

Dear Friends,

Jehovah's Witnesses are going door to door, claiming to be a Christian organization.

"Do not be deceived!" Colossians 2:18.

Essential Christian Doctrines



What Do Christians Believe?

What are the key doctrines of the Christian faith? The core teachings of the Bible have defined Christianity for 2000 years. Virtually all Christians who seek to have a faith that is biblical hold to some form of these basic doctrines. Christians may not always agree on how they work out the details of their faith, but they should agree on the essential doctrines - these core truths.

We can identify the essential doctrines of the Christian faith by looking at the core truth of the gospel, which is the salvation of humanity through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Salvation, as God has revealed to us through his Holy Scriptures, is defined as forgiveness of sins and everlasting life with God by confessing that "Jesus is Lord" and believing that God raised Jesus from the dead (Rom. 10:9). By examining the gospel message, we can identify fourteen doctrines that are necessary for salvation to be possible.

What Are the Essential Doctrines?

The essential doctrines of Christianity have to do with:

- Who God is.
- Who Jesus Christ is.
- God's love for people and his desire to save them.

Here are the fourteen essential salvation doctrines that have to be true in order for anyone to know God and be saved.

1. God's Unity
2. God's Tri-unity
3. Human Depravity
4. Christ's Virgin Birth
5. Christ's Sinlessness
6. Christ's Deity
7. Christ's Humanity
8. The Necessity of God's Grace
9. The Necessity of Faith
10. Christ's Atoning Death
11. Christ's Bodily Resurrection
12. Christ's Bodily Ascension
13. Christ's Intercession
14. Christ's Second Coming

In addition, two more essentials define how we know about salvation:

15. Inspiration of Scripture
16. Method Interpretation

How Other Groups Treat These Essential Christian Doctrines:

Essential Christian Doctrines	Latter Day Saints (Mormonism)	Jehovah's Witnesses (Watchtower)	Scientology	Christian Science
1. God's Unity	●	◆	●	●
2. God's Tri-Unity	●	●	●	●
3. Human Depravity	▲	◆	●	●
4. Christ's Virgin Birth	▲	◆	●	●
5. Christ's Sinlessness	◆	◆	●	▲
6. Christ's Deity	●	●	●	●
7. Christ's Humanity	▲	◆	▲	▲
8. The Necessity of God's Grace	▲	▲	●	●
9. The Necessity of Faith	▲	▲	●	●
10. Christ's Atoning Death	▲	▲	●	●
11. Christ's Bodily Resurrection	◆	●	●	●
12. Christ's Bodily Ascension	◆	●	●	●
13. Christ's Intercession	◆	●	●	●
14. Christ's Second Coming	◆	●	●	●

◆ Accept ▲ Redefine ● Deny (Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps and Time Lines: 10th Edition)

Beware: Jehovah's Witnesses (Watchtower Society) is a cult of Christianity that deviates from essential Christian doctrines to such an extent that, despite the organization's claims, it falls far outside the boundaries of the Christian faith.

(To learn more, listen to [54-29 Understanding the Seducing Spirit](#) at [GTY.org](#).)

What warning does God give at the beginning and end of His book regarding taking away or adding to His Word? *Deut 12:32* **"Do not add to it or take away from it."**

Rev 22:19 **"If anyone takes away from the words of this book, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city."** (Beware of false religions.)

Rev 22:18 **"If anyone adds to the words of this book, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book."** (Beware of the Roman Catholic Church.)

(To learn more, see topical series [Explaining the Heresy of Catholicism](#) at [GTY.org](#).)

Pray to the Holy Spirit to remove spiritual blindness so all are able to clearly see the glorious good news of our great God and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.