

A Letter to a Jehovah's Witness

(By Pastor Kelly Sensenig)

Dear Jehovah's Witness,

There are many things that we could address in this letter but I'm going to speak to you primarily about Jesus Christ. Who Jesus Christ was and is today is the most important matter. The Bible says that you must have a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ (John 14:6). The Bible reveals that Jesus Christ is the Father's Son and the very Son of God, which Biblically means that He shares the same existence with the one, true God, who is Jehovah. In order to have a right relationship with God, you must have a right understanding who Jesus Christ is and then express faith in Him as God and Savior of your soul. Let's get to the heart of the matter – Jesus Christ!

Jesus asked in Matthew 22:42-44:

“What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David. He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?”

If the Messiah were simply an earthly son of David, why did David ascribe deity to Him? In Matthew 22 Jesus quoted from a messianic Psalm (Ps. 110:1), in which David referred to the Messiah as **my Lord**. The term “Lord” translates the Hebrew *ādōnāy*, which is used only of God or Jehovah (Gen. 15:2, 8; Isa. 45:5; Job 28:28). **If David called this Son “Lord,” He certainly must be more than a human son!** Yes, Jesus was much more than the human son connected with David's genealogical record, He was God Himself - Lord of all! Jehovah Himself attributed the name “Lord” to Himself and therefore Jesus is identifying Himself with Jehovah when using this title. Indeed, He is “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS” (Rev. 19:16). He is not a lesser Lord but lord of all lords (authorities and potentates) because He shares Jehovah's existence as God.

Stoning Jehovah!

John 5:18

“Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also **that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.**”

The Father was represented in the Bible as God (Jehovah) and Jesus Christ, who declared that He was the Father’s Son, also conveyed to the world that He was God incarnate, sharing His Father’s existence as Jehovah God. The unbelieving Jews sought to kill Jesus because the Old Testament Messianic Scriptures taught that Messiah is God Himself (Isa. 7:14; 9:6; Heb. 1:8). For Jesus to claim that God was His Father and therefore His Son was blasphemy, since this made Jesus equal with God. It means that Jesus shared the same existence with God and the unbelieving Jews rejected Christ’s eternal relationship with God.

John 19:7

“The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.”

Declaring Himself as God’s Son, as the Jews acknowledge, was to declare Himself equal with God’s nature and eternal being. **How could God have a Son who was not God?** The Jews Biblically and correctly understood that Messiah (God’s Son) was to enter the world as the revelation of Jehovah or God Himself (John 1:18). Jesus is called the “Son of God” (Matt. 14:33; 16:16; John 3:18; 20:31; Rom. 1:4) because He shares the same existence with God in His eternal being. This was not the doctrine of the Jews but the doctrine of the Biblical revelation.

The Witnesses reason that Jesus is called God’s “only begotten Son” (John 3:16) because Jesus was a *lesser god* than the Father. However, they refuse to accept Scriptural revelation that there is only one true God and no other gods beside Him.

Isaiah 45:5

“I am the Lord, and **there is none else, there is no God beside me:** I girded thee, though thou hast not known me.” **Isaiah 45:21** adds, “and **there is no God else beside me;** a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

The Jehovah's Witnesses want one Almighty God and lesser gods under Him (Jesus Christ) but the Bible does not teach this anywhere. The "lesser god" theory flies in the face of Biblical revelation and what Jehovah actually said – there are no other gods ("**there is no God beside me**"). The Bible, in spite of the mistranslations of the New World Translation, also reveals that the Son and the Father share the same existence as God (Ps. 45:6-7; Heb. 1:8). Both are called God. Logically, God the Father could only have a Son who is God the Son, but more importantly, Biblically, God's Son (the Messiah) was a revelation of God's eternal existence, being, and nature (Matt. 1:23). This is a Biblical revelation that the Jews understood; however, the Jehovah's Witnesses refuse to believe this clear revelation.

Hebrews 1:3

"Who being (His eternal existence) the brightness of his glory (God's radiant display of glory), and the **express image of his person (exact imprint and representation of God's personal being)**, and upholding all things by the word of his power (controlling the atomic structure of the universe), when he had by himself purged our sins (paid the necessary price for sin's penalty), sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high (took the same position as God on the throne)."

In short, the Son of God existed in eternity past, sharing God's existence (Rev. 1:8, 11; 21:6; 22:13; John 1:1), but at a given point of time, He was born into humanity (Gal. 4:4), took on a human body, so He could die on the cross as Jehovah, and become the Savior of those who were under the penalty of judgment for their sins (Gal. 3:13). He then sat down at the right hand of God (declaring His saving work was finished) and once again shared God's throne as He did in the past (John 17:5).

