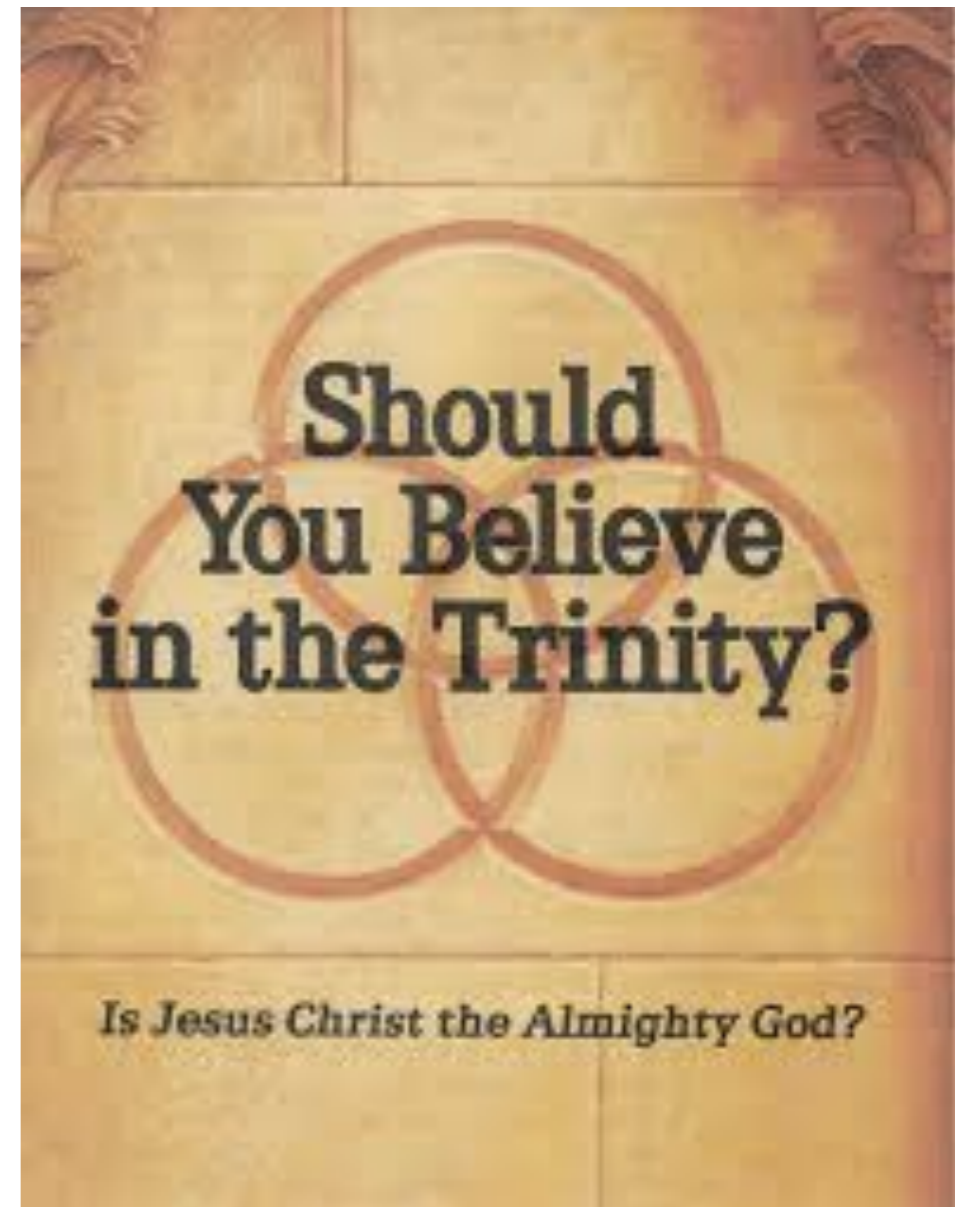


The Watchtower's Armageddon Fascination

Jehovah's Witnesses and Armageddon's Influence

About Me

- Involvement 1998 and 2011
- “Don’t get involved with them”
- Read and learn
- Website desire



1989

Watchtower “Marks”

- Door to Door
- No blood
- No holidays
- Child abuse
 - [Philly Inquirer](#)
 - [JW Survey Interview](#)
 - [WGAL News Story](#)
- Armageddon



Revelation 16:14

- And they gathered them together to the place that is called in Hebrew Armageddon.
(New World Translation)

Armageddon

- Watchtower Cited Resources
 - *A Commentary and Critical Notes (1810-1826 Eight Volumes) The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom.* December 15, 1970 p. 746
 - *Believer's Bible Commentary (1998) Awake!* November 8, 1998 p. 27
 - *Commentary, Critical and Explanatory, on the Whole Bible (1871) Awake!* August 22, 1993 p. 6
 - Thus, Armageddon is not a human war confined to a particular location in the Middle East. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom.* December 1, 2005 p. 4

