

Reasoning From The Scriptures Watch Tower Bible And Tract Society

Making Sense of Crucial Last-Days Signs Pressure is rising. The global atmosphere is morphing as never before. It's time to pay attention to the warnings around us that point to inevitable catastrophes to come. Bible prophecy expert Ron Rhodes surveys 15 current trends that affect us on a worldwide, national, and personal scale—suggesting some inescapable consequences to our safety, rights, and way of life. You will see how the stage is being set for the end times with such drastic developments as... the escalation of cyberwarfare the deterioration of religious freedom the dissolution of the family unit With eye-opening research and a helpful examination of Scripture, Rhodes clearly shows where trends are leading while advocating a response based on hope, truth, and preparation rather than fear.

The purpose of this work is to demonstrate the lack of reasoning and contextual misuse by the Jehovah's Witnesses in their use of sources and the Scriptures to support their erroneous beliefs and doctrines.

This book examines the historic tensions between Jehovah's Witnesses and government authorities, civic organisations, established churches and the broader public. Witnesses originated in the 1870s as small, loose-knit groups calling themselves Bible Students. Today, there are some eight million Witnesses worldwide, all actively engaged in evangelism under the direction of the Watch Tower Society. The author analyses issues that have brought them global visibility and even notoriety, including political neutrality, public ministry, blood transfusion, and anti-ecumenism. It also explores anti-Witness discourse, from media portrayals of the community as marginal and exotic to the anti-cult movement. Focusing on varied historical, ideological and national contexts, the book argues that Witnesses have had a defining influence on conceptions of religious tolerance in the modern world.

Christians have great news to offer Jehovah's Witnesses. In this revised and updated version of the top-selling Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Jehovah's Witnesses (more than 90,000 copies sold), author and Bible expert Ron Rhodes helps readers delve into the Bible and use practical tools to share God's truths with those who come calling. Convenient side-by-side comparisons of the New World Translation and the Bible, along with answers to each doctrinal error espoused by the Witnesses Point-by-point lists of the favorite tactics and arguments used by the Witnesses—along with effective, biblical responses to each Questions you can ask to challenge the Jehovah's Witnesses' confidence in the Watchtower Society With easy-to-understand helps, concise information, direct comparisons of beliefs, and a compassionate presentation, this resource from Ron Rhodes is ideal for personal and church libraries and for any reader who wants to confidently share the gospel.

A theological essay and examination of the unique beliefs and practices of the people known as the Jehovah's Witnesses from their own perspective. The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society and the Witnesses are best known for their dedication to the door-to-door ministry, the Watchtower Magazine, and related printed materials. In this his second book, Dr. Bridges opens the door of theological inquiry into the people of the Kingdom Hall.

Cults and New Religions Aren't Hard to Find They're in your neighborhood . . . your workplace . . . your school . . . maybe even your family. Cults are flourishing across America. Chances are, you've encountered one, perhaps even know someone who is involved in a cult. Can you discuss knowledgably the critical differences between Christianity and the teachings of Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Scientology, the New Age movement, Hindu-based cults, and other prominent groups and religious movements? In this essential resource, preeminent cult authority Ron Rhodes explains what cults are, why they are cause for concern, and why in the 21st century, as never before, their numbers and memberships are exploding nationally and worldwide. Drawing on his extensive experience as a cult researcher, Rhodes offers to-the-point, cutting-edge information on twelve major cults and new religions: Mormonism Jehovah's Witnesses Mind Sciences New Age Movement Church of Scientology Hindu-based Cults Unification Church Baha'i Faith Unitarian Universalism Oneness Pentecostalism Masonic Lodge Satanism Learning the distinctives of these groups will equip you to deal with any of the thousands of other less significant cults you may encounter. The Challenge of the Cults and New Religion includes Color photos Scripture Index Subject Index Glossary Bibliography And your resources don't end at the last page. You can supplement your knowledge whenever you choose by visiting the author's Web site at www.ronrhodes.org for free, thorough, up-to-the-minute information on each cult discussed in the book. If you're concerned for the temporal and eternal welfare of others, The Challenge of the Cults is a must. It will help you confront the deception of false Christs and lying doctrines with the clear, well-grounded truth of biblical Christianity.

