

## **Home Page**

### **Attacking The Church**

#### **Light, Vol. 1, 1930 ed., p. 325**

“All the rulers of the earth, particularly of ‘Christendom’, so called, are spiritual fornicators.”

#### **Defending and Legally Establishing the Good News, 1950 ed., p.60**

“The Supreme Court of the United States held that one of Jehovah’s witnesses could not be convicted for playing a phonograph record which ‘embodies a general attack upon all organized religious systems as instruments of Satan and injurious to man’ and ‘singles out the Roman Catholic Church for strictures couched in terms which naturally would offend not only persons of that persuasion, but all others who respect the honestly held religious faith of their fellows.’”

#### **The Watchtower, March 1, 1979, p. 24**

“Outside the true Christian congregation, what alternative organization is there? Only Satan’s organization consisting of his political ‘wild beast’ and his Babylonian world empire of false religion.”

#### **The Watchtower, April 1, 1988, p. 24**

“Over the last seven decades, in conjunction with proclaiming the glorious hope of Jehovah’s incoming Kingdom, Jehovah’s Witnesses have spread around the world a veritable flood of denunciation and judgment. In hundreds of millions of frank, hard-hitting Bible-based publications, they have exposed Christendom as the most powerful force in the religious whore, ‘Babylon the Great,’ denounced in Revelation chapters 17 and 18. (See *‘Babylon the Great Has Fallen! God’s Kingdom Rules!’*, pages 576-615, published in 1963 by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc.)”

(continued)

**The Watchtower, April 1, 1989, p. 5**

“In accordance with the prophetic vision, Babylon the Great is the great whore that has led nations, peoples, and tribes into bloody wars, crusades, and vendettas, blessing them with incantations, holy water, prayers, and fiery patriotic speeches.—Revelation 18:24. Her clergy, especially her chaplains, have been willing tools of the rulers in herding the masses as cannon fodder into the slaughter of two world wars and other major conflicts. Catholic has killed Catholic, and Protestant has dutifully massacred Protestant, with a loss of some 50 to 60 million lives in just the two world wars.”

(done)

The Israelites did the very thing that God commanded them that they should not do. They went a whoring after other gods. Therefore God permitted Babylon, Satan's organization, to administer to Israel a terrible punishment and to bring that people into subjection to Babylon, where they have been since. "For thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will deliver thee into the hand of them whom thou hatest, into the hand of them from whom thy mind is alienated: and they shall deal with thee hatefully, and shall take away all thy labour, and shall leave thee naked and bare; and the nakedness of thy whoredoms shall be discovered, both thy lewdness and thy whoredoms. I will do these things unto thee, because thou hast gone a whoring after the heathen, and because thou art polluted with their idols. Thou hast walked in the way of thy sister; therefore will I give her cup into thine hand. Thus saith the Lord God, Thou shalt drink of thy sister's cup deep and large: thou shalt be laughed to scorn and had in derision; it containeth much. Thou shalt be filled with drunkenness and sorrow, with the cup of astonishment and desolation, with the cup of thy sister Samaria."—Ezek. 23: 28-33. Therefore the prophet, speaking for Israel, says: "O God, thou hast cast us off, thou hast scattered us, thou hast been displeased; O turn thyself to us again. Thou hast shewed thy people hard things; thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment."—Ps. 60: 1, 3.

Babylon, therefore, was used as an instrument in the hand of the Lord to cause the Israelites to suffer great and severe punishment. Jehovah had punished that people, but they had not profited by that punishment, and then he turned the cup into the hand of

Babylon that thereafter afflicted the Israelites. (Isa. 51: 17-23) Babylon, or Satan's organization, has therefore been an instrument in the hands of Jehovah in this way also.

Babylon has made all the nations of the earth drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. All these nations have come under the cruel rule of Satan and have suffered much violence. Devil-worship, and not the union of church and state, is spiritual fornication. It is a wicked rule of violence, induced by a passionate and unsatisfied desire, that is fornication. All the rulers of the earth, particularly of "Christian-<sup>dom</sup>", so called, are spiritual fornicators. These rulers have preferred to worship and honor the Devil rather than worship and honor Jehovah God. This passionate desire for Devil-worship and power has led the rulers to make the common peoples of earth drink of their oppression and military violence. The combine of Big Business, big politicians and clergy, led by their inordinate and passionate desire to rule the world in utter disregard of God's Word, has caused the people great oppression and suffering.

