ISBN: 0-87552-306-4

### The Jehovah's Witnesses and Prophetic Speculation

Edmond C. Gruss

The prophetic claims and interpretations of the Jehovah's Witnesses concerning the second coming ("presence") of Christ in 1914 and their speculation that Armageddon was due in the mid-seventies (1975 or before) have never been fully examined or refuted. Currently it is taught that Armageddon could occur at any time. Specifically, it is delayed only by the time interval between Adam and Eve's creation. This book was written because the author concluded after investigation that the Witnesses' position does not accord with the truth and cannot stand under objective examination.

The writer challenges the reader with the statement found in the popular Witness book, *The Truth that Leads to Eternal Life*, published in 1968.

We need to examine, not only what we personally believe, but also what is taught by any religious organization with which we may be associated. Are its teachings in full harmony with God's Word, or are they based on the traditions of men? If we are lovers of the truth, there is nothing to fear from such examination (p. 13).

If the reader is a Jehovah's Witness, or is studying with the Witnesses, will he demonstrate that he is genuinely objective in his search for the truth and is a "lover of the truth" by his careful examination of what he believes and has been taught in the light of this study? As the quotation above states: "If we are lovers of the truth, there is nothing to fear from such an examination."

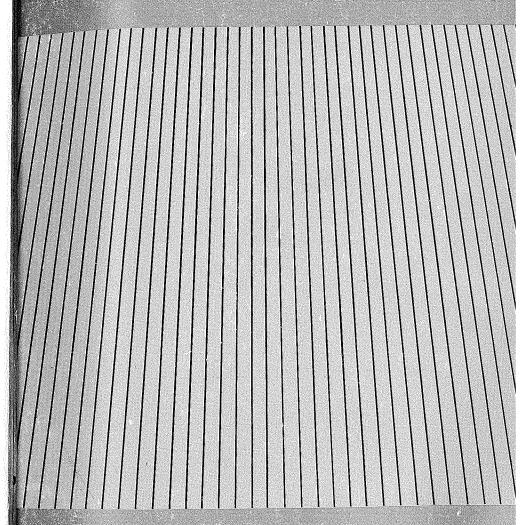
This is also an excellent book for anyone who desires a clear insight into several crucial beliefs and teachings of the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Edmond C. Gruss is Professor of History and Apologetics at Los Angeles Baptist College, in Newhall, California. His other writings include: Apostles of Denial — An Examination and Exposé of the History, Doctrines and Claims of the Jehovah's Witnesses (1970), We Left Jehovah's Witnesses — A Non-Prophet Organization (1974), and Cults and the Occult in the Age of Aquarius (1974). These books are available from:



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An Examination and Refutation of the Witnesses' Position on the Second Coming of Christ, Armageddon and the "End of the World"

by

Edmond Charles Gruss

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Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co.
Second edition, December, 1975

Seventh printing, May, 1983

ISBN: 0-87552-306-4

mother Frieda Elise Gruss (1898-1966) who received Christ as her Saviour and declared: "I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for my sins."

This book is affectionately dedicated to the memory of my

Printed in the United States of America

### THE AUTHOR

Edmond C. Gruss, Professor of History and Apologetics at Los Angeles Baptist College, in Newhall, California, was born in Los Angeles in 1933. He received his A.B. from Los Angeles Baptist College (1955) and his B.D. from Los Angeles Baptist Theological Seminary (1958). In 1961 he completed the Th.M. in Bible and Theology at Talbot Theological Seminary, La Mirada, California. An M.A. in Modern European History from Drake University was added in 1964.

In addition to his college and seminary teaching Professor Gruss has written articles on the cults and given lectures in area churches. In 1970 he published the book *Apostles of Denial—An Examination and Exposé of the History, Doctrines and Claims of the Jehovah's Witnesses.* Interest in the cult field stems from his conversion from the Jehovah's Witnesses in 1950. His wife also graduated from Los Angeles Baptist College and is an elementary school teacher. The family includes two teen-aged children.

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### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My gratitude is expressed to Dr. Richard D. Patterson of Los Angeles Baptist College and Theological Seminary for his comments and advice in the work of revision and rewording in the manuscript of this book. My appreciation is also given to his wife Ann who typed the final draft. I wish to thank Dr. Edwin R. Thiele for his correspondence on Bible chronology, Mr. Richard F. Miller for locating *Three Worlds* and other sources, and Mr. Maurice Barnett for the Scotland trial microfilm. I am also grateful for the assistance of my family, especially my wife Geraldene, who spent hours in typing and proofreading. And finally, I wish to thank Mr. Charles Craig, editor, Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Company, for his interest in this study and its publication.

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### **FOREWORD**

The prophetic claims and interpretations of the Jehovah's Witnesses concerning the second coming ("presence") of Christ in 1914, and the recent speculation that Armageddon was due in the mid-seventies \*(1975 or before according to Witness publications), have never been fully examined and refuted in detail. The present study was written because the author concluded after investigation that the Witnesses' position does not accord with the truth and cannot stand objective examination.

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<sup>\*</sup>The current (December 1975) teaching is that Armageddon could occur at any time. Specificially, it is delayed only by the time interval between Adam and Eve's creation.