He is one of the most terrifying figures in all of literature and art. Every culture has a manifestation of him. He is the essence of our nightmares. Satan, although called by many names, has the same persona around the world—evil. With an unbiased eye, Nwaocha Ogechukwu explores the many manifestations of the devil in religion, and the consequential effects on culture and the arts, starting from days of ancient pagans to contemporary artisans. This academic work is an enlightening experience that should not be missed.

Annotation. Most new or alternative religious are gravely misunderstood by members of the religious mainstream. Labeled cults or sects, groups and their members are often ridiculed or otherwise disregarded as weird and potentially dangerous by the populace at large. Despite their efforts at educating the general public, the various anti- and counter-cult activists have in fact promoted much more mis-understanding than accurate understanding of the religious lives of some of their fellow citizens. Consequently, they have helped to create a very hostile environment for anyone whose religious practices do not fit within a so-called mainstream. This set rectifies the situation by presenting accurate, comprehensive, authoritative and accessible accounts of various new and alternative religious movements that have been and are active in American society, and it addresses ways of understanding new and alternative religions within a broader context. Determining what actually constitutes a new or alternative religion is a subject of constant debate. Questions arise as to a new faith's legitimacy, beliefs, methods of conversion, and other facets of a religious movement's viability and place in a given culture. How a religion gains recognition by the mainstream, which often labels such new movements as cults, is fraught with difficulty, tension, and fear. Here, experts delineate the boundaries and examine the various groups, beliefs, movements, and other issues related to new faiths and alternative beliefs. Readers will come away with a fuller understanding of the religious landscape in America today. Volume 1: History and Controversies discusses the foundations of new and alternative religions in the United States and addresses the controversies that surround them. This volume helps readers better understand what makes a new or alternative belief system a religion and the issues involved. Volume 2: Jewish and Christian Traditions explores the various new religions that have grown out of these two Abrahamic faiths. Groups such as the Shakers, the People's Temple, the Branch Davidians, Jehovah's Witnesses and others are examined. Volume 3: Metaphysical, New Age, and Neopagan Movements looks at Shamanism, Spiritualism, Wicca, and Paganism, among other movements, as they have developed and grown in the U.S. These faiths have found new and devoted followers yet are often misunderstood. Volume 4: Asian Traditions focuses on those new and alternative religions that have been inspired by Asian religious traditions. From Baha'i to Soka Gakkai, from Adidam to the Vedanta Society, contributors look at a full range of groups practicing and worshiping in the U.S. today. Volume 5: African Diaspora Traditions and Other American Innovations examines the various traditions linked to the African diaspora such as Rastafarianism, Santeria, and the Nation of Islam, alongside traditions that are truly American incarnations like Scientology, UFO religions, and Heaven's Gate. Some of the new and alternative religions covered in these pages include: ; Shamanism ; Wicca ; Black Israelites ; Santeria ; Scientology ; Elan Vital ; Hare Krishna ; Soka Gakkai ; and many more

Is the legal protection that is given to the expression of Abrahamic religious belief adequate or appropriate in the context of English medical law? This is the central question that is explored in this book, which develops a framework to support judges in the resolution of contentious

cases that involve dissension between religious belief and medical law, developed from Alan Gewirth's Principle of Generic Consistency (PGC). This framework is applied to a number of medical law case studies: the principle of double effect, ritual male circumcision, female genital mutilation, Jehovah's Witnesses (adults and children) who refuse blood transfusions, and conscientious objection of healthcare professionals to abortion. The book also examines the legal and religious contexts in which these contentious cases are arbitrated. It demonstrates how human rights law and the proposed framework can provide a gauge to measure competing rights and apply legitimate limits to the expression of religious belief, where appropriate. The book concludes with a stance of principled pragmatism, which finds that some aspects of current legal protections in English medical law require amendment.

