search=great%20multitude	Contrasts the numerable "little flock" destined for rulership with the uncountable "great multitude" who serve before the throne.	Heavenly calling
1904	3	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1904/w_E_19040915/w_E_19040915.html#search=Great%20multitude	Elisha, representing the "great multitude," serves the higher "Elijah" class but does not share in their priestly status.	Heavenly calling

1905	4	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1905/w_E_19050801/w_E_19050801.html#search=Great%20multitude	The "great multitude" endures tribulation and is purified, serving a lower role compared to the glorified Bride class.	Heavenly calling
1907	5	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1907/w_E_19070801/w_E_19070801.html#search=Great%20multitude	The "great multitude" faces tribulation and is not predestined; their number and fate are left flexible.	Heavenly calling
1911	6	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1911/w_E_19110901/w_E_19110901.html#search=Great%20multitude	The "great multitude" is more extensive than the Christ body and includes those written in heaven but not as priests.	Heavenly calling
1912	7	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1912/w_E_19120715/w_E_19120715.html#search=Great%20multitude	A "great multitude" serves under the Royal Priesthood without crowns, indicating a supportive but lesser heavenly role.	Heavenly calling
1912	8	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1912/w_E_19121115/w_E_19121115.html#search=Great%20multitude	Describes some as not fully enlightened within the "great multitude," not privy to the full spiritual truths.	Heavenly calling
1914	9	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1914/w_E_19140701/w_E_19140701.html#search=Great%20multitude	The "great multitude" goes through great tribulation and is positioned before the throne, distinct from ruling with Christ.	Heavenly calling
1916	10	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1916/w_E_19160715/w_E_19160715.html#search=Great%20multitude	Details a "great multitude" with soiled robes needing purification, contrasting with the crowned Bride class.	Heavenly calling
1920	11	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1920/w_E_19200215/w_E_19200215.html#search=Great%20multitude	Describes the "great multitude" as similar to Levites, serving the priestly class but not part of it.	Heavenly calling

		rch=Great%20multitude		
1922	12	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1922/w_E_19220415/w_E_19220415.html#search=Great%20multitude	Suggests a "great multitude" who lose their anointing and take a lower spiritual status than the "little flock".	Heavenly calling
1926	13	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260815/w_E_19260815.html#search=Great%20multitude	Describes all of spiritual Israel as "Levites" with the "great multitude" serving the royal priesthood day and night.	Heavenly calling
1927	14	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270115/w_E_19270115.html#search=Great%20multitude	Questions whether the "great multitude" are human or spirit beings, suggesting a spiritual nature from diverse origins.	Heavenly status debate
1928	15	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280315/w_E_19280315.html#search=Great%20multitude	Clarifies the undefined number of the "great multitude," distinct from the fixed number of the "little flock".	Heavenly calling
1929	16	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19290215/w_E_19290215.html#search=Great%20multitude	Indicates a clear division between the heavenly Zion and the less distinguished "great multitude".	Heavenly calling
1929	17	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19290401/w_E_19290401.html#search=Great%20multitude	Discusses the organizational structure of God's kingdom, placing the "great multitude" within it but not as rulers.	Heavenly calling
1932	18	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19320901/w_E_19320901.html#search=Great%20multitude	The anointed are tasked with teaching the "great multitude," implying a subordinate yet significant spiritual role.	Heavenly calling

1933	19	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330815/w_E_19330815.html#search=Great%20multitude	Describes the inclusion of the "great multitude" in God's organization from all nations, highlighting an extensive outreach.	Heavenly calling
1933	20	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331001/w_E_19331001.html#search=Great%20multitude	Portrays the "great multitude" as prisoners in Satan's system, awaiting liberation and not yet in a secured heavenly status.	Heavenly calling
1933	21	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331015/w_E_19331015.html#search=Great%20multitude	Discusses the overlooked and neglected "great multitude" in need of the kingdom message, indicating a supportive role.	Heavenly calling
1933	22	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331115/w_E_19331115.html#search=Denarius	From 1919 to 1931, faithful laborers received a new name from Jehovah, symbolizing their honored relationship with Him.	Heavenly calling
1934	23	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340315/w_E_19340315.html#search=Great%20multitude	States that the "great multitude" will not survive Armageddon, unlike the anointed who are preserved.	Not Surviving Armageddon
1934	24	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340515/w_E_19340515.html#search=Great%20multitude	Highlights the imprisoned state of the "great multitude" under Satanic influence, contrasting with the liberated anointed.	Heavenly status debate
1935	25	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350801/w_E_19350801.html#search=Great%20multitude	Questions the faithfulness of the "great multitude" and their ultimate spiritual status, implying potential shortcomings.	Heavenly status debate
1935	26	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350901/w_E_19350901.html#search=Great%20multitude	Discusses the role of the "great multitude" during tribulations, implying their lack of participation in key events.	Heavenly status debate

		rch=Great%20multitude		
1935	27	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351001/w_E_19351001.html#search=Great%20multitude	Identifies the "great multitude" with the earthly "other sheep," separating them from the heavenly-bound anointed.	Earthly hope
1935	28	http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351015/w_E_19351015.html#search=Great%20multitude	Clarifies that the "great multitude" is not spirit-begotten and hence not in line for heavenly rulership, associating them instead with earthly roles.	Earthly hope
1965	29	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1965601?q=1931&p=par	During a 1935 convention, the "great crowd" was identified not as a spiritual subclass but as earthly, confirming their role similar to the biblical "other sheep."	Earthly hope
1966	30	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966444?q=1935&p=par	In 1935 It was recognized that the "great crowd" described in Revelation is an earthly class of God-fearing people distinct from those with a heavenly hope.	Earthly hope
1966	31	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966844	Discusses the continued gathering of the anointed from 1919 through the mid-1930s, marking a transition to a focus on gathering those belonging to the "great crowd."	Earthly hope
1967	32	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967043?q=1935&p=par#h=23	Elaborates on the roles of the "great crowd" as part of Jehovah's Witnesses, being included among them but not part of the anointed with a heavenly calling.	Earthly hope
1995	33	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995124	Suggests the heavenly call might have ended around 1935, with the focus shifting to the "great crowd" who are expected to survive Armageddon and live on Earth.	Earthly hope
2007	34	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007327#h=1	Reiterates the shift in focus post-1931 from heavenly calling to preparing the "great crowd" for survival through Armageddon, highlighting their earthly hope.	Earthly hope

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1985 - Jul 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1885/w_E_18850701/w_E_18850701.html#search=great%20multitude
- **Content:** "THE 'LITTLE FLOCK' AND THE 'GREAT COMPANY.'" Two distinct companies of spiritual children of God have been developing side by side throughout the Christian Age. One class is designated a 'little flock,' and the other 'a great multitude.' Not that one is called to be a member of the little flock, and another a

member of the great company, but all are called to be of the little flock to whom it is the Father's good pleasure to give the kingdom, and to be joined in heirship with Jesus Christ, as his Bride."

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 1902 - Jun 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1902/w_E_19020615/w_E_19020615.html#search=great%20multitude
- **Content:** "It is God's election, not man's that is discussed;[...] the Scriptures represent the elect as being, [...] numbered and limited;--in all a 'little flock.' It is another class altogether, not the 'elect' 'little flock' who shall inherit the Kingdom, that is subsequently described as 'a great multitude which no man could number,' or whose number is known to no man." [...] These latter never sit with the Lord in his throne as "joint-heirs," but are "before the throne;"

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 1904 - Sep 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1904/w_E_19040915/w_E_19040915.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "He would seem in the first part of his experience, accompanying Elijah and serving him and yet being separate from him, to represent what we designate as the second company, the class that in Revelation 7:9-14 is described as a great multitude whose number no man knoweth, who are--not the Royal Priesthood but the antitypical Levites."

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 1905 - Aug 1st
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1905/w_E_19050801/w_E_19050801.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "[...] and if those sufferings are rightly received and if as a result loyalty to the Lord is ultimately demonstrated, that spirit shall be saved 'so as by fire,' coming through great tribulation --'a great multitude whose number no man knoweth' shall 'come up out of great tribulation and wash their robes and make them white in the blood of the Lamb.'--the Levites, a glorious company, but occupying a lower plane in the divine plan for the world's salvation, occupying a subordinate place to the Bride in the glorious work of uplifting the world of mankind during the Millennial age."

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 1907 - Aug 1st
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1907/w_E_19070801/w_E_19070801.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "These two classes, we remember, are distinctly shown in Revelation 7. The little flock--144,000, the Spiritual Israelites--represent the faithful members of the Body of Christ glorified; the other, a great multitude whose number was not fixed or predestinated by the Lord, which will come through tribulation and receive palm-branches as servants before the throne, rather than crowns as overcomers in the throne."

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 1911 - Sep 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1911/w_E_19110901/w_E_19110901.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "This 'Church of the First-born' have passed from death unto life--all of these first-born, representing the entire 'Church of the First-born,' are represented in the tribe of Levi. Out from amongst these Levites were selected the priestly few, typifying our Lord and those who are faithfully walking in His steps. So the entire 'Church of the First-born' will include a great multitude--more than the Body of Christ."

Reference #7

- **Year – Month:** 1912 - Jul 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1912/w_E_19120715/w_E_19120715.html#search=Great%20multitude

- **Content:** "Then will come a company, more numerous, but less heroic--'a great multitude,' uncrowned, but with 'palm branches,' not antitypical Priests, but antitypical Levites, associates and servants of the Royal Priesthood, the Bride."

Reference #8

- **Year – Month:** 1912 - Nov 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1912/w_E_19121115/w_E_19121115.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "We believe that there are some now living, perhaps a good many, who are consecrated to God and whose consecration has been accepted, but who are not in the light of Present Truth. This number may include some who are what the Scriptures term 'babes' in Christ, and others to whom the Scriptures refer as the 'great multitude.'"

Reference #9

- **Year – Month:** 1914 - Jul 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1914/w_E_19140701/w_E_19140701.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "Then a great multitude is pictured as coming through great tribulation, washing their robes and attaining a place before the Throne, instead of on the Throne. To these are given palm branches, instead of crowns. They are victors, but not 'more than conquerors.'"

Reference #10

- **Year – Month:** 1916 - Jul 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1916/w_E_19160715/w_E_19160715.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "The other class who allow spots to accumulate upon their robes, is a 'great multitude, whose number no man knoweth.' [...] These must through great tribulation wash their robes, all spotted and soiled, in the blood of the Lamb. These will then stand before the Throne, will serve God day and night in His Temple. The Bride class will be The Temple; or, in another figure, they will be seated upon the Messianic Throne with their Lord and Bridegroom. These different figures give different phases of the honored position and work of the Body of Christ in glory. These are spoken of as wearing crowns, the others as merely carrying palm branches, indicating final victory."

Reference #11

- **Year – Month:** 1920 - Feb 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1920/w_E_19200215/w_E_19200215.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "The great multitude of today's lesson are to be found everywhere. They fail to become members of the body of Christ, fail to get the great reward, fail to become kings and priests. They will be granted a blessing, however, but an inferior position, which will correspond to that of the Levites of old, who were not priests, but of the priestly tribe, servants to their brethren the priesthood."

Reference #12

- **Year – Month:** 1922 - Apr 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1922/w_E_19220415/w_E_19220415.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "We understand, however, that at the conclusion of the church class there will be a great multitude who have been spirit-begotten and anointed, who will have lost their anointing and who will be born on a lower plane than the members of the little flock and, as described in Revelation 7, will come up through great tribulation; and these constitute what is generally termed the great company class."

Reference #13

- **Year – Month:** 1926 - Aug 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260815/w_E_19260815.html#search=Great%20multitude

- **Content:** "the Levites were divided into two classes, (1) Aaron and his sons, to whom the priesthood was a perpetual appointment and (2) all the others for the service of the priests; so it will be with their antitype when all are gathered out. The many, the 'great multitude' seen by John in vision (Revelation 7:9), are servants to serve day and night before the throne of God."

Reference #14

- **Year – Month:** 1927 - Jan 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270115/w_E_19270115.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "HUMAN OR SPIRIT BEINGS? [...] The Scriptures show that during the Gospel Age there is but one call, and that is to the high calling. (Ephesians 1:18; 4:4) Jesus stated that "many be called, but few chosen". (Matthew 20:16) [...] great multitude [...] is made up of spirit beings, because human beings cannot stand before the throne of the Lord. [...] The vision of Revelation shows this great multitude class standing before the throne, singing praises to Jehovah and to the Lamb, Christ Jesus; and there is associated with them at that time the angels of heaven."

Reference #15

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Mar 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280315/w_E_19280315.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "Those who ultimately will compose the great multitude, being begotten and called in the same hope with the body members, form a part of the church but not a part of The Christ in glory; and the 'seed' therefore is without number."

Reference #16

- **Year – Month:** 1929 - Feb 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19290215/w_E_19290215.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "Since the coming of the Lord to his temple seems to be clearly fixed as in 1918, it must be that from that time forward the great multitude class must be separate from those who form Zion. [...] They are not of the class who receive the robe of righteousness and who are brought into Zion. Zion is the dwelling place or meeting-place between God and man."

Reference #17

- **Year – Month:** 1929 - Apr 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19290401/w_E_19290401.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "The entire organization [...] is made up [...] Mount Zion [...] the heavenly Jerusalem [...] and includes the innumerable company of angels [...] and the church of the first-borns, [...] and those who shall form the great multitude because they have been called out from the world and will be granted life as spirit creatures."

Reference #18

- **Year – Month:** 1932 - Sep 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19320901/w_E_19320901.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "One of the duties laid upon the anointed witnesses of Jehovah is to preach the truth to the 'great multitude' class and to declare God's truth to the people and rulers of the world. [...] It is the duty of the remnant to teach and instruct the 'great multitude' as opportunity is afforded."

Reference #19

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Aug 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330815/w_E_19330815.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "Those in the covenant with Jehovah, and who had responded to the call for the kingdom [...], are small in number; but [...] all spirit-begotten ones must come [...] into God's organization, [...] include those of the 'great multitude' class. (Rev. 7:9-14) [...] The 'many nations' here mentioned means the people of the many

nationalities which shall accept the message of the truth and take their stand on the side of God and his kingdom."

Reference #20

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Oct 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331001/w_E_19331001.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "Satan's organization still holds the 'great multitude' as prisoners, but the Lord [...] will bring them out of the prison houses. [...] These prisoners in Babylon, in order to live, must return unto God's organization. This the 'great multitude' will do when they take their stand on the side of Jehovah and hail Christ as King."

Reference #21

- **Year – Month:** 1933- Oct 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331015/w_E_19331015.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "It is the "great multitude" that are "hidden" or lost sight of in the prison houses, or church systems, and that need the message of the kingdom [...] The "young" as to knowledge of God's Word and its meaning are the "scattered" ones, straying among the organizations of "Christendom" and searching for what satisfies [...] The "fractured" ones are such as have sustained injury by contact with Satan's organization. [...] None of these the slothful or foolish are permitted to serve."

Reference #22

- **Year – Month:** 1933- Nov 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331115/w_E_19331115.html#search=Denarius
- **Content:** "Approximately 1919 God's organization Zion gave birth to her children, which children here constitute the laborers sent forth in the early morning [...] All of the laborers at the close of that particular time received the same wages or hire. [...] Thus the facts well known to have been brought to pass from 1919 to 1931 exactly correspond with the hours of the day mentioned in the parable. Jehovah's law required laborers to be paid off at the close of the day's work. [...] 'Call the laborers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.' (Matt. 20:8) [...] No greater wage could be paid to creatures on earth than that of receiving a name at the mouth of Jehovah God, and which name shows the close and confidential relationship between Jehovah and his faithful people [...] To such faithful laborers in his vineyard he gives a new name and to them he says: "I am Jehovah, that is my name; and my glory [honor] will I not give to another." [...]

Reference #23

- **Year – Month:** 1934 - Mar 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340315/w_E_19340315.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "As Israel's firstborn were passed over and preserved on that fateful night, even so the faithful remnant, who are of Jehovah's firstborn, will be passed over and preserved at the battle of the great day of God Almighty. They will survive Armageddon by virtue of Jehovah's protection [...] The "great multitude" will not survive Armageddon, because they are not of the "church of the firstborn" [...] The Scriptures show that God's promise is to preserve a remnant, and not a vast multitude [...] The "great multitude" are 'appointed to die' [...] The Scriptures also show that the Jonadab class will survive Armageddon [...] not for the same reason that the Lord will preserve the remnant of the firstborn."

Reference #24

- **Year – Month:** 1934 - May 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340515/w_E_19340515.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "The spirit of the Lord is upon and among his anointed ones, who are in the temple or secret place of the Most High [...] that is not the condition of the "great multitude", who are prisoners to Satan's organization [...] Such condition of bondage refers to those in the ranks of the nominal church systems and outside of it who are spirit-begotten but who are held in bondage by the fear of man [...] Those who are in the temple; says the apostle, 'But Jerusalem [God's organization] which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.'"

