

The *Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society* makes this summary statement concerning the identity of Jesus Christ in their booklet, *“Should You Believe in the Trinity?”*:

“The fact is that Jesus is not God and never claimed to be.” (p. 20)

Numerous times in this multimillion copy publication they insist Jesus is a created being inferior to God:

“Thus, Jesus had an existence in heaven before coming to the earth. But was it as one of the persons in an almighty, eternal triune God-head? No, for the Bible plainly states that in his prehuman existence, Jesus was a created spirit being, just as angels were spirit beings created by God. Neither the angels nor Jesus had existed before their creation.” (*Should You Believe in the Trinity?* p. 14)

Witnesses are taught God’s only direct act in creation was to create a special angel named Michael, who would have the power to create all “other” things. The Watch Tower defines Jesus as the angel Michael in their dictionary for Bible terms, *Aid to Bible Understanding*, p. 1152):

“Michael the Archangel, the first creation of Jehovah, before He came to earth and returned to the identity of Michael after his resurrection.”

The Watch Tower not only insists that Jesus is not God and is a created angel named Michael, but he did not raise physically from the dead. When he died he simply went out of existence. From an early Witness publication we find these astonishing words:

“...it could not be that the man Jesus is the Second Adam, the new father of the race instead of Adam; for the man Jesus is dead, forever dead,...” (*The Atonement Between God and Man, Studies in the Scriptures*, vol. 5, 1899, p. 454)

What happened to the body? The Watch Tower leaders teach rather than being resurrected, the body of Jesus was disposed of by God:

“Disposing of Jesus’ physical body at the time of his resurrection presented no problem for God.” (*Reasoning From the Scriptures*, 1989, p. 217).

Witnesses are taught further that although the body was not raised, Jesus was raised a spirit creature and simply materialized bodies on various occasions after the resurrection.

From the *Awake* magazine on page 4, July 22, 1973 we find this explanation:

“The fact that Jesus simply materialized bodies explains why on various occasions after his resurrection he was not always immediately recognized.”

These foundational doctrines of *The Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society* are refuted by the Apostle Thomas’ encounter with the risen Jesus.

Thomas had witnessed the cruel crucifixion of Jesus. When he’d heard that Jesus was raised from the dead he doubted and said:

“...Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and stick my finger into the print of the nails and stick my hand into his side, I will certainly not believe.” (John 20:25 NWT)

Eight days later Jesus appeared to the disciples with Thomas present. Jesus speaks directly to Thomas and says:

“...Put your finger here, and see my hands, and take your hand and stick it into my side, and stop being unbelieving but become believing.” (John 20:27 NWT)

Thomas hearing the voice of Jesus and seeing the marks of the nails and wound of the spear in the side of Jesus, proclaims one of the most remarkable statements in Scripture concerning the deity of Christ:

“In answer Thomas said to him: “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28 NWT)

You would expect a sharp rebuke by Jesus if in fact Jesus were simply a resurrected angel. Perhaps something like, “Thomas. You’ve got it wrong. Don’t

call me God. I’m Michael the Archangel, a creature as yourself. Jehovah alone is God.” Or, “Thomas, don’t call me “the God,” I am simply “a god.”

Rather than rebuking Thomas, Jesus not only approves of Thomas’ declaration, but commends those that believe even though they have not seen him in the flesh as Thomas:

“Jesus said to him: “Because you have seen me have you believed? Happy are those who do not see and yet believe.” (John 20:29) NWT

It would be hard to imagine a clearer statement concerning the deity of Christ and the reality of the bodily resurrection of Christ, than this.

However, in the Watch Tower’s persistence to deny the reality of the deity of Christ, they have made this pathetic excuse for the words of Thomas:

“But what about the apostle Thomas’ saying, “My Lord and my God!” to Jesus at John 20:28? To Thomas, Jesus was like “a god,” especially in the miraculous circumstances that prompted his exclamation. Some scholars suggest that Thomas may simply have made an emotional exclamation of astonishment, spoken to Jesus but directed to God.” (*Should You believe in the Trinity?* 1989 page 29)

First, we must understand that indeed Thomas words were spoken “to Jesus” as the Watch Tower admits. He did not make two statements, one to Jesus and a separate one to God.

Second, for a devout man of God to somehow make an “emotional exclamation”, “My God!” as is so casually made today, would certainly warrant a rebuke by Jesus. This certainly is swearing and taking the Lord’s name in vain, a violation of Exodus 20:7.

The Watch Tower offers a final suggestion that it is O.K. to call Jesus “a god” (small “g”) because of the “miraculous circumstances”. He would be “like a god” but not “the God.”

Unfortunately for the Watch Tower’s position, Thomas not only called Jesus God, but the word he used for God in the Greek is “Ho Theos” which is “the God.”

Contrary to their invalid excuse that Jesus was being referred to as “a god” their own “Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the GREEK SCRIPTURES” clearly proves that Thomas called Jesus “Ho Theos” the God.

A word for word translation from their *Kingdom Interlinear* is as follows:

“Answered Thomas and he said to him The Lord of me and the God of me!”

Because of the Watch Tower’s distorted theology, witnesses fail to understand that Jesus possessed two natures simultaneously. His humanity is evident from the gospel accounts as well as his Deity.

Furthermore, witnesses can never be sure current teachings are true since on many occasions they reverse their position.

An example is today Witnesses are taught that Jesus is Michael the archangel and should not be worshipped.