Have the Mormons ever left you unsure of what to say? Their arguments are convincing, their teachings seem indisputable, and their stand on what they believe is firm. How can you effectively communicate to the Mormons that their gospel does not match up with the Bible? One of the best ways is to ask penetrating questions. Cult experts Ron Rhodes and Marian Bodine will help you understand the main points of Mormonism and discover where it falls short of God's truth. They then equip you to ask strategic questions that challenge... the Mormon claim to be the only true church the reliability of Mormon prophets the authenticity of the Book of Mormon Jesus' supposed visit to ancient America the Mormon view of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit and much more You'll find Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons a valuable guide to responding to Mormons with confidence!

his book is unique and of great importance for theologians from diverse traditions but who all share the relevance of the academic Reformed discourse. The book focuses on, and forms part of celebrating 500 years since the start of the Reformation during the 16th century. Its purpose is to commemorate the quincentenary anniversary of the Reformation in Europe and to indicate the way in which the rich legacy of this important period in the history of the church and society still influences globally the theological landscape in the fields of Practical Theology, Missiology and Ethics. Specific attention is given to the manner in which the core principles of the Reformation can be utilised for these disciplines and applied in a contemporary context. The Reformation changed the ecclesiastical landscape of the day and still provides the benchmark for theological principles and praxis in many Protestant denominations. This book illustrates and underscores the practical-theological legacy and importance of the Reformation for church and society. The collected works by various theologians reflect on the impact of Reformed Theology on their respective fields of expertise. The original research is based on literature studies and has not been published previously in any form. Its aim is to stimulate discourse in Theology and related disciplines. Although the chapters represent different perspectives, the collective aim is to propose the vast impact of the Reformational views as they relate to the current context. The target audience is Reformed theologians. This book focuses on ways in which the legacy of the Reformation addresses practical and relevant issues for 21st-century believers, scholars and churches. It explores inter alia important homiletical and liturgical aspects of the Reformation and contemplates the importance of continual reformation in this regard. Furthermore, it discusses a Reformed approach to apologetics, evaluates the driving forces behind the Reformation of the 16th century and its relevance to missions today as well as examines the sola Scriptura principle of the Reformation and provides a critical perspective on Prosperity Theology. Several pastoral themes take centre stage before various aspects of xenophobia and civil prejudice are being investigated – both being very relevant topics throughout the world today. The book also focuses on hermeneutics and ethics in a quest for a biblical ethical approach as well as congregational hymns in the Reformed churches of South Africa today. The research outcomes are relevant not only for the South African context, but also globally.

Why should I read the Bible? Isn't it just a lifeless and detached piece of history, an ancient relic? You may have heard people ask these questions or even asked them yourself. This book will help you find the answers to understanding the Bible in a twenty-first-century context. We have progressed as a civilization, there is no doubt. The advances in computer technology, communication, and science, have improved the quality of our lives. But fundamentally--at the core--the desires and motivations of humans remain the same and it is to this that the Bible speaks most clearly. However, interpreting the Bible requires intellectual curiosity, commitment, and a desire to discover truth. Finding God In Scripture will equip you to better understand the nature of the Bible's message and the dynamics of how to interpret it. For example, just like today's modern writers, biblical authors used various literary techniques such as the complexities associated with plot and characterization in narrative or the use of poetry, evoking emotions. These literary techniques were intended to convey God's message and involvement in the world. Finding God In Scripture will show you that there is more to the Bible than the communication of historical information; there is a reality--a truth that can transform your life.

Since 1876, Jehovah's Witnesses have believed that they are living in the last days of the present world. Charles T. Russell, their founder, advised his followers that members of Christ's church would be raptured in 1878, and by 1914 Christ would destroy the nations and establish his kingdom on earth. The first prophecy was not fulfilled, but the outbreak of the First World War lent some credibility to the second. Ever since that time, Jehovah's Witnesses have been predicting that the world would end "shortly." Their numbers have grown to many millions in over two hundred countries. They distribute a billion pieces of literature annually, and continue to anticipate the end of the world. For almost thirty years, M. James Penton's *Apocalypse Delayed* has been the definitive scholarly study of this religious movement. As a former member of the sect, Penton offers a comprehensive overview of the Jehovah's Witnesses. His book is divided into three parts, each presenting the Witnesses' story in a different context: historical, doctrinal, and sociological. Some of the issues he discusses are known to the general public, such as the sect's opposition to military service and blood transfusions. Others involve internal controversies, including political control of the organization and the handling of dissent within the ranks. Thoroughly revised, the third edition of Penton's classic text includes substantial new information on the sources of Russell's theology and on the church's early leaders, as well as coverage of important developments within the sect since the second edition was published fifteen years ago.