The fact that Jesus sits at the right hand of God (Col. 3:1; Heb. 10:12; 12:2; 1 Pet. 3:22) is sometimes used as an argument to teach that Jesus was a lesser god than the Father. But this is unbiblical and misleading. A seat at God's right hand does not diminish Christ's deity; it means that He shares the throne with God as Revelation 3:21 suggests ("set down with my Father in his throne"). You can't get any higher than God's throne ("KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS" - Rev. 19:16). Within the Trinitarian oneness of God there is an equality of Persons; however, there is a *voluntary subordination of function* to carry out the divine counsel of redemption and family relationship within the Godhead. So, the fact that Jesus is seated at God's right hand does not take away from who Christ

was and is today – Jehovah. *The fact that Christ sits at God’s right hand of God does not demean His deity but heightens it.* He shares God’s throne because He is God Himself in His eternal being and existence! Let me explain.

First, Jesus is expressly called God in many Bible verses (Luke 1:47; John 1:1; Phil. 2:6-7; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:8). When these Scriptures are not tampered with, by changing the united voice of the Greek manuscripts, they teach that Jesus is Jehovah God. Second, Jehovah Himself said there are no other *true* gods that exist apart from Jehovah (Exodus 34:14; Deut. 4:35; Isa. 45:5), and since only Jehovah can save us (Isa. 43:11; 45:22), Jesus must be Jehovah God, “**the true God**” (1 John 5:20), or else He could never save us! Matthew 1:21, “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **Jesus**: for he shall **save his people from their sins**. Why can Jesus save people from the penalty of their sins? Matthew 1:23 gives us the answer, “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us.**” Jesus was not “a god” with us but “God with us” (Jehovah Himself), since only Jehovah can save, and since there are no other true gods apart from Jehovah.

Third, within the oneness (unity) of the divine essence of the Godhead (Father and Son relationship), there is an equality of the persons (all share the same existence as God), but there nevertheless remains an order for the execution of God’s divine purpose for redemption (Gal. 4:4). For instance, the Father is the head of Christ for the *purpose of redemption* and the Father sent the Son into the world. In the same sense, the man and the woman are one in Christ, but the headship of the man over the woman remains in order to carry out the *divine purpose for the home and for the local church* (1 Cor. 11:3).

God With us!

When Jesus came into the world He was called “**Immanuel**” (God with us – not a god with us).

Isaiah 7:14

“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name **Immanuel.**”

Matthew 1:23

“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us.**”

Immanuel means God with us. Taken at face value, believing what the Bible says, we can arrive at no other conclusion but one – Jesus Christ is God. The Witnesses claim that these verses only mean that He represented God in His living and actions but these are preconceived conclusions based upon one’s error and belief system. The Bible emphatically declares that Jesus is “God with us” in every sense and meaning of the word.

The Exegesis of God

John 1:18

“No man hath seen **God** at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, **he hath declared him**” (exegeted and openly revealed who God is to the world).

The word “declared” means to bring out into the light and tells us that Jesus Christ fully expounds and explains and brings God out into the open. *Literally, Jesus Christ was and is today the incarnate exegesis of God’s very being and existence.* This can only be said because Jesus Himself is God incarnate.

John clearly says that Jesus Christ was the living word (logos) of God’s very being and existence.

John 1:1

“In the beginning was the Word (logos – revelation of God’s being and existence), and the **Word (Jesus Christ) was with God (in eternity past),** and the **Word was God**” (literally - God was the Word).

The lack of the definite article in the Greek language (“the Word was God”) does not indicate that the rendering should be “a god” as the NWT translates and the Jehovah’s Witnesses teach. The lack of a definite article in the Greek language simply emphasizes the nature of the thing being described, which in this case is Jesus Christ, who shares God’s existence. A technical rule of Greek grammar is that when a writer wanted to stress the quality of a person or thing that was in the predicate nominative case,

they would put that person or thing before the verb rather than after it. This was done for emphasis This is what John did to stress the fact that Jesus Christ was God.

The translators of the NWT do not follow their ungrammatical Greek conclusion elsewhere. They are biased and inconsistent. John 1:6 reads, "There was a man sent from God." To be consistent with John 1:1, the New World Translation should have translated this as "a god" but they choose not to do so in this case because they want John to be sent from the true God. John 1:12 reads, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." Again, to be consistent with the translation of John 1:1, the New World Translation should have translated this as "a god." But once again they choose to not translate it this way because they want to be children of the true God. John 1:13 is similar: "Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." The translators of the Jehovah Witness Bible once again do not translate this as "but of a god" since they want to recognize that there is a true God.

So, the only place the New World Translation is bias in its translation is John 1:1, where it seeks to discredit Jesus from being God of very God – the divine essence and being of God Himself. This goes to show their biased and unorthodox translation of the Bible to suit their own agenda which is to deny Jesus Christ is God.

John 1:1 literally reads, "God was the Word" (Christ). Actually, the NWT does not follow their own line of faulty reasoning about its "no-article-small-g-rule" in other passages where the word "God" does not have the article in the Greek, but it does have a capital "G" in the New World Translation (John 1:6, 12, 13).

Here is the truth. "In the beginning (John 1:1) of creation and the formation of the earth, when time, as we know it, started (Gen. 1:1), the Word (Jesus Christ) was already in existence sharing the same nature as God ("God was the Word" - John 1:1). Jesus Christ is not one of many gods ("a god") as the New World Translation states. This is an obvious attempt to deny the deity of Jesus Christ. *There is no Bible version or any Greek manuscripts among the thousands existing that translate this verse in a polytheistic way.* By the way, the Jehovah Witnesses do not even believe in many gods; if this is the case, then why do they translate John 1:1 in a polytheistic

manner? The translation of this verse is an obvious cover up of the truth of Christ's eternal being. How could Christ be "a god" when Jehovah says in Isaiah 43:10, "before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me."