However, under the leadership of Charles Taze Russell, *The Watchtower* magazine taught the exact opposite as truth, Jesus is NOT Michael and Jesus SHOULD be worshipped:

“Hence it is said, ‘let all the angels of God worship him’: (that must include Michael, the chief angel, hence Michael is not the Son of God)...” (1879, p. 4).

A final point about the importance of Thomas’ experience in John 20 is concerning the bodily resurrection of Jesus which is an essential element of the Christian faith.

Witnesses are taught today that Jesus was raised a spirit being and “materialized bodies” following the resurrection.

The reason Thomas no longer doubted is that he saw and handled the very body that he saw hung from the cross. This is the very body that Jesus said he would raise in John 2:19-21.

Actually, it was at the invitation of Jesus to Thomas to inspect his hands for the nail holes and to insert his hand into his side:

“Put your finger here, and see my hands, and take your hand and stick it into my side, and stop being unbelieving but become believing.” (John 20:27 NWT)

Rather than a body that had been disposed of, Jesus gave the disciples clear evidence that he wanted his disciples to understand that in fact the body that was crucified was now resurrected.

To attempt to say Jesus “materialized” bodies would be outright deception. Why would he go to all the trouble not only to point out that his body was “flesh and bones” (as recorded in Luke 24:39), but the very body they observed had the nail and spear marks just as the one that had seen crucified?

In this short examination we have proven that the *Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society* is NOT God’s organization and is in FACT leading it’s people away from the truth of Jesus Christ as recorded in Holy Scriptures.

We would encourage you to place your faith and trust in the Word of God alone and the Jesus of the Bible who said:

“...I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6 NWT)

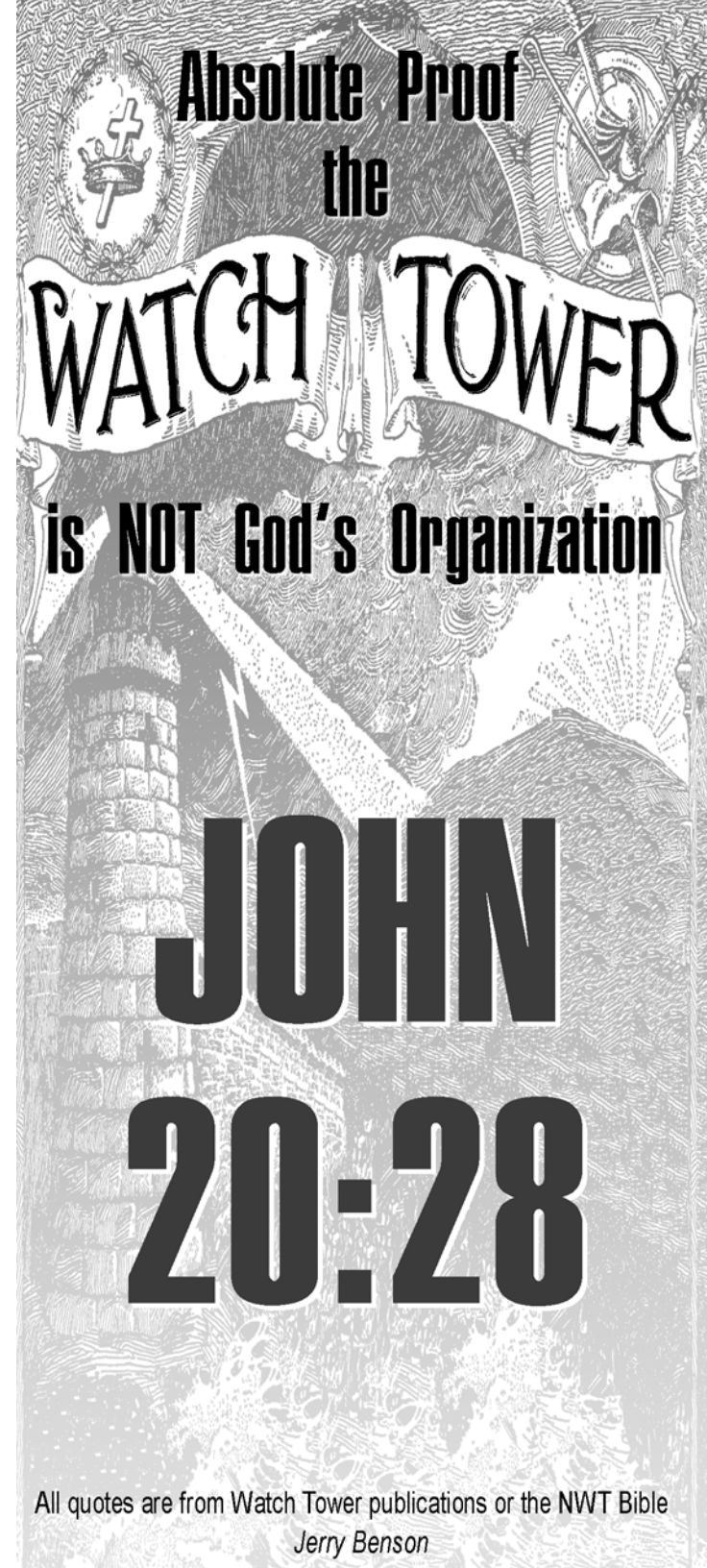
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All quotes are from Watch Tower publications or the NWT Bible
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