



# **My Drift**

**Title: Jehovah's Witnesses** 

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In my neighborhood in Mililani, Hawaii there are only two religious groups that come to everybody's house (door-to-door) on a regular basis. They are the Mormon Missionaries and the Jehovah's Witnesses. I'm quite familiar with the Mormon Missionaries since I grew up in Utah and I'm a Mormon. Most of the time we have had large dogs (German Shepherds and Rottweilers) to scare off most people approaching our front gate. In addition to our dogs, my wife does not want to talk to any religious people coming to our house. But in the past six months, my wife has been in the hospital several times and my two Rottweilers passed away with cancer. So, with just me at home, I would talk to the Mormon Missionaries and the Jehovah's Witnesses when they come to the house.



**Mormon Missionaries** 



Jehovah's Witnesses

The people I have talked to have all been nice and I don't mind listening to what they have to say. The Mormon Missionaries tend to be young clean-cut men wearing white shirts and ties with a black nametag. The Jehovah's Witnesses that come to my house tend to be older men and women. Just recently, before we got our new puppy, a couple of older ladies come to my gate. I was sitting outside watching sports on TV when they showed up. I talked to them for a while and they were nice. They gave me a little pamphlet to read and one of the ladies brought up the recent mass killings in Las Vegas and the shooting at a church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. She asked me if I thought there would ever be peace on this earth? Of course, I said "no". The lady asked me to read the pamphlet and do a little research on what Jehovah's Witnesses believe. She said that they think there will be peace on earth in the not to distance future.

Now you know why I'm writing this article. I'm curious about that what the Jehovah's Witnesses ready believe.

We will learn about them by breaking this article into four parts. In "Part 1", I will provide some general information about the Jehovah's Witnesses. In "Part 2", we will learn what the Jehovah's Witnesses have to say about their religion. In "Part 3", we will learn what other people around the world have to say about the believes of the Jehovah's Witnesses. And in "Part 4", I will tell you what I think of the Jehovah's Witnesses.



Questions Jehovah's Witnesses like to Ask and/or Answer



Free Literature Jehovah's Witnesses pass out to whoever will take it

#### **PART 1 - GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Jehovah's Witnesses

ClassificationMillenarianOrientationRestorationistStructureHierarchical

Governing Body Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society

Corporations

Region Worldwide (240 countries)

Founder Charles Taze Russell

Origin 1876: Bible Students founded in

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

1931: Named Jehovah's witnesses

**Branched from** Bible Student movement

**Congregations** 119,485 **Members** 8.3 million

Official website http://www.jw.org



World Headquarters in Warwick, New York



Watchtower Buildings in Brooklyn, New York

Jehovah's Witnesses is a millenarian restorationist Christian denomination with nontrinitarian beliefs distinct from mainstream Christianity. What this means will be explained as we go along in the article – I hope.

The group reports a worldwide membership of more than 8.3 million adherents living in 240 countries who are involved in evangelism and an annual Memorial attendance of more than 20 million. The countries with the most Jehovah's Witnesses are:

Africa		Asia	
Nigeria	342,000	Japan	214,000
Congo	215,000	Philippines	203,000
Zambia	182,000	Russia	170,000
North America		Europe	
<b>United States</b>	1,236,000	Italy	250,000
Mexico	830,000	Germany	164,000
South America		Ukraine	141,000
Brazil	809,000	Oceania	
Colombia	168,000	Australia	67,000
Argentina	148,000	New Zealand	14,000
Caribbean			
Cuba	96,000		

# **Demographics**

Jehovah's Witnesses are among the most racially and ethnically diverse religious groups in America. No more than four-in-ten members of the group belong to any one racial and ethnic background: 36% are white, 32% are Hispanic, 27% are black and 5% are another race or mixed race.



Every U.S. state has a significant number of Jehovah's Witnesses and have several places of worship (Kingdom Halls). Most Jehovah's Witnesses can be found in New York, California, and Pennsylvania.

Hawaii has 18 Kingdom Halls (Big Island 7, Oahu 6, Maui 4, and Kauai 1). There is one in Mililani. Utah has 19 Kingdom Halls.

Most Jehovah's Witnesses – roughly two-thirds (65%) – are women, while only 35% are men. Christians worldwide are more likely to be women than men, but this gender gap is particularly large in the context of other U.S. Christian groups. For instance, 54% of Catholics are women.