The Deity of Christ

Jesus Christ is repeatedly declared to be God Himself.

Speaking of Jesus Christ's return, **Titus 2:13** states:

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of **the great God** and our Savior **Jesus Christ**"

Romans 9:5

"**Christ**...who is over all, **God** blessed for ever"

1 John 5:20

"And we know that the **Son of God** is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his **Son Jesus Christ**. This is **the true God**, and eternal life"

Psalm 45:6 prophetically speaks of Christ:

"**Thy throne, O God**, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre."

The Bible teaches that Christ was worshiped as God.

1. Christ **accepted** and **encouraged** worship of Himself (Matthew 14:31-33; 15:25-28; 28:9-10, 16-18; John 9:35-39).
2. Christ demanded that men worship Him (John 5:23).
3. Someday the entire world will worship Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:9-10

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth."

As a Jehovah's Witness, can you bow before Jesus Christ today and worship Him as the true God? If Jesus accepts worship and you can't worship Him, then you must have a wrong opinion of who Jesus was and is today. If you say that you worship Jesus as a *secondary god*, then you have not believed what Jehovah said; there is only one true God that exists – not many gods (Isa. 45:5). Furthermore, if you worship Jesus you would also be breaking the commandment of Exodus 20:3, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Here is the point. If Jesus accepts worship and all the earth will worship Him someday, then we can worship Jesus today. However, if you worship Jesus as a *lesser god* then you are putting other gods before Jehovah. Accept the Biblical revelation; Jesus is the only true God (Jehovah) who accepts worship.

Hebrews 1:8 makes it very clear:

"But **unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God**, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."

In this verse, the Father, who is God, is actually declaring this to the Son, the future reigning King, who is also God!

Isaiah 9:6

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

The prophecy of Isaiah 9:6 and Messiah's entrance into the world declares that He is God. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, **The mighty God**, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

It has been thoroughly proven that Isaiah 9:6 is a Messianic Prophecy referring to Jesus Christ. The Witnesses will tell you that Jesus is only "the mighty God" but not the Almighty God. Again, this is blinded reasoning since there is only one true God (Isa. 45:5) and no lesser gods. For the record, Jesus as the returning King will judge the earth as "**the Almighty God**" and be the One who will reign over the earth in the very person of Jesus Christ (Rev. 11:17; 16:14; 19:15).

The expression “Everlasting Father” (Isa. 9:6) does not suggest that the Son is the same person as the Father since each Person in the Godhead (trinity) is distinct. This expression can be literally rendered “the Father of eternity.” It emphasizes God’s eternal being and nature. Among the Jews, the word “**father**” also means “**originator**” or “**source**.” For example, Satan is the “father [originator] of lies” (John 8:44). This title “everlasting Father” suggests that Jesus is the Creator and source of all things, even time and the ages, just as a father is the source and provider for the family.

In **Luke 1:47** Mary said this about Jesus:
“And my spirit hath rejoiced in **God my Saviour**.”

Colossians 1:15 speaks this way of Christ:
“Who is the **image of the invisible God**, the firstborn of every creature.”

The word for “image” is a Greek word from which we get our English word icon. This means Jesus is the exact replica of Jehovah or God in His eternal existence and being. **If you put God in a copy machine a picture of Jesus Christ would come out!**

John clearly states in **John 1:3**, “All things were made by him (Jesus Christ); and without him was not any thing made that was made.” In **Colossians 1:16** Paul states, “For by him (Jesus Christ) were all things (not “other” things as the NWT implies) created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.”

Note: Jesus was not the first created being made by Jehovah. He was actually the creator of all things!

Colossians 1:15
“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature.”

Again, the word “**image**” (icon - imprint) speaks of an exact likeness and representation of God. Jesus Christ is the exact representation and reproduction (imprint) of God’s very being and existence. He represents God’s divine essence. He is Jehovah.

The term “**firstborn**” in the Greek language is prototokos while **first-created** is protoktistos (a totally different Greek word). Colossians 1:15 does not use the word protoktistos (first created). Instead, it uses prototokos (firstborn) which connotes that Jesus Christ was an heir or one who is first in rank. The firstborn was a **title of rank, privilege, dignity, honor, and superiority**. It was not merely used as a title for physical birth but it means above all others. **In Psalm 89:27**, the word “firstborn” is used to designate a **place of superiority, of supremacy, of uniqueness**. Here God says that He will make David His firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth. David was actually the last-born son of Jesse according to the flesh. But God determined to give him a place of unique supremacy, primacy, and sovereignty. **The major emphasis of the word “firstborn” is on Christ’s sovereignty and supremacy as Lord over everything in the universe.** Since this is true, He created everything in the world (Col. 1:16).