Reference #25

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Aug 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350801/w_E_19350801.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "For many years we have been taught [...] that the great multitude, as well as the little flock, will finally experience a full realization of their hope in heaven [...] Some pertinent questions are here propounded for consideration [...] Are the great multitude, mentioned in Revelation seven, a spirit-begotten class [...]? [...] Is the great multitude to be found in the church denominations [...] because of fear to obey God's commandment? [...] The great multitude must either be identical with the entire body of Christ; or [...] be the people of good will that flee to the Lord [...] It is written that those who stand before the throne are crying out: 'Salvation to our God [...] and unto the Lamb.' [...] This time is fixed by the cleansing of the temple, which God's people discerned for the first time as occurring in 1932, and now Jehovah permits them to discern the true meaning of the great multitude. [...] This picture, therefore, shows the 144,000 present at the assembly, which assembly could not take place until the coming of the Lord to the temple; and therefore the great multitude could not be in existence until after that time. [...] If the position as taken is correct, to wit, that the great multitude is not a spirit or heavenly company, but is made up of the people of good will now on earth, that is to say, the sheep class, or Jonadabs, and who since the coming of the Lord to the temple have received some knowledge of the truth and taken their stand on the side of Jehovah and his kingdom, then why, as stated in Revelation 7:11, are the angels of God and the entire universal organization shown at this point as worshipping Jehovah, and what relationship, if any, does such worship bear to the great multitude!"

Reference #26

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Sep 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350901/w_E_19350901.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "During the World War period it was the faithfully devoted ones of God's saints on the earth that were in danger of death [...] not the great multitude in danger, for the reason that the great multitude had not then taken their stand on the side of Jehovah [...] It was 'for the elect's sake' that the period of tribulation was shortened [...] The physical facts show beyond all doubt that the faithful were first released and made members of the servant class [...] now the work is in progress to the opening of the eyes of the "great multitude" and their deliverance out of the prison house. These truths' now being revealed to God's people must mean that the complete destruction of Babylon is near, and that now the prisoners must flee for their lives. It is incumbent upon the witnesses of Jehovah to bring these truths to the attention of the prisoners, and this obligation they cannot escape. The Lord has commanded it, and they must obey."

Reference #27

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Oct 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351001/w_E_19351001.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "If what has been said concerning the great multitude is Scripturally correct [...] these are not spirit-begotten creatures [...] the great multitude constitute the 'other sheep' mentioned by the Lord, and are the same as the Jonadabs, and their hope is everlasting life on the earth [...] How about the 'foolish virgins' described by Jesus in the parable?"

Reference #28

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Oct 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351015/w_E_19351015.html#search=Great%20multitude
- **Content:** "Confusion has resulted concerning this matter until the Lord was pleased to give to his people the clear and proper understanding of the great multitude [...] The great multitude was never in line for the royal house of God, because not spirit-begotten [...] We understood the great multitude and the prisoner class to be one and the same [...] those in line for the kingdom were once prisoners, as heretofore stated in The Watchtower."

Reference #29

- **Year – Month:** 1965 - Aug 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1965601?q=1931&p=par>
- **Content:** "Our attention is focused on a convention held in May of that year at Washington, D.C [...] it was clearly proved from the Scriptures that the “great crowd” of Revelation 7:9 was not a secondary spiritual class, but was now shown to be of the same earthly class [...] Those who saw themselves to be of this 'great crowd' were asked to stand, and a large number responded [...] The “great crowd” of 'other sheep' had arrived! There they were!"

Reference #30

- **Year – Month:** 1966 - Jun 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966444?q=1935&p=par>
- **Content:** "In 1935 it was disclosed that the 'great crowd' described at Revelation 7:9-17 were an earthly class of God-fearing people who would be delivered from Babylon the Great [...]"

Reference #31

- **Year – Month:** 1966 - Nov 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1966844>
- **Content:** "We have had a gathering of the chosen, called, anointed ones since 1919 into a unified organization throughout the earth [...] This gathering work under angelic direction continued on into the transition years of 1931-1935 [...] Those added to the released remnant after 1919 were also anointed with God’s poured-out spirit to prophesy."

Reference #32

- **Year – Month:** 1967 - Jan 16
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967043?q=1935&p=par#h=23>
- **Content:** "In the year 1933 [...] there appeared the article entitled “Laborer’s Wages” [...] The laborers are those at the temple for judgment, and who engage in the service of the kingdom [...] 'No greater wage could be paid to creatures on earth than that of receiving a name at the mouth of Jehovah God [...]' Later [...] the 'great crowd' of the 'other sheep' foretold in Revelation 7:9, 10 were also witnesses of Jehovah [...] Thus, the title 'Jehovah’s witnesses' is now seen as not applying exclusively to the anointed remnant."

Reference #33

- **Year – Month:** 1995 - Feb 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995124>
- **Content:** "In recent years the number of the little flock still on earth has become quite small [...] The evidence is that the general gathering of these specially blessed ones ended in 1935 [...] However, the other sheep in the time of the end were prophesied to grow to be 'a great crowd, which no man was able to number.' [...] Since 1935, the general gathering by Jehovah has been of this great crowd."

Reference #34

- **Year – Month:** 2007 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007327#h=1>
- **Content:** "From the late 1800’s until 1931, the main thrust of the preaching work was the gathering of the remaining members of the body of Christ [...] For many years after 1931, it was believed that the call to the heavenly Kingdom had ended in 1931 [...] In 1935 the “great crowd” of Revelation 7:9-15 was understood to be made up of “other sheep,” Christians with an earthly hope, who would appear on the world scene in 'the last days' [...] Hence, especially after 1966, it was believed that the heavenly call ceased in 1935 [...] Thus, it appears that we cannot set a specific date for when the calling of Christians to the heavenly hope."

C4: Progression of the Understanding of the “Faithful and Discreet Slave”

Year	Ref#	http Link	Content Summary	Explanation Type
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1881	1	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/Gods-Kingdom-of-a-Thousand-Years-Has-Approached/The-Slave-Who-Lived-to-See-the-Sign/	Charles Taze Russell interpreted the "faithful and wise servant" as the entire body of Christ.	144 000
1881	2	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1101993012	C.T. Russell initially viewed the "faithful and wise servant" as the entire body of Christ but later, his wife suggested Russell himself was the servant.	144 000
1896	3	https://www.htdb.one/1896/r1946.htm	Clarification that the term "that servant" might specifically refer to a single individual responsible for dispensing truth, though previous interpretations suggested a collective group.	Special individual
1917	4	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1917/w_E_19170301/w_E_19170301.txt	The Watch Tower proclaimed Brother Russell as "that faithful and wise servant" who finished his course.	Russell identified
1923	5	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1923/w_E_19230301/w_E_19230301.html	Stated that Brother Russell filled the role of the special servant and was made ruler over all of the Lord's goods.	Russell identified
1927	6	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270215/w_E_19270215.html	Redefines "The Servant" as a composite body of Christ, with Jesus as the head and faithful body members on earth.	Jesus + 144 000
1960	7	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1960524	The "faithful and discreet slave" is the anointed Christian class that provides spiritual guidance through the Watchtower magazine.	144 000
1981	8	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1981167	The "slave" was identified as the anointed congregation of Jesus Christ, with a role in providing spiritual food.	144 000
1990	9	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1990203	The faithful and discreet slave referred to spirit-anointed members as a group.	144 000
1995	10	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995364	Anointed members are seen as either part of the "slave" or the "domestics," depending on their role.	144 000
2004	11	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2004167	The "faithful and discreet slave" is identified as the collective anointed Christians, not an individual.	144 000

2007	12	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007245#h=16	The anointed Christians are viewed as the "holy temple" entrusted with Jesus' teachings.	144 000
2009	13	https://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/w20090615/The-Faithful-Steward-and-Its-Governing-Body/	The Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses is identified as the current representation of the slave class.	Governing Body
2012	14	https://www.jw.org/en/jehovahs-witnesses/activities/events/annual-meeting-report-2012/	The Governing Body is seen as the composite group acting as "the faithful and discreet slave" from 1919.	Governing Body
2013	15	https://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/w20130715/who-is-faithful-discreet-slave/	The Governing Body, a small group of anointed brothers, is identified as the faithful and discreet slave.	Governing Body

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1881
- **Link:** <http://www.jw.org/en/library/books/Gods-Kingdom-of-a-Thousand-Years-Has-Approached/The-Slave-Who-Lived-to-See-the-Sign/>
- **Content:** Charles Taze Russell said: "...we believe that every member of this body of Christ is engaged in the blessed work...of giving meat in due season to the household of faith. 'Who then is that faithful and wise servant...to give them meat in due season? Is it not that 'little flock' of consecrated servants who...is not the whole body individually and collectively, giving the meat in due season to the household of faith...?'"

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 1881
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1101993012>
- **Content:** C. T. Russell stated: "...We believe that every member of this body of Christ is engaged in the blessed work...of giving meat in due season...to the household of faith...the body of Christ...and is not the whole body individually and collectively, giving the meat in due [s]eason...? Over a decade later, however, Brother Russell's wife...expressed the idea that Russell himself was the faithful and wise servant."... The understanding expressed by Brother Russell in 1881 that the faithful and wise servant was in reality a collective servant, made up of all the members of the spirit-anointed body of Christ on earth, was reaffirmed in The Watch Tower of Feb 15, 1927.—Compare Isaiah 43:10.

Note: The claim that The Watch Tower of Feb 15, 1927 reaffirmed the "faithful and wise servant" as the collective anointed body isn't fully accurate; it actually adds Jesus alongside the anointed as representing the "faithful and discreet slave" (see Reference #6)

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 1896
- **Link:** <http://www.htdb.one/1896/r1946.htm>
- **Content:** "In our examination of this text we seem to have treated the term "that servant" as though the Spirit had erred in saying "that servant" when it meant servants (plural), and we applied it to all true servants of God...the Lord's words clearly mention and distinguish...between his 'household'...the 'fellow servants'...and 'that servant' specially indicated as the Lord's agent in dispensing present truth as food to his 'fellow servants' and the 'household.'..."

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 1917
- **Link:** http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1917/w_E_19170301/w_E_19170301.txt
- **Content:** "Brother Russell as "that faithful and wise servant" He delivered the message faithfully, finished his course and has now entered into his reward."

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 1923
- **Link:** http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1923/w_E_19230301/w_E_19230301.html
- **Content:** "All who are now rejoicing in present truth will concede that Brother Russell faithfully filled the office of special servant...he was made ruler over all the Lord's goods."

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 1927
- **Link:** http://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270215/w_E_19270215.html
- **Content:** Paragraph 14: "The elect of God...or chosen one is thus composed of Christ Jesus the Head and those members of his body who shall prove faithful... Paragraph 22: Seeing then that The Servant of Jehovah is The Christ, and that The Christ is composed of Jesus and the faithful members of his body, we find it proper to apply the term "Servant" to Jesus Christ alone or to Jesus Christ and the members of his body collectively as one; and sometimes it is applied only to the members of the body of Christ yet on earth.

Reference #7

- **Year – Month:** 1960
- **Link:** <http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1960524>
- **Content:** "...the old but awake 'faithful and discreet slave' stands today as a wonder watchman to the peoples of the nations...so now before the whole world the anointed witnesses stand as a guide to survival for a minority of mankind but prove to be an occasion for stumbling into Armageddon destruction for the rest..."

Reference #8

- **Year – Month:** 1981
- **Link:** <http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1981167>
- **Content:** "...this "slave," or spirit-anointed congregation, is the one approved channel representing God's kingdom on earth in the "time of the end... Witnesses of Jehovah understand that the "slave" is comprised of all anointed Christians as a group on earth at any given time during the 19 centuries since Pentecost."

Reference #9

- **Year – Month:** 1990
- **Link:** <http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1990203>
- **Content:** "...the spirit-anointed members of God's household at any given time collectively make up 'the faithful and discreet slave,' "steward," or "house manager..."

Reference #10

- **Year – Month:** 1995
- **Link:** <http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995364>
- **Content:** "...The 'domestics'...are the same anointed ones...considered as individuals. Yes, as individuals they would be of the "slave" or they would be "domestics," depending on whether they were dispensing spiritual food or partaking of it..."

Reference #11

- **Year – Month:** 2004
- **Link:** <http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2004167>
- **Content:** Paragraph 4: "'The faithful and discreet slave' cannot be one person...That would represent some 1,900 years of faithful service for one individual..."
Paragraph 9: "...'faithful and discreet slave' refers to all members of that anointed spiritual nation..."

Reference #12

- **Year – Month:** 2007
- **Link:** <http://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007245#h=16>
- **Content:** "Anointed Christians...are figuratively spoken of as a 'temple'...It is to this holy temple class that Jesus has entrusted his earthly belongings...For this reason, all in the congregation view it as their sacred duty to follow and uphold the direction coming from the faithful slave and its Governing Body..."

Reference #13

- **Year – Month:** 2009
- **Link:** <http://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/w20090615/The-Faithful-Steward-and-Its-Governing-Body/>
- **Content:** Similarly, today a limited number of anointed men have the responsibility of representing the slave class. They make up the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses. These spirit-anointed men oversee the Kingdom work and the spiritual feeding program.

Reference #14

- **Year – Month:** 2012
- **Link:** <http://www.jw.org/en/jehovahs-witnesses/activities/events/annual-meeting-report-2012/>
- **Content:** "The faithful and discreet slave" was appointed over Jesus' domestics in 1919...That slave is the small, composite group of anointed brothers serving at world headquarters... When this group work together as the Governing Body, they act as "the faithful and discreet slave."

Reference #15

- **Year – Month:** 2013
- **Link:** <http://www.jw.org/en/library/magazines/w20130715/who-is-faithful-discreet-slave/>
- **Content:** "... 'The faithful and discreet slave': A small group of anointed brothers...make up the Governing Body...appointed over his domestics" in 1919..."

C5: Watch Tower Society Leadership: From Presidents to Governing Body

Leadership	Years of Service	References
Charles Taze Russell	1884–1916	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/101984883#h=7
Joseph F. Rutherford	1917–1942	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1101990047?q=president&p=par#h=84
Nathan H. Knorr	1942–1977	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/101977612
Frederick W. Franz	1977–1992	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1993207
Governing Body	1976-2025	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/Jehovahs-Witnesses-Proclaimers-of-Gods-Kingdom/You-Are-My-Witnesses-Says-Jehovah/Jehovahs-Word-Keeps-Moving-Speedily-1976-1992

Appendix D – Prophecy & Chronology

D1: Chronology of Jerusalem's Fall and Babylonian Captivity (609-538 BCE)

Date (BCE)	Event	Description	Biblical / Other Reference(s)	Historical / Archaeological Notes	Ref#
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609	Josiah's Death & Jehoiakim Becomes King	Josiah is killed by Pharaoh Necho at Megiddo while trying to stop Necho's Mar to support Assyria. After his death, Pharaoh Necho appoints Jehoiakim as king of Judah.	2 Kings 23:29, 2 Kings 23:34	Egyptian control over Judah is consistent with historical records.	
605	Battle of Carchemish & First Babylonian Incursion	Nebuchadnezzar defeats Pharaoh Necho at Carchemish, marking Babylon's dominance over Egypt. After this victory, Nebuchadnezzar Mares into Judah, besieging Jerusalem and forcing Jehoiakim to become a vassal. Temple treasures and noble captives (including Daniel) are taken to Babylon.	Jeremiah 46:2, Daniel 1:1, 2 Kings 24:1	The Babylonian Chronicle confirms Nebuchadnezzar's victory and campaign into Judah.	
597	Second Babylonian Siege – Jehoiachin Surrenders	Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem again. Jehoiachin surrenders, and Babylon plunders the city. Jehoiachin, the royal family, and skilled workers are deported. Zedekiah is installed as a puppet king.	2 Kings 24:10-12	The Babylonian Chronicle records Jerusalem's fall on 2 Adar (Mar 16, 597 BCE). Babylonian tablets confirm Jehoiachin's exile.	
591	Nebuchadnezzar's 14th Year – Predicted Eclipse	Babylonian astronomers predicted a lunar eclipse for Nebuchadnezzar's 14th year, but it was not visible in Babylonia.	LBAT 1419 (Saros Cycle Text)	Modern calculations confirm a lunar eclipse occurred on Sep 15, 591 BCE, but was unseen in Babylon.	1
586	Destruction of Jerusalem in the 19th Year of Nebuchadnezzar	According to the Bible, Jerusalem was destroyed in the 19th year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign. Zedekiah rebels against Babylon, triggering a prolonged siege lasting 18-30 months. Severe famine	Jeremiah 39:2, 2 Kings 25:7-9, Jeremiah 52:12-13,30	Archaeological evidence confirms widespread destruction in early 6th century BCE, including ash, charred remains, and	

		devastates the city. In 586 BCE, Nebuchadnezzar's forces breach Jerusalem's walls, destroy the Temple and royal palace, kill Zedekiah's sons, blind him, and exile most of the population.		Babylonian-style arrowheads.	
582	Final Deportation After Gedaliah's Assassination	Gedaliah, appointed governor, is assassinated. Many survivors flee to Egypt. Nebuchadnezzar launches a punitive campaign, leading to the final deportation.	Jeremiah 52:30, Jeremiah 43:8-9	Babylonian records confirm Nebuchadnezzar's actions in 582 BCE.	
573	Nebuchadnezzar's 32nd Year – Predicted Eclipse	Babylonian scholars predict a lunar eclipse, but it occurs before moonrise and is not visible from Babylon.	LBAT 1419 (Saros Cycle Text)	Modern astronomy confirms a lunar eclipse on Sep 25, 573 BCE.	2
568	Nebuchadnezzar's 37th Year – Astronomical Diary	Astronomers record a lunar eclipse and detailed planetary positions.	VAT 4956	Observations align precisely with 568/567 BCE, confirming Neo-Babylonian chronology.	3
538	End of Babylonian Captivity	Cyrus the Great of Persia decrees the return of the exiles to Judah, fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy.	Ezra 1:1	Persian records confirm Cyrus's policies of religious tolerance and restoration.	

