

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES CAN YOU ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE?

CAN YOU ACCEPT A CHALLENGE? If so, I challenge you to search the Scriptures in your own New World Translation, comparing the following scriptures. I am sure that you would agree with me, that the Scriptures contained in the following must not contradict themselves but must harmonize. Bearing this in mind, and in the privacy of your own home, check out the following Scriptures:

It is clearly stated in the *Aid to Bible Understanding* that Jehovah is "... the King of eternity ... the only true God (I Tim. 1:17). There existed no god before him. — Isa. 43:10,11" (p. 665).

In light of the above, it naturally follows that any man or spirit being that is called god cannot be true Deity — no matter how mighty. The only true Deity in existence is Jehovah. If Jehovah is "the only true God," any other god must be both Scripturally and logically — false! This is clearly taught in Holy Scripture. This truth, however, exposes a serious flaw within the Society's teachings which honest Bible students, who are interested in Jehovah's arrangement for their lives, can easily detect.

Now, in your New World Translation, in John 1:1 we read, "In the beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god." If I were to ask the Watchtower Society, "Who is this 'a god'?" — they would answer that it is Jesus Christ. Now, the

next question is, "Is Jesus Christ a true god?" If their answer is yes, then they have two true gods, which contradicts their own earlier statement.

I know that they will say that there are many gods, but we are not dealing with gods of this world, but with Deity. Now, if their answer is no, then He must, according to the Society, be a *false* god. He is either true or false. If He is a false god, then you have many problems.

In your booklet, "Make Sure of All Things," on page 282, we see that **according to the Watchtower Organization**, Jehovah created a *false* god, and through this false god, *all other things were created!?*

1. On page 283, Jehovah is the *Father* of this FALSE GOD!
2. This FALSE GOD is the *Messiah*, and *prophecies were fulfilled through him!*
3. On page 284, this FALSE GOD uncompromisingly proclaimed *God's truth!*
4. On page 285, Jehovah gave this FALSE GOD divine backing to *perform miracles!*
5. Page 286 tells us that this FALSE GOD *died as a ransom*, opening the way to Eternal Life for *all who would believe!*
6. *Forgiveness of sins and salvation to eternal life is possible only* through this FALSE GOD!

7. On page 287, this FALSE GOD was resurrected from the dead and is now immortal!
8. This FALSE GOD is exalted to Heaven!
9. And this FALSE GOD is Jehovah's Son?!

Something is drastically wrong somewhere! CHRIST must be a TRUE GOD. And remember, it is impossible for two true gods to exist!

Another problem: John, who was the author and writer of the Book of John was a Jew, and as a Jew, he believed in only one God. And yet, if your translation is accurate, you have John writing about a Big God, who goes by the name of "Jehovah," and a lesser god, known as "Jesus Christ." But as a true Jew, John could not possibly believe in two gods. Something is wrong there, too!

Now, let's compare some scriptures in your own translation: Compare John 1:1-2 with:

Isa. 43:10 — In this verse Jehovah is very emphatic about what he wants His servant, Israel, to know: have faith and understand that, "Before me there was no God formed, and after me there continued to be none." I ask, in all sincerity, "Where did this a god in John 1:1 come from, that Jehovah was supposed to have created?"

Isa. 44:6 — "Besides me there is no God." Does Jehovah mean there is no other FALSE GOD? Of course not! He was all too aware of the idolatry of His people. He meant there was no other TRUE GOD beside Him.

Isa. 45:5-6 and Isa. 46:9 — "There is no other God." These Scriptures, according to your translation and the Watchtower Society's fundamental beliefs, do not harmonize, they flatly contradict! Correct doctrine and the Scriptures will not contradict!

Another interesting point may be mentioned concerning John 1:1 that is quite often overlooked. The very first statement by the inspired hand of John reads, "In the beginning was the Word." To what point in time does the word "beginning" refer? The beginning of all creation? To Genesis 1:1? Or, possibly, the beginning of time itself?

The Society says that: "In itself the word 'beginning' conveys the idea of a start somewhere in the past." (3/15/75, Watchtower p. 176) While the word "beginning" may convey the idea of a start, it cannot mean that the Word had a "beginning" or start in John 1:1. For the simple fact that "In the beginning was the Word," the Word is said to have already been in existence at the beginning. ("WAS" is the imperfect of "EIMI," the verb "TO BE.")

The above Watchtower article continues and states: "... what can we rightly conclude about the expression, 'In the beginning was the Word'? This: It means that the Word was with his Father for a time before being used in accomplishing the creative works." (ibid.) This only tells us that the Word enjoyed fellowship with the Father prior to the Creation. It also fails to give an adequate answer for when or to which point "the beginning" refers. In actuality, it seems more descriptive of the second clause in John 1:1, "and the Word was with God."

To which point in time do you think "the beginning" refers? Regardless of these three options: 1) the beginning of all creation, 2) to Gen. 1:1, 3) to time itself, the Word is spoken of as existing in the past tense, prior to "the beginning." In "the beginning" He already WAS.