Compared with other U.S. religious groups, Jehovah's Witnesses tend to be less educated. A solid majority of adult Jehovah's Witnesses (63%) have no more than a high school diploma, compared with, for example, 43% of evangelical Protestants and 37% of mainline Protestants.

Jehovah's Witnesses have a low retention rate relative to other U.S. religious groups. Among all U.S. adults who were raised as Jehovah's Witnesses, two-thirds (66%) no longer identify with the group. By contrast, about two-thirds of those who were raised as evangelical Protestants (65%) and Mormons (64%) still say they are members of those respective groups.

On the flip-side, about two-thirds (65%) of current adult Jehovah's Witnesses are converts –they were raised in another faith

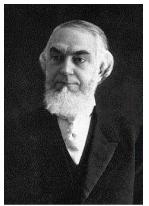
# Headquarters

Jehovah's Witnesses are directed by the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses, a group of elders in Warwick, New York, which establishes all doctrines based on its interpretations of the Bible. They prefer to use their own translation, the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, although their literature occasionally quotes and cites other Bible translations. They believe that the destruction of the present world

system at Armageddon is imminent, and that the establishment of God's kingdom over the earth is the only solution for all problems faced by humanity.

## **History**

The group emerged from the Bible Student movement, founded in the late 1870s by Charles Taze Russell with the formation of Zion's Watch Tower Tract Society. There were significant organizational and doctrinal changes under the leadership of Joseph Franklin Rutherford starting in January 1917. The name Jehovah's witnesses was adopted in 1931 to distinguish themselves from other Bible Student groups and symbolize a break with the legacy of Russell's traditions.







Joseph Franklin Rutherford

Jehovah's Witnesses are best known for their door-to-door preaching, distributing literature such as The Watchtower and Awake!, refusing military service, and refusing blood transfusions.





Jehovah's Witness Literature

They consider the use of God's real name vital for proper worship. They reject Trinitarianism, inherent immortality of the soul, and hellfire, which they consider to be unscriptural doctrines. They do not observe Christmas, Easter, birthdays or other holidays and customs they consider to have pagan origins incompatible with Christianity. Adherents commonly refer to their body of beliefs as "the truth" and consider themselves to be "in the truth". They consider secular society to be morally corrupt and under the influence of Satan, and most limit their social interaction with non-Witnesses. Congregational disciplinary actions include disfellowshipping, their term for formal expulsion and shunning. Baptized individuals who formally leave are considered disassociated and are also shunned. Disfellowshipped and disassociated individuals may eventually be reinstated if deemed repentant.

The group's position regarding conscientious objection to military service and refusal to stand and salute national flags has brought it into conflict with some governments. Consequently, some Jehovah's Witnesses have been persecuted and their activities

are banned or restricted in some countries. Persistent legal challenges by Jehovah's Witnesses have influenced legislation related to civil rights in several countries.

The organization has received criticism regarding biblical translation, doctrines, and alleged coercion of its members. The claims are rejected by the group's leaders and some have been disputed by courts and religious scholars. The Watch Tower Society has made various unfulfilled predictions about major biblical events such as Christ's Second Coming, the advent of God's Kingdom, and Armageddon. Their policies for handling cases of child sexual abuse have been the subject of various formal inquiries.

# Some Famous Jehovah's Witnesses (All of these people surprised me)



\*\*Note: Dwight D. Eisenhower was raised a Jehovah's Witness, but he left the religion as an adult.

#### PART 2 – THE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES RELIGION

(Note: I copied the following paragraphs directly from the official Jehovah's Witness website.)

As Jehovah's Witnesses, we strive to adhere to the form of Christianity that Jesus taught and that his apostles practiced. The following information summarizes our basic beliefs:

- 1. God. We worship the one true and Almighty God, the Creator, whose <u>name is Jehovah</u>. (<u>Psalm 83:18; Revelation 4:11</u>) He is the God of Abraham, Moses, and Jesus.—<u>Exodus</u> 3:6; 32:11; John 20:17.
- 2. Bible. We recognize the Bible as God's inspired message to humans. (John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16) We base our beliefs on all 66 of its books, which include both the "Old Testament" and the "New Testament." Professor Jason D. BeDuhn aptly described it when he wrote that Jehovah's Witnesses built "their system of belief and practice from the raw material of the Bible without predetermining what was to be found there."
  - \*While we accept the entire Bible, we are <u>not fundamentalists</u>. We recognize that parts of the Bible are written in <u>figurative or symbolic language</u> and are not to be understood literally.—Revelation 1:1.
- 3. Jesus. We follow the teachings and example of Jesus Christ and honor him as our Savior and as the <u>Son of God</u>. (<u>Matthew 20:28;Acts 5:31</u>) Thus, we are <u>Christians</u>. (<u>Acts 11:26</u>) However, we have learned from the Bible that Jesus is not Almighty God and that there is no Scriptural basis for the <u>Trinity doctrine</u>.—John 14:28.
- 4. The Kingdom of God. This is a real government in heaven, not a condition in the hearts of <u>Christians</u>. It will replace human governments and accomplish <u>God's purpose for the earth</u>. (<u>Daniel 2:44; Matthew 6:9, 10</u>) It will take these actions soon, for Bible prophecy indicates that we are living in "<u>the last days</u>."—2 <u>Timothy 3:1-5; Matthew 24:3-14</u>. Jesus is the King of <u>God's Kingdom</u> in heaven. He began ruling in <u>1914</u>.—<u>Revelation 11:15</u>.
- 5. Salvation. Deliverance from sin and death is possible through the ransom sacrifice of Jesus. (Matthew 20:28; Acts 4:12) To benefit from that sacrifice, people must not only exercise faith in Jesus but also change their course of life and get baptized. (Matthew 28:19, 20; John 3:16; Acts 3:19, 20) A person's works prove that his faith is alive. (James 2:24, 26) However, salvation cannot be earned—it comes through "the undeserved kindness of God."—Galatians 2:16, 21.
- 6. Heaven. Jehovah God, Jesus Christ, and the faithful angels reside in the spirit realm. \* (Psalm 103:19-21; Acts 7:55) A relatively small number of people—144,000—will be resurrected to life in heaven to rule with Jesus in the Kingdom.—Daniel 7:27;2 Timothy 2:12; Revelation 5:9, 10; 14:1, 3.
- 7. Earth. God created the earth to be mankind's eternal home. (Psalm 104:5; 115:16; Ecclesiastes 1:4) God will bless obedient people with perfect health and everlasting life in an earthly paradise.—Psalm 37:11,34.



Earthly Paradise

- 8. Evil and suffering. These began when one of God's angels rebelled. (<u>John 8:44</u>) This angel, who after his rebellion was called "Satan" and "Devil," persuaded the first human couple to join him, and the consequences have been disastrous for their descendants. (<u>Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 5:12</u>) In order to settle the moral issues raised by Satan, God has allowed <u>evil and suffering</u>, but He will not permit them to continue forever.
- 9. Death. <u>People who die</u> pass out of existence. (<u>Psalm 146:4;Ecclesiastes 9:5, 10</u>) They do not suffer in a <u>fiery hell</u> of torment. God will bring billions back from death by means of <u>a resurrection</u>. (<u>Acts 24:15</u>) However, those who refuse to learn God's ways after being raised to life will be destroyed forever with no hope of a resurrection.—<u>Revelation 20:14, 15</u>.
  - 10. Family. We adhere to God's <u>original standard</u> of marriage as the union of one man and one woman, with sexual immorality being the only valid basis for <u>divorce</u>. (<u>Matthew 19:4-9</u>) We are convinced that the wisdom found in <u>the Bible</u> helps families to succeed.—Ephesians 5:22-6:1.



- 11. Our worship. We do not venerate the cross or any other images. (Deuteronomy 4:15-19; 1 John 5:21) Key aspects of our worship include the following:
  - Praying to God.—Philippians 4:6.
  - Reading and studying the Bible.—Psalm 1:1-3.
  - Meditating on what we <u>learn from the Bible</u>.—<u>Psalm 77:12</u>.
  - Meeting together to pray, study the Bible, sing, express our faith, and encourage fellow Witnesses and others.—Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 10:23-25.
  - Preaching the "good news of the Kingdom."—Matthew 24:14.
  - Helping those in need.—James 2:14-17.
  - Constructing and maintaining <u>Kingdom Halls</u> and other facilities used to further our worldwide Bible educational work.—<u>Psalm 127:1</u>.
  - Sharing in disaster relief.—Acts 11:27-30.



Jehovah's Witnesses Religious Meeting

12. Our organization. We are <u>organized into congregations</u>, each of which is overseen by a body of <u>elders</u>. However, the elders <u>do not form a clergy class</u>, and they are unsalaried. (<u>Matthew 10:8; 23:8</u>) We <u>do not practice tithing</u>, and no collections are ever taken at our meetings. (<u>2 Corinthians 9:7</u>) All our activities are supported by <u>anonymous donations</u>.