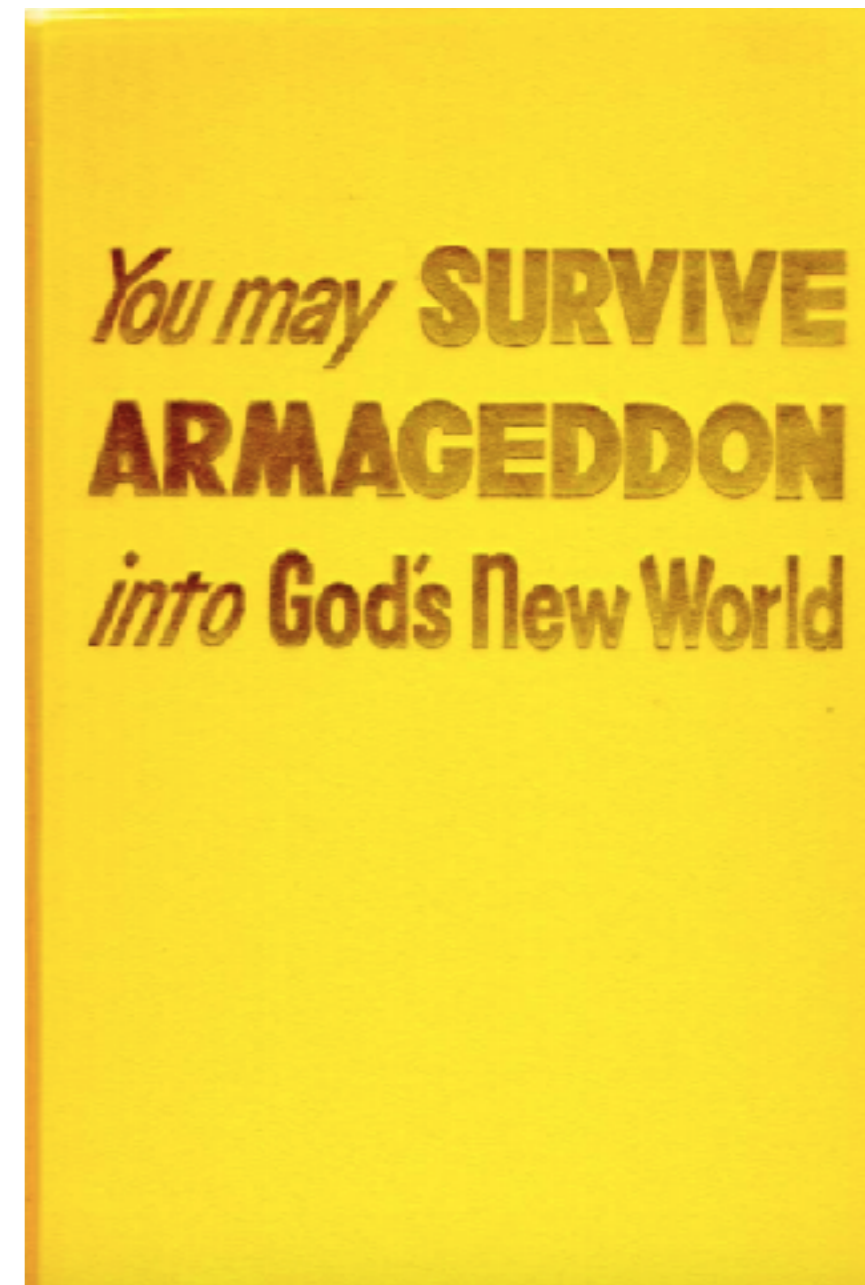
Not Included

- Battle for the Great Day of God Almighty
 - "Shortly, within our twentieth century, the "battle in the day of Jehovah" will begin against the modern antitype of Jerusalem, Christendom." *The Nations Shall Know I Am Jehovah-How?* 1971. p. 216
- Audio uses
 - Judge Rutherford-[The End](#)
 - Charles Sinutko-[Stay Alive Till '75](#)
 - Fredrick Franz-[1975 Speech](#)
 - Anthony Morris III-[The Real Armageddon](#)
 - Richard Graham, Bethelite-[Public Talk](#)
- Video
 - Charles T. Russell: [Photodrama of Creation](#) (2:55:53 mark)