When God presented his beloved Son, who is the antitypical Cyrus, as King, these rulers of Babylon (in 1914-1918) rejected him and gave their allegiance and worship to Satan's organization. That marks the time of the fall of Babylon, or casting of her out of heaven, and also the release of God's people from Babylon. (Isa. 45: 1, 13) Because Babylon has made the nations of earth to drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and so-called "Christian-<sup>dom</sup>" has preferred to have it so, God in his due time will compel Babylon to take a dose of her own medicine. All nations will be required to drink thereof,

and therefore it is intended to protect from the operation of any Commonwealth laws acts which are done in the exercise of religion. Thus the section goes far beyond protecting liberty of opinion. It protects also acts done in pursuance of religious belief as part of religion.

It is submitted that neither Jehovah's witnesses, nor literature published and distributed by them, nor their preaching activity violates the sedition laws of the nations. They are definitely not subversive, being engaged in preaching the gospel of God's kingdom in the same manner as did Jesus and his apostles.

XII

The courts have held that, notwithstanding the fact that the literature published and distributed by Jehovah's witnesses attacks the doctrines of the orthodox clergy and their religions as false and contrary to the Word of God, laws, bylaws, ordinances and statutes forbidding their preaching and distribution of their literature are unconstitutional and void.

Christ Jesus and his apostles challenged the correctness of the orthodox religion of their day. They said that the doctrines of the clergy were false. Throughout history there have been dissenters who have protested against the false doctrines of the established religions. In democratic lands every person within the country has the right to state publicly his disagreements with the religion of the majority. He may attack the doctrines of the clergy which he believes to be false.

In *Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U. S. 296, 309, 310, 60 S. Ct. 900, 905, 906, 84 L. Ed. 1213 (1940), the Supreme Court of the United States held that one of Jehovah's witnesses could not be convicted for playing a phonograph record which embodies a general attack upon all organized religious systems, as instruments of Satan and injurious to man, and singles out the Roman Catholic Church for strictures couched in terms which naturally would offend not only persons of that persuasion, but all others who respect the honesty of their religious faith of their fellows. The Supreme Court, through Mr. Justice Roberts, said:

In the realm of religious faith, and in that of political belief, sharp differences arise. In both fields the tenets of one man may seem the rankest error to his neighbor. To persuade others to his own point of view, the pleader, as we know, at times, resorts to exaggeration, to vilification of men who have been, or are prominent in church or state, and even to false statement.

In *Murdock v. Pennsylvania*, 319 U. S. 105, 115, 116, 63 S. Ct. 870, 876, 87 L. Ed. 1292 (1943), Mr. Justice Douglas said:

Considerable emphasis is placed on the kind of literature, which petitioners were distributing—its provocative, abusive, and ill-mannered character and the assault which it makes on our established churches

and the cherished faiths of many of us. . . . But those considerations are no justification for the license tax which the ordinance imposes. Plainly a community may not suppress, or the state tax, the dissemination of views because they are unpopular, annoying or distasteful. If that device were ever sanctioned, there would have been forged a ready instrument for the suppression of the faith which any minority cherishes, but which does not happen to be in favor. That would be a complete repudiation of the philosophy of the Bill of Rights.

In *Martin v. City of Struthers*, 319 U. S. 141, 150, 63 S. Ct. 862, 866-867, 87 L. Ed. 1313 (1943), Mr. Justice Murphy, concurring, said: "Repression has no place in this country. It is our proud achievement to have demonstrated that unity and strength are best accomplished, not by enforced orthodoxy of views, but by diversity of opinion through the fullest possible measure of freedom of conscience and thought."

It is submitted that the fact that the contents of the literature distributed by Jehovah's witnesses may attack as false the doctrines of orthodox religions is not ground for prohibiting its distribution.

XIII

The courts have held that Jehovah's witnesses have the right to refuse to salute the flag and to explain orally or distribute literature giving reasons why they do not salute and they may not be denied their legal rights because of such refusal to salute.

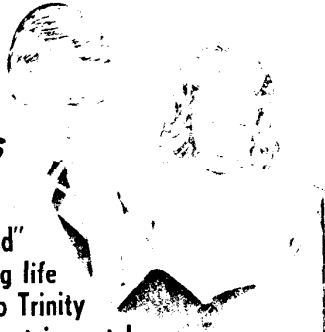
Jehovah's witnesses respect the flag of every nation where they reside. They refuse to salute it because to do so requires them to violate their covenant obligation with Jehovah God. In Exodus 20:3-5, Almighty God forbids his people to ascribe salvation to any other god, or to an image or likeness. To salute the flag of any nation is to do an act of obeisance to the flag which attributes to it salvation in violation of such Scriptural command.

Jehovah's witnesses do not teach others not to salute the flag. They do not encourage others not to salute it. If others choose to salute, that is their affair. Jehovah's witnesses believe it would be wrong to prevent others from saluting. They merely claim for themselves the right to refuse to salute the flag of any nation.