While the language eliminates any possibility that the Word had a "beginning" Himself in John 1:1, it's the context that makes it clear that He is eternal! In verse 3 it states: "All things came into existence through Him [the Word], and apart from Him, not even one thing came

into existence." The language of John 1:1 has the Word existing prior to any "beginning," and John 1:3 makes it clear that this existence was before "even one thing came into existence"!

Think on this: In relation to time, the Word was already in existence. Creation is a subsequent event recorded in verse 3. The implication is clear: only an Eternal Being is capable of being in existence prior to this "beginning," before even one single thing existed! The Apostle Paul, in agreement with John, wrote, "... He [Christ] IS before all things." (Col. 1:17) "IS" is in the present tense, pointing out existence before all things. If anyone existed prior to Creation, He must logically be uncreated, therefore Eternal!

According to the Watchtower philosophy, Jesus Christ was created by Jehovah, as Michael, the Archangel. Note then in John 1:3, your translation says that all things came into existence through him (meaning Jesus Christ), and apart from him, not even one thing came into existence. So, if not even one thing came into existence apart from him, then he must have created the angels too, in which case he created himself! Yes, Michael is one of the angels, and reasoning further along this line, you then have a created Creator!!

Now for further comparisons, let's compare John 1:3 with Genesis 1:1, where we read that God created the heavens and the earth. Then in Isaiah 44:24 we read that Jehovah says, "I, Jehovah, am doing everything, stretching out the heavens and the earth by myself." But John 1:3 says that Jesus Christ did all the creating. Isaiah 45:8, Jehovah says, "I, myself, Jehovah, have created it. Same chapter verse 12, Jehovah says, "I, myself, have made the earth and have created even man upon it. I, my own hands, have stretched out the heavens ... " Now, in Colossians 1:16 we read, "For by Him, [meaning Jesus Christ], were all things 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."

I know that your New World Translation has added the word "[other]" in brackets, but search as you may, you will not find that word in any Greek text. On page 6 at the bottom of your translation, it says that brackets enclose words inserted to complete or clarify the sense in the English text. The word "[other]" was added by the Watchtower Society not to clarify but to change the meaning of the text in question. I repeat, that added word "[other]" does not appear in any Greek text. But if you want to leave the word "[other]" in there, then you have to come to terms with the fact that a created creature did all the creating, and that you have a created Creator!

Now, let's turn our attention to the Book of Revelation, again using your own N.W.T. In Revelation 1:8 we read, "I am the Alpha and Omega," says Jehovah God, "the One Who is and Who was, and Who is coming, The Almighty." This is supposed to be Jehovah God, according to your translation. Verse 17 and 18 says, "Fear not, I am the first and the last: I am He that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and death."

Along with these verses, read Rev. 21:6, and chapter 22:12-16. The quotation marks, in your translation, beginning at verse 12 show one speaker right through to verse 16. In verse 13, He says, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Then, in verse 16 He says, "I, Jesus, sent my angel to bear witness to you people of these things for the congregations. I am the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." The same speaker throughout this context, is Jesus Christ, and in verse 13 He says He is the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the beginning and the end. In Rev. 1:8, according to your

translation, Jehovah is supposed to make *the same statement!*

Can there be **two** Alphas and **two** Omegas? Can there be **two** First and **two** Last? Can there be two beginnings and two endings **without, or unless, they be One and the Same?**

Back to Isaiah again, chapter 44:6, also 48:12: *Jehovah* is declared to be the "First and the Last." In Rev. 1:17 and Rev. 22:13, *Jesus Christ* is declared to be the "First and the Last." Something is wrong: the scriptures in your N.W.T. contradict in many places.

In your booklet, "The Word: Who is He," according to John, on page 11, it says, and I quote: "Search John's writings as much as you can, yet we do not once find that John says that the Word became a God-man, that is a combination of God and man." unquote. However, please take notice of John's words recorded at John 5:18: "For this cause therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only brake the sabbath, but also called God his own Father, *making Himself equal with God.*"

And what are Christ's two chief titles? "*Son of man*" and "*Son of God.*" According to numerical usage, we find

Son of man, mentioned 78 times, and Son of God, mentioned 46 times in the New Testament.

I trust that these few verses from your own translation will suffice to show you that there is something drastically wrong with **what you have been led to believe**, because we have shown you from your own translation of the Scriptures where they definitely contradict each other. God's perfect Word, the Holy Scriptures, must **not contradict** — **they must harmonize!**

I challenge you to check these verses out for yourself, and think seriously about what the Society has led you to believe!

In conclusion, The Savior, Jesus Christ, prepared a way out of love, offering you an escape. He took the penalty required by sin. It was a *substitutionary atonement*. There is no longer a standing debt held against anyone who has been born again. His sins are gone and have been cast into the sea of God's forgetfulness, to be remembered by Him no more. Jeremiah 31:34 bears this out. You should lose no time in coming to grips with this matter. For information on the new birth, contact us.

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- Jesus Christ, The Firstborn of All Creation
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