The <u>Governing Body</u>, a small group of mature Christians who serve at our world headquarters, provides direction for Jehovah's Witnesses worldwide.—Matthew 24:45.

- 13. Our unity. We are globally united in our beliefs. (1 Corinthians 1:10) We also work hard to have no social, ethnic, racial, or class divisions. (Acts 10:34, 35; James 2:4) Our unity allows for personal choice, though. Each Witness makes decisions in harmony with his or her own Bible-trained conscience.—Romans 14:1-4; Hebrews 5:14.
- 14. Our conduct. We strive to show unselfish love in all our actions. (John 13:34, 35) We avoid practices that displease God, including the misuse of blood by taking blood transfusions. (Acts 15:28, 29;Galatians 5:19-21) We are peaceful and do not participate in warfare. (Matthew 5:9; Isaiah 2:4) We respect the government where we live and obey its laws as long as these do not call on us to disobey God's laws.—Matthew 22:21; Acts 5:29.
- 15. Our relationships with others. Jesus commanded: "You must love your neighbor as yourself." He also said that Christians "are no part of the world." (Matthew 22:39; John 17:16) So we try to "work what is good toward all," yet we remain strictly neutral in political affairs and avoid affiliation with other religions. (Galatians 6:10; 2 Corinthians 6:14) However, we respect the choices that others make in such matters.—Romans 14:12

#### ADDITIONAL THINGS THAT JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES BELIEVE

#### One God

Like many religions, Jehovah's Witnesses believe there is a God who created everything. They believe that God is the most powerful individual in the universe. They also have beliefs that are from those religions. They say God explained in the Bible that his name is Jehovah (which is a translation of the Hebrew letters "YHWH") and they believe it is important that people know that name. They believe that Jesus Christ is God's son (as well as being the first created angel; presumably Michael the Archangel), and the holy spirit is the power that God can use to help his purposes. They do not believe in the Trinity. They believe the Bible is a

book that God wrote with the help of humans, and it is therefore completely true and the best guide to how people should live.

#### Adam and Eve

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that God made Adam and Eve, the first humans, and put them in a paradise called Eden. They believe that when Adam and Eve sinned, they no longer had God's approval and that therefore they began to get sick and die. Because they were no longer perfect, they were unable to have perfect children, so from that point humans would find it very hard to avoid sinning. They believe that Jehovah later sent Jesus to die (on a *torture stake* pole, rather than a cross, as most Christians believe) to make a way for humans to get back the paradise that Adam and Eve lost and restore them to perfect health and life.

#### Heaven

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that only 144,000 people, who are referred to in Revelation chapters 7 and 14, will go to heaven to be kings and priests with Jesus Christ; though the term "kings and priests" is used, women are not excluded from the heavenly class. They say that God is going to start a worldwide war called Armageddon, and that billions of people who do not obey God or worship him the way he expects will be killed. The people who he approves will survive that great war and will be given the opportunity to live forever, because God will remove all sickness, disease and death.

God will then begin to turn Earth into a peaceful paradise where there will be no crime, violence or wars, because criminals and dishonest people will have died at Armageddon. He will also resurrect (bring back to life) the billions of people who died in the past, so they can learn the truth about God and show they want to live obediently in a paradise as well.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that only their religion truly obeys God's instructions, and that God disapproves of all other religions (including Catholics, Protestants, Buddhists and Muslims) because they refuse to really follow the Bible. They believe the leader of all those religions is Satan the Devil, who blinds the minds of people into thinking they are pleasing God with their worship. For that reason, they believe only members of Jehovah's Witnesses who really live by Bible principles and in a way God approves will be saved at Armageddon, though God will make the final choice.

#### Door-to-door work

Jehovah's Witnesses are best known for their door-to-door ministry work. They believe Jesus Christ ordered them at Matthew 28:19 to "go make disciples of all the nations" warning people that the day of God's judgement, or Armageddon, will happen soon. Jehovah's Witnesses believe their preaching work is a fulfillment of prophesy located at Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." All Witnesses are encouraged to spend time regularly in public preaching work, which usually involves offering *The Watchtower* or other Watch Tower Society publications. Since the Internet, Jehovah's Witnesses also preach online with some bible studies taking place over communication networks such as Skype. They teach people Witness doctrine about Jehovah and his plans for the earth. Students are required to give a monthly written report on how much time they have spent in that ministry.