Jehovah's witnesses respect the flag and the things for which it stands. They have valiantly fought on the "home front" in many lands for liberty for which the flag stands, namely, freedom of speech, press, conscience and worship of Almighty God, and they push these fights through the courts so as to maintain these liberties for all.

On June 14, 1943, the Supreme Court of the United States reversed its notorious decision of June 3, 1940, in *Minesville v. Gobits*, 310 U. S. 586, 60 S. Ct. 1010, 87 L. Ed. 1375, when it rendered its decision in *West Virginia State Board of Edu-*

## KEY BIBLE TEACHINGS *Emphasized by Jehovah's Witnesses*

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- Vindication of Jehovah's name and sovereignty
  - Christ's "presence" in Kingdom power at "time of the end"
  - Jesus' ransom opens way to resurrection and everlasting life
  - Separate identities of Father, Son and holy spirit; no Trinity
  - Creation in contrast to evolution. • Human soul not immortal
  - Separateness from world's politics and violence
  - Respect for God's law on blood and morality
  - Christendom principal part of "Babylon the Great"
  - Cultivating love and Christian personality
  - The Christian's obligation to preach and make disciples
  - Baptism by total water immersion in symbol of dedication

kind or another be made down to the very present time. But let us never forget that the motives of this "slave" were always pure, unselfish; at all times it has been well-meaning. Moreover, the words found at Romans 8:28 are fitting here also: "God makes all his works cooperate together for the good of those who love God, those who are the ones called according to his purpose." Actually, any adjustments that have been made in understanding have furnished an opportunity for those being served by this "slave" to show loyalty and love, the kind of love that Jesus said would mark his followers. (John 13:34, 35; compare 1 Peter 4:8.) For those who truly love God's law there is no stumbling block.—Ps. 119:165.

### THE COURSE OF WISDOM

<sup>16</sup> The foregoing review of the history of Jehovah's "faithful and discreet slave," as contrasted with the history of Christendom, brings us to what conclusion? This, that Jesus Christ has been true to

<sup>16</sup> In view of all the foregoing, to what inescapable conclusion do we come?

his promise. He has been with his Christian congregation as represented by that "slave" from the time that he ascended into heaven down to this very day. Jehovah's spirit does indeed rest richly upon that "slave" and those associated with it, as they keep obeying the commands to preach the good news of the Kingdom and to make disciples. (Matt. 10:7; 24:14; 28:19, 20) To stay with Jesus Christ is to stay with those whom he is pleased to use. Outside the true Christian congregation, what alternative organization is there? Only Satan's organization consisting of his political "wild beast" and his Babylonian world empire of false religion.—Rev. 13:1, 14, 15; 17:3-6.

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus told his disciples that unless they ate of his flesh and drank his blood they would have no life in themselves, no doubt all of them felt puzzled. Many of them took offense and no longer walked with Jesus. Just because of that

<sup>17, 18.</sup> (a) Why was it foolish for some to abandon Jesus because of what he said about eating his flesh and drinking his blood? (b) So what is the course of wisdom for us today?

Jeremiah when, in 1931, at a convention in Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A., it was announced that the Biblical name for this courageous group of Christians should be "Jehovah's Witnesses." (Isaiah 43:10-12) That name had been brought to the fore in the eighth century B.C.E. when Jehovah applied it to Israel. Hence, about a hundred years later, when Jeremiah served as a prophet, he was also a witness for Jehovah. (Jeremiah 16:21) Likewise Jesus, when he came to the earth as a Jew, was a witness for his Father, Jehovah. (John 17:25, 26; Revelation 1:5; 3:14) Therefore, it was appropriate that at God's due time, his people should finally qualify for this divinely appointed name—"Jehovah's Witnesses."—John 17:6, 11, 12.

#### Christendom Unmasked

<sup>14</sup> Over the last seven decades, in conjunction with proclaiming the glorious hope of Jehovah's incoming Kingdom, Jehovah's Witnesses have spread around the world a veritable flood of denunciation and judgment. In hundreds of millions of frank, hard-hitting Bible-based publications, they have exposed Christendom as the most powerful force in the religious whore, "Babylon the Great," denounced in Revelation chapters 17 and 18. (See "Babylon the Great Has Fallen!" God's Kingdom Rules!, pages 576-615, published in 1963 by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc.)