Reference #1: LBAT 1419 (Saros Cycle Text, Nebuchadnezzar's 14th Year, 591 BCE)

Babylonian scholars anticipated a lunar eclipse in the 14th year of Nebuchadnezzar. A later tablet in the Saros cycle series records an eclipse in Ulūlu (Month VI), computed to occur at sunrise and therefore not visible in Babylonia. Modern astronomical calculations confirm a lunar eclipse on 15 Sep 591 BCE, which began around sunrise and was indeed invisible from Babylon.

This demonstrates the Babylonians' ability to predict eclipses even when they occurred outside their observable horizon.

Reference #2: LBAT 1419 (Saros Cycle Text, Nebuchadnezzar's 32nd Year, 573 BCE)

Eighteen years after the 591 BCE event, another eclipse was recorded for Nebuchadnezzar's 32nd year. The tablet describes an eclipse in Ulūlu (Month VI), calculated to occur "140 minutes before sunset," meaning it took place in daylight and was not visible from Babylon.

Modern astronomy confirms a lunar eclipse on 25 Sep 573 BCE, which occurred in the afternoon, validating the Babylonian calculation.

Reference #3: VAT 4956 (Astronomical Diary, Nebuchadnezzar's 37th Year, 568/567 BCE)

The cuneiform tablet VAT 4956, preserved in the Vorderasiatisches Museum in Berlin, is among the most important sources for establishing Babylonian chronology.

This diary logs 13 lunar positions and 15 planetary positions across the year. By comparing these with modern astronomical data, scholars have fixed Nebuchadnezzar's 37th year to 568/567 BCE with remarkable precision.

D2: VAT 4956: Astronomical Diary of Nebuchadnezzar's 37th Year (568/567 BCE)

The cuneiform tablet VAT 4956, preserved in Berlin, records nearly thirty precise astronomical observations from the 37th year of Nebuchadnezzar II. Modern calculations match these exactly, fixing the year to 568/567 BCE. From Neugebauer and Weidner to Sachs, Hunger, Steele, Huber, and De Meis, scholars have unanimously confirmed this date, making VAT 4956 a cornerstone of Babylonian chronology.

D2.1: Astronomical Observations from VAT 4956 Compared with 568/567 and 588/587 BCE

Category	Date	Observation Detail	Proof Confirming 568/567 BCE	Compared to 588/587 BCE
Lunar	Month I (Nisannu), Day 1	Moon became visible behind the Bull of Heaven (Taurus)	Confirmed – On Apr 22, 568 BCE, the new moon appeared ~5.5° east of α Tauri (behind Taurus)	Mismatch – On Apr 4, 588 BCE, the new moon appeared ~14° west of α Tauri (in front of Taurus)
Lunar	Month I (Nisannu), Day 3	The Moon was 2 cubits in front of β Tauri" (≈ 5.5° west of β Tauri)	Confirmed – On Apr 24, 568 BCE (Nisan 3), the Moon was ~5.5° west of β Tauri	Mismatch – On Apr 6, 588 BCE (Nisan 3), the Moon was ~14° east of β Tauri - “behind” β Tauri
Lunar	Month I, Day 9	The moon stood 1 cubit in front of β Virginis.	Matches exactly – Moon ~2° in front of β Virginis on 568 BCE (Nisannu 9).	Fails – Misaligned position on Nisannu 9, 588 BCE.
Lunar	Month I, Day 14	Full moon: “Sunrise to moonset = 4 ^o ” (about 16 minutes).	Confirmed – On May 15, 568 BCE, the full moon set ~15 min after sunrise, matching the recorded 4° gap.	Invalid – In 588 BCE, the moon had already set before sunrise on this date, making a 16-minute interval impossible.
Lunar	Month II, Day 1	Gusty storm from east and south; the moon became visible below β Geminorum.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.
Lunar	Month II, Day 26	Moonrise to sunrise measured 23°; the	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.

		moon was not observed.		
Lunar	Month II, Day 27	Moonrise to sunrise measured 20° ; specific position not detailed.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.
Lunar	Month III, Day 5	The moon passed 1 cubit above or below the bright star at the end of the Lion's foot.	Matches well – lunar motion accurate in 568 BCE.	Inconsistent with lunar trajectory for 588 BCE.
Lunar	Month III, Day 6	The moon's position is noted but partially missing.	Matches well – lunar motion accurate in 568 BCE.	Inconsistent with lunar trajectory for 588 BCE.
Lunar	Month III, Day 8	The moon stood $2\frac{1}{2}$ cubits below β Librae.	Matches well – lunar motion accurate in 568 BCE.	Inconsistent with lunar trajectory for 588 BCE.
Lunar	Month III, Day 9	The moon stood 1 cubit in front of α Scorpii.	Matches well – lunar motion accurate in 568 BCE.	Inconsistent with lunar trajectory for 588 BCE.
Lunar	Month III, Day 10	The moon was balanced $3\frac{1}{2}$ cubits above α Scorpii.	Matches well – lunar motion accurate in 568 BCE.	Inconsistent with lunar trajectory for 588 BCE.
Lunar	Month III, Day 15	A lunar eclipse occurred at sunrise (recorded as: "one god was seen with the other"; sunrise to moonset = $7^{\circ}30'$).	Confirmed – Lunar eclipse on Jul 4, 568 BCE visible at sunrise over Babylon (matches time and geometry).	No eclipse in Month III of 588/587 BCE.
Lunar	Month III, Day 27	Moonrise to sunrise = 20° (≈ 80 + minutes) – Early morning moonset interval recorded.	Confirmed – On Jul 17, 568 BCE, moonrise occurred about 85 minutes before sunrise.	In 588 BCE, moonrise occurred too close to sunrise (or after), not matching 20° separation.
Lunar	Month XI (Addaru), Day 6	The moon was surrounded by a halo; Pleiades, the Bull of Heaven, and the Chariot stood in it.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.
Lunar	Month XI, Day 7	The moon was surrounded by a halo; Leo and Cancer were inside the halo; α Leonis was balanced 1 cubit below the moon.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.

Lunar	Month XII, Day 1	Sunset to moonset = 25° (≈100 minutes) – Young crescent seen setting 100 min after sunset.	Confirmed – On Mar 14, 567 BCE, moonset occurred 98–100 min after sunset (matches 25°).	In 587 BCE, moonset occurred far earlier (~60–70 min), too short for 25° interval.
Lunar	Month XII (Addaru II), Day 2	The moon was balanced 4 cubits below η Tauri.	Matches exactly – Moon 8° below η Tauri on Mar 15, 567 BCE.	Fails – Moon ~10.5° away from η Tauri in 587 BCE.
Lunar	Month XII, Day 3	The moon was 2½ cubits from γ Geminorum.	Matches – accurate within 1° in 568 BCE.	Fails – too far off in angular separation in 588 BCE.
Lunar	Month XII, Day 7	The moon was surrounded by a halo; Praesepe and α Leonis stood in it.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.
Planetary	Month I	Saturn positioned in front of the Swallow constellation.	Matches- Saturn in Pisces ("Swallow")	Fails – Saturn in Cancer/Gemini during 588 BCE.
Planetary	Month II	Saturn remained in front of the Swallow; not visible as it had set.	Saturn remained in Pisces throughout 568 BCE.	Fails – Saturn not near Pisces at all in 588 BCE.
Planetary	Month I, Day 11/12	Jupiter acronychal rising noted.	Matches – Jupiter rose on Nisannu 11/12 in 568 BCE.	Mismatch – Jupiter rose too early in 588 BCE.
Planetary	Month III	Jupiter positioned above α Scorpii.	Jupiter in Scorpius verified for 568 BCE.	Mismatch – Jupiter offset by at least one zodiac sign.
Planetary	Month XI	Jupiter 1 cubit behind the elbow of Sagittarius.	Confirmed – Matches 568 BCE coordinates.	Fails – Jupiter's position 2 signs off in 588 BCE.
Planetary	Month II, Day 3–5	Mars entered Praesepe on the 3rd; exited on the 5th.	Mars entered Beehive cluster (Cancer) in May 568 BCE.	Not visible in cluster – Mars far from Praesepe in 588 BCE.
Planetary	Month III, Day 12	Mars positioned 1 cubit above α Leonis.	Confirmed – Mars near Regulus on this date in 568 BCE.	Misaligned in 588 BCE – not near Regulus.
Planetary	Month II, Day 18	Venus balanced 1 cubit 4 fingers below α Leonis.	Matches – Venus in Leo and near Regulus in 568 BCE.	Venus not near Regulus in 588 BCE.

Planetary	Month III	Venus positioned opposite θ Leonis in the west.	Matches verified via Stellarium – Venus opposite θ Leonis.	Fails – Venus not present in this part of the sky in 588 BCE.
Planetary	Month XI, Day 4	Venus balanced $\frac{1}{2}$ cubit below Capricorn.	Confirmed by multiple simulations – Venus in Capricorn in 568 BCE.	Fails – Venus nowhere near this region in 588 BCE.
Planetary	Month II, Day 10	Mercury rose in the west behind the Little Twins.	Confirmed – Mercury visible behind Gemini.	Fails – Mercury not in Gemini at sunset.
Planetary	Month III	Mercury passed below Mars towards the east.	Accurate alignment in Stellarium (568 BCE).	No such conjunction observed in 588 BCE.
Weather	Month I, Day 2	A rainbow stretched in the west.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.
Weather	Month I, Day 20	A rainbow stretched in the east.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.
Weather	Month I, Day 9	The sun in the west was surrounded by a halo.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.
Weather	Month XI, Day 6	The moon was surrounded by a halo; Pleiades, Bull of Heaven, and Chariot stood in it.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.	Phenomenological event recorded; not date-sensitive.
Weather	Month II, Day 1	Gusty storm from east and south.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.
Weather	Month XI, Day 18	Rain noted.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.	Neutral – no astronomical specificity.
Hydrology	Month I, Day 8–28	River level rose 3 cubits and 8 fingers.	Consistent with spring flood cycle for 568 BCE.	Cycle may fit generally; no precise dating conflict.
Hydrology	Month XI, Day 4–15	River level rose $1\frac{1}{2}$ cubits; on the 16th, it receded.	Consistent with late winter flood recession pattern.	Likely fits seasonal expectations; no conflict observed.

D2.1.1: Astronomical Software and Ephemeris Tools

These tools can be used to test and verify the data from VAT 4956.

Tool Name	Description	Website
Stellarium	Free software that simulates the night sky with accurate star and planet positions.	stellarium.org

Alcyone Ephemeris	Planetary and lunar ephemerides for historical and modern dates.	alcyone.de
NASA HORIZONS System	NASA/JPL tool for precise solar system body positions (topocentric or geocentric).	ssd.jpl.nasa.gov/horizons

D3: Four Evolving Reasons for Making 1919 a Key Date

Year	Ref #	http Link	Content Summary	Reason Type
1920	1	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1920/w_E_19200601/w_E_19200601.html#search=1919	The indictment and imprisonment of seven brothers ended in May 1920. They were exonerated after a trial deemed unfair. Renewed zeal followed the dismissal of charges.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1921	2	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1921/w_E_19210315/w_E_19210315.html#search=1919	A retrospective of work since 1914 highlighted increased activity and witnessing. The year 1919 marked the transition from the Elijah to Elisha work.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1923	3	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1923/w_E_19231001/w_E_19231001.html#search=1919	At the 1919 Cedar Point Convention, a pivotal moment occurred with the call to proclaim the King and engage in new service work.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1925	4	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250215/w_E_19250215.html#search=1919	The parallels between the disciples' time after Jesus' ascension and 1919 forward signify clear evidence of the Lord's return and renewed joy.	Cleansing and Identity
1925	5	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250301/w_E_19250301.html#search=1919	1919 marked the start of Zion's flight into the wilderness, reorganizing work under divine protection despite Satanic opposition.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1925	6	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19251115/w_E_19251115.html#search=1919	The Elijah and Elisha transition symbolized increased zeal and spirit for the church's service, highlighting prophetic fulfillment.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1926	7	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260415/w_E_19260415.html#search=1919	The division of Elijah and Elisha's work and greater light in 1919 revealed clearer understanding of parables and increased activity.	Cleansing and Identity

1926	8	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260901/w_E_19260901.html#search=1919	The prophecy of 1919 identified rejection of the Lord by religious systems, heralding Armageddon's approach.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1926	9	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19261101/w_E_19261101.html#search=1919	1919 marked the distinction between Elijah and Elisha work, leading to increased organized efforts in 1922.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1927	10	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270315/w_E_19270315.html#search=1919	The Cedar Point Convention of 1919 marked the end of inactivity and the beginning of a renewed and organized witness.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1928	11	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280201/w_E_19280201.html#search=1919	Around 1919, organized Christianity adopted the League of Nations, leading to Jehovah's judgment on hypocritical practices and justice for all.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1928	12	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280901/w_E_19280901.html#search=1919	After 1919, God's people rejoiced in their role as Zion under God's organization, recognizing the need for extensive witness work.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1928	13	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281015/w_E_19281015.html#search=1919	The Laodicean church period began in 1919, emphasizing unity under the Head Christ Jesus for delivering Jehovah's message.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1928	14	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281101/w_E_19281101.html#search=1919	From 1919, witnessing work gained momentum, organized unity was achieved, and Jehovah's will for a global witness became evident.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1928	15	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281201/w_E_19281201.html#search=1919	After 1919, Jehovah's rulership through Zion was realized, contrasting opposition from clergy who endorsed the League of Nations.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1928	16	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281215/w_E_19281215.html#search=1919	Between 1918 and 1919, faithful ones endured persecution but were delivered from Babylon, marking a renewed zeal for witnessing.	Period of Persecution and Revival

1929	17	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19291015/w_E_19291015.html#search=1919	After 1918, hatred toward God's faithful increased, but 1919 marked the church's strengthened proclamation of Jehovah's kingdom.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1929	18	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19291215/w_E_19291215.html#search=1919	The Cedar Point convention of 1922, 1290 days after Jan 1919, marked renewed efforts to advertise the King and his kingdom.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1930	19	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1930/w_E_19300715/w_E_19300715.html#search=1919	In 1919, after the Lord's temple judgment, pruning and separation began, emphasizing fruit-bearing and kingdom proclamation.	Cleansing and Identity
1930	20	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1930/w_E_19301015/w_E_19301015.html#search=1919	The period from 1918 to 1919 marked a severe test and separation of faithful ones from opposers, leading to organizational restoration.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1930	21	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1930/w_E_19301201/w_E_19301201.html#search=1919	Since 1919, the nations assembled under the League of Nations were judged by Jehovah in alignment with Christ's temple judgment.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1931	22	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310115/w_E_19310115.html#search=1919	In 1919, Jehovah restored his faithful people to favor, reviving their zeal and leading them to joy and service in his name.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1931	23	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310201/w_E_19310201.html#search=1919	From 1919, faithful servants resumed temple work with zeal, understanding the transition from Elijah to Elisha work.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1931	24	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310301/w_E_19310301.html#search=1919	God's people awakened after 1919, realizing their neglect in proclaiming Jehovah's praises, leading to renewed work efforts.	Cleansing and Identity
1931	25	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310315/w_E_19310315.html#search=1919	Deliverance in 1919 brought confidence to God's people, empowering them to engage in bold witnessing and proclaim Jehovah's name.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching

1931	26	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310815/w_E_19310815.html#search=1919	By 1919, Jehovah's people resumed priestly service and began proclaiming God's message despite prior captivity.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1931	27	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19311015/w_E_19311015.html#search=1919	Faithful ones were delivered from Babylon in 1919, separating from Satan's organization and entering God's joyful service.	Cleansing and Identity
1932	28	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19320315/w_E_19320315.html#search=1919	In 1919, God delivered his remnant from Babylon to proclaim his name and prepared them to resolve the great issue of righteousness.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1932	29	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19321001/w_E_19321001.html#search=1919	Faithful servants enduring tribulation from 1917-1919 were approved by Jehovah, receiving his spirit and continuing their work.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1932	30	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19321215/w_E_19321215.html#search=1919	After 1919, God revealed mysteries about his name, purpose, and organization to his anointed, strengthening their faith and understanding.	Cleansing and Identity
1933	31	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330401/w_E_19330401.html#search=1919	Jehovah's people resumed work in 1919, realizing the importance of proclaiming the Kingdom message and opposing Satan's organization.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1933	32	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330415/w_E_19330415.html#search=1919	After 1919, God's anointed gained greater clarity about their mission and Satan's opposition, leading to organized action.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1933	33	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330715/w_E_19330715.html#search=1919	In 1919, Jehovah's people identified the League of Nations as Satan's work and launched efforts to advertise God's Kingdom.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1933	34	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330815/w_E_19330815.html#search=1919	By 1919, Jehovah's people understood the need for separation from Babylon and intensified their global witness.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching

1933	35	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331015/w_E_19331015.html#search=1919	The League of Nations' endorsement in 1919 marked Satan's opposition, while God's faithful remnant rejected ties to Babylon.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1933	36	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331201/w_E_19331201.html#search=1919	In 1919, Jehovah gave his servant class a new name, symbolizing their restored mission and favor, revealed later to the remnant.	Cleansing and Identity
1934	37	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340501/w_E_19340501.html#search=1919	In 1919, Jehovah forgave the sins of his people, cleansing them to prepare for their role in testifying to his name.	Cleansing and Identity
1934	38	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340601/w_E_19340601.html#search=1919	After 1919, God restored the remnant of spiritual Israel, inaugurated the new covenant, and unified them for his service.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1934	39	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340801/w_E_19340801.html#search=1919	In 1919, Jesus led his people into the "land," symbolizing a transition from Elijah's work to Elisha's greater witness.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1935	40	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350315/w_E_19350315.html#search=1919	Jehovah preserved his faithful ones during 1917–1919, appointing them as the remnant to proclaim his Kingdom.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1935	41	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350901/w_E_19350901.html#search=1919	From 1917 to 1919, faithful servants endured severe persecution but were released to praise Jehovah in Zion after 1919.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1935	42	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350915/w_E_19350915.html#search=1919	After 1919, God's people were brought into the temple to praise Jehovah and were commissioned to proclaim his Kingdom.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1935	43	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351001/w_E_19351001.html#search=1919	Following their release in 1919, Jehovah's people received a "double portion" of spirit and began a global witness work.	Prophetic Fulfillment

1935	44	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351015/w_E_19351015.html#search=1919	In 1919, at the Cedar Point convention, God's people awakened to their mission and zealously began their witness work.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
1956	45	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1956528?q=1919&p=par	Discussions of community merit and the merit of the apostle Paul saving 276 passengers due to his righteousness, tying it to Jehovah's Witnesses' views on end times.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1961	46	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1961201?q=1919&p=par	Overview of spirit-begotten Christians from apostolic times to the 20th century, noting the 1919 gathering as a prophetic fulfillment of Matthew 24:31.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1987	47	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987326?q=1919&p=par	Describes the release of Brother Rutherford and associates in 1919 and their subsequent exoneration, linking it to a significant post-war convention as a revival of activity.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1987	48	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987444?q=1919&p=par	Details the Memorial of Christ's death in 1919 and the release of J. F. Rutherford, suggesting a period of cleansing and revival for the faith.	Period of Persecution and Revival
1993	49	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1993802	Discusses the symbolic representation of imperial powers as persecutors of the faithful, culminating in the liberation and prophetic declarations in 1919 and subsequent years.	Prophetic Fulfillment
1994	50	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1994567#h=1:0-15:68	Discusses prophecies regarding the 'two witnesses' and their fulfillment during the World War period, emphasizing the theme of persecution and divine vindication.	Prophetic Fulfillment
2007	51	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007245?q=1919&p=par	Christ recognizes and entrusts a collective of disciples with spiritual oversight in 1919, marking a significant delegation of responsibility.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
2009	52	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2009046?q=1919&p=par	In 1919, the 'faithful and discreet slave' class was formally recognized and given significant responsibilities, indicating a structured leadership approach.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
2013	53	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2013124	Highlights the intense persecution faced by the anointed remnant during WWI and their liberation in 1919, seen as divine deliverance.	Period of Persecution and Revival
2013	54	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2013533	Analysis of the 'faithful slave' concept as it began to be understood post-1914, with a focus on collective decision-making by the Governing Body.	Cleansing and Identity

2014	55	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2014847#h=17:0-17:481	Describes the inspection and cleansing period culminating in 1919 with the appointment of the 'faithful and discreet slave,' marking a pivotal organizational restructuring.	Cleansing and Identity
2014	56	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2014847	Revelation's prophecy of two witnesses is linked to the historical experiences of the church leaders in 1918-1919, seen as a period of testing and subsequent empowerment.	Prophetic Fulfillment
2015	57	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2015450#h=17	Discussion on the reduced emphasis on Biblical types and antitypes, reflecting a shift in interpretative approaches within the faith's teachings.	Cleansing and Identity
2015	58	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402015921	The 'faithful and discreet slave' was prominently defined in 1919, marking a significant evolution in the faith's leadership and communication strategies.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
2016	59	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402016203	Explores the concept of spiritual captivity and liberation, with 1919 marked as a year of significant doctrinal clarifications and reorganizations.	Cleansing and Identity
2016	60	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402016529?q=1919&p=par	Ezekiel's prophecy about unity among worshipers fulfilled starting in 1919, emphasizing a reunification and strengthening of doctrinal coherence among the faithful.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
2016	61	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2016844?q=1919&p=par	Reflects on the practical challenges and inconsistencies in maintaining neutrality during WWI, leading to a refined focus on doctrinal purity and organizational discipline post-1919.	Cleansing and Identity
2017	62	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2017283?q=1919&p=par	Clarifies the role and timing of the 'faithful and discreet slave' appointment, tying it closely to the post-war organizational restructuring and spiritual renewal.	Cleansing and Identity
2017	63	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102017933	Discusses the liberation from symbolic captivity and the significant advances in global preaching and organizational structure initiated in 1919.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
2017	64	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102017938	Analyzes the dual fulfillment of prophecies in 1919, linking doctrinal, organizational, and spiritual rejuvenation directly to biblical prophecy.	Prophetic Fulfillment
2017	65	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402017607?q=1919&p=par	Emphasizes the protective measures and divine guidance perceived to be evident post-1919, underscoring the perceived divine endorsement of the organizational directives and developments.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching
2020	66	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-	Highlights the ongoing impact of the 1919 'faithful slave' appointment on the preaching and educational efforts of Jehovah's Witnesses worldwide.	Organized Witnessing and Global Preaching

- **Year – Month:** 1925 - Feb
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250215/w_E_19250215.html#search=1919
- **Content:** "The experience of the disciples during the forty days has a measure of correspondency with that of the Church during the present time, more particularly during the first years of the 1st arousal, the years 1878 to 1918. Both were transition periods. [...] the years 1919 and onward have brought such clear evidences of the Lord's return that now the disciples are like their brethren of old after the ascension, filled with joy, yet waiting for the greater blessing soon to come. They know that he has returned, not in name only, but in fact and in deed"

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 1925 - Mar
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19250301/w_E_19250301.html#search=1919
- **Content:** "In 1914 the war in heaven began, and Satan and his official family were thrown out of heaven. In 1918, after Satan recovered from his dazed condition, he set about to persecute the members of the Church on earth. In 1918 he caused the imprisonment of the officers of the Society and others. On Mar 26th, 1919, these were released from prison; and the Church (representing the woman) there fled into the wilderness for 1260 literal days. From Mar 27th, 1919, to Sep 8th, 1922, inclusive was exactly 1260 days, at the end of which period the remnant of the Church on earth makes a bold proclamation of its allegiance to the King and his kingdom, and announces its determination to begin and press the fight against Satan's empire until it is excluded from the earth."

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 1925 - Nov
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1925/w_E_19251115/w_E_19251115.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The period of refreshment and gathering together of the church, known as the period of preparation from 1874 to 1918, was the work of the church foreshadowed by the experiences of Elijah the prophet. There was a brief period of waiting in 1918 and 1919. Following shortly thereafter the spirit of the Lord moved the church into greater zeal and activity in the proclamation of the message of the kingdom. This zeal and activity in doing the Lord's will was foreshadowed by the experiences of the Prophet Elisha.

Reference #7

- **Year – Month:** 1926 - Apr
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260415/w_E_19260415.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was in the year 1919 that the Lord permitted the church to see for the first time that Elijah pictured the work of the church prior to 1918 and that Elisha pictured the work of the church thereafter. [...] True to the prophecy and the promise they received a greater measure of the spirit of the Lord and entered into his work with greater zeal and joy than ever before. It is to be expected therefore that the Elisha class, to wit, those now zealously and joyfully engaging in the service of the Lord, would enjoy the increased light and in."

Reference #8

- **Year – Month:** 1926 - Sep
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19260901/w_E_19260901.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Since it was in the year 1919 that the religious systems, claiming to represent the Lord, openly repudiated him, it follows that the fulfillment of this prophecy must take place after that date. [...] Now we are in the close of 1926; and it is apparent to those in the temple that the forces are gathering for the great battle of God Almighty, at which time the winepress shall crash out the grapes of the vine of the earth. The fulfillment of the prophecy has begun, and therefore the Lord's people may have some understanding of it.

Reference #9

- **Year – Month:** 1926 - Nov
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1926/w_E_19261101/w_E_19261101.html#search=1919
- **Content:** In Jan 1919, the nominal house of Israel, represented by the ruling ones of the systems, openly rejected the Lord as King and set up the League of Nations, the Devil's institution, hailed as the political expression of God's kingdom on earth. [...] It was in 1918 that the great trial and test began upon the church. [...] It was in 1919 that the church for the first time saw the distinction between the Elijah and the Elisha work.

[...] It was in 1922 that the church awoke for the first time to the importance of making a tremendous witness in the earth.

Reference #10

- **Year – Month:** 1927 - Mar
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270315/w_E_19270315.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Elisha's standing by the River Jordan [...] represents the period of time from the spring of 1918 to the autumn season of 1919.[...] inactivity, perplexity, and uncertainty [...] The period of inactivity of the church ended in 1919. [...] From Sep first to the eighth of that year there was a general convention of the consecrated held at Cedar Point, Ohio. Never before had the brethren, prior to that time, enjoyed such sweet fellowship [...] It was at the above-mentioned convention in 1919 that the Lord's people began to see the distinction between Elijah and Elisha, and that both represented a work to be done by the same class of people. In Sep, 1923, another general convention was held at the same place. During the period of time elapsing between these two conventions the Lord's consecrated people had pushed on with the work of organization in preparation for still greater work. Not until 1922 was there a real organized movement to get on systematically with the work.

Reference #11

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Feb
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280201/w_E_19280201.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The facts in fulfillment of this prophecy show that in 1919 or thereabouts, organized Christianity adopted the League of Nations, and then Jehovah came near for a close-up inspection of these false swearers and hypocrites and those who oppress the people. Through his saints, he is giving a witness against them and particularly against the fraudulent hypocritical religious practices. [...] It will be a profitable time for the people because then justice will be meted out to all.

Reference #12

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Sep
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19280901/w_E_19280901.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was after the Lord came to his temple, to wit, about 1919, that the lightnings revealed to the people of God that a great witness work foreshadowed by Elisha must be done. The Lord was then in his holy temple for judgment of his righteous ones. [...] The approved ones were there given the garments of salvation and brought under the robe of righteousness, and it was a time of great rejoicing.

Reference #13

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Oct
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281015/w_E_19281015.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The Philadelphia period of the church began about 1874 and ended about 1918, and that the Laodicean period began about 1919. [...] When the Lord has a message to be delivered, he entrusts that message to his faithful anointed ones.

Reference #14

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Nov
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281101/w_E_19281101.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The Laodicean period began about 1919, and it was after that date that many came to a knowledge of the truth and made a consecration to do God's will. [...] The real campaign of witnessing concerning the kingdom did not get well underway until after 1922. [...] The church was then advancing in the Elisha part of her work.

Reference #15

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Dec
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281201/w_E_19281201.html#search=1919
- **Content:** In 1919, [...]the significance of the times and events dawned upon them, being revealed by the spirit of Jehovah who had sent his Christ, the Messenger of the Covenant, to his temple for the judgment of his people. [...] The saints came to an appreciation that the Bridegroom had come, that the King is indeed here and

that his reign had begun in true earnest. [...] The saints now began to realize that these facts, which were of the greatest importance to the peoples of all nations, must be published to all the world.

Reference #16

- **Year – Month:** 1928 - Dec 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1928/w_E_19281215/w_E_19281215.html#search=1919
- **Content:** From 1918 to 1919, [...] the church was practically in captivity to Babylon, [...] the work of the church was greatly impeded. [...] In 1919, [...] the Lord's anointed began to awaken to their privileges. [...] It was in 1922 that the anointed of the Lord saw more clearly that the time is at hand to begin a vigorous campaign in the name of the Lord.

Reference #17

- **Year – Month:** 1929 - Oct
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19291015/w_E_19291015.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Fully supported and approved by the religionists of Christendom. The latter openly declared in 1919 that 'the League of Nations constitutes God's kingdom on earth and substitutes therefor' [...] It was in 1918 that all the nations of Christendom involved in the World War openly expressed and manifested a hatred against those who insisted on serving God and telling the people of his coming kingdom for their blessing. [...] It is well known to all that the clergy and religious leaders of "Christendom", so called, hate and violently oppose those who insist on telling the people that Jehovah is God, that Christ is King, that his kingdom is here, that Jehovah has set him upon his throne, and that shortly he will establish a righteous government and destroy all evil. The Devil hates those who faithfully represent Jehovah, and seeks to devour them; and the clergy and religious leaders of Christendom also hate them, because they do the will of their father whose children or "seed" they are. [...] Satan has made Christendom a part of Babylon, and therefore the name Babylon applies to Christendom because it is of Satan's organization.

Reference #18

- **Year – Month:** 1929 - Dec
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1929/w_E_19291215/w_E_19291215.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was in the latter part of Jan, 1919, that the Federation of Churches set up a substitute, the League of Nations, as 'the expression of God's kingdom on earth' [...] At the beginning of Sep, 1922, there assembled at Cedar Point, Ohio, a convention of the consecrated people of God made up of men and women who spoke many different languages. [...] The fixed "time of the end" is Oct 1, 1914 A.D. [...] The 1260-day period ended in Apr, 1918. [...] The 1290-day period ended Sep, 1922. [...] The 1335-day period of blessedness began May, 1926, and goes on for ever. [...] Since 1918, when the Lord began judgment at his temple, there has been a shaking and a falling away of those not approved by the Lord.

Reference #19

- **Year – Month:** 1930 - Jul
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1930/w_E_19300715/w_E_19300715.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It is well known from the facts that from about 1875 to 1918 all the Lord's people walked together. In 1918 and 1919, at the coming of the Lord to his temple, all were subjected to a severe test. [...]
- Those who had been faithful and diligent in obeying the commandments of the Lord and had thus shown their love for God and for Christ, upon them the Lord then bestowed even greater love. To these approved ones the invitation was given to 'enter into the joy of the Lord'

Reference #20

- **Year – Month:** 1930 - Oct
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1930/w_E_19301015/w_E_19301015.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The coming of the Lord to God's temple dates from 1918. [...] From about 1917 to 1919 the church had many tears mingled with her bread. The Lord's people were in bad repute and the enemy laughed at them and scorned them. [...] The organization of God's people was broken up, and not until 1919 was an effort made to bring it together again. Many who had prior thereto believed and advocated the truth then became opponents of the truth and the work of God in bringing forth the fruits of the kingdom.

Reference #21

- **Year – Month:** 1930 - Dec
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1930/w_E_19301201/w_E_19301201.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The record shows that Jesus says: “Before him shall be gathered all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats; and he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.” (Matt. 25:32,33) “All nations” here mentioned by him necessarily means all the nations that constitute what is called “Christendom”, that is to say, the nations of the earth that claim they are Christian, as contradistinguished from heathen. The nations are composed of the rulers and the ruled. The rulers are made up of three elements, to wit, commercial, political and religious. The nations of Christendom are now assembled, and have been assembled especially since 1919, when the League of Nations compact was formed. “Christendom,” so called, is responsible for bringing forth the League of Nations. Never before in the history of man were the nations thus assembled. The radio now makes it possible for these nations to communicate almost instantly with one another.

Reference #22

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Jan
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310115/w_E_19310115.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was in 1919 that the great Shepherd Jehovah by and through the Head of the “servant” began to bring back and restore his people to himself and to the fold. [...] The “servant”, collectively, then begins to realize his restoration to God’s favor

Reference #23

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Feb
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310201/w_E_19310201.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Modern Samaritans, who are imitation Christians of so-called “Christendom”, claimed that they would set up their own house of God by their own scheme, and their opposition to the true children of God became so great throughout the earth that the activities of God’s workmen ceased until well near the end of 1919. [...] at the Cedar Point convention in 1919 the attention of the faithful was directed to the fact that the Scriptures showed that the Elijah work had ended and that the work foreshadowed by Elisha must now be done by the faithful members of God’s organization

Reference #24

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Mar (1st Issue)
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310301/w_E_19310301.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was in 1919 and thereafter that the people of God realized that they had been negligent in performing their duties, and therefore of unclean lips, in this, that they had not been diligent in proclaiming the praises of the Lord. Then they awoke and began to work.

Reference #25

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Mar (15th Issue)
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310315/w_E_19310315.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was in 1919 that the church began to realize that deliverance had come. It was in the year 1922 that the church had a better appreciation of that deliverance and that there was yet much work to be done to the honor of God’s great name [...] It must be said that if the Lord had not exercised special care for his people during 1918 and 1919 the truth would have been crushed out of the earth. That was what Satan expected to accomplish. But the Lord had his hand over those who loved him then. [...] The prison experience of 1918 was not confined to a few, but the church on earth as a whole was involved; [...] God stopped the persecution of his people just in time to save the remnant. Otherwise those few actually in prison would have died there and those on the outside of prison bars would have been so completely scattered that there would have been no regathering of them or further work done. This Jehovah would not permit.