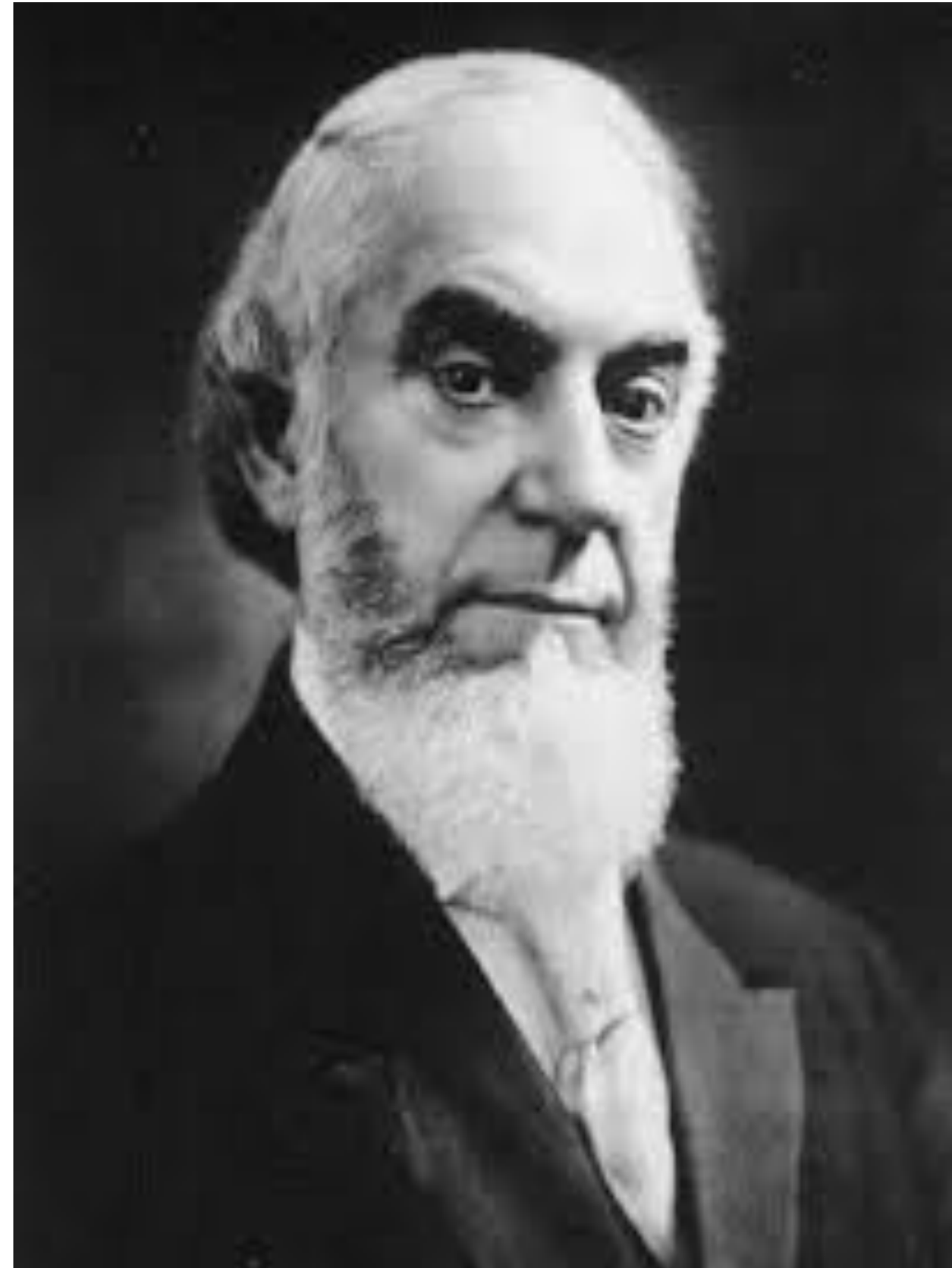
Armageddon: By the Numbers

- 3,753 pages
- 13,153 Quotes
- 2,537 publications
- Armageddon-15,446
 - *Armageddon-The Greatest Battle of All Time* (1937) 30
 - *You May Survive Armageddon Into God's New World* (1955) 249
 - *From Kurukshetra to Armageddon* (1983) 6
 - Section heading 183
 - Page heading 9



Pastor Charles Taze Russell

1879-1916



Russell

- Longest period 1897-1907
 - 2-8 years
- *Millennial Dawn Volume IV (The Battle of Armageddon)*
 - Chapter 11 “The Battle of the Great Day of God Almighty” (original 1897 version)
 - Later versions “The Battle of Armageddon”

Armageddon

- Nearness:
 - They are the spirits of devils working miracles,' gathering men for Armageddon. *Zion's Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence*. July 15, 1897 Reprints p. 2189
 - While it is possible that Armageddon may begin next Spring, yet it is purely speculation to attempt to say just when. We see, however, that there are parallels between the close of the Jewish Age and this Gospel Age. These parallels seem to point to the year just before us-particularly the early months. *The Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence*. September 1, 1914 Reprints p. 5527
- Prophetic:
 - The Battle of Armageddon, to which this war is leading, will be a great contest between right and wrong, and will signify the complete and everlasting overthrow of the wrong, and the permanent establishment of Messiah's righteous Kingdom for the blessing of the world. *The Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence*. April 1, 1915 Reprints p. 5659

Russell's Armageddon 1879-1916

- 76 Quotes (588 pages)
- 74 Magazine (469 pages)
- 2 Book (119 pages)

Russell's Focus

- Attract
- Doctrinal distinctiveness
 - God's Silent Stone Witness
 - Reject the Trinity-1882
 - Presence of Christ-1874