Revelation 3:14 is sometimes used to prove that Jesus Christ was a created being and therefore could not be God. “And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God.” However, the expression “**the beginning of the creation of God**” does not mean Christ was the first creation of God. **The Greek word used for “beginning” (ache) means source or origin and suggests that Jesus Christ is the actual source of everything that was created on planet earth.** This title means that Jesus Christ began all creation (Col. 1:16). It does not say that Jesus Christ had a beginning but that He is the beginning or source of everything. In other words, Jesus Christ is the Creator and is the *source* and *origin* of everything that was created (John 1:3). There is no verse in the entire Bible that states Jesus Christ was created by Jehovah! Actually, He was the Creator Jehovah!

1 Timothy 3:16 declares this about Christ:

“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh (in the person of Jesus Christ)**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

Jesus said in John 10:30

“I and my Father are one.”

Jesus was not teaching that the Son and Father are the same person but that they share the same eternal existence as God. *Jesus is equal with the Father in His divine nature.* This is why the Jews again wanted to stone him (John 10:31). They also wanted to stone Jesus when He said, "Before Abraham was, I am" proving that He was God and the Jehovah of Old Testament revelation (Exodus 3:14).

By the way, the Jews would not stone Jesus if they thought He was only talking about being *one in purpose* with God, as the Jehovah Witnesses often interpret John 10:30, in order to deny Christ's deity with the Father (that He shares with the Father the same existence as God). Jesus was crucified for calling Himself the Son of God (John 19:7).

Note: In the days of Christ the title "Son of God" was understood to mean "equality with God," that is, "sameness of nature." To claim to be the Son of God was a full claim to deity in light of the messianic texts pointing to the Messiah. The following texts make this abundantly clear.

John 10:33

"The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God."

The blasphemy was not for being *one in purpose* with God but actually declaring Himself to be God! John Gospel reveals to us that Jesus Christ was the *divine revelation of God's eternal existence and being* (John 1:1, 18). Jesus Christ shares the very essence and nature of the Godhead (Col. 2:9). Calling Himself "the Son of God" was declaring Himself equal with God (John 5:18). This is why the Jews said that the Son of God blasphemed.

Jesus adds in John 10:36: "Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?"

The Son of God shares God's existence. How could it be any other way? He is called the "Son of God." This does not mean He is the Father but that He is God! The Jews knew the Old Testament Scripture identified the Messiah and Son as God in the flesh (Isa. 7:14; Isa. 9:6; Matt. 1:23) and because they chose to reject His deity they wanted to crucify Him.

John 20:28

“And Thomas answered and said unto him (Jesus), **My Lord and my God.**”

There is no basis whatsoever for saying, as some Jehovah’s Witnesses conclude, that Thomas was referring to Christ when he said, “my Lord” but was referring to God the Father when he said “my God.” This is erroneous. **It should be added that the title “Lord” is repeatedly ascribed to God in the Old Testament (Gen. 15:2, 8; Ex. 34:23; Josh. 7:7; Neh. 10:29) and is used in connection with the name Jehovah (Exod. 4:10; Josh. 3:13; Psalm 8:1, 9).** This title “Lord” also connotes deity or that Jesus Christ was God manifest in the flesh.

Note: The common version during Jesus’ day was the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Old Testament) which used the Greek "kurios" (Lord) to translate the sacred name "JEHOVAH" which is written as "LORD" or "GOD" in our English (KJV) Old Testament. Isaiah 45:5-6 shows that Jehovah denotes the only true Deity.

1 John 5:20

“And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in **his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God,** and eternal life.”

Philippians 2:6-7

“Who, being in the **form of God**, thought it not robbery to be **equal with God**: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.”

Note: During Jesus’ earthly ministry He submitted to the Father’s authority and will (John 5:30) and declared that the Father was even greater than Himself (John 14:28) but this does not demean or take away from His deity. There is always *functional authority* and *submission* within the Godhead (1 Cor. 15:28) to fulfill the Godhead’s purposes on earth and throughout eternity. From the perspective of Jesus’ humanity, He surrendered to the Father’s will but from the perspective of the eternal Godhead both the Father and Son share the same existence, authority, and throne (Ps. 45:6; Heb. 1:8).

In the beloved **Psalm 23:1**, it stated, "**Jehovah is my shepherd.**" Jesus very clearly applied this passage to Himself in John 10:11, 14 when He said, "**I am the good shepherd.**" In the famous prophecy of John the Baptist found in **Isaiah 40:3**, Jesus is called Jehovah. "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord (**Hebrew renders it LORD – Jehovah**), make straight in the desert **a highway for our God.**" It's very clear that the Bible prophecies of John the Baptist was that he was to prepare the way of Jehovah, yet it was Jesus who arrived on the earthly scene. How can this be? The simple answer is that Jesus is Jehovah, He is divine; that is, He is the fullness of deity in bodily form.

Colossians 2:9

"For in him (Jesus Christ) dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

It was Jesus who took on the form of a body so God could be revealed to mankind in human form (John 1:18). In other words, Jesus Christ is part of the Godhead (indicating plurality in the Godhead) and He shares the same existence as God within the Trinitarian existence of the one, true God (Gen. 1:26).

