



INTERFAITH
ALLIANCE
PROTECTING FAITH AND FREEDOM

5 Facts You Need to Know About Jehovah's Witness

1. Jehovah's Witness was founded in 1870's Pittsburgh. There are ~8.5 million Witnesses worldwide, approximately half of which are in the United States.
2. The most significant departure from other Christian denominations is the belief that Jesus is ruling from heaven since 1914 to begin the 'End Times,' or the end of the world.
3. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that when a person dies, their existence completely stops but can be resurrected. They believe that when this world ends, there will be a separate heaven and an earthly paradise. Only some faithful Jehovah's Witnesses will reach heaven with Jesus. Anyone else who is saved – those who prove themselves to be loyal subjects of Jesus – will live in the earthly paradise.
4. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus did not die on a cross but on a single stake and thus do not use the cross symbolically.
5. Jehovah's Witnesses maintain a degree of separation from the secular world. Unlike the members of more extreme separatist traditions, Witnesses both live and work among the secular community and send their children to secular schools. However, they refuse military service, voting in elections, and taking part in most secular celebrations like birthdays.

Learn more at:

<https://www.jw.org/en/jehovahs-witnesses/faq/jehovah-witness-beliefs/>

These five points are not meant to be comprehensive or authoritative. We hope they encourage you to explore this spirituality more deeply and seek out members of this community to learn about their beliefs in action. In understanding our differences we will better understand our common humanity.

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