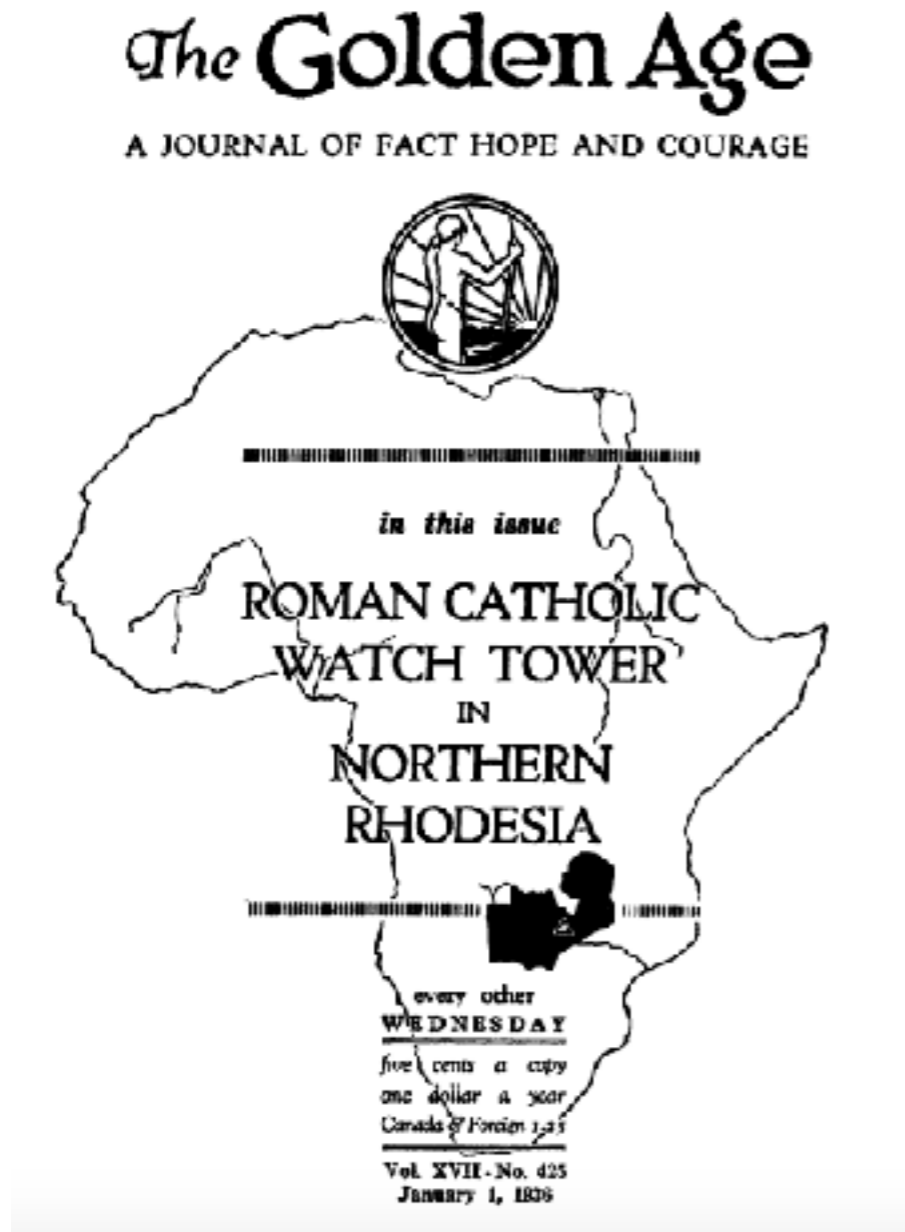
“Judge” Joseph Rutherford

1917-1942

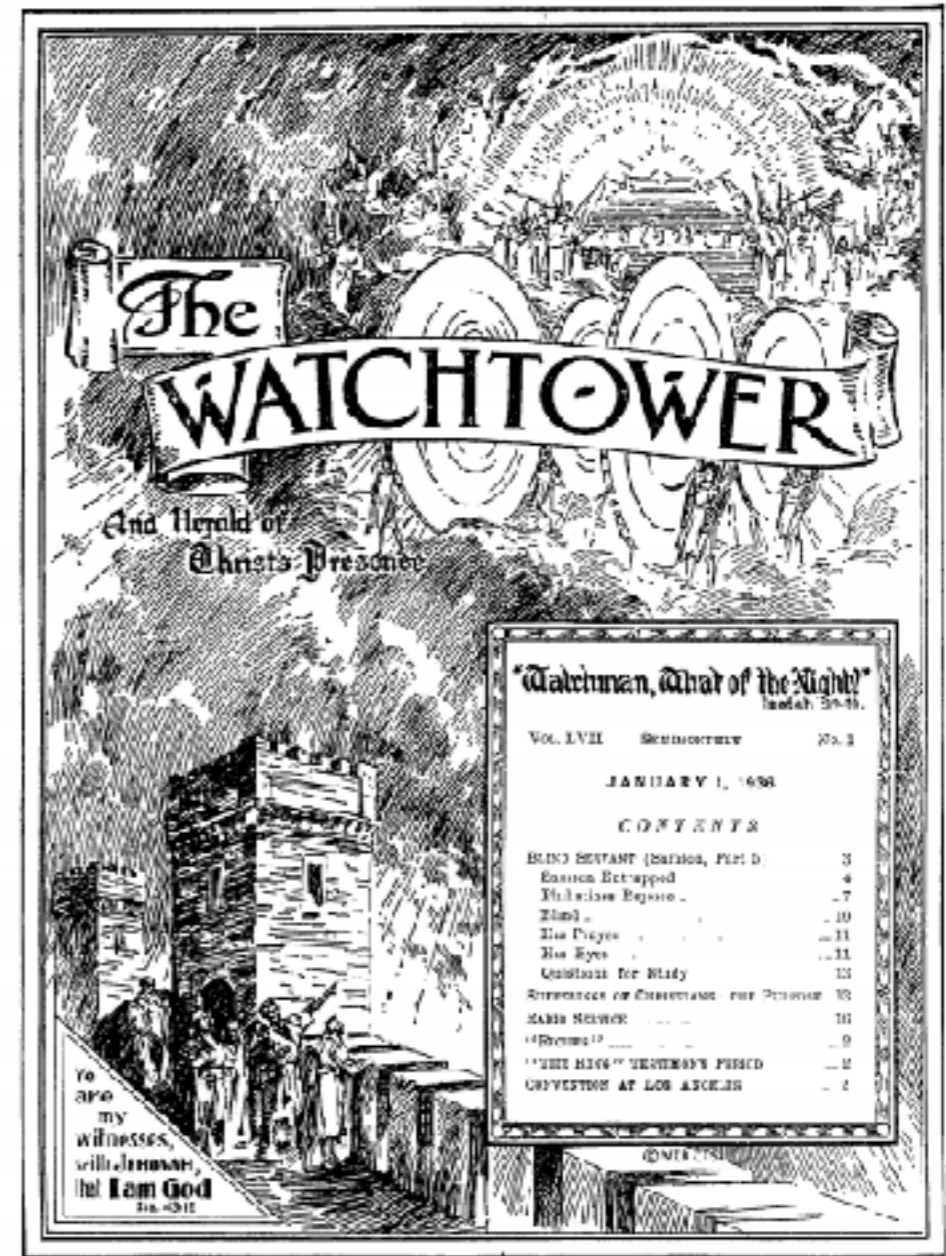
Rutherford's Armageddon 1917-1941

- 4,610 Quotes (24,314 pages)
- 645 Magazine (5,484 pages)
- 635 Book (7,105 pages)
- 251 Booklet (2,180 pages)
- 69 Newsletter (119 pages)
- 21 Brochure (186 pages)
- 871 Yearbook (2,753 pages)