Jehovah and the Trinity

The Biblical teaching of the Trinity is that there is ONE God and yet THREE persons that share God's existence. The Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit are all God and share the one existence as God. The Bible does not teach Tritheism (three gods). Some critics of the Trinity doctrine claim that since the word "trinity" is not found in the Bible it isn't true. Furthermore, some assert that if God wanted us to believe in the Trinity He would have stated the doctrine clearly.

First, is it really illogical to claim that since the word "Trinity" is not found in the Bible that its concept is not taught in the Bible? This kind of objection usually demonstrates a prejudice against the teaching of the Trinity. Instead, the person should look to God's word to see if it really is taught or not taught in the Bible. Second, there are many biblical concepts that people believe in that don't have a specific word describing them used in the Bible. For example, the word "bible" is not found in the Bible, but we use it anyway to describe the Bible. Likewise, "omniscience" which means "all-knowing," "omnipotence" which means "all-powerful," and "omnipresence" which means "present everywhere," are words not found in the Bible either, but we use them to describe the attributes of God. We

don't have to see a specific word in the Bible in order for the concept it describes to be true.

The following are other words that the Bible does not use but the concepts are mentioned:

- **Atheism** is the teaching that there is no God. "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God'" (Psalm 14:1).
- **Monotheism** is the teaching that there is only one God (Isaiah 43:10; 44:8).

Titus 2:13 declares that Jesus Christ shares God's existence in the Trinity: "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of **the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.**"

Stop doubting it. Jesus is God. Jesus is Jehovah. This means that Jesus Christ, along with the Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:19; Acts 5:3-4) share the existence of Jehovah with the Father. No person within the Trinity is the same person but they share the same existence as the one, true God (John 17:3).

Now let's study about the name Jehovah. The Hebrew name for God is *YHWH* – four consonants only. Because of a nearly superstitious fear of taking the Lord's name in vain, the Jews avoided using this name, and often used the name *Adonai*. Eventually, the vowels from *Adonai* were included in *YHWH* to form *Yahowah*. Today, this name is often spelled in English, *Yahweh*. This contrived word or *Yahowah* mutated to *Jehovah* in some manuscripts. *Yahweh* and *Jehovah* are considered synonymous, and mean "The LORD." Jehovah's Witnesses maintain that Jehovah is the correct name for God and He must be referred to as such. Any other name would not constitute the true God. Therefore, according the Witnesses, the expression "Son of God" does not mean that Jesus was God or Jehovah.

But think of this. A son shares the same genetic makeup as his father and is linked to his father biologically and physiologically. The same is true regarding the Son of God (John 3:18, 36; 9:35; 10:36; 11:4). He shares God the Father's nature and likeness. This is why Jesus is called the Son of God. He is **of God** just as His Father is **of God** and together they share God's eternal existence in the Trinity with the Holy Spirit (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit). Therefore, to conclude that the Trinity

isn't true because the word isn't found in the Bible is actually an invalid argument. Christ's deity demonstrates there is a Trinity. Christ as the Son of God shares with the Father the existence of the one true God.

The Biblical concept of the Trinity is found in Scripture even though the word does not appear in the Bible. Although the exact word "trinity" does not appear in the Bible the doctrine of the **Trinitarian oneness of God** (God is three distinct persons but one God) is clearly taught throughout the entire Bible. Let's investigate this.

God said in Genesis 1:26:

"... Let **us** (a plurality in the Godhead - the Father, Son, Holy Spirit) make man in **our** (the Father, Son, Holy Spirit) image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

Genesis 3:22-23 says:

"And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of **us** (the Father, Son, Holy Spirit), to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the **LORD (Jehovah)** God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken."

Genesis 11:7

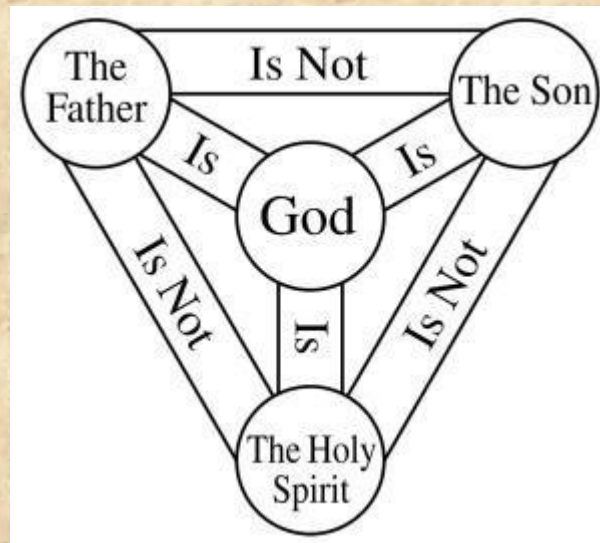
"Go to, let **us** (plurality within the Godhead) go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

Isaiah 6:8

"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for **us**? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

These verses and other passages are examples of conversations within which God uses the word "**we**" or "**us**." However, God is not referring to any others (people, angels, etc.) in these verses. Since God is having a conversation, the "we" and "us" must therefore refer to the Trinity. You might say that God speaks to Himself in the plural form.