I just stood there. Not only were their beliefs completely foreign to anything I'd heard before, but they had so much evidence. I had always heard that they don't have a leg to stand on, so why was I the legless one? Things they'd said and questions they'd asked were still circling around in my head days after their visit; round and round they went, looking for a place to rest. Wasn't I the one who was supposed to leave them with questions they couldn't answer? Looking back now, it's clear what happened. While the Jehovah's Witnesses were well schooled by The Watchtower in what I was likely to say and how they should reply, I didn't have a clue what they would say much less how to reply. It's different now, though. The Witnesses seldom come to my home anymore, but when they do knock on the door, I'm prepared. Showing them one of the places where The Watchtower and Bible disagree is all it takes. They don't stay. One or Three? The Witnesses and Me has been written to share what I've discovered over the years about the Trinity and how I found my way through the maze of information the Witnesses have on the subject. My hope and prayer is that this will help others prepare for their knocks. Hopefully many will be able to come together and help the Witnesses see where The Watchtower and Bible disagree.

Early Americans have long been considered "A People of the Book" Because the nickname was coined primarily to invoke close associations between Americans and the Bible, it is easy to overlook the central fact that it was a book-not a geographic location, a monarch, or even a shared language-that has served as a cornerstone in countless investigations into the formation and fragmentation of early American culture. Few books can lay claim to such powers of civilization-altering influence. Among those which can are sacred books, and for Americans principal among such books stands the Bible. This Handbook is designed to address a noticeable void in resources focused on analyzing the Bible in America in various historical moments and in relationship to specific institutions and cultural expressions. It takes seriously the fact

that the Bible is both a physical object that has exercised considerable totemic power, as well as a text with a powerful intellectual design that has inspired everything from national religious and educational practices to a wide spectrum of artistic endeavors to our nation's politics and foreign policy. This Handbook brings together a number of established scholars, as well as younger scholars on the rise, to provide a scholarly overview--rich with bibliographic resources--to those interested in the Bible's role in American cultural formation.

This book is a fulfillment of the dream of the sage of transcendentalism, Ralph Waldo Emerson and B.F. Skinner to demystify the workings of the human mind, with reference to ability, interest, Talents and creative endowments. It discusses creativity as the central focus in every field of study ,economy and thereby ushers mankind into the emergence of the creative age revolution.

This book discusses and outlines the Trinity or Triunity of the Godhead, establishing the biblical basis for the doctrine; it reviews other beliefs that disagree with the Trinity (such as The Word Faith Movement, Jehovah's Witnesses and the Oneness Pentecostals); it looks at issues such as Jesus Died Spiritually, the Gender of God and the Equality of the Members of the Godhead (Subordinism). It outlines the Trinity in such a way that it would not be difficult to understand the composite of the Godhead.

Originale, insolite, renaissante, l'action religieuse émergente bouscule les habitudes, ébranle les certitudes, construit ici, maintenant, l'autre monde. Peut-on courir le risque ? Voilà que la question se pose et se résout en rumeurs publiques, poursuites judiciaires et tensions scolaires, lesquelles mettent à nu des mécanismes inédits d'institutionnalisation de l'expérience religieuse en modernité : groupes tactiques d'intervention, cellules gouvernementales de crise, commissions parlementaires, cercles technocratiques précurseurs d'une ingénierie pluraliste. Sur fond de traditions religieuses, nationales ou républicaines, avec la perspective de la menace sectaire, s'esquisse sous nos yeux un religieux correct, acceptable. Comment est-il possible aujourd'hui d'inscrire l'exceptionnel, l'originel, le merveilleux, le transcendant religieux dans le quotidienne ? Et dans quelle mesure, paradoxalement, les gestionnaires de dieux ne repoussent-ils pas toujours plus loin la frontière religieuse ? -- By their nature, emerging religions explore unfamiliar territory and probe unchartered regions of human creativity. For these same reasons, religious transactions that venture beyond the boundaries of traditional religious frontiers often rouse suspicion, anxiety or even fear among the general population. As new religious movements seek to carve out their own niche in society, public controversy and opposing beliefs can spark bitter debates, and can even lead to calls for state intervention. How then do new or borderline religious groups negotiate or mediate the building of public space? What impact can the media have on new religions? How does the law withstand the "creative destruction" of religious innovation? In this provocative collection of essays, twelve experienced specialists break new ground in the sociological study of religion.