Reference #26

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Aug
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19310815/w_E_19310815.html#search=1919

- **Content:** By the end of 1918 God's covenant people on earth who were devoted to him were practically all in captivity because the work was stopped by the agents of Babylon. While some were actually behind prison bars, others were as effectually restrained, almost, so far as their work was concerned. In 1919 the work of the Lord by his covenant people was again revived. The year 617 B. C., therefore, corresponds with 1914, and the year 612 B. C. corresponds with the year 1919 (A. D.). [...] Ezekiel began to prophesy in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity, which corresponds with the year 1919 (A. D.). [...] the Lord Jesus Christ was in the temple of Jehovah. He inspects the defiled "organized Christianity", so called, and points out to the "faithful servant" class, pictured by Ezekiel, the conditions there found, and the "servant" class is enabled to understand and appreciate the same as never before.

Reference #27

- **Year – Month:** 1931 - Oct
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1931/w_E_19311015/w_E_19311015.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was in 1918 that these faithful ones were carried away captive to Babylon by the enemy, and in 1919 they were delivered and began to return and come to Zion.

Reference #28

- **Year – Month:** 1932 - Mar
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19320315/w_E_19320315.html#search=1919
- **Content:** In 1919 the Lord delivered his remnant people from the bondage of Babylon, the earthly part of Satan's organization, that they might go forward and publish his name and his kingdom. Then he revealed to them that Zion was built up, and he gave the remnant an understanding of the great issue raised by the enemy concerning his word and his name. [...] During the period of persecution in 1917 to 1919 the earthly part of God's organization became desolate, like a widow

Reference #29

- **Year – Month:** 1932 - Oct
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19321001/w_E_19321001.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Naomi therefore seems clearly to represent those who went through the tribulation of 1917 to 1919 and remained faithful and true to God and his kingdom, and who constituted the original remnant or "faithful servant" class, and who immediately took up the work foreshadowed by the Prophet Elisha. Therefore here appears a close relationship of the books of Esther and Ruth. Naomi and Mordecai pictured the same class of the "faithful servant" found when the Lord appeared at his temple. [...] Similarly the Naomi class remained true and faithful unto God during the time of stress, and their testimony to others concerning God and his kingdom has had to do with others' seeing and serving Jehovah and his righteous cause since 1919.

Reference #30

- **Year – Month:** 1932 - Dec
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1932/w_E_19321215/w_E_19321215.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The facts show that after 1918, and more particularly in 1919, God began the unfolding of his purposes which up to that time had been a mystery. Among the great things that were a mystery and were made plain are: the meaning of his name; why he has permitted wickedness in the earth; his organization, and the enemy organization; and many other deep and life-sustaining truths which have come to God's anointed people in recent years.

Reference #31

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Apr 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330401/w_E_19330401.html#search=1919
- **Content:** It was in the autumn of 1919 that the consecrated saw that Elisha foreshadowed a work that must be done [...] Those on the earth who had devoted themselves to Jehovah, and who were foreshadowed by Aaron, met the Lord in the kingdom in 1922, at which time the purpose of the kingdom was seen for the first time, and at the time when there was a second effusion of the holy spirit. Manifestly this marks the time of their anointing; and then it was that they raised the slogan: "Advertise the King and the Kingdom."

Reference #32

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Apr 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330415/w_E_19330415.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The hand of Moses in his bosom particularly represented the period of time from 1918 to 1919 inclusive when there was little or nothing done in the way of giving the testimony of Jehovah. God told Moses to take his hand out of his bosom, and when he took it out then he discovered that it was as leprous as snow; and God told him to again put his hand into his bosom. “And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again, and plucked it out of his bosom and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.” (Ex. 4:7) [...] It was in 1919 that the Lord revealed to his people that Elisha foreshadowed another work that must be done by his witnesses, and yet even then many were slow to grasp the importance of that truth. [...] In 1922 the Lord brought further evidence to the attention of his people that Christ Jesus had come to his temple, that the remnant had been cleansed and that “Christendom” had been smitten fatally;

Reference #33

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Jul
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330715/w_E_19330715.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The spring of 1918; and the setting up of the League of Nations, “the abomination that maketh desolate” because it stands in the place or stead of God’s kingdom, occurred at the end of Jan, 1919; therefore the latter date marks the beginning of the 1,290-day period; and counting three years and seven months from that time would necessarily bring the end thereof to the beginning of Sep, 1922. At this latter date the angel of the Lord sounded the first “trumpet” and poured out the first “vial” upon the earth, and in which “the holy people” of God on earth had a part. It was at that time that God’s faithful people announced the King at the temple, and this was done by a resolution declaring that Jehovah is the only true God, that Christ Jesus is the King, and the kingdom has begun, and that the League of Nations is the product of the Devil.

Reference #34

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Aug
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19330815/w_E_19330815.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Many will recall now that in the year 1919, when the faithful were disconsolate, the Lord gave to his people an understanding of the Elijah and Elisha pictures that had troubled them for a long while, and this brought to them consolation. It was then that they learned that there was still much work to be done to the glory of the Lord, and this brought them great joy.

Reference #35

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Oct
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331015/w_E_19331015.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Those who form “organized Christianity”, so called, have broken that covenant by idolatry or Devil worship, making themselves a part of Satan’s organization, and by refusing to be submissive to the requirements of the “Lion of the tribe of Juda”, which refusal reached an emphatic climax in the endorsement of the League of Nations, in 1919, by the Church Federation. [...] The pouring out of the “seven last plagues”, from 1922 to 1928, did not move ‘ ‘ Christendom ’ ’ and other professed followers of Christ to repentance; hence the breaking point came in 1931. It was at that time that the remnant disclaimed all brotherhood relationship with those rejecting the kingdom, and this they did by receiving and adopting the “new name” which Jehovah gave them.

Reference #36

- **Year – Month:** 1933 - Dec
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1933/w_E_19331201/w_E_19331201.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The steward called the attention of the complain-er to the fact that he, being of the first to enter the vineyard, had agreed to accept the penny as his wage. This suggests that the “new name” as a wage had actually been given the servant class in 1919, even though this fact was not made known to the remnant until twelve years later. Such is in keeping with the Lord’s way of dealing with his people, to use them and then to disclose to them the meaning of the use to which they have been put.

Reference #37

- **Year – Month:** 1934 - May
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340501/w_E_19340501.html#search=1919

- **Content:** (Isa. 6:5-7) This prophecy of Isaiah began to have fulfilment upon God's people about 1919. The forgiveness is not granted in order that the covenant people might be taken to heaven, but is granted for the sake of Jehovah's name, that these cleansed ones might be made a people ready for his name and to testify to his name. "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins." (Isa. 43: 25)

Reference #38

- **Year – Month:** 1934 - Jun
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340601/w_E_19340601.html#search=1919
- **Content:** The remnant of fleshly Israel was saved, and likewise a remnant of spiritual Israel is saved when the Lord appears at the temple for judgment and inauguration of the new covenant toward the remnant. [...] At the time of the coming of the Lord Jesus to the temple for judgment, and the inauguration of the new covenant, there was a company of his faithful followers who were foreshadowed or pictured by the faithful Mordecai. Others came to a knowledge of the truth and were brought into the covenant after 1919, but these latter ones clearly seem to be foreshadowed by the "eunuchs" and "strangers" mentioned by the prophet Isaiah who were brought into the house of the Lord.

Reference #39

- **Year – Month:** 1934 - Aug
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1934/w_E_19340801/w_E_19340801.html#search=1919
- **Content:** In 1914 Jesus was given the heathen for his inheritance [...] In 1919 Jesus brought his faithful remnant then on earth across the antitypical Jordan river and into the "land", or kingdom condition, giving to them privileges and opportunities with him to serve, even as Joshua did the Israelites. [...] Likewise also before the remnant were gathered into the temple the Lord caused to be delivered his message "Millions Now Living Will Never Die", meaning, of course, that they must be subject to the conditions announced by the Lord. There also began an announcement that the Elijah work had ended. It was a period of transition from the Elijah to the Elisha work performed by the faithful followers of Christ Jesus.

Reference #40

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Mar
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350315/w_E_19350315.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Abimelech, with his murderous strong-arm squad, killed the sons of Gideon, including Jether the firstborn, but Jotham, the youngest, escaped because he hid himself. The name "Jotham" means "Jehovah is perfect". He seems to picture, first, those whom during the World War Jehovah preserved, that is, the faithful ones that survived the persecution, and which are also pictured by Mordecai and Naomi. These were hid from the face of the Serpent Dragon by fleeing into the wilderness for 1,260 days, that is to say, from 1919 to Sep 8, 1922. Those faithful ones are the ones that the Lord made his "faithful and wise servant" class, [...] Jotham, the only surviving legitimate son of Gideon, was in hiding when he learned what had happened. Likewise, in 1919, when the League of Nations, the tool of the selfish interests, was anointed and installed, Jehovah's faithful servant class was in hiding but, like Jotham, they were informed of what was taking place.

Reference #41

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Sep 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350901/w_E_19350901.html#search=1919
- **Content:** Great affliction came upon the faithful followers of Christ Jesus in 1917 to 1919, and which is known as the World War period. Those devoted ones are pictured by Jacob, and to which apply the following words of the psalmist: "For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste his dwelling place." (Ps. 79: 7) This same class was foreshadowed by Isaiah when he had a vision of the King at the temple and when he confessed his iniquity, crying unto the Lord. (Isa. 6:5,6) Likewise Jacob's remnant, the same class, confess their iniquity or lawlessness [...] These faithful followers of Christ Jesus realized in 1917 to 1919 that Satan and his agents or allies sought to kill them. [...] It was after 1919 that the faithful remnant discerned that Christ Jesus had come to the temple

Reference #42

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Sep 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19350915/w_E_19350915.html#search=1919

- **Content:** The great antitypical David, Christ Jesus, was anointed King and afterwards enthroned, and in 1918 appeared at the temple for judgment. Thereafter God's people were brought into the temple, and they do there praise the name of Jehovah and his King, and their praise and activity began particularly in the year 1919. [...] Giving diligence from that time forward to obey the Lord in bearing his message, the gospel of the kingdom, to others, those faithful ones of the servant class were compassed about by those foreshadowed by Ruth and Esther.

Reference #43

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Oct 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351001/w_E_19351001.html#search=1919
- **Content:** During the World War period the faithful servant class were in prison or restraint by Satan's organization. Their release took place in Mar, 1919, and on the 27th day of Mar, 1919, efforts were begun to organize and carry forward the witness work. At that time there was no organization prepared for the work. It was then that God 'took his woman into the wilderness', that is to say, the people of his organization into the condition which he had prepared for them. (Rev. 12: 14) This preparatory work progressed and reached a climax in Jul, 1927, at the Toronto convention, when the proclamation was sent forth "To the Peoples of Christendom", and supported by a public address, both of which shortly thereafter were issued in a publication under the title "Freedom for the People", and millions of copies of which were distributed throughout "Christendom".

Reference #44

- **Year – Month:** 1935 - Oct 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1935/w_E_19351015/w_E_19351015.html#search=1919
- **Content:** In 1918 the outlook for Jehovah's people was very dark. In the latter part of 1919 those in line for the kingdom began to awaken and saw it was necessary to arouse themselves and serve Jehovah. "And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." (Matt. 25:6) The *Revised Version* reads: ' ' Behold, the bridegroom! Come ye forth to meet him. ' ' It was at the Cedar Point convention in 1919 that God's people began to realize that they must do something in serving the Lord.

Reference #45

- **Year – Month:** 1956 Jul 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1956528?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "In the Greek Scriptures we have further discussions of community merit being established by servants of Jehovah. The righteousness of the apostle Paul produced sufficient merit for God to save the 276 passengers who were aboard the same ship Paul was on during his shipwreck experience. [...] Concerning the last days where we now are Jesus said: "Unless those days were cut short, no flesh would be saved; but on account of the chosen ones [the merit of the anointed remnant of Jehovah's witnesses who repented for their shortcomings in 1919] those days will be cut short.""

Reference #46

- **Year – Month:** 1961 Mar 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1961201?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "Without doubt, during all the centuries from the death of the apostle John down to the end of the nineteenth century, there were some of these spirit-begotten Christians upon earth, growing as wheat in a field that was now full of weeds, even as Jesus' parable showed. [...] Then, beginning in the 1870's, God began to gather these together, and in 1919 began the fulfillment of Matthew 24:31, which says: "And he will send forth his angels with a great trumpet-sound and they will gather his chosen ones together from the four winds, from one extremity of the heavens to their other extremity." The facts show that at that time the call went out for more workers in God's vineyard. This call continued until 1931, when, at the end of the "day's" work in the vineyard, all the workers received their reward, the denarius, the name Jehovah's witnesses.—Matt. 20:1-16."

Reference #47

- **Year – Month:** 1987 May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987326?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "The war ended on Nov 11, 1918, and then on Mar 25, 1919, Brother Rutherford and his associates were released on bail. They were later completely exonerated. The book *The Finished Mystery* was also removed from under ban and authorized to be circulated freely once again. How reviving it was to our spirits

when the Society arranged for our first postwar convention at Cedar Point, situated on the tip of a resort peninsula near Sandusky, Ohio, for Sep 1-8, 1919! It was a most joyous privilege for me to attend that convention."

Reference #48

- **Year – Month:** 1987 Jun 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987444?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "Memorial of Christ's death was celebrated on Sunday, Apr 13, 1919, with 17,961 attending in many lands. As compared to a partial report for 1917, the Memorial attendance had dropped by more than 3,000, indicating the effects of sifting. [...] On Tuesday, Mar 25, 1919, J. F. Rutherford and his seven associates were released from prison on bail and were later completely exonerated. Suddenly, for the cleansed survivors of this testing period, there had come freedom from bondage! Yes, 'spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet,' ready for action."

Reference #49

- **Year – Month:** 1993 Nov
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1993802>
- **Content:** "The 'horn, a small one,' during whose time of power the Son of man receives 'rulership and dignity and kingdom.'" (Daniel 7:8, 14) This symbolic horn, originally imperial Britain, developed during the first world war into the Anglo-American dual world power, now dominated by the United States. For three and a half times, or years, this power would harass the holy ones and try to change times and law. Finally, the holy ones would be given into its hand. —See also Revelation 13:5, 7. [...] Finally, on Jun 21, 1918, J. F. Rutherford, the new president, together with the directors of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, was sentenced on false charges to a long term in prison. Thus, at the end of the prophetic period, the "little horn" killed the organized public preaching work. —Daniel 7:8 [...] The League was proposed in Jan 1919. If we count 1,290 days (three years, seven months) from that time, we arrive at Sep 1922. [...] At a convention held in Sep 1922 at Cedar Point, Ohio, U.S.A., they began fearlessly to declare God's judgments on Christendom. (Revelation 8:7-12) [...]

Reference #50

- **Year – Month:** 1994 Aug
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1994567#h=1:0-15:68>
- **Content:** "Let us first look at Revelation 11:2, the end of which mentions 'forty-two months.' We continue in Re 11 verse 3: 'I will cause my two witnesses to prophesy a thousand two hundred and sixty days dressed in sackcloth.' [...] Jehovah's Witnesses have long recognized that this prophecy found its fulfillment with spirit-anointed Christians after the end of 'the appointed times of the nations' in 1914. [...] As to the ending, the magazine showed how the harassment of God's anointed ones (Daniel 7:25) climaxed in Jun 1918 when J. F. Rutherford and other directors of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society were 'sentenced on false charges to a long term in prison.' [...] All three parallel prophecies —Daniel 7:25, 12:7, and Revelation 11:3— found fulfillment in the 3 1/2 years, or 42 months, from Dec 1914 to Jun 1918."

Reference #51

- **Year – Month:** 2007 Apr 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2007245?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "Christ found a spirit-anointed remnant of faithful disciples who since 1879 had been using this journal and other Bible-based publications to provide spiritual 'food at the proper time.' He acknowledged them as his collective instrument, or 'slave,' and in 1919 entrusted them with the management of all his earthly belongings."

Reference #52

- **Year – Month:** 2009 Jan 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2009046?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "In 1919, Jesus placed 'the key of the house of David' upon the shoulder of 'the faithful and discreet slave' by appointing that slave class 'over all his belongings.' —Isa. 22:22; Matt. 24:45, 47."

Reference #53

- **Year – Month:** Feb 2013
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2013124>
- **Content:** "Jesus warned his followers: 'You will be objects of hatred by all the nations on account of my name.' (Matt. 24:9) During the last days of this system of things, since 1914, that hatred has become especially intense. In spite of the vicious attack launched against the anointed remnant by their enemies during World War I, those of this faithful group were not killed off. In 1919 they were liberated from the clutches of Babylon the Great."