# Meetings

The buildings where Jehovah's Witnesses meet to worship are called Kingdom Halls. Unlike many other churches, these halls do not have altars, statues, symbols such as the Cross, or candles. Each congregation has two meetings a week, which are broken down into four meeting events:

- The "Service (or ministry) meeting" and the "Theocratic Ministry School" (both held on the same night)
- The "Watchtower study" and a public talk (both held on the same day)

Members can also attend by phone, by listening in via a call-in number. They also attend big conventions and assemblies several times a year (some of them at hired sports arenas), where often thousands of Jehovah's Witnesses gather.



Most meetings consist of talks or study sessions based on articles in Watchtower Society books and magazines about the Bible or Christian life. At the congregation, people in the audience, including children, are often invited to make comments and respond to questions asked by the speaker. The religion has elders and ministerial servants (who are called bishops and deacons in some other Christian churches), but they have no paid clergy. Most elders support themselves by having other jobs. Also, they do not consider themselves to be superior to other members of the congregation, and do not set themselves apart in any way (like by dressing in a certain way).

#### **Rules**

Members of the religion are expected to live up to high moral standards. They are told they should always be honest. Jehovah's Witnesses are not allowed to:

- Have sex with people they are not married to
- Have homosexual relationships
- Smoke tobacco or take illegal drugs (they are allowed to drink alcohol if they do not get drunk)
- Vote in elections
- Salute flags or sing national anthems
- Join armies or fight in wars
- Celebrate birthdays, Christmas, Easter, or other common religious holidays

Jehovah's Witnesses are encouraged to marry only other baptized Jehovah's Witnesses. They are warned that God does not like married couples to divorce.

They also refuse to have blood transfusions. They believe that in the Bible, God said blood should not be taken into the body.

They are warned not to make close friends with people who are not Jehovah's Witnesses, because of the danger that those people could make their faith in God weaker. However, they are allowed to be around non-Witnesses.

# **Membership**

Jehovah's Witnesses are quite strict about who can be a member. Any Witness who is suspected of breaking any of the Bible's moral standards may be asked to appear before an investigation held by elders. This is not public.

A member of the religion who disagrees with any official teaching and talks or writes about it may also be called to appear and answer questions. That investigation is called a judicial committee. If the elders decide the person is 'guilty' and does not regret what they did, they may tell the person they have been "disfellowshipped." This means they are no longer a member of the religion or approved by God. When that happens, no other Jehovah's Witness is allowed to talk to that person until they are allowed back in.

Some people, including former Witnesses, have criticized this way of keeping the congregation clean as harsh and unfair. The style of leadership of the religion has also been described by some authors as autocratic and totalitarian because of the way members have to be completely submissive to the leaders. Members have to avoid criticizing the religion or its teachings in any way.

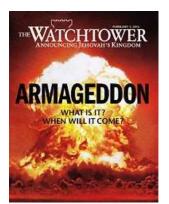
#### PART 3 – WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Jehovah's Witnesses have received criticism from mainstream Christianity, members of the medical community, former members and commentators regarding their beliefs and practices. The movement has been accused of doctrinal inconsistency and reversals, failed predictions, mistranslation of the Bible, harsh treatment of former members and autocratic and coercive leadership. Criticism has also focused on their rejection of blood transfusions, particularly in life-threatening medical situations, and claims that they have failed to report cases of sexual abuse to the authorities. Many of the claims are denied by Jehovah's Witnesses and some have also been disputed by courts and religious scholars.

#### **Failed Predictions**

The beliefs unique to Jehovah's Witnesses involve their interpretations of the second coming of Christ, the millennium, and the kingdom of God. Watch Tower Society publications have made, and continue to make, predictions about world events they believe were prophesied in the Bible. Some of those early predictions were described as ''established truth'', and 'beyond a doubt'. Witnesses are told to 'be complete in accepting the visible organization's direction in every aspect' and that there is no need to question what God tells them through his Word and organization since love ''believes all things.'' If a member advocates views different to what appears in print, they face expulsion.

Failed predictions that were either explicitly stated or strongly implied have led to the alteration or abandonment of some teachings. The Society's publications have at times suggested that members had previously "read into the Watch Tower statements that were never intended" or that the beliefs of members were "based on wrong premises."