The One Source You Can Count On for Facts About the Last Days "You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected" Matthew 24:44. There is no shortage of writings about the last days—often full of speculation and sensationalism. Where can we go for information we can trust? Join Bible scholar Ron Rhodes for an in-depth look at what we know to be certain about the last days—based on key teachings directly from Jesus. You'll learn what the Lord Himself said about the rapture, the tribulation period, the second coming, the future judgment, the millennial kingdom, and more. So—are you ready for what is to come? Enjoy a fascinating survey of the end times through the words of Jesus Himself, and gain the very best of what you can know about God's plan for the future.

The theme of prophecy, the doctrine of the 144,000, end-time calculations, Armageddon, and the Witnesses' denial of hell are all considered in The A to Z of Jehovah's Witnesses, which contains a chronology, an introductory essay, a bibliography, and 250 cross-referenced dictionary entries relating to key people and concepts.

An unfamiliar car parks near your house, and two pleasant-looking folks approach your front door. The doorbell rings, and after exchanging pleasantries, your unexpected guests offer you some literature from the Watchtower Society. What will you say? What should you say? Should you engage your visitors in conversation at all? And if so, how? Trusted Bible teacher Ron Rhodes guides you through several realistic dialogues with Jehovah's Witnesses, demonstrating helpful techniques for listening, asking questions, avoiding offense, and more. He includes the information you need to address the big issues, including the New World Translation of the Bible, the divine name, the Trinity, salvation, and the afterlife. With this practical, kindhearted, and easy-to-understand resource, you can actually enjoy discussions about your faith when Jehovah's Witnesses come to call, and you can lovingly guide them to the truth about Jesus Christ.

This casebook provides a set of cases that reveal the current complexity of medical decision-making, ethical reasoning, and communication at the end of life for hospitalized patients and those who care for and about them. End-of-life issues are a controversial part of medical practice and of everyday life. Working through these cases illuminates both the practical and philosophical challenges presented by the moral problems that surface in contemporary end-of-life care. Each case involved real people, with varying goals and constraints, who tried to make the best decisions possible under demanding conditions. Though there were no easy solutions, nor ones that satisfied all stakeholders, there are important lessons to be learned about the ways end-of-life care can continue to improve. This advanced casebook is a must-read for medical and nursing students, students in the allied health professions, health communication scholars, bioethicists, those studying hospital and public administration, as well as for practicing physicians and educators.

In this revised and updated version of the top-selling Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Jehovah's Witnesses (more than 90,000 copies sold), author and Bible expert Ron Rhodes helps readers delve into the Bible and use practical tools to share God's truths confidently with those who come calling.

This book studies the Holy Spirit through the lens of both biblical and systematic theology. It provides a comprehensive look at the third person of the Trinity as revealed by Scripture, focusing on eight central themes and assumptions.

In 40 Questions About Heaven and Hell, Alan Gomes surveys the Old and New Testaments to present a comprehensive

picture of the afterlife. The question-and-answer format makes it easy to find answers to specific questions on heaven, hell, the intermediate state, the final judgment, and life in eternity. Readers will find solid answers to many vital questions: · What should we conclude about those who claim to have seen heaven or hell? · Is it possible for us to communicate with the dead? · Is there such a place as purgatory? · What will our resurrected bodies be like? · What will we do in the eternal state? · Will there be animals in the eternal state? · What is hell like? · How can a God of love send people to an eternal hell? · Did Jesus "descend into hell" like the Apostles' Creed says? Study notes point to additional resources for learning, and reflection questions at the end of each chapter make the book ideal for small group studies.