Reference #54

- **Year – Month:** Jul 2013
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2013533>
- **Content:** "Why may we conclude that Jesus' illustration of the faithful slave began to be fulfilled only after 1914? [...] Therefore, we may conclude that his words about that faithful slave began to be fulfilled only after the last days began in 1914. [...] Throughout the last days, the anointed brothers who make up the faithful slave have served together at headquarters. In recent decades, that slave has been closely identified with the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses. Note, however, that the word "slave" in Jesus' illustration is singular, indicating that this is a composite slave. The decisions of the Governing Body are thus made collectively."

Reference #55

- **Year – Month:** 2014
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2014847#h=17:0-17:481>
- **Content:** "In 1919 they were among those who were appointed to serve as a 'faithful and discreet slave' to care for the spiritual needs of God's people during the last days. —Matt. 24:45-47; Rev. 11:11, 12. [...] How long did this inspection and cleansing work take? It extended from 1914 to the early part of 1919. This period of time includes both the 1,260 days (42 months) and the symbolic three and a half days referred to in Revelation chapter 11."

Reference #56

- **Year – Month:** Nov 2014
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2014847>
- **Content:** "Revelation 11:3 speaks of two witnesses who would prophesy for 1,260 days. The account then says that the wild beast would "conquer them and kill them." But after "three and a half days," these two witnesses would be brought back to life, much to the amazement of all onlookers. —Rev. 11:7, 11. [...] At the end of their preaching in sackcloth, these anointed ones were symbolically killed when they were thrown into prison for a comparatively shorter period of time, a symbolic three and a half days... In 1919 they were among those who were appointed to serve as a 'faithful and discreet slave' to care for the spiritual needs of God's people during the last days. (Matthew 24:45-47)"

Reference #57

- **Year – Month:** Jun 2015
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2015450#h=17>
- **Content:** "In recent years, why are Biblical types and antitypes seldom discussed in our publications? The Bible says that some individuals served as types of something greater. One example of this is found at Galatians 4:21-31. But otherwise, it is best not to imagine or assign antitypical applications."

Reference #58

- **Year – Month:** Dec 2015
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402015921>
- **Content:** "In 1919, a small group of Bible students was appointed as 'the faithful and discreet slave.' At that time, the faithful slave communicated with God's people mostly in English. (Matthew 24:45)"

Reference #59

- **Year – Month:** Mar 2016
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402016203>
- **Content:** "When were God's people captives, or prisoners, of Babylon the Great? This started sometime after the year 100 and ended in 1919. Why is this adjustment to our understanding necessary? All the evidence shows that in 1919, anointed Christians were freed from Babylon the Great and were gathered into a cleansed

congregation [...] In 1919, Jesus appointed 'the faithful and discreet slave' to give 'food at the proper time' to God's cleansed people. (Matthew 24:45-47) In that same year, God's people were released from symbolic captivity to Babylon the Great. (Revelation 18:4) But when did God's people become captives? [...] Ezekiel had a vision of a valley filled with bones. Jehovah said: "These bones are the whole house of Israel." (Verse 11) This applied to the nation of Israel and would later apply to "the Israel of God," who are the anointed. (Galatians 6:16; Acts 3:21) [...] First, Ezekiel noticed that the bones of the dead people were "very dry." (Ezekiel 37:2, 11) This means that the people had been dead for a very long time. Second, Ezekiel saw that the dead came back to life gradually, not suddenly. [...] This captivity began sometime after the year 100 and continued until God's spiritual temple was cleansed in the time of the end. [...] Many can now "cleanse themselves," "be refined," and accept true worship! —Daniel 12:3, 10

Reference #60

- **Year – Month:** Jul 2016
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/402016529?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "What did Ezekiel's prophecy foretell about pure worship? That Jehovah will cause all those who worship him to "become one." (Ezekiel 37:18, 19) [...] The prophecy began to be fulfilled in 1919. Before that, Satan had tried to divide God's people permanently. But in 1919, they were gradually reorganized and reunited. [...] At that time, most of God's people had the hope of becoming kings and priests in heaven with Jesus. (Revelation 20:6) They were like the stick for Judah. There were a few, however, who had the hope of living forever on earth. And as time went on, those with this hope increased in number. (Zechariah 8:23) They were like the stick for Joseph."

Reference #61

- **Year – Month:** Nov 2016
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2016844?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "Not everything the Bible Students did during the period between 1914 and 1919 was in harmony with Scriptural principles [...] Therefore, as a group, they were not always neutral with regard to the war effort. For example, when the president of the United States decreed that May 30, 1918, would be set aside as a day of prayer for peace, *The Watch Tower* urged the Bible Students to join in the observance. Some brothers purchased bonds to provide financial assistance to the war effort, and a few even went into the trenches with guns and bayonets [...] Malachi 3:1-3 describes the time —from 1914 to early 1919— when the anointed 'sons of Levi' would undergo a period of refinement. ... After receiving needed discipline, Jehovah's cleansed people were ready to take up a further assignment of service. In 1919, a 'faithful and discreet slave' was appointed to provide spiritual food to the household of faith."

Reference #62

- **Year – Month:** Feb 2017
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2017283?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "In 1919, three years after Brother Russell's death, Jesus appointed 'the faithful and discreet slave.' For what purpose? To give his domestics 'food at the proper time.' [...] The Jul 15, 2013, issue of *The Watchtower* explained that "the faithful and discreet slave" is a small group of anointed brothers who make up the Governing Body."

Reference #63

- **Year – Month:** 2017
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102017933>
- **Content:** "Clearly, Christ had freed his people from captivity to Babylon the Great. He had appointed his faithful and discreet slave. The work of harvesting was under way. Ever since that pivotal year of 1919, the work has forged ahead to an astounding degree."

Reference #64

- **Year – Month:** 2017
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1102017938>
- **Content:** "Both prophecies saw a modern-day fulfillment in 1919 when Jehovah caused his anointed servants 'to stand on their feet,' leave their captivity to Babylon the Great, and be gathered in the restored congregation. [...] 1919: The "dry bones" came to life when Jehovah caused all anointed ones to leave Babylon the Great and

be gathered in the restored congregation [...] 1919: The “two witnesses” came to life when a small group of anointed brothers who were taking the lead in the organization were appointed to serve as “the faithful and discreet slave”

Reference #65

- **Year – Month:** Oct 2017
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-c/402017607?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "Since 1919, when Jehovah’s people were released from symbolic captivity to Babylon the Great, their enemies have tried very hard to keep true worship from growing and expanding. [...] Because angels are protecting Jehovah’s organization, we do not have to be afraid that Jehovah’s people will ever become captive to false religion again. [...] As well as being King and High Priest, Jesus was assigned to “build the temple of Jehovah.” (Read Zechariah 6:13.) In 1919, he did this building work by setting God’s people free from the influence of false religion, Babylon the Great. Jesus restored the congregation and appointed a “faithful and discreet slave.” This group of anointed brothers directs the important work that is being done here in the earthly part of the great spiritual temple. (Matthew 24:45)"

Reference #66

- **Year – Month:** May 2020
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-c/2020408?q=1919&p=par>
- **Content:** "In 1919 the faithful slave is appointed over God’s people. From that time onward, the Bible Students step up their preaching activities. Today, Jehovah’s Witnesses preach in over 200 lands and produce Bible-based material in over 1,000 languages."

Reference #67

- **Year – Month:** Sep 2022
- **Link:** <https://www.jw.org/finder?srcid=jwshare&wtlocale=E&prefer=lang&docid=2022568>
- **Content:** "Daniel 12:2. What happens after the great crowd survive this time of distress? This prophecy is not referring to a symbolic resurrection, a spiritual revival of God’s servants that occurs during the last days, as we previously understood. Rather, these words refer to the resurrection of the dead that takes place in the coming new world."

Reference #68

- **Year – Month:** Nov 2022
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-c/2022641>
- **Content:** "Since 1919 C.E., the anointed have enjoyed living in a spiritual paradise [...] Jehovah’s worshippers can be found in all parts of the earth. Therefore, the spiritual paradise they inhabit also exists throughout the world."

Reference #69

- **Year – Month:** Apr 2024
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-c/2024366>
- **Content:** "Since 1919, Jesus has used a small group of anointed men to organize the preaching work and supply spiritual food to his followers."

Reference #70

- **Year – Month:** Apr 2024
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-c/2024361>
- **Content:** "In Isaiah chapter 65, which had an initial fulfillment back in 537 B.C.E. At that time, repentant Jews were released from captivity in Babylon and they returned to their homeland. [...] A second fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy began in 1919 C.E. when Jehovah’s modern-day worshippers were set free from captivity to Babylon the Great."

Reference #71

- **Year – Month:** 2024 Jul
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-c/2024483?q=1919&p=par>

- **Content:** "The spiritual restoration that took place in 1919 is also described at Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Revelation 11:7-12. Ezekiel foretold the spiritual restoration of all anointed Christians after a very long period of captivity. The prophecy in Revelation refers to the spiritual rebirth of a small group of anointed brothers who have taken the lead after a short period of forced inactivity as a result of unjust imprisonment. In 1919, they were appointed as 'the faithful and discreet slave.'"

D4: Evolution of Generation Teaching Over Time

Year	Ref #	http Link	Content Summary	Explanation Type
1910	1	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1910/w_E_19101101/w_E_19101101.html#search=generation	The generation witnessing the signs will see the change from the reign of darkness to the glorious reign of the Messiah.	Pre-1914 Generation
1927	2	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270215/w_E_19270215.html#search=generation	"This generation" refers to the new creation, which will still be on earth during Armageddon.	1914 Generation
1950	3	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1950042	Many dismiss the warnings of Armageddon, but those alive in this generation will witness it.	1914 Generation
1950	4	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1950122	The final judgment will occur in this generation; salvation is much closer than before.	1914 Generation
1950	5	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1950242	Pioneer ministers are encouraged to preach because the work is essential for this generation.	1914 Generation
1951	6	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1951200	The "last days" will not stretch beyond this generation, which saw the events of 1914.	1914 Generation
1951	7	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1951403	The events from 1914 mark the beginning of the generation that will see the completion of God's promises.	1914 Generation
1951	8	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1951484?q=generation&p=par	The generation that witnessed 1914 will not pass away before all things are fulfilled.	1914 Generation
1952	9	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1952648?q=generation&p=par	The generation of 1914 will live to see Armageddon, though calculating an exact number of years is speculative.	1914 Generation
1956	10	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1956761	The generation that saw 1914 will also witness Armageddon before they pass away.	1914 Generation
1957	11	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1957800	The current generation will see the destruction of this system at Armageddon, as foretold in the Bible.	1914 Generation

1958	12	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1958401?q=generation&p=par	Armageddon will happen during this generation, and those who survive will see the resurrection of loved ones.	1914 Generation
1959	13	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1959281?q=generation&p=par	The promise of God's government will be realized within this generation, offering hope for the future.	1914 Generation
1959	14	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1959401?q=generation&p=par	This generation, which witnessed the events of 1914, will see the world's end before passing away.	1914 Generation
1959	15	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1959641?q=generation&p=par	Jehovah will bring peace during this generation, which saw the signs beginning in 1914.	1914 Generation
1961	16	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1961328?q=generation&p=par	This generation, already over 40 years into the "time of the end," will soon see God's judgment.	1914 Generation
1962	17	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1962160?q=generation&p=par	The generation alive in 1914 will see the fulfillment of all things, including the end of the current world system.	1914 Generation
1965	18	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1965683?q=generation&p=par	The end of this system will happen in our generation, bringing joyful service to Jehovah.	1914 Generation
1967	19	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967045?q=generation&p=par#h=8	Armageddon is coming soon, and the 1914 generation will not pass away before it arrives.	1914 Generation
1967	20	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967604?q=generation&p=par	The generation alive in 1914 will witness Christ's avenging actions before they pass away.	1914 Generation
1968	21	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1968324?q=generation&p=par	The generation that saw the events of 1914 will still be alive when the end comes.	1914 Generation
1968	22	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1968883?q=generation&p=par	The generation that saw 1914 is nearing its end, so the time left for preaching is short.	1914 Generation

1969	23	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1969042?q=generation&p=par	Those who were alive in 1914 and remember the events will live to see the end of this system.	1914 Generation
1969	24	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1969121?q=generation&p=par	This generation is nearing its end, but some will still be alive to witness the conclusion of this wicked system, indicating the end is very near.	1914 Generation
1969	25	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1969/g_E_19690522/g_E_19690522.html	Young people will never grow old in this system because the end will come within the generation that saw 1914.	1914 Generation
1969	26	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1969482?q=generation&p=par	The generation of 1914 will not completely pass away before the system's end in Armageddon.	1914 Generation
1970	27	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1970283?q=generation&p=par#h=8	Jehovah's Witnesses preach the end of wicked conditions will occur in this generation.	1914 Generation
1970	28	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1970805?q=generation&p=par	This generation, which saw the beginning of the time of distress in 1914, will not pass away before Armageddon.	1914 Generation
1971	29	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1971080?q=generation&p=par	Before the 1914 generation passes away, the great tribulation will come, and survivors will experience deliverance.	1914 Generation
1971	30	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1971201?q=generation&p=par	The Bible indicates that we are living in the generation that will see God's intervention.	1914 Generation
1972	31	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1972284?q=generation&p=par	The good news is that God's action will come soon, during the lifetime of the generation now living.	1914 Generation
1972	32	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1972846?q=generation&p=par	The generation alive during the events of 1914 will experience the great tribulation before passing away.	1914 Generation
1973	33	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1973246?q=generation&p=par	The current generation will witness the end of man's ruin of the earth, as foretold in Bible prophecy.	1914 Generation

1973	34	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1973240?q=generation&p=par	Bible chronology and prophecy unmistakably point to this generation witnessing the appointed time for the end of the wicked system.	1914 Generation
1973	35	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1973762?q=generation&p=par	Jehovah's purpose is to remove wickedness from the earth within this generation, fulfilling His promises.	1914 Generation
1974	36	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1974046?q=generation&p=par	We are well along in the generation that Jesus foretold would immediately precede God's new order.	1914 Generation
1976	37	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1976525?q=generation&p=par	The generation living in the "time of the end" will be the one to experience the great tribulation, with some surviving into the new order.	1914 Generation
1977	38	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1977890?q=generation&p=par	Some of the generation of 1914 are still alive and will see the great tribulation, as Jesus foretold.	1914 Generation
1978	39	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1978731?q=generation&p=par	"This generation" refers to those who were able to observe the events of 1914 and the last days, and they will see the fulfillment of all prophecies.	1914 Generation
1980	40	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1980768?q=generation&p=par#h=8	Jesus assured that survivors of the 1914 generation will be present when the great tribulation ends this world system.	1914 Generation
1981	41	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1981844?q=generation&p=par	After 67 years, the 1914 generation is almost gone, and the end of this world system is imminent.	1914 Generation
1983	42	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1983121?q=generation&p=par	The generation that witnessed the events of 1914 will see the final fulfillment of Jesus' prophecy.	1914 Generation
1983	43	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1983724?q=generation&p=par	Many of the 1914 generation are still alive, but their numbers are dwindling, making the end of the world system imminent.	1914 Generation
1984	44	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/Survival-Into-a-New-Earth/How-	The generation that witnessed the beginning of the sign in 1914 is still here but rapidly decreasing, pointing to the nearness of the end.	1914 Generation

Long-Will-the-Present-System-Last/

1984	45	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1984361?q=generation&p=par	The generation of 1914 is now in their 70s or 80s, and the fulfillment of the foretold events is near.	1914 Generation
1984	46	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1984847?q=generation&p=par	The dwindling number of the 1914 generation is a clear indication that the end is near.	1914 Generation
1985	47	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1985320?q=generation&p=par	Before the 1914 generation dies out completely, God's judgment will be executed, as there are still many alive from that generation.	1914 Generation
1987	48	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987005?q=generation&p=par	There are still members of the 1914 generation alive today, meaning that the grand finale of the "end of the system of things" is very close.	1914 Generation
1987	49	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987566?q=generation&p=par	Being part of the 1914 generation is a privilege, and some from that generation are still alive, awaiting the fulfillment of the prophecy.	1914 Generation
1991	50	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1991802?q=generation&p=par	The generation that saw the beginning of the last days in 1914 is now advanced in years, meaning the end is close.	1914 Generation
1992	51	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1992321?q=generation&p=par	The generation alive in 1914 will see all the foretold events, including the great tribulation.	1914 Generation
1992	52	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1992602?q=generation&p=par	The generation of 1914 will witness the restoration of physical and spiritual health for mankind.	1914 Generation
1995	53	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995804?q=generation&p=par	The "generation" Jesus referred to was the contemporary masses of wicked people, not a specific group tied to 1914.	Current Wicked Generation
1995	54	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995808?q=generation&p=par	"This generation" refers to the contemporaneous generation of unbelieving Jews during Jesus' time, not a fixed number of years tied to 1914.	Current Wicked Generation