In the above verses we see the Biblical concept that God (Jehovah) is three persons. **Jehovah is not three gods (Deut. 6:4; Isa. 44:8) but He exists at one God that manifests Himself in three persons.** There is only one God who is the LORD (Deut. 6:4) but He exists in three distinct persons.



This is the Biblical teaching which is often termed Trinitarianism. **The Trinity (three persons) exist as the one true God.** Matthew 28:16-20 is a passage referred to as “The Great Commission.”

Matthew 28:19 says:

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

Why did Jesus tell his eleven disciples to baptize people in the names of all three members of the Trinity? Why not just one or two? It is obvious from this passage that the entire Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Ghost) is God.

1 John 5:7

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

Trinitarianism is the Biblical and orthodox teaching, which correctly identifies three persons within the Godhead. **There are three distinct persons (not gods) within the Godhead (Col. 2:9) that are all equally the same one God. This means that Jesus is God.** The Father (Matt.

5:16; Col. 1:3; James 1:17), Son (Matt. 3:17; John 3:16) and Holy Spirit (Acts 5:1-4; 1 Cor. 3:16; John 16:8, 14:26; Eph. 4:30) share the same existence as the One true God.

The Bible refutes the idea that there are three separate gods. There is only one God, and His exists in a Trinity.

1. The Father is called God ("God the Father" – 1 Pet. 1:2).
2. The Son is called God ("My Lord and my God" – John 20:28).
*The Father said to the son "Thy throne, O God is forever" (Heb. 1:8).
3. The Holy Spirit is said to be God (Acts 5:3-4).

The members of the Godhead are never called "a god" but God! God is one God and He exists in a Trinity (Gen. 1:26).

Deuteronomy 6:4

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord" (not three gods).

Parallels Between Jehovah and Jesus

Joel 2:32 says, "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the **LORD (Jehovah)** shall be delivered ..." Both **Acts 2:21** and **Romans 10:13** quote this passage, applying the verse to Jesus Christ Himself, which signifies His deity, as God. This cannot be denied unless you approach the Bible wearing a blindfold and stooped in a cult that rejects the clear revelation of Jesus Christ as God incarnate.

In **Isaiah 43:11**, "I, even I, am the **LORD (Jehovah)**; and beside me there is no saviour." Do you realize that the title "Savior" is reserved in Scripture for God? This verse says so in the plainest possible terms. "**I am Jehovah; and there is no savior besides Me.**" That is why Paul, while writing to Titus, did not shrink from applying the name *God* and the word *Savior* both to Jesus Christ. **Titus 2:11-13**, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of **the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.**"

Deuteronomy 10:17 says, "For the **LORD (Jehovah)** your God is God of gods, and **Lord of lords**, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which

regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward.” Yet the Book of **Revelation 17:14 and 19:16** applies the title "**Lord of Lords**" to the lamb, Jesus Christ: "These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is **Lord of lords, and King of kings**: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful."

In Psalm 102:25-27 Jehovah is the creator: "Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end." In **Hebrews 1:10** Jesus Christ is declared to be the same creator. "And, Thou, Lord (Kurios – another name for God derived from the Old Testament – Gen. 15:2 - Adonai), in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands."

Note: When the New World Translation (NWT) translates **Hebrews 2:13** (a citation of Isaiah 8:18) it inserts the name "Jehovah" to try and impress upon the readers that Jehovah was distinct from Jesus. However, if this is the case, why didn't the NWT translators remain consistent and render the Greek term Kurios (Lord) as "Jehovah" in **Hebrews 1:10**? It's because the verse would categorically state that the Son of God was Jehovah Who laid the foundation of the world!

There is only one reason to avoid the name Jehovah in Hebrews 1:10: it would make the passage teach a doctrine that is contrary to Watchtower theology – that Jesus Christ is Jehovah! As a result, their Bible translation is determined by their beliefs, not by the text. **Actually, the title "Lord" (Heb. 1:10) also points to Christ's deity by declaring that He shares the same existence with the "Lord" (God) of Old Testament revelation (Gen. 15:2, 8, Ex. 23:17; Deut. 10:17).** The term and title "Lord" is ascribed only to God and Jesus accepted this title during His earthly ministry (John 20:28). Indeed, He is "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS" (Rev. 19:16). Someday every person will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Phil. 2:11).

"He is Lord, He is Lord,
He has risen from the dead and He is Lord,
Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess,
That Jesus Christ is Lord."

Some additional thoughts: The Witness can note that even in their NWT **Hebrews 1:8** (talking about the Son) begins in the same way as it does in **Hebrews 1:10** (talking about the Creator), with a colon followed by a quotation.

Hebrews 1:8-9

“But unto the Son *he saith*, Thy throne, O God, *is* for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness *is* the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore **God**, *even* thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.”

Hebrews 1:10

“And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands.”