Rutherford *Golden Age* vs. *Watchtower*



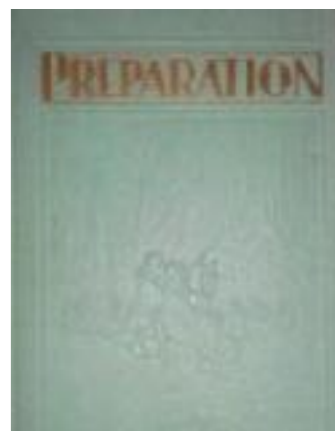
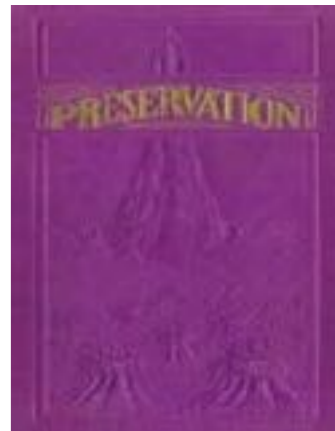
28 pages



12 pages

Holy Spirit

- John 14:16-And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; (*King James Version*)
- The Lord Jesus came to his temple in 1918 and that would mark the time of the cessation of the work of the holy spirit as an advocate, helper and comforter for the members of the church on earth. *Preservation*. 1932. p. 202, 203
- Certain duties and kingdom interests have been committed by the Lord to his angels, which include the transmission of information to God's anointed people on the earth for their aid and comfort. Even though we cannot understand how the angels transmit this information, we know that they do it: and the Scriptures and the facts show that it is done. (Matt. 25:31; Jude 14, 15; Zech. 14:5) *Preparation*. 1933. p. 36, 37
- Galatians 1:8, 9



Angelic Aid

- 958 times 1917-1932
- 3,674 times 1933-1941

Armageddon Uses

- Nearnness:

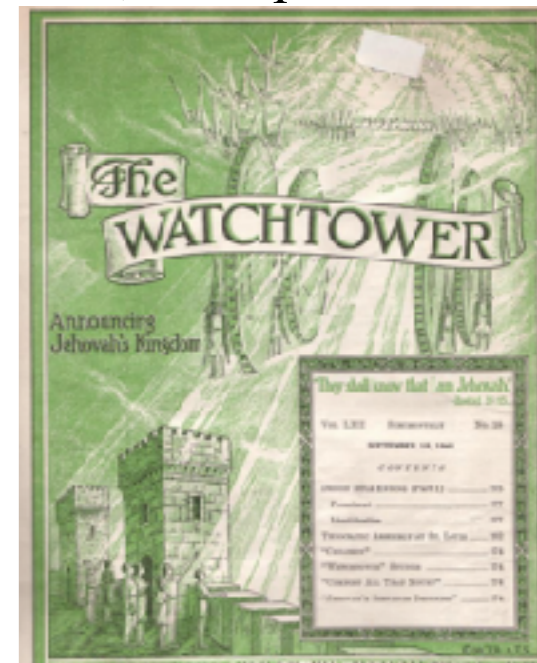
- We are nearing the end. The last industrial features or struggle of the Battle of Armageddon will occur here in the United States soon. *The Golden Age*. January 3, 1923 p. 205, 206

- Prophetic:

- Receiving the gift, the marching children clasped it to them, not a toy or plaything for idle pleasure, but the Lord's provided instrument for most effective work in the remaining months before Armageddon. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. September 15, 1941 p.

288

- II Timothy 3:16, 17



Roman Catholic Church

- Christianity warns the people that within a short time Jehovah God, by Christ Jesus, will completely destroy all the governments and systems of this world, including the Roman Catholic Hierarchy. Christianity never has to be on the defensive. Christ fights no defensive battles. He will lead in the great battle of Armageddon shortly, which will wipe out the enemy and completely vindicate Jehovah's name. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom.* January 15, 1940 p. 28

Betting

- He sent in \$20, paying his *Watchtower* and *Golden Age* subscriptions ten years ahead. He is sure, so he says, that Armageddon will be along before his subscription has expired, but he doesn't care, anyway. Well nobody will ever get his \$1,000. He is betting on a dead-sure thing. *The Golden Age*.
June 16, 1937 p. 592

Nathan Knorr

1942-1977



Knorr's Armageddon 1942-1977

- 7,051 Quotes (49,627 pages)
- 4,907 Magazine (28,446 pages)
- 758 Book (10,480 pages)
- 194 Newsletter (647 pages)
- 14 Booklet (333 pages)
- 1,151 Yearbook (9,410 pages)

1966: 1975 Origin

1927	5952	The Watchtower (Dec. 15) declares bloodshed a reason for God's vengeance at Armageddon—Gen. 9: 3, 4
1931	5956	(July 26) The name "Jehovah's witnesses" embraced
1935	5960	"Great Crowd" of Revelation 7: 9-17 identified at Washington (D.C.) assembly and in The Watchtower
1937	5962	First blood bank on a large scale established at Cook County Hospital
1938	5963	Theocratic organization of Jehovah's Christian witnesses completed
1939	5964	(September) World War II begins; League of Nations goes into inactivity
1945	5970	The Watchtower (July 1) exposes blood transfusion—Ps. 16: 4 (September) World War II ends; (October) United Nations Organization ratified
1957	5982	(October) Russia sends up first satellite; causes world to fear
1962	5967	(October 11) Pope John XXIII opens Vatican Council II
1963	5968	Pope John XXIII, at Council, publishes encyclical "Pacem in Terris" in which he praises United Nations Organization. June 3, he dies despite blood transfusions
1964	5989	(May) "Spy satellites" and astronauts increase world tension
1965	5990	(October 4) Pope Paul VI visits United Nations Headquarters in New York city, endorses United Nations and confers with president of U.S.A. December 8, he closes Ecumenical Council Vatican II
1966	5991	Threat of World War III grows more ominous as between "king of the north" and the "king of the south." (Dan. 11: 5-7, 40) Expansion of organization of Jehovah's Christian witnesses continues, and international series of "God's Sons of Liberty" District Assemblies are scheduled to begin on June 22, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Book <i>Life Everlasting—In Freedom of the Sons of God</i> to be released Saturday, June 25, 1966
1975	6000	End of 6th 1,000-year day of man's existence (in early autumn)
2975	7000	End of 7th 1,000-year day of man's existence (in early autumn)