1995	55	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995841?q=generation&p=par	The prophecies are fulfilled upon a godless generation that will experience the foretold events, not tied to a specific date.	Current Wicked Generation
1995	56	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995928?q=generation&p=par	Jesus applied the term "this generation" to the blind guides and masses of his time, not referring to a specific year or group today.	Current Wicked Generation
1997	57	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997002?q=generation&p=par	The wicked generation of today will experience the great tribulation, and we must act urgently to be prepared.	Current Wicked Generation
1997	58	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997327?q=generation&p=par	The updated understanding of "generation" shows that the end is still imminent and not delayed into the distant future.	Current Wicked Generation
1997	59	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997407?q=generation&p=par	Jesus used "generation" to refer to the masses of Jews who rejected him, and today it applies to the wicked generation.	Current Wicked Generation
1997	60	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997563?q=generation&p=par	Jehovah's people have refined their understanding of "generation" and continue to adjust to new revealed truths.	Current Wicked Generation
1999	61	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1999322?q=generation&p=par	The wicked generation alive today will witness the coming great tribulation, just as Jesus foretold.	Current Wicked Generation
1999	62	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1999401?q=generation&p=par	We now live among the wicked generation Jesus spoke of, and they will see the fulfillment of all things.	Current Wicked Generation
2000	63	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2000001?q=generation&p=par	Jehovah continues to clarify truth, including the understanding of "this generation" that will not pass away before the end.	Current Wicked Generation
2008	64	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2008125?q=generation&p=par	Jesus' use of "generation" referred to his disciples, both in the first century and today, as those who would see the fulfillment of all things.	1914 Overlapping Generation
2008	65	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2008288?q=generation&p=par	"this generation" refers to Christ's anointed ones whose lives overlap and will witness the great tribulation.	1914 Overlapping Generation

2010	66	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2010282?q=generation&p=par	The generation Jesus spoke of includes those anointed in 1914 and those whose lives overlap with the earlier anointed ones.	1914 Overlapping Generation
2010	67	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2010446?q=generation&p=par	“This generation” consists of two groups of anointed ones whose lives overlap, and they will see the fulfillment of all things.	1914 Overlapping Generation
2014	68	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2014047?q=generation&p=par	Jesus referred to two groups of anointed Christians: those who saw 1914 and those who overlap with the earlier group, ensuring some will see the end.	1914 Overlapping Generation
2015	69	https://www.jw.org/en/library/videos/#en/mediaitems/StudioMonthlyPrograms/publications/jwb_201509_1_VIDEO	The overlapping generation that includes those anointed in 1914 and those whose lives overlap will witness the fulfillment of all things.	1914 Overlapping Generation

Reference #1

- **Year – Month:** 1910 - Nov 1
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1910/w_E_19101101/w_E_19101101.html#search=generation
- **Content:** The generation which witnesses the signs promised in the verses preceding our lesson and which witnesses this putting forth of the green leaves of hope by Israel will see to the full the accomplishment of the glorious change of Dispensation so long foretold. They will witness the passing of the reign of the Prince of Darkness and the inauguration of the glorious reign of the Prince of Light -- Messiah with his glorious Bride class.

Reference #2

- **Year – Month:** 1927 - Feb 15
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1927/w_E_19270215/w_E_19270215.html#search=generation
- **Content:** The irresistible conclusion therefore is that Jesus referred to the new creation when he said: ‘This generation shall not pass until all these things be fulfilled.’ This then would be a strong indication that some members of the new creation will be on the earth at the time of Armageddon.

Reference #3

- **Year – Month:** 1950 - Jan 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1950042?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** "And even if Armageddon comes someday, it will not come in our day, not in this generation." The warning witness is indifferently brushed aside by millions who may not violently persecute but who merely fail to act upon it. That indifference is enough to class them as ‘goats’.

Reference #4

- **Year – Month:** 1950 - Feb 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1950122?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The final settling of the great issue is to come in this generation, our salvation is much nearer than when Christians first started to serve God... We must not take chances by looking back to the old world for anything. We cannot risk even the slightest slowing down now.

Reference #5

- **Year – Month:** 1950 - Apr 1

- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1950242?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The reason for continual pioneer calls by the Society can be better appreciated when one analyzes the contents of the inspired written records left for this generation.

Reference #6

- **Year – Month:** 1951 - Mar 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1951200?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** This time period, known as the last days of Satan's delinquent old world, will not stretch beyond this present generation. The precious time grows short.

Reference #7

- **Year – Month:** 1951 - Jun 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1951403?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Beginning in 1914, has not our generation seen world wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes... Hence our generation is the generation that will see the start and finish of these things, including Armageddon.

Reference #8

- **Year – Month:** 1951 - Jul 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1951484?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The actual meaning of these words is, beyond question... that from 1914 a generation shall not pass till all is fulfilled, and amidst a great time of trouble.

Reference #9

- **Year – Month:** 1952 - Sep 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1952648?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The Bible is not so specific. It gives no number of years for a generation...Some persons living A.D. 1914 when the series of foretold events began will also be living when the series ends with Armageddon... There are hundreds of millions of persons living now that were living in 1914, and many millions of these persons could yet live a score or more years. Just when the lives of the majority of them will be cut short by Armageddon we cannot say.

Reference #10

- **Year – Month:** 1956 - Oct 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1956761?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** This cannot be very far off, for Jesus said that the generation that saw 1914 'will by no means pass away until all these things occur.'

Reference #11

- **Year – Month:** 1957 - Nov 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1957800?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** We are now in its last days. This generation will see its destruction at the battle of Armageddon. God's long-promised new world will then be ushered in.

Reference #12

- **Year – Month:** 1958 - Jun 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1958401?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Since Armageddon is scheduled to come upon this generation in these 'last days,' now is the time for those who long to see dead loved ones raised to life again to do good things. How? Learn more of Jehovah's purposes. Learn what you must do to survive Armageddon into God's new world.

Reference #13

- **Year – Month:** 1959 - Apr 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1959281?q=generation&p=par>

- **Content:** This perfect government for all mankind is due to come in our own time, within this generation, so that we have something very pleasurable to which to look forward.

Reference #14

- **Year – Month:** 1959 - Jun 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1959401?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** It is the generation of people now living who have the opportunity of learning the Bible and surviving the world's end. Jesus said, 'This generation will by no means pass away until all these things occur.'

Reference #15

- **Year – Month:** 1959 - Sep 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1959641?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The generation that would be living when these things became realities would be the one that would see the change... The generation living in 1914 will see it.

Reference #16

- **Year – Month:** 1961 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1961328?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** We are now well over forty years into the time of the end foretold in the Bible, and all evidence indicates that the day for Jehovah to execute judgment upon this wicked world is near, within this generation.

Reference #17

- **Year – Month:** 1962 - Mar 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1962160?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** This generation that is still alive from A.D. 1914 is the generation Jesus said would see 'all things occur,' including this world's end. Deliverance for Jesus' true followers is due within this generation!

Reference #18

- **Year – Month:** 1965 - Sep 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1965683?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The end of this system of things will occur in our very own generation! 'The time left is reduced.'

Reference #19

- **Year – Month:** 1967 - Jan 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967045?q=generation&p=par#h=8>
- **Content:** Armageddon is coming, which cannot be far away, since the 1914 generation will not pass away before it comes! No question about it, time is running out!

Reference #20

- **Year – Month:** 1967 - Aug 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1967604?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Because it is in our time, within this generation, that Jesus Christ will act as the great and powerful avenger of blood. He will make a complete end to this bloodguilty order of society.

Reference #21

- **Year – Month:** 1968 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1968324?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Some of the generation that discerned the beginning of the time of the end in 1914 will still be alive on earth to witness the end of this present wicked system of things at the battle of Armageddon.

Reference #22

- **Year – Month:** 1968 - Dec 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1968883?q=generation&p=par>

- **Content:** A generation, according to Psalm 90:10, is from seventy to eighty years. The generation that witnessed the end of the Gentile Times in 1914 does not have many more years left.

Reference #23

- **Year – Month:** 1969 - Jan 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1969042?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The time that God has set for the accomplishment of his righteous purpose toward the earth is scheduled to run out within the coming few years of this generation.

Reference #24

- **Year – Month:** 1969 - Feb 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1969121?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** This generation is getting up in years now. A great number of them have already passed away in death. Yet Jesus very pointedly said: ‘This generation will by no means pass away until all these things occur. Some of them will still be alive to see the end of this wicked system. This means that only a short time is left before the end comes!’

Reference #25

- **Year – Month:** 1969 - May 22
- **Link:** https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1969/g_E_19690522/g_E_19690522.html
- **Content:** If you are a young person, you also need to face the fact that you will never grow old in this present system of things. Why not? Because all the evidence in fulfillment of Bible prophecy indicates that this corrupt system is due to end in a few years. Of the generation that observed the beginning of the “last days” in 1914, Jesus foretold: “This generation will by no means pass away until all these things occur.”—Matt. 24:34. Therefore, as a young person, you will never fulfill any career that this system offers. If you are in high school and thinking about a college education, it means at least four, perhaps even six or eight more years to graduate into a specialized career. But where will this system of things be by that time? It will be well on the way toward its finish, if not actually gone!

Reference #26

- **Year – Month:** 1969 - Jul 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1969482?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Yes, the numbers of that generation are dwindling fast, but before they all pass away this system must meet its end in the war of Armageddon. Surely this highlights what a very short time now remains to return to Jehovah.

Reference #27

- **Year – Month:** 1970 - Apr 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1970283?q=generation&p=par#h=8>
- **Content:** Why do Jehovah’s witnesses call on the homes of people who already have a religion of their own? Their calling on people at their homes is a fine thing, because people need to learn of God’s marvelous purposes. Jehovah’s witnesses want people to know that God is going to bring an end to wicked conditions in the earth and replace them with righteousness by means of his perfect, heavenly Kingdom government. The time for that to happen is very near; it is to occur in this generation. People must be warned of this fact and be told what to do to receive God’s protection and blessing. The churches of Christendom are not teaching people these vital Bible truths. —Dan. 2:44; Matt. 24:14, 34.

Reference #28

- **Year – Month:** 1970 - Nov 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1970805?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** This generation will by no means pass away until all these things occur... The duration of the ‘year of goodwill’ could accordingly be limited to the length of a human generation,... This fact furnishes all the more reason for the imperiled people to take advantage of the ‘year of goodwill’ without procrastination. Delay could be fatal!

Reference #29

- **Year – Month:** 1971 - Feb 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1971080?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The generation that saw the start of the time of distress that began in 1914 is now dwindling in numbers. Before it passes off the scene, the prophesied 'great tribulation' will come.

Reference #30

- **Year – Month:** 1971 - Mar 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1971201?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The Bible indicates that we are living in the generation that will see that change take place—not by governments of men, but by the intervention of God.

Reference #31

- **Year – Month:** 1972 - Apr 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1972284?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Jehovah's witnesses have been trying to reach everyone with the good news they have found in the Bible that God's time to act is soon, yes, during the lifetime of this generation now living.

Reference #32

- **Year – Month:** 1972 - Nov 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1972846?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Today we have abundant evidence that a generation already grown old is indeed going to experience the foretold 'great tribulation' that will open the way for the entering in of God's new order.

Reference #33

- **Year – Month:** 1973 - Apr 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1973246?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The 'good news' for today is that Bible prophecy points to this generation as the one to see the end of man's ruining the earth.

Reference #34

- **Year – Month:** 1973 - Apr 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1973240?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The evidence of Bible chronology and Bible prophecy unmistakably points to this very generation as the one that will witness the 'appointed time' for the removal of this wicked system.

Reference #35

- **Year – Month:** 1973 - Oct 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1973762?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** What did this woman learn through her study of the Bible over a period of two years that changed her outlook on life? She came to see that Jehovah God has a marvelous purpose for mankind, namely, to remove all wickedness from the earth in this generation and to administer earth's affairs in righteousness through his kingdom by Jesus Christ.

Reference #36

- **Year – Month:** 1974 - Jan 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1974046?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** we are in the generation that Jesus foretold would immediately precede the incoming of God's righteous new order. And we are very well along in that generation, according to all the evidences before our eyes.

Reference #37

- **Year – Month:** 1976 - Jul 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1976525?q=generation&p=par>

- **Content:** The generation living in this 'time of the end' will be the generation that will experience the 'great tribulation.'

Reference #38

- **Year – Month:** 1977 - Dec 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1977890?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Today, we are more than 60 years into the “conclusion of the system of things,” and we rejoice that there are still with us some of the generation of 1914 who... are living examples of faithful endurance

Reference #39

- **Year – Month:** 1978 - Oct 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1978731?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The 'generation' logically would not apply to babies born during World War I... those able to observe that war... Some of such persons 'will by no means pass away until' all of what Christ prophesied occurs.

Reference #40

- **Year – Month:** 1980 - Oct 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1980768?q=generation&p=par#h=8>
- **Content:** We can be happy, therefore, for Jesus' assurance that there will be survivors of 'the generation of 1914'—that this generation will not have completely passed away—when the 'great tribulation' rings down the curtain on this wicked world system.

Reference #41

- **Year – Month:** 1981 - Nov 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1981844?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Jesus foretold that some of those who were alive when the 'last days' began would live to see this system's end. Already 67 years have passed since the 'generation' of 1914 saw the start of these troubles... So time has nearly run out on this 'crooked and twisted generation.'

Reference #42

- **Year – Month:** 1983 - Feb 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1983121?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** We thus have good reason to believe that the generation that witnessed the initial shock in 1914 and is still represented by people alive today must be the one that will witness the final fulfillment of this prophecy.

Reference #43

- **Year – Month:** 1983 - Oct 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1983724?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** it becomes evident that a large number of the 1914 generation are still living today. Of course, their numbers are steadily dwindling, and, therefore, sometime in the near future, we confidently can expect “the end” to come, followed by the time when God's Messianic Kingdom will be the only government ruling the earth.

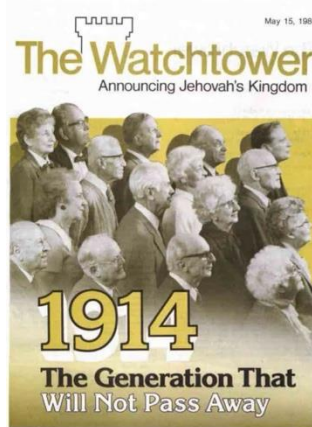
Reference #44

- **Year – Month:** 1984
- **Link:** <https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/Survival-Into-a-New-Earth/How-Long-Will-the-Present-System-Last/>
- **Content:** Regarding those who would see the fulfillment of 'the sign' from its beginning, starting with 1914, Jesus said: '...This generation will by no means pass away until all these things happen.' Members of that generation are still here, though rapidly decreasing in number... According to available statistics, in 1980 approximately 250,000,000 of those who were alive in 1914 were still living. That generation is not yet gone. Interestingly, however, of those born in 1900 or earlier, figures published by the United Nations indicate that only an estimated 35,316,000 were still alive in 1980. So the number drops quickly as individuals reach their

seventies and eighties. When considered along with all the details of Jesus' prophetic sign, these facts strongly indicate that the end is near.

Reference #45

- **Year – Month:** 1984 - May 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1984361?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** If Jesus used 'generation' in that sense and we apply it to 1914, then the babies of that generation are now 70 years old or older... There are still many millions of that generation alive. Some of them 'will by no means pass away until all things occur.' ... Jehovah, who is the source of inspired and unfailing prophecy, will bring about the fulfillment of his Son's words in a relatively short time. —Isaiah 46:9, 10; 55:10, 11.



Reference #46

- **Year – Month:** 1984 - Nov 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1984847?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** There has been a dwindling in the number of those of "this generation" of 1914, which is not to pass away before the fulfillment of all that Jesus foretold for our time. (Matthew 24:34) This is another clear indication that this system's end is near.

Reference #47

- **Year – Month:** 1985 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1985320?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Before the 1914 generation completely dies out, God's judgment must be executed. This generation still exists in goodly numbers. For example, in 1980 there were still 1,597,700 persons alive in the Federal Republic of Germany who were born in 1900 or before. The figure would be even larger had not millions of its citizens experienced premature death during the two world wars.

Reference #48

- **Year – Month:** 1987 - Jan 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987005?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** There are still with us some of the generation of mankind that Jesus Christ foretold was not to pass away until all the things predicted would be fulfilled... Hence, the grand finale of 'the conclusion of the system of things' should be very close at hand.

Reference #49

- **Year – Month:** 1987 - Aug 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1987566?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** From infancy, I was taught by Mother to fear Jehovah properly... I belong to a unique and highly privileged generation—old enough to have seen the beginning of the sign of Christ's presence in 1914 and yet possibly still young enough to live to see its completion at Armageddon.

Reference #50

- **Year – Month:** 1991 - Nov 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1991802?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The generation that was foretold to witness and experience 'the conclusion of the system of things' is now well advanced in years. So let us never forget that each passing day we endure is... one day closer to the time when Jehovah will no longer endure the existence of 'vessels of wrath.'

Reference #51

- **Year – Month:** 1992 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1992321?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Before the 1914 generation passes away, the Kingdom-preaching work will have accomplished its purpose. 'Then,' foretold Jesus, 'there will be great tribulation such as has not occurred since the world's beginning.'

Reference #52

- **Year – Month:** 1992 - Aug 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1992602?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Some of the generation of 1914 will be alive to see good physical and spiritual health restored to mankind... The entire earth will be transformed into a paradise.

Reference #53

- **Year – Month:** 1995 - Nov 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995804?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** What, then, is the 'generation' so frequently referred to by Jesus...? Surely, Jesus was not departing from his established use of the term 'this generation,' which he consistently applied to the contemporary masses with their 'blind guides.'"