A 1966 Awake! article predicted an 'end to the world', even announcing a specific year". Armageddon was expected in 1975! The religion encouraged members to believe that God could bring Armageddon in 1975, and that the Kingdom would be set up very soon after. Some Witnesses sold businesses and homes, gave up jobs, delayed medical operations and decided against starting a family because they expected Armageddon to arrive. The religion's leaders later apologized for those statements, which they said were made because they were so

keen for the Kingdom to come. Many members left at the time, because they were disappointed nothing had happened, but membership later climbed even higher.

The Watch Tower Society rejects accusations that it is a false prophet. It admits its explanations of Bible prophecy are not infallible and that its predictions are not claimed explicitly as "the words of Jehovah." It states that some of its expectations have needed adjustment because of eagerness for God's kingdom, but that those adjustments are no reason to "call into question the whole body of truth."

Duambaau	V
Prophecy	Year
Coming of Christ	1874
Resurrection	1878
End of favor to the Gentiles	1881
Armageddon	1914
Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob Resurrected	1915
Christendom and its Churches Destroyed	1918
Disappearance of Republics	1920
Establishment of God's Kingdom on Earth	1925
Abraham in Jerusalem to resurrect loved ones	1925
End of the World	1975



The End of the World for all Sinners and Paradise for Jehovah's Witnesses

Jehovah's Witnesses religious activities are currently banned or restricted in Singapore, China, Vietnam, Russia, and most Islamic states.



On Monday, July 17, 2017, the Russian Supreme Court rejected an appeal of an earlier ruling sanctioning Jehovah's Witnesses as an extremist group. As a last ditch effort, Russian Jehovah's Witnesses intend to appeal to the European Court of Human Rights. But, as of now, Jehovah's Witness gatherings and preaching are criminal offenses in Russia. The Russian government also has the legal authority to liquidate any property held by Jehovah's Witnesses as an organization.

There are over eight million Jehovah's Witnesses in 240 countries worldwide. Russia, with a population of about 150 million, has a total of 170,000 Jehovah's Witnesses—one Jehovah's Witness per 880 people.

#### Persecution

Political and religious animosity against Jehovah's Witnesses has at times led to mob action and government oppression in various countries, including Cuba, the United States, Canada, Singapore, and Nazi Germany. The denomination's doctrine of political neutrality has led to imprisonment of members who refused military service (for example in the U.S. during World War II and afterwards during the period of compulsory national service).

During the World Wars, Jehovah's Witnesses were targeted in the United States, Canada, and many other countries for their refusal to serve in the military or help with war efforts. In Canada, Jehovah's Witnesses were interned in camps along with political dissidents and people of Japanese and Chinese descent. Activities of Jehovah's Witnesses have previously been banned in the Soviet Union and in Spain, mostly due to their refusal to perform military service.

In Germany, about 10,000 Witnesses were imprisoned, including 2000 sent to concentration camps, where they were identified by purple triangles; as many as 1200 died, including 250 who were executed. From 1935 Gestapo officers offered members a document to sign indicating renouncement of their faith, submission to state authority, and support of the German military. A "relatively high number" of people signed the statement before the war, but "extremely low numbers" of Bible Student prisoners did so in concentration camps in later years.

The three primary Jehovah's Witnesses practices that makes governments and other citizens mad are their refusal to perform military service, their refusal to salute the country's flag, and not standing for the country's national anthem.

(Hey, I just thought of something. Maybe all those NFL players who are kneeling or sitting during our national anthem are Jehovah's Witnesses?)

#### PART 4 – WHAT I THINK ABOUT THE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Well, I don't think I will be attending any Jehovah's Witnesses meetings at the Kingdom Hall in Mililani.



Mililani Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses

When you don't obey or conform to the laws of the country where you live and are a citizen, you are asking for trouble. Here are things about the Jehovah's Witnesses I don't like:

- They do not serve in or support the military. They will not help defend the country they are living in.
- They refuse to salute the country's flag and most members will not stand up for the country's national anthem.
- They don't celebrate Christmas or most other holidays. This is not right everybody needs to get out and spend a lot of money to support the economy.
- They don't even celebrate their own birthdays or their kid's birthdays. Heck, at my age, I celebrate every day that I wake up alive.
- They don't believe in blood transfusions. If their child is sick and needs a blood transfusion to stay alive, the parents will let that child die.
- Making all these predictions about the world ending makes a lot of people feel uneasy.

Other than that, I think Jehovah's Witnesses are good people. They are peaceful and not out on the street beating people up and stealing things.

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