This is the first major study of the enigmatic religious society. By examining the Jehovah's Witnesses' dramatic recent expansion, Andrew Holden reveals the dependency of their quasi-totalitarian movement on the physical and cultural resources have brought about the privatization of religion, the erosion of community, and the separation of 'fact' from faith.

Popular author and Bible teacher Ron Rhodes offers straightforward, easy-to-understand responses to frequently asked questions about God, faith, and living for Christ. He addresses more than 300 issues as diverse as... Do guardian angels exist? What will heaven and hell be like? Did Jesus physically come back to life? Is meditation okay for Christians? Does a person have to be baptized to be saved? Readers will also find information about apparent Bible contradictions and difficult verses, supposed conflicts between science and the Bible, and the effects of atheism, agnosticism, and humanism on society. With solid biblical insights and accurate research, this indispensable reference will help readers explore God's incredible plan, the life of Christ, the teaching of the Bible, church doctrines, and more. Perfect for personal study, small groups, and every Christian's reference library.

This second edition of Historical Dictionary of Jehovah's Witnesses contains a chronology, an introduction, and an extensive bibliography. The dictionary section has over 300 cross-referenced entries on important personalities, culture, and key concepts.

No other book answers the Jehovah's Witnesses' misinterpretation of Scripture so immediately and shows how to use the same Scripture in leading Jehovah's Witnesses to Christ.

This book guides Christians to discuss non-biblical issues with Jehovah's Witnesses subject by subject in a non-confrontational manner. Innovative. Comprehensive. Easy to use. Find It Fast in the Bible is a quick reference that lives up to its name! This time-saving guide to Scripture includes the key concept in each Scripture referenced. Readers don't have to look up ten Scriptures before they discover the one they want! They'll find it in seconds with this friendly format... Adoption into God's Family By faith in Christ—Galatians 3:26. Father allows us into His family—1 John 3:1,2. Gentiles in God's family too—Ephesians 2:19. Jesus firstborn of many brothers—Romans 8:29. Jews and Gentiles heirs together—Ephesians 3:6. Lord disciplines us as His children—Hebrews 12:6-9. This guide can be especially useful to the on-the-go, busy reader who doesn't want to search through exhaustive, clunky reference books.

Ruth A. Tucker's book is a comprehensive survey of all the major alternative religions in the United States, including the new groups since the 1960s.

Focused on 'The Holocaust in an Age of Genocide', Remembering for the Future brings together the work of nearly 200 scholars from more than 30 countries and features cutting-edge scholarship across a range of disciplines, amounting to the most extensive and powerful reassessment of the Holocaust ever undertaken. In addition to its international scope, the project emphasizes that varied disciplinary perspectives are needed to analyze and to check the genocidal forces that have made the Twentieth century so deadly. Historians and ethicists, psychologists and literary scholars, political scientists and theologians, sociologists and philosophers - all of these, and more, bring their expertise to bear on the Holocaust and genocide. Their contributions show the new discoveries that are being made and the distinctive approaches that are being developed in the study of genocide, focusing both on archival and oral evidence, and on the religious and cultural representation of the Holocaust.

This edited volume deploys digital ethnography in varied contexts to explore the cultural roles of mobile apps that focus on religious practice and communities, as well as those used for religious purposes (whether or not they were originally developed for that purpose). Combining analyses of local contexts with insights and methods from the global subfield of digital anthropology, the contributors here recognize the complex ways that in-app and on-ground worlds interact in a wide range of communities and traditions. While some of the case studies emphasize the cultural significance of use in local contexts and relationships to pre-existing knowledge networks and/or non-digital relationships of power, others explore the globalizing and democratizing influences of mobile apps as communication technologies. From Catholic confession apps to Jewish Kaddish assistance apps and Muslim halal food apps, readers will see how religious-themed mobile apps create complex sites for potential new forms of religious expression, worship, discussion, and practices.

Many critics and some historians consider resistance in Nazi Germany as too little and too late. Few Germans were willing to take risks, and others began to oppose the Third Reich only when the end was in sight. However, despite the threat of prison, concentration camp, or death, there were many diverse groups from the academic, military, and spiritual sectors of society that challenged the Reich's harsh, unjust policies. This book represents the spectrum of these forms of resistance and illustrates the courage of those who dared to confront the Nazi government.

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