Reference #54

- **Year – Month:** 1995 - Nov 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995808?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** In the initial fulfillment, 'this generation' evidently meant... the contemporaneous generation of unbelieving Jews. That 'generation' would not pass away without experiencing what Jesus foretold.

Reference #55

Year – Month: 1995 - Nov 15

Link: <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995841?q=generation&p=par>

Content: The Bible's prophecies about the time of the end were to be fulfilled upon a godless generation.

Reference #56

- **Year – Month:** 1995 - Dec 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1995928?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Jesus applied the term 'this generation' to the contemporary masses with their 'blind guides' who made up the Jewish nation.

Reference #57

- **Year – Month:** 1997 - Jan 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997002?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** The present wicked generation will not pass away until all these things occur.

Reference #58

- **Year – Month:** 1997 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997327?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** updated understanding of the word 'generation' at Matthew 24:34... help us to keep in constant expectation of the end... Jesus applied the phrase "this generation" to contemporary wicked people.

Reference #59

- **Year – Month:** 1997 - Jun 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997407?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Many scriptures confirm that Jesus did not use “generation” with regard to some small or distinct group, meaning only the Jewish leaders or only his loyal disciples. Rather, he used “generation” in condemning the masses of Jews who rejected him.

Reference #60

- **Year – Month:** 1997 - Aug 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1997563?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Recently, “the faithful and discreet slave” has helped us to refine our understanding of the term “generation” used at Matthew 24:34.

Reference #61

- **Year – Month:** 1999 - May 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1999322?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Jesus had in mind the opposing Jews back then who would experience the fulfillment of the sign he gave. Regarding the reference to “this generation” at Luke 21:32, Professor Joel B. Green notes: “In the Third Gospel, ‘this generation’ (and related phrases) has regularly signified a category of people who are resistant to the purpose of God. . . . [It refers] to people who stubbornly turn their backs on the divine purpose.”

Reference #62

- **Year – Month:** 1999 - Jun 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/1999401?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** All the evidence indicates that we now live among that wicked generation of which Jesus said, ‘This generation will by no means pass away until all these things occur.’

Reference #63

- **Year – Month:** 2000 - Jan 1
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2000001?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Jehovah continues to give us further clarification of truth, including a clearer understanding of his prophetic word... the generation that will not pass away before the end comes.

Reference #64

- **Year – Month:** 2008 - Feb 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2008125?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Jesus referred to his disciples when he made the statement ‘This generation will by no means pass away until all these things occur.’ His anointed followers are the modern-day ‘generation’ that will not pass away.

Reference #65

- **Year – Month:** 2008 - Apr 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2008288?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** These anointed ones make up the modern-day “generation” of contemporaries that will not pass away “until all these things occur.”... Some who are Christ’s anointed brothers will still be alive on earth when the great tribulation begins... The word “generation” usually refers to people... whose lives overlap during a particular time... The exact length... cannot be stated except that it does have an end... Jesus did not give... a formula to... determine when “the last days” would end.

Reference #66

- **Year – Month:** 2010 - Apr 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2010282?q=generation&p=par>

- **Content:** Jesus was referring, not to the wicked, but to his disciples, who were soon to be anointed with holy spirit... the lives of the anointed who were on hand when the sign began to become evident in 1914 would overlap with the lives of other anointed ones who would see the start of the great tribulation.

Reference #67

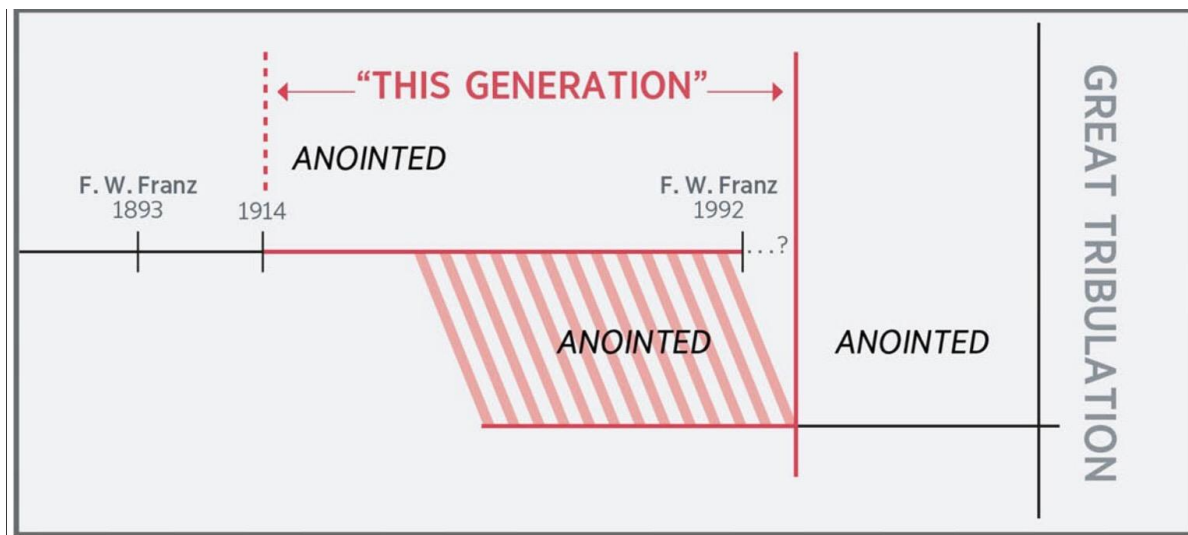
- **Year – Month:** 2010 - Jun 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2010446?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** This 'generation'... includes these two groups whose lives overlap... The younger anointed contemporaries of those older anointed ones... will not die off before the great tribulation begins.

Reference #68

- **Year – Month:** 2014 - Jan 15
- **Link:** <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/2014047?q=generation&p=par>
- **Content:** Jesus was referring to two groups of anointed Christians... the first group... were not merely alive in 1914, but they were spirit-anointed as sons of God in or before that year... the second group.... are anointed contemporaries of the first group... Today, those in this second group are themselves advancing in years.

Reference #69

- **Year – Month:** 2015 - Sep
- **Link:** https://www.jw.org/en/library/videos/#en/mediaitems/StudioMonthlyPrograms/pub-jwb_201509_1_VIDEO
- **Content:** This generation comprises two anointed groups: the first, who initially saw and understood the signs (e.g., Frederic W. Franz, born in 1893), and the second, contemporaries who lived in the same period. Based on the example given, anyone anointed after 1992 is excluded, as they are not contemporaries of the first group, indicating we are deep in the time of the end.



Appendix E – Membership & Growth

E1: Jehovah's Witnesses Membership

Year	Estimated Membership (Average or Peek)	Estimated Memorial Partakers	http Link / Notes
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1918	~3,868	~3,868	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1928	~23,988	~23,988	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1938	~47,143	~36,732	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
			https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/Revelation-Its-Grand-Climax-At-Hand/A-Multitudinous-Great-Crowd/
1939	~61,589	-	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/The-Nations-Shall-Know-That-I-Am-Jehovah-How/A-Garden-of-Eden-for-the-Sake-of-His-Name/
1942	~106,000	~13,131	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1943/yb1943_E/yb1943_E.html
1943	~109,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1944/yb1944_E/yb1944_E.html
1944	~110,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1945/yb1945_E/yb1945_E.html
1945	~127,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1946/yb1946_E/yb1946_E.html
1946	~158,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1947/yb1947_E/yb1947_E.html
1947	~181,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1948/yb1948_E/yb1948_E.html
1948	~230,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1949/yb1949_E/yb1949_E.html
1949	~279,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1950/yb1950_E/yb1950_E.html
1950	~328,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1951/yb1951_E/yb1951_E.html
1951	~384,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1952/yb1952_E/yb1952_E.html
1952	~426,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1953/yb1953_E/yb1953_E.html
1953	~468,000		https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1954/yb1954_E/yb1954_E.html
1954	~525,000	~17,884	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1955/yb1955_E/yb1955_E.html

1955	~570,000	~16,815	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1956/yb1956_E/yb1956_E.html
1956	~591,000	~16,302	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1957/yb1957_E/yb1957_E.html
1957	~653,000	~15,628	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1958/yb1958_E/yb1958_E.html
1958	~717,000	~15,037	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1959/yb1959_E/yb1959_E.html
1959	~803,000	~14,511	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1960/yb1960_E/yb1960_E.html
1960	~851,000	~13,911	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1961/yb1961_E/yb1961_E.html
1961	~884,000	~13,284	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1962/yb1962_E/yb1962_E.html
1962	~920,000	~12,714	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1963/yb1963_E/yb1963_E.html
1963	~956,000	~12,292	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1964/yb1964_E/yb1964_E.html
1964	~1,001,000	~11,953	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1965/yb1965_E/yb1965_E.html
1965	~1,034,000	~11,550	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1966/yb1966_E/yb1966_E.html
1966	~1,058,000	~11,179	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1967/yb1967_E/yb1967_E.html
1967	~1,094,000	~10,981	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1968/yb1968_E/yb1968_E.html
1968	~1,155,000	~10,691	https://jws-library.one/?file=data/1969/yb1969_E/yb1969_E.html
1969	~1,336,000	~10,368	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1970-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1970-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1970	~1,384,000		https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1971-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1971-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1971	~1,510,000		https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1972-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1972-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1972	~1,658,000	~10,350	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1973-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1973-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1973	~1,656,000	~10,523	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1974-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1974-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/

1974	~2,021,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1975-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1975-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1975	~2,062,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1976-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1976-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1976	~2,200,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1977-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1977-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1977	~2,117,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1979-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1979-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/ The source of the 1979 year book for 1978 service year states: On the contrary, there were 2,086,698, on the average, who shared in making known the “good news” compared with 2,117,194 the year before.
1978	~2,086,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1979-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1979-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1979	~2,097,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1981-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1981-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/ The source of the 1981 year book for 1980 service year states: The second all-time-high figure is for the monthly average of publishers, 2,175,403, a 3.7-percent increase over last year.
1980	~2,175,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1981-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1981-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1981	~2,361,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1982-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1982	~2,461,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1983-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1983-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/ The source of the 1983 year book for 1982 service year states: For the 205 countries listed, there has been an increase of 4.2 percent in the average number of publishers compared with the previous year.
1983	~2,501,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1984-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1984-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1984	~2,842,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1985-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1985-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1985	~2,865,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1986-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1986-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1986	~3,063,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1987-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1987-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1987	~3,237,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1988-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1988-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1988	~3,592,000	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1989-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1989-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/

1989	~3,624,000		https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1990-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/1990-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/
1990	~3,846,000		https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1991-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Jehovahs-Witnesses-1991-Yearbook-Report/
1991	~4,071,000	~8,850	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1992-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1991-Grand-Totals/
1992	~4,289,000	~8,683	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1993-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1992-Grand-Totals/
1993	~4,483,000	~8,693	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1994-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1993-Grand-Totals/
1994	~4,695,000	~8,617	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1995-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1994-Grand-Totals/
1995	~4,950,000	~8,645	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1996-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1995-Grand-Totals/
1996	~5,167,258	~8,757	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1997-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1996-Grand-Totals/
1997	~5,353,078	~8,795	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1998-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1997-Grand-Totals/
1998	~5,544,000	~8,756	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/1999-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1998-Grand-Totals/
1999	~5,653,000	~8,755	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2000-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-1999-Grand-Totals/
2000	~5,783,000	~8,661	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2001-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-2000-Grand-Totals/
2001	~5,881,000	~8,730	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2002-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-2001-Grand-Totals/
2002	~6,048,000	~8,760	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2003-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-2002-Grand-Totals/
2003	~6,184,000	~8,565	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2004-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-2003-Grand-Totals/
2004	~6,308,000	~8,570	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2005-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-2004-Grand-Totals/
2005	~6,390,000	~8,524	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2006-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-2005-Grand-Totals/
2006	~6,491,000	~8,758	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2007-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Worldwide-Report-2006-Grand-Totals/

2007	~6,690,000	~9,105	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2008-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Preaching-and-Teaching-Earth-Wide-2007-Grand-Totals/
2008	~6,829,000	~9,986	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2009-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Preaching-and-Teaching-Earth-Wide-2008-Grand-Totals/
2009	~7,046,000	~10,857	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2010-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Preaching-and-Teaching-Earth-Wide-2009-Grand-Totals/
2010	~7,224,000	~11,202	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2011-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/Preaching-and-Teaching-Earth-Wide/
2011	~7,395,000	~11,824	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2012-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/2011-Grand-Totals/
2012	~7,538,000	~12,604	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2013-Yearbook-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses/2012-Grand-Totals/
2013	~7,698,000	~13,204	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/302014051?q=2013+Grand+Totals&p=par
2014	~7,867,000	~14,121	https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/302015060
2015	~7,987,000	~15,177	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2016-yearbook/2015-grand-totals
2016	~8,132,000	~18,013	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2017-yearbook/2016-grand-totals
2017	~8,248,000	~18,564	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2017-service-year-report/2017-grand-totals/
2018	~8,360,000	~19,521	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2018-service-year-report/2018-grand-totals/
2019	~8,471,000	~20,526	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2019-service-year-report/2019-grand-totals/
2020	~8,424,000	~21,182	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2020-service-year-report/2020-grand-totals/
2021	~8,480,000	~20,746	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2021-service-year-report/2021-grand-totals/
2022	~8,514,000	~21,150	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2022-Service-Year-Report-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses-Worldwide/2022-Grand-Totals/
2023	~8,625,000	~22,312	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2023-Service-Year-Report-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses-Worldwide/2023-Grand-Totals/

2024	~8,800,000	~23,212	https://www.jw.org/en/library/books/2024-Service-Year-Report-of-Jehovahs-Witnesses-Worldwide/2024-Grand-Totals/
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E2: LDS Church Membership

Year	Membership	Real Number (40%)*
1999	10,752,986	4,301,194
2000	11,068,861	4,427,544
2001	11,394,522	4,557,809
2002	11,721,548	4,688,619
2003	11,985,254	4,794,102
2004	12,275,822	4,910,329
2005	12,560,869	5,024,348
2006	12,868,606	5,147,442
2007	13,193,999	5,277,600
2008	13,508,509	5,403,404
2009	13,824,854	5,529,942
2010	14,131,467	5,652,587
2011	14,441,346	5,776,538
2012	14,782,473	5,912,989
2013	15,082,028	6,032,811
2014	15,372,337	6,148,935
2015	15,634,199	6,253,680
2016	15,882,417	6,352,967
2017	16,118,169	6,447,268
2018	16,313,735	6,525,494
2019	16,565,036	6,626,014
2020	16,663,663	6,665,465
2021	16,805,400	6,722,160
2022	17,002,461	6,800,984
2023	17,255,394	6,902,158

***Forty percent (40%)** is a good estimate since studies show only 30-40% of LDS members attend church, with official numbers inflated by inactive and deceased members. Many congregations operate with far fewer active members than reported.

Appendix F – Judicial Policies & Control

F1: Shepherd Book References on Disassociation and Apostasy

ch. 7, ¶37, sfg_E

When It Is Determined That an Individual Has Disassociated Himself

If the committee has clearly determined that a Christian has disassociated himself, the following steps should be taken promptly:

- (1) The committee should inform the body of elders of the disassociation.
- (2) The coordinator of the body of elders should approve the announcement before an elder reads it to the congregation at the next midweek meeting. The announcement should read as follows: “[Name of person] is no longer one of Jehovah’s Witnesses.” Since disassociation is an action taken by the publisher rather than the committee, there is no arrangement for an appeal or a seven-day waiting period before announcing the disassociation.
- (3) The committee should promptly complete the Record of Removal, Disassociation, or Reproof (S-77), following the instructions on the form.—See 17:6.

ch. 7, ¶8, sfg_E

Child abuse, apostasy, and scheming to end a marriage require special caution. Also, the committee should exercise particular care if the individual has secretly carried on gross sin over a long period. It may be that he has met with a committee a number of times in the past. Because he appeared repentant, he was reproofed each time. Now he has sinned again. In such situations, the committee must carefully evaluate his claim of repentance.—Matt. 3:8.

Appendix A, ¶41

Apostasy

Apostasy is a standing away from true worship, a falling away, defection, rebellion, abandonment. It includes the following actions.

41. Deliberately Spreading Teachings Contrary to Bible Truth: (2 John 7, 9, 10; it “Apostasy”) Elders should lovingly assist any Christian with sincere doubts regarding the Bible truth taught by Jehovah’s Witnesses. (2 Tim. 2:16-19, 23-26; Jude 22, 23) If a Christian deliberately spreads false teachings, this may be or may lead to apostasy. If he does not respond after a first and a second admonition, a committee should be formed.—Titus 3:10, 11.

Appendix A, ¶21

Unnecessary Association With Persons Who Have Been Removed From the Congregation or Who Have Disassociated Themselves

There is a difference between simply greeting a person who has been removed from the congregation or who has disassociated himself and socializing with him. (w24.08 pp. 30-31 pars. 14-15) A committee should be formed if, despite repeated counsel, an individual willfully and continually engages in unnecessary association with a nonrelative who has been removed from the congregation or who has disassociated himself.—1 Cor. 5:11, 13.