Life Everlasting In Freedom of the Sons of God. 1966. p. 29

- In giving sermon we should not make any predictions about Armageddon's coming in a certain year; let them read the chapter and see what the evidence indicates. *Kingdom Ministry.* October 1966 p. 2

1975 Armageddon Quotes

- Just think, brothers, there are only about ninety months left before 6,000 years of man's existence on earth is completed. Do you remember what we learned at the assemblies last summer? The majority of people living today will probably be alive when Armageddon breaks out, and there are no resurrection hopes for those who are destroyed then. *Kingdom Ministry*. March 1968 p. 4
- Are we to assume from this study that the battle of Armageddon will be all over by the autumn of 1975, and the long-looked-for thousand-year reign of Christ will begin by then? Possibly, but we wait to see how closely the seventh thousand-year period of man's existence coincides with the sabbathlike thousand-year reign of Christ. If these two periods run parallel with each other as to the calendar year, it will not be by mere chance or accident but will be according to Jehovah's loving and timely purposes. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. August 15, 1968 p. 499

Expanded Usage

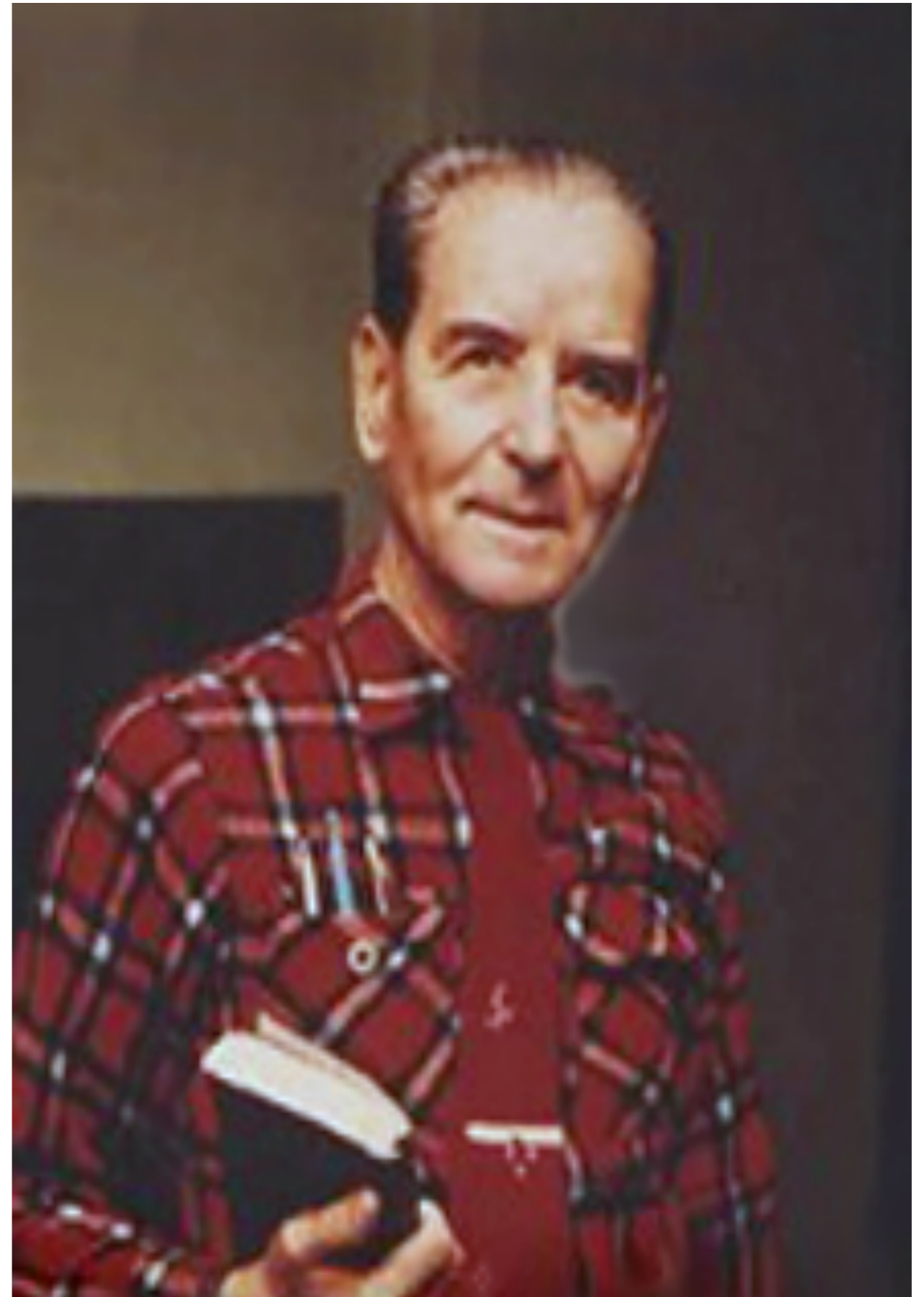
- Teaching programs
- Song

Song

- Of Armageddon's desolation; It's nearer then they think! *Songs To Jehovah's Praise*. 1950. *Be Glad, You Nations, with His People!* Verse Two. Song Number Four
- Contrast:
 - Praise: *How Great Thou Art*
 - Perseverance: *Through It All*
 - Relationship: *Lead Me to Calvary*
 - Changed nature: *Amazing Grace*

Fred Franz

1977-1992



Franz's Armageddon 1978-1992

- 774 Quotes (12,258 pages)
- 561 Magazine (6,304 pages)
- 98 Book (1,770 pages)
- 38 Newsletter (192 pages)
- 33 Yearbook (3,618 pages)
- 32 Brochure (63 pages)
- 2 Booklet (62 pages)

