

Jehovah's Witnesses are at the door! What should I say?

They are trained to use tricky arguments, so **PREPARE** and get **HELP** before getting involved in discussions. (They come in two's and practice many hours how to misuse Scripture to prove their points.)

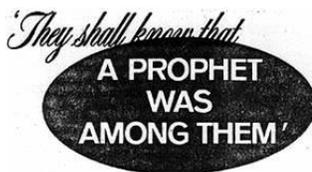
Visit **AnswerJW.com** for help. But here are some things you can say and do in the meantime.

TELL THEM YOUR TESTIMONY. Tell what Jesus has done in your life. They can't argue with that.

"Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return home and tell how much God has done for you.' So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him." – Luke 8:38-39 NIV You can do that, too!

JWs spend many hours in study, but they don't know the power of God or the power of answered prayer.

EXPOSE FALSE PROPHECY. The Jehovah's Witness organization has a long history of making false predictions in God's name—something forbidden in the Bible and very serious in God's eyes. They predicted the end of the world for 1914, 1918, 1925 and 1975 and claimed the generation that saw the events of 1914 would not die before Christ brought Armageddon. Here are *Watchtower* pages 197 of 4/1/72, p. 494 of 8/15/68 and cover 5/15/84:



Jehovah God is interested in having people know him. Though he is invisible to human eyes, he provides various ways by which they can know his personality. They can know what to expect from him and what he expects of them. One can come to understand that Jehovah is a God of surpassing wisdom by observing creation. This also reveals the loving care with which he designed things for man's welfare and enjoyment. A second way to know God is through his Word of truth, the Bible. Herein one finds the full expression of Jehovah's purpose toward mankind—why man is on the earth and the blessings that God has in store. A third way of coming to know Jehovah God is through his representatives. In ancient times he sent prophets as his special messengers. While these men foretold things to come, they also served the people by telling them of God's will for them at that time, often also warning them of dangers and calamities. People today can view the creative works. They have at hand the Bible, but it is little read or understood. So, does Jehovah have a prophet to help them, to warn them of dangers and to declare things to come?¹

IDENTIFYING THE "PROPHET"
These questions can be answered in the affirmative. Who is this prophet?²The cler-

gy of the so-called "Christian" nations hold themselves before the people as being the ones commissioned to speak for God. But, as pointed out in the previous issue of this magazine, they have failed God and failed as proclaimers of his kingdom by approving a man-made political organization, the League of Nations (now the United Nations), as "the political expression of the Kingdom of God on earth."

However, Jehovah did not let the people of Christendom, as led by the clergy, go without being warned that the League was a counterfeit substitute for the real Kingdom of God. He had a "prophet" to warn them. This "prophet" was not one man, but was a body of men and women. It was the small group of footstep followers of Jesus Christ, known at that time as International Bible Students. Today they are known as Jehovah's Christian witnesses.³ They are still proclaiming a warning, and have been joined and assisted in their commissioned work by hundreds of thousands of persons who have listened to their message with belief.

Of course, it is easy to say that this group acts as a "prophet" of God. It is another thing to prove it. The only way that this can be done is to review the record.⁴ What does it show?
During the World War I period this group, the International Bible Students, was very active in preaching the good news of God's kingdom, as their Leader Jesus Christ had set this work before them in his prophecy at Matthew 24:14. They took literally Jesus' words to the Roman governor Pontius Pilate: "My kingdom is no part of this world." (John 18:36) They also took to heart Jesus' words to his fol-

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THE WATCHTOWER

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ed to be October 5 (Julian) or September 29 (Gregorian) 537 B.C.E.—Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-6.

¹ Here, then, very definitely established, is another milestone—the time when the seventy years of desolation of the land of Judah came to an end—about October 1, 537. (Jer. 25:11, 12; 29:10) It is now a simple formula to determine when the seventy years began. One has only to add 24. So when did the seventy years of desolation begin, and when did they end?

70 to 537 to get 607. So about October 1, 607 B.C.E., the desolating of the land of Judah and the complete emptying out of its inhabitants was fully accomplished.

² The importance of the year 607 B.C.E. in this Biblical chronology will become more apparent in the following article, as we seek an answer to the provocative question, When was Adam created?
³ The answer to what question is related to the year 607 B.C.E.?

May 15, 1984

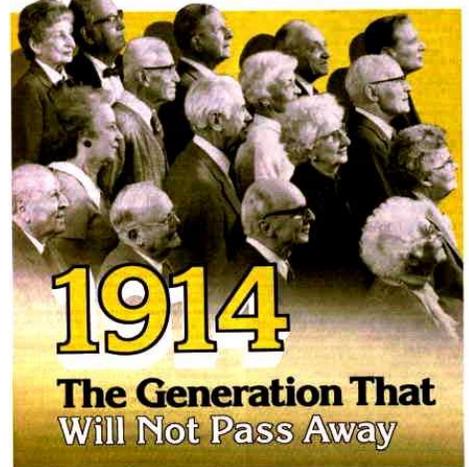
The Watchtower
Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO 1975?

WHAT about all this talk concerning the year 1975? Lively discussions, some based on speculation, have burst into flame during recent months among serious students of the Bible. Their interest has been kindled by the belief that 1975 will mark the end of 6,000 years of human history since Adam's creation. The nearness of such an important date indeed fires the imagination and presents unlimited possibilities for discussion.

¹ But wait! How do we know their calculations are correct? What basis is there for saying Adam was created nearly 5,993 years ago? Does the one Book that can be implicitly trusted for its truthful historical accuracy, namely, the Inspired Word of Jehovah, the Holy Bible, give support and credence to such a conclusion?

² In the marginal references of the Protestant Authorized or King James Version, and in the footnotes of certain editions of the Catholic Douay version, the date of man's creation is said to be 4004 B.C.E. This marginal date, however, is no part of the inspired text of the Holy Scriptures, since it was first suggested more than fifteen centuries after the last Bible writer died, and was not added to any edition of the Bible until 1701 C.E. It is an insertion based upon the conclusions of an Irish prelate, the Anglican Archbishop James Ussher (1581-1656). Ussher's chronology was only one of the many sincere efforts made during the past centuries to determine the time of Adam's creation. A hundred years ago when a count was taken, no less than 140 different timetables had been published by se-



1, 2. (a) What has sparked special interest in the year 1975, and with what results? (b) But, what questions are raised?

3. Do the data for Adam's creation as found in many copies of the Bible part of the inspired Scriptures, and do all agree on the date?

They claimed to be God's "PROPHET" and made these false predictions. But God condemns this and says: "But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death. You may say to yourselves, 'How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?' If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously!"

– Deuteronomy 18:20-22 NIV

Ask mature Christians to HELP and to PRAY with you. Pray for the JWs and remember that most are sincere, but deceived by the false prophets who run their cultic organization. Don't let them deceive you!

You can defend the faith. Visit **AnswerJW.com** to help you prepare.