

JEHOVAH WITNESSES

I. General

- A. Founded originally by Charles Taze Russell in the latter part of the 1800's.
- B. World HQ located in Warwick, NY and managed by a small "Governing Body" of "mature Christians" who direct the JW's activities worldwide.
- C. JW "bible" is the *New World Translation*. (Read "Foreward" → W&H Greek text)
- D. Journal is called *The Watchtower - Announcing Jehovah's Kingdom*.
- E. Magazine called *The Plain Truth*.
- F. As of 2018, there are over 8.5 million JW's worldwide, with nearly 120,000 congregations in 240 countries or regions. (Avg. congregation ~ 70 members)

II. JW Heretical (false) Beliefs as Compared to the KJV

- A. Demote Jesus Christ from Deity and do not worship Him because they don't believe Jesus is God or equal with God. - John 5:18; 10:30; Mark 14:60-65; Phil. 2:5-7
- B. Jesus is an inferior, lesser, created god. In John 1:18, the NWT changes the word "Son" to "god" which dethrones and attacks the Deity of Christ. - Mark 1:1 (cf. NWT)
- C. The second coming was a *spiritual* event that occurred in 1914.
- D. Do not believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus, but believe Jesus was only *spiritually* resurrected. - Luke 24:36-43; John 21:12-14; 1 Cor. 15:1-6
- E. The Holy Spirit is only an impersonal force of God and not the distinct third person of the trinity. - Matt. 28:19; Rom. 8:27; Eph. 4:30; 1 Cor. 12:11; Acts 8:29, Acts 13:2-4; John 14:26; 15:26; Rom. 8:26
- F. Deny Jesus Christ is God manifest in human flesh. - 1 Tim. 3:16
- G. Do **not** believe or interpret the Bible literally, but rather symbolically or figuratively. - John 17:17
- H. Do **not** believe in the doctrine of the trinity. - Matt. 28:19; Col. 2:9
- I. Only recognize Jehovah as God as Father. - Gen. 1:26-27; John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16
- J. Nobody is born again or saved for certain right now or is placed into the spiritual Kingdom of God. - John 14:1-3; Acts 8:12; Rom. 14:17; 1 John 5:12-13
- K. Only an elite group of 144,000 will be resurrected to life in heaven to rule with Jesus in the earthly kingdom. - Rev. 14:1-3 cf. Rev. 7:1-4
- L. God will bless other obedient people with perfect health and everlasting life in an earthly paradise. - Deut. 6:24 cf. Isa. 64:6; Rom. 4:5-8, 10:3-4; 2 Cor. 5:21
- M. God is completely finished dealing with Israel. - Rom. 11:25-27
- N. No hell, conscious torment, or eternal punishment for the unsaved.- Luke 16:19-31
- O. People who die pass out of existence, however, God will resurrect billions of people, but those who refuse to follow God's ways afterward will be annihilated.
- P. Do not recognize the cross.
- Q. Do not believe in blood transfusions, do not participate in warfare, are politically neutral, and do not affiliate with other religions.
- R. Interpret/Define "destroy" or "perish" to mean "annihilation". - John 3:16
- S. Soul sleep (i.e. soul does not depart at death.) - 1 Kings 17:17-24; Gen. 35:16-19
- T. Salvation is faith in Christ plus a works system (i.e. change your course of life and perform good deeds) and they also require water baptism. - Eph. 2:8-9, Titus 3:5
- U. Although the word "hell" is not in NWT, they believe that "hell" is the "grave".
- V. Completely remove the word "hell" from the Bible (54 times in KJV) and substitute "Sheol" (in the OT) and "Hades," "Gehenna," and "Tartarus" (in the NT).
- W. Review selected verses: Mt. 17:21; 18:11; 23:14; Mk 7:16; 9:44,46; 11:26; 15:28; Luke 17:36; 23:17,33,42; John 3:36, 5:4; Acts 8:37; 15:34; 24:7; 28:29; Rom. 16:24

THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST

"lord" → Gen. 18:12; 1 Peter 3:6 "LORD" & "Lord" → Psalm 110:1

THE QUESTION: Matt. 16:13-16

- I. Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of the LORD Jehovah of the Old Testament
 - A. Compare Isaiah 40:3 & Mal. 3:1 with Matt. 3:3; Mark 1:1-3; John 1:23
 1. The One whose way is being prepared is the LORD (Jehovah) in the Old Testament, who is clearly identified in the New Testament cross-reference verses as Jesus Christ.
 - B. Compare Isaiah 45:1-23 with Rom. 14:11; Phil. 2:10-11
 1. The One to whom every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess is the LORD (Jehovah) in the Old Testament, who is clearly identified in the New Testament cross-reference verses as Jesus Christ.
 - C. Compare Psalm 22:1-16; Zech. 12:1-10 with John 19:32-37; Rev. 1:7-8
 1. The One who was pierced in Zechariah was the LORD (Jehovah) in the Old Testament, who is clearly identified in the New Testament cross-reference verses as Jesus Christ.
 - D. Compare Ex. 3:13-15 with John 8:58; Rev. 1:8, 22:13, 16
 1. The "I AM" was given as the LORD's (Jehovah) name in the Old Testament, who is clearly identified in the New Testament cross-reference verses as Jesus Christ.
- II. Jesus Christ as Equal with God the Father
 - A. John 5:18; John 10:23-38; Mark 14:60-65; Phil. 2:6
 - B. John 1:1 - Compare the JW's corrupt New World Translation - "and the Word was a god." with the KJV "and the Word was God"
 - C. John 1:18 - Compare the JW's corrupt New World Translation "begotton god" with the KJV "begotton Son"
- III. Jesus Christ as the incarnate Word (Found 7 times in the KJB)
 - A. John 1:1 (3 times); John 1:14; 1 John 1:1; 1 John 5:7; Rev. 19:13
- IV. Other New Testament verses which prove the Deity of Jesus Christ
 - A. John 1:1-2; 14:7-11; 20:27-29; 1 Tim. 3:16; Titus 3:4, 6; Heb. 1:8; Rom. 9:5; Col. 2:8-9; 1 John 5:20
 - B. Compare Acts 16:31 "Lord Jesus Christ" with Acts 16:34 "God"