1966-1977 vs. 1978

Awake!-8.9

1966-17
1967-11
1968-15
1969-8
1970-10
1971-7
1972-8
1973-3
1974-4
1975-5
1976-2
1977-0

Kingdom Ministry-4.1

1966-1
1967-6
1968-6
1969-13
1970-7
1971-2
1972-3
1973-2
1974-0
1975-0
1976-1
1977-0

The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom-42.5

1966-73
1967-135
1968-59
1969-48
1970-37
1971-13
1972-11
1973-15
1974-4
1975-13
1976-10
1977-7

Awake!-3

Awake! July 8, 1978 1

Awake! December 22, 1978 2

Our Kingdom Service-1

Our Kingdom Service. May 1978 1

The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom-1

*The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom. July 1,
1978 1*

[JW Facts-Armageddon](#)

Christendom Scoffs

- As the people of Jerusalem scoffed at Jeremiah, so Christendom scoffs at Jehovah's Witnesses today. The Witnesses' warning of a coming destruction at Armageddon is dismissed as worthless. 'God is not interested in the earth,' says Christendom. 'Let him run heaven; we'll run the earth. And if Armageddon comes, it won't be in our generation. We've heard that story before. We're not going to be taken in by that!' *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. April 1, 1991 p. 4
- Matthew 10:29-30

Armageddon-Cleanup

- First of all, those who survive Armageddon will have the work of cleaning up the earth and clearing away the ruins of this old system. *You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth*. 1982, 1989 Ed. p. 159
- Revelation 21:5

Armageddon: 1914 Generation

- 1914—ARMAGEDDON

Some of the generation living in 1914 will see the end of the system of things and survive it *You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth*. 1982, 1989 Ed. p. 154

May 15, 1984

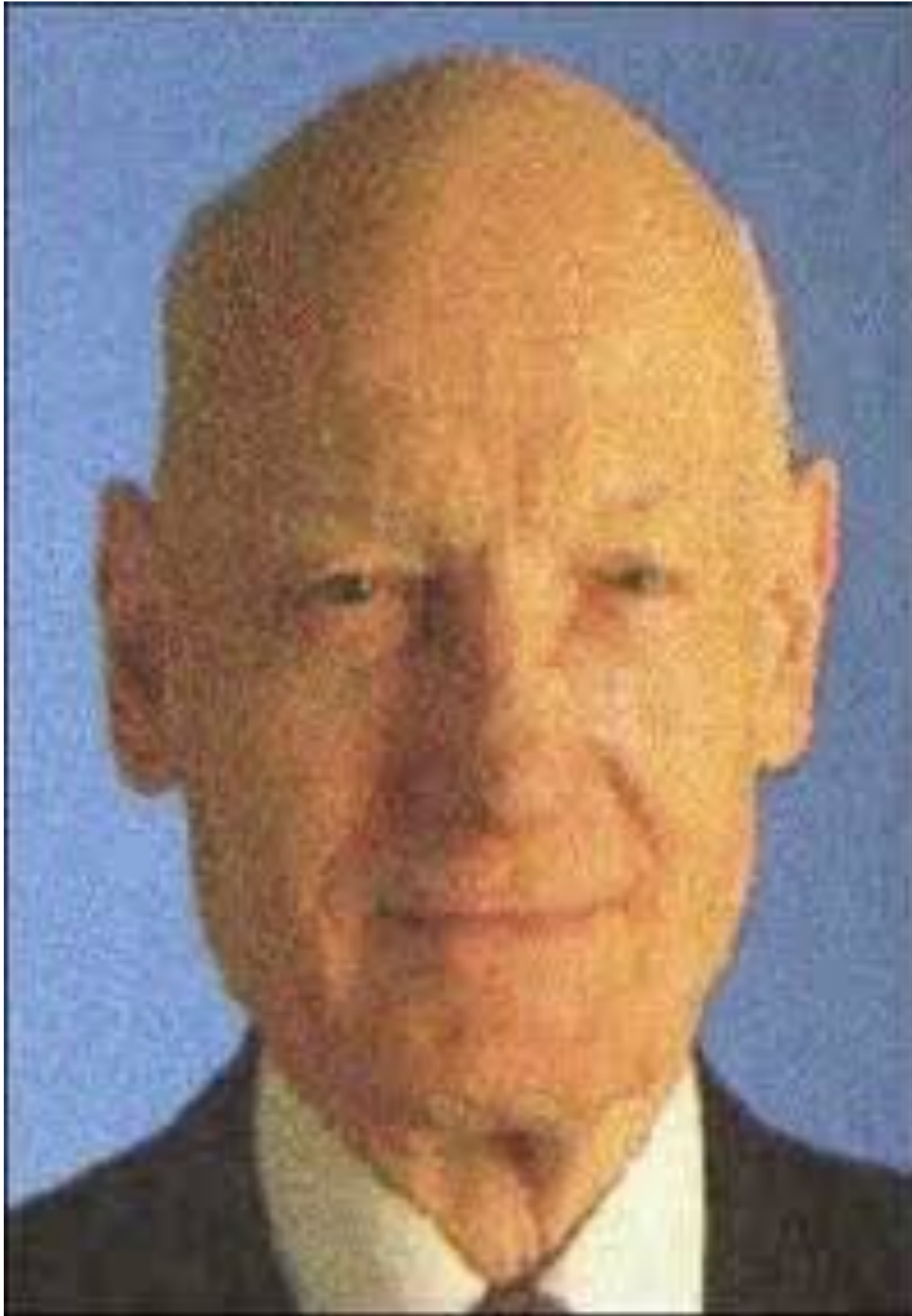
The Watchtower
Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom

1 Clarence Ulrich, 1908-1989
2 Arthur Worsley, 1907-1996
3 George Gangas, 1896-1994
4 John Errichetti, 1912-1997
5 Mrs Steiman
6 Dickran Derderian, 1892-1984
7 Ann Rose, 1910-2000
8 Aquilla Zook, 1898-1993
9 Sophie Yuchniewicz, 1906-2008
10 Dr. Steiman
11 Bernice (Bun) Henschel, 1909-2001
12 Mary Hannan, 1898-1995
13 Martin Poetzinger, 1904-1988
14 George Hannan, 1899-1992
15 Robert Hatzfeld, 1903-2001
16 Babette Herrlinger, 1894-1995

1914

**The Generation That
Will Not Pass Away**

This illustration intends no disrespect toward the memories (or families) of these unwitting victims -- victims of a long line of failed predictions by the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society which showcased them on the cover of *The Watchtower* magazine to the entire world as tangible proof that the generation alive in 1914 would not die off before Armageddon (the end of the world). 14 were long-time members of their headquarters staff in New York and 2 others served there temporarily. All have since passed away along with the Watchtower Society's failed prediction.



Milton Henschel

1992-2000

Henshel's Armageddon 1993-1999

- 162 Quotes (4,605 pages)
- 120 Magazine (2,144 pages)
- 30 Book (916 pages)
- 10 Yearbook (1,530 pages)
- 2 Brochure (15 pages)

Armageddon Uses

- Control:
 - My father emphasized that Armageddon was getting closer and encouraged us to pioneer. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. April 1, 1992 p. 21
- Parenting:
 - How sad it would be for parents to survive Armageddon but because of past neglect leave their children behind as casualties! *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. October 15, 1992 p. 15
- Imminence:
 - As with the anointed remnant who led the way, those who hope to be of the great crowd of Armageddon survivors must act decisively. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. May 1, 1992 p. 15

Don Adams

2000-2014



Adam's Armageddon 2000-2014

- 415 Total Occurrences (9,352 pages)
- 263 Magazine (2,960 pages)
- 107 Book (3,198 pages)
- 259 Booklet (2,244 pages)
- 24 Yearbook (2,801 pages)
- 3 Booklet (63 pages)

Armageddon Uses

- Control:

- Father used to say that we should plan ahead as if Armageddon would not come in our lifetime but lead our life as if it would come tomorrow—precious advice that I have always tried to apply. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. December 1, 2004 p. 29

- Still gathering:

- Today, as the account in Revelation shows, “expressions inspired by demons” are gathering the world’s rulers to “the war of the great day of God the Almighty” at Armageddon.—Revelation 16:13, 14, 16; 19:17-19. *Worship the Only True God*. 2002, 2006 printing. p. 72



Robert Ciranko

2014-Present

Ciranko's Armageddon

2015-July 2017

- 40 Quotes (622 pages)
- 31 Magazine (462 pages)
- 3 Newsletter (20 pages)
- 1 Songbook (10 pages)
- 5 Brochure (130 pages)

Armageddon Uses

- Short Period:

- After the establishment of God’s Kingdom in 1914, Satan was ousted from heaven and confined to the vicinity of the earth, having “great anger, knowing he has a short period of time.” (Rev. 12:7-9, 12) As this world approaches Armageddon, Satan is using trials and pressures in an attempt to weaken us spiritually. *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. August 15, 2013 p. 18

- Imminence:

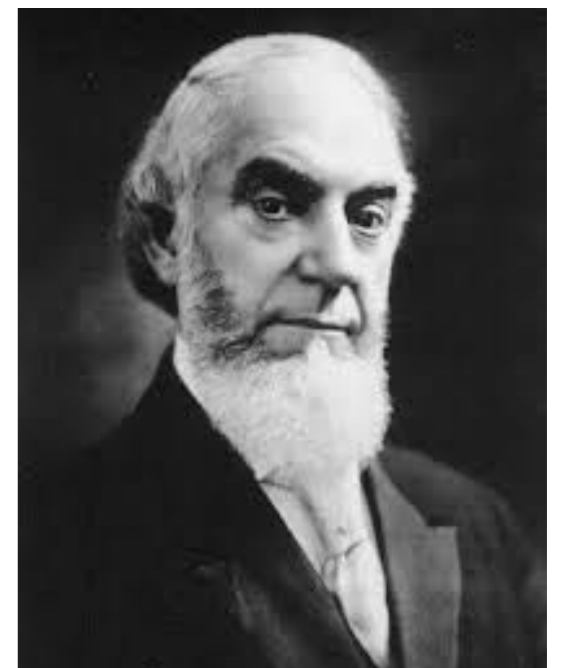
- Such days will come; we know it. We know it because God’s promises always come true. In this section, we will consider how some Kingdom promises will be fulfilled in the near future, leading up to the war of Armageddon. *God’s Kingdom Rules!* 2014. p. 221

New or Old Light?

- Section heading:
 - Events Leading Up to Armageddon *God's Kingdom Rules!* 2014. p. 226
- Who intervenes?
 - Jehovah will intervene in behalf of his servants on earth. That intervention is the war of Armageddon. *God's Kingdom Rules!* 2014. p. 227

Occurrence Exposure

- Russell-76 quotes over 37 years (2)
- Rutherford-4,610 quotes over 24 years (192)
- Knorr-7,051 quotes over 35 years (201)
- Franz-774 quotes over 14 years (55)
- Henshel-192 quotes over 6 years (32)
- Adams-415 quotes over 14 years (30)
- Ciranko-40 quotes over 1.5 years (26)



2034?

- Our Watchfulness Takes On Greater Urgency *The Watchtower Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*. December 15, 2003 p. 14-19

Acknowledgments

- *CT Russell*
- *Internet Archive*
- *“Atlantis”*
- *AvoidJW.org*
- Watchtower Society

Contact

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