Verses 8 and 10 are both talking about the Son. Even the NWT gives no indication of any kind of break between verses 9 and 10. The Father is speaking to the Son and says, “Thy throne, **O God...**” In short, Jesus Christ is referenced in this passage by the Father as fulfilling Jehovah’s existence as the one, true God, Who is the creator of everything (vs. 10). So, Hebrews 1:9 calls the Messiah “**God**” (God the Son) and yet we see the Father is also called God. The text goes on to say: “**God**, *even thy God* (God the Father) hath anointed thee” (Jesus Christ) to be the Messiah, which speaks once again of the inner working and relationship of the Godhead. Both the Son and Father are addressed as God and share God’s existence.

Now let’s follow the exegesis of the entire passage. **Hebrews 1:3** speaks of Christ as the exact representation of God’s nature and being (Heb. 1:3). Now follow the context down through **Hebrews 1:8**, which begins, “**But unto the Son he saith**” Who is being addressed and discussed all throughout this passage? The answer is plainly the Son. The citation that begins in Hebrews 1:8 finishes in Hebrews 1:10, which even the NWT says, “And: “You at [the] beginning, O Lord, laid the foundations of the earth itself, and the heavens are [the] works of your hands.” The quotation found in Hebrews 1:8-9 is derived from Psalm 45:6-7 which describes the final triumph of God’s messianic King (Jesus Christ) who is identified as God incarnate (in the flesh).

The other Old Testament passage being cited in **Hebrews 1:10**, according to the cross references found in NWT reference edition is **Psalms 102:25-27**. **Psalms 102:1**, which identifies the individual being addressed in the passage as Jehovah. The NWT begins, "O Jehovah, do hear my prayer." Skip down to **Psalms 102:12** and look how Jehovah remains the subject of the psalm. The name Jehovah continues to appear in **Psalms 102:19 and 20**. This is important because when you get to Psalm 102:25 the significance of the words is seen. Jehovah is addressed in the very same words that the writer to the Hebrews uses for the Son, Jesus Christ! This can mean only one thing; Jesus Christ is Jehovah!

In **Isaiah 44:6** we read, "Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD (Jehovah) of hosts; **I am the first, and I am the last**; and beside me there is no God." This same title and expression surfaces again in **Revelation 22:13**, where it is applied to Jesus Christ "**the first and the last**." How can you have two firsts and two lasts is it not clear that Jesus Christ is also Jehovah (the eternal God)? Jehovah is the name for the one, true, living, and eternal God, and Jesus Christ shares the same titles given to Jehovah, since He too, eternally exists and lives on, as Jehovah and the only true God and Savior. **You can't have Jehovah without Jesus!**

I Am

In **Exodus 3:14** Jehovah is speaking: "And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM**: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you." In **John 8:58** Jesus is speaking: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, **I am**."

The expression "I am" corresponds with the eternal Jehovah ("I am") of the Old Testament.

Exodus 3:13-14

"And Moses said unto **God**, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM**: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, **I AM** hath sent me unto you."

At His birth, the name Jesus was given to Him “for he shall save his people from their sins” (**Matt. 1:21**). The word for *Jesus* (*Jēsous*) is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew *Joshua*, which means “**Jehovah is salvation**” or “**Jehovah saves.**” **Jesus is Jehovah and only Jehovah can save us!**

The simple fact is that Jehovah's Witnesses do not give witness to the true Jehovah of Scripture. They reject His own witness about His Son Jesus Christ, who is revealed as sharing the same eternal existence as Himself – Jehovah God. Both God the Father and God the Son are Jehovah in their eternal being and existence and they share the same existence as the One true God.

Dear Jehovah's Witness, only Jehovah Jesus, Who came to earth in human flesh (Immanuel – Isa. 7:14), Who died on the cross and rose from the dead (1 Cor. 15:3-4), can be your Savior. No person can forgive sin but God (Mark 2:7). Jesus did forgive sin (Mark 2:5) and therefore He is Jehovah, the only true revelation of God's existence! **Only Jehovah can save (Isa. 45:22) and He saves us through His Son, who also shares the same existence with Jehovah in the Godhead (Col. 2:9).** This is why we must embrace who Jesus Christ really is and express our faith in His person and work on the cross to save us from hell.

Antichrists!

All those who oppose the person of Jesus Christ are declared to be “**antichrists**” (**1 John 2:18**) or those who opposes the claims of Jesus Christ regarding His eternal relationship with Jehovah. Jehovah's Witnesses are against Christ because they reject His claims to deity.

1 John 4:1-3 declares:

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try (test) the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every **spirit (the Holy spirit) that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (that Jesus Christ is the true Messiah - God in the flesh)** is of God: And every **spirit (demonic spirit) that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh (that Jesus Christ is not God in the flesh)** is not of God: and this is that spirit of **antichrist (the demonic spirit which against Jesus Christ)**, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

There is a Biblical confession that acknowledges **Jesus** as the **Christ** (anointed one or Messiah) who was Biblically portrayed as being God incarnate (God coming into the world in the flesh – **“God was manifest in the flesh”** - **1 Tim. 3:16**). The Christ (Anointed One or Messiah) was said to be Immanuel (**God with us – Matt. 1:23**). Therefore, in a Biblical sense, a person denies that Jesus is the Christ (Messiah), when he denies that Jesus Christ came in the flesh, in order to represent God’s being and existence to mankind. **Do you believe that Jesus was the Christ, who came into the world as God incarnate, and who revealed God’s eternal being and existence to mankind?** This is the real question. If you deny this, you deny that Jesus was the Christ, who represented God to mankind.

