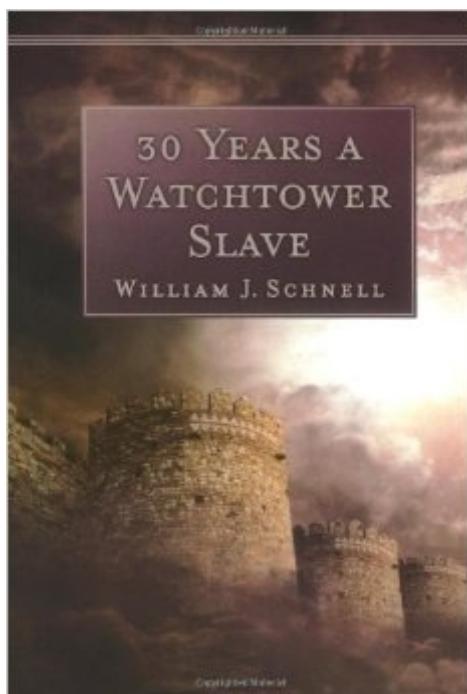


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30 Years A Watchtower Slave: The Confessions Of A Converted Jehovah's Witness



Synopsis

At first, the Watchtower Society seemed harmless to William J. Schnell, even valuable as a way to develop his faith in God and pass it on to others. This book is Schnell's fascinating account of his involvement with the cult, which effectively enticed him in the 1920s and continues to lure countless individuals today. Readers will learn, as Schnell did, that the Jehovah's Witness religion he had joined was anything but innocent. For thirty years he was enslaved by one of the most totalitarian religions of our day, and his story of finally becoming free is riveting. Readers will be alerted to the inner machinations, methods, and doctrines of the Watchtower Society, arming them to forewarn others and witness to their Jehovah's Witness friends, relatives, neighbors, and the stranger at the door. With more than 300,000 copies sold, 30 Years a Watchtower Slave is truly one of the classic testimonies of freedom from a powerful cult.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (43 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is a fascinating 'behind-the-scenes' account of the Bible Student/Jehovah's Witnesses/Watch Tower Theocracy from one who was involved in its upper echelons, both in Germany and America. Not only can today's activities of the Witnesses be understood through William's record, there are political insights into how any large hierarchical organisation operates, religious or otherwise. The Society moved through the following stages on its journey to today's Theocracy:^{*}First dictatorship under Charles Russell (1879-1916).^{*}Dissolution from 1916 to 1919-a 'deadly wound'.^{*}Second dictatorship under Judge Joseph Rutherford (1919-1942).^{*}Third and current

dictatorship under a consortium replete with Board of Directors, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Dictator egos were evident, e.g. Rutherford's visit to Germany and coercing the Director into shaving off his Russell-like beard in exchange for new printing equipment. Hypocritically, 'God's Organisation' ended up becoming both a religion and a corporate entity, just like the 'Egyptians' they so despise. At the date of writing (1963 edition), Witnesses were described as having 'delusions of persecution and Armageddon tremors' and 'carrying a permanent chip on their shoulders'. With William's help the Society invented an ingenious seven step indoctrination program: (i) Get books to people. (ii) Back call. (iii) 'Home Bible Study' (which uses a Watch Tower Society published book). (iv) Friday 'area' book studies in conference forum. (v) Kingdom Hall attendance on Sunday. (vi) Attend service meetings and training. (vii) Water baptism.

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