<sup>15</sup> In 1955 Jehovah's Wit-

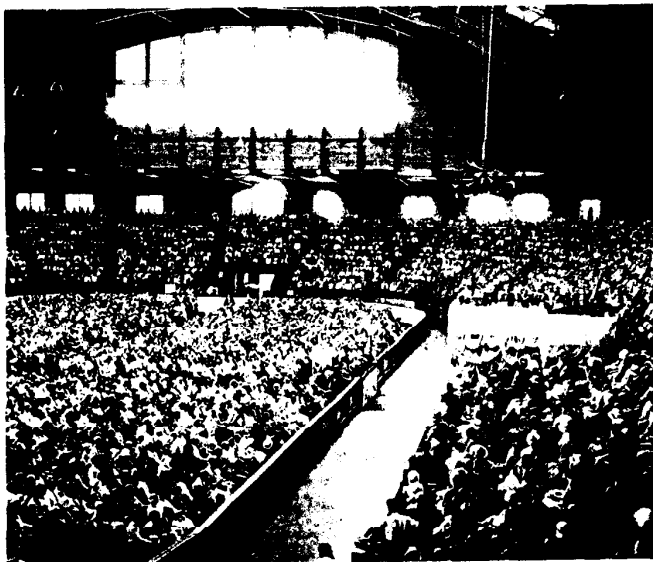
14. How has Christendom been exposed over the last 70 years?

15. How was Christendom exposed in 1955?

nesses distributed millions of copies of the booklet *Christendom or Christianity—Which One Is "the Light of the World"?* Thousands were delivered directly to the clergy of Christendom. And what did that booklet tell them? In true Jeremiah fashion, it stated: "Despite all her advantages that have pushed her ahead economically, mentally and militarily, Christendom has not proved herself 'the light of the world.' Why not? . . . She does not preach or practice [the Bible's] Christianity." Then it raised the question: "Is the exposing of false religions a persecution of their adherents? Is it un-Christian bigotry?"

<sup>16</sup> The answer was: "No; otherwise Jesus Christ was a bigoted persecutor of the Jews, . . . and all of Jehovah's prophets of ancient times [including Jeremiah] before Jesus were persecutors and bigots, for they all exposed the false religion of apos-

16. Was it bigotry for the Witnesses to expose Christendom? Explain.



In 1931 the Bible Students accepted the name "Jehovah's Witnesses" at their convention in Columbus, Ohio

### Babylon the Warmonger

In accordance with the prophetic vision, Babylon the Great is the great whore that has led nations, peoples, and tribes into bloody wars, crusades, and vendettas, blessing them with incantations, holy water, prayers, and fiery patriotic speeches.\*  
—Revelation 18:24.

Her clergy, especially her chaplains, have been willing tools of the rulers in herding the masses as cannon fodder into the slaughter of two world wars and other major conflicts. Catholic has killed

\*The "holy" Crusades (1096-1270), the Thirty Years' War in Europe (1618-48), two world wars, and the slaughter of some 200,000 Hindus and Muslims on the partition of India (1947) are just a few examples of religion's bloodguilt.

Catholic, and Protestant has dutifully massacred Protestant, with a loss of some 50 to 60 million lives in just the two world wars.

In this enlightened 20th century, religion's legacy continues to breed hatred and death—not just in the realm of Christendom with its Catholic versus Protestant confrontation but also in the non-Christian world with its Islam versus Judaism, Hinduism versus Islam, Buddhism versus Hinduism, Sikhism versus Hinduism, and so forth.

Furthermore, religion has always wanted to exert a powerful influence over "the kings of the earth," attempting to decide their destinies and their successors. Let us briefly consider a few examples.

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## THE HARLOT AND "THE KINGS OF THE EARTH"

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CHRISTENDOM'S history is full of examples of influence peddling and of meddling in the realms of power. Let us consider a few of them. Charlemagne (742-814 C.E.) was a ruler who saw the benefits of consorting with religion and having the blessing of the clergy of the Catholic Church.

*The New Encyclopædia Britannica* explains that the pope anointed Charlemagne, his father, and his brother, in founding a new dynasty after the former reigning family had been 'shunted aside.' Then it adds: "The political alliance between the Franks [Charlemagne's people] and the Pope against the Lombards was affirmed on the same occasion. . . . Charles [who became Charlemagne] early acknowledged the close connection between temporal power and the church."

In the year 800 C.E., Pope Leo III, "determined to make Charles emperor" of the Western Roman Empire, crowned him at Christmas Mass in St. Peter's, Rome.

### A Greedy Harlot

But a harlot requires payment. What could Charlemagne pay Babylon's representative, Rome? "Charles . . . reiterated, in St. Peter's Basilica, his father's promise to transfer to papal rule large sections of Italy." The same source adds: "In his politically conditioned religiosity, the empire and the church grew into an institutional and spiritual unit."

Another example of religion's past powerful influence in rulership is Cardinal Wolsey of England (1475-1530). The *Britannica* states that he was a "cardinal and statesman who dominated the