A denial that Christ came in the flesh means a denial of the deity of Christ.

1 John 2:22

“Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.”

If you deny that the Father and the Son share the same existence as Jehovah God, then you are a liar! The great test of all teachers is this: What do you think of Christ? If you think wrongly of Jesus Christ, then you will die and go to hell (Heb. 9:27). If you think correctly about Jesus Christ and embrace Him as your own personal Savior (John 1:12), then you will go to Heaven when you die (2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; Rev. 6:9).

I hope some of these Biblical evaluations concerning Jesus Christ will bring you to simple faith in the person and work of Christ. Jesus said that when you know the truth, the truth will set us free and give you eternal hope in Him alone to be your Savior.

John 8:32

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

You can be free from the Watchtower error that rejects Jesus Christ as Jehovah, the only true God that can save your soul from eternal damnation (Rev. 20:11-15). **How can Jesus Christ die on a cross, take the penalty for your sins, rise from the dead, and save our soul, without being God? How can any person save you other than God?** No Jehovah’s Witness could ever answer this question. But the answer is found in the

Bible. Jesus Christ was both man and God, which makes Him the perfect mediator to bring man into a place of acceptance before God.

1 Timothy 2:5

“For there is **one God**, and **one mediator between God and men**, the man Christ Jesus.”

Yes, Jesus was a **man**, but He was also **Christ** (Messiah - God) **Jesus** (Savior), who entered the world as God (Isa 7:14; 9:6) to take away our sins (Matt. 1:21-23). Only God can save us and it's through faith in God's Son, Jesus Christ, the revelation of the true Jehovah, which can save your soul from hell and judgment forever.

I understand that the Watchtower has historically refused to believe who Jesus was and is today.

John 8:24

“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins (die and be judged for your sins in hell): for **if ye believe not that I am he** (refuse to believe that Jesus Christ is God Himself), ye shall die in your sins” (die and suffer God's wrath for your sins).

This means you will experience His wrath and judgment in hell because of your sins, unless you embrace Him as the Jehovah, or God of the Old Testament, the only One who can be our loving and merciful Savior.

In Isaiah 45:22 Jehovah said:

“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.”

John 3:14-15

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

As we look upon Jesus Christ, who died on the cross to bear sin's penalty of judgment, we are looking at Jehovah, and trusting in God to save us from hell for all eternity. Only Jehovah can save; therefore, if we believe Jesus can save us, then we must believe who Jesus is, Jehovah God, the Savior of mankind (1 John 4:14).

Dear Jehovah's Witness, has evangelical Christianity been wrong for over 2,000 years and has your group, which was founded in 1870 by Charles Taze Russell, who taught the world would end in October 1914 (*Bible Examiner* October, 1876 "Gentile Times When Do They End?" pp. 27–28), suddenly discover a new revelation about Jesus Christ that was unknown by the founding apostles of the church (Eph. 2:20)? I can't buy into it and neither should you (Deuteronomy 18:22). **Jesus said in John 8:32, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."**

Friend, today you can express faith in who Jesus Christ really is (Jehovah) and what He has done for you on the cross and His resurrection from the dead, so Jesus Christ can grant you the forgiveness of sins forever and eternal life with Him in Heaven.

Acts 16:31

"Believe on the **Lord** (God - sovereign master of the universe – Gen. 15:2, 8) **Jesus** (Savior who died on the cross – Isaiah 45:22) **Christ** (anointed one – Messiah – who came into the world as God – Isaiah 7:14), and thou shalt be saved (delivered from an eternal hell)."

Romans 10:9-10

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus (Jesus as Lord – God), and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

Anything short of this kind of belief in Jesus Christ, is damning, and will result in the eternal judgment of your soul in hell, a literal place of suffering where the unsaved spend eternity (Rev. 14:10-11; 20:10-11-15).

And now, it's time for you to believe in Jesus Christ. You have weighed the Biblical evidence. It's true, Jesus is Jehovah; He is God and He died to save you from hell and give you everlasting life. Only God can save you and that is why Jesus had to be God when He died on the cross.

John 6:47

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."

On the final page is a prayer that may help you to express faith in Jesus Christ.

“Dear heavenly Father, I have discovered from the Bible that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He shares Your existence as God. I now want to express faith in Jesus Christ as the only true God that can save me from hell and give me eternal life, through His death on the cross and His resurrection from the grave. Thank you for saving me today through Your Son, Jehovah Jesus. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

If you have prayed this prayer with sincerity and believed on Jesus Christ (as the only true God and Savior) then you are saved.

Romans 10:13

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord (Jesus Christ – God – Joel 2:32) shall be saved.”

Sincerely,

Pastor Kelly Sensenig