

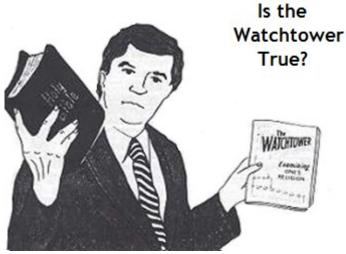
## Jehovah Witnesses &

# The Watchtower

A Christian Perspective



Ezekiel 33:1-9 Acts 18:5-6



This was written long before the Watchtower existed!

2 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



Read your Bible

Do not trust The Watchtower The Jehovah Witness is not the enemy. They are the victims deceived by the enemy.



#### WITNESSING

I'll tell people about Jesus,
for the rest of my life.
Most people won't listen.
This will cause me some strife.
But for me to say nothing,
would be as if to say.
That I have nothing,
of value to say.
And that my friend,
would be a lie!

R. Kiser

Unless otherwise noted all scripture in this booklet is from The New World Translation the Jehovah Witness Bible. Bold and underlined emphasis is mine. Capitol "YOU" in a number of the text is the way it appears in the N.W.T

All references with a PDF pg. number means the PDF book can be found on the USB Stick and the page number can be entered into Adobe Reader so you can read the quote yourself in full context.

This and more is a free download at ReadonableAnswers.com

## The Watchtower publications quoted or referenced were as follows. Found on the USB stick

The New World Translation of the Bible both 1961 and 1984 versions. The Watchtower magazine by year: 1880, 1910, 1939, 1954, 1972 Should you believe in the Trinity? Reasoning from the Scriptures Aid to Bible Understanding Millions now living will never die by J.F Rutherford, The Kingdom Interlinear

#### Non Watchtower publications quoted or referenced.

Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1, 2, 3

Kingdom of the Cults by Walter Martin

Walsh Trial –Not quoted but referenced to in the quote from Kingdom of the Cults. It is the court transcript that was made reference to.

The King James Version of the Bible

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance

For more depth on these subjects and much more please check out the following websites.

JWfacts.com

Watchman.org

WalterMartin.com

AvoidJW.com

ReasonableAnswers.com

#### **Notes on Salvation:**

## Isaiah 64:6 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 959)

And we become like someone unclean, all of us, and <u>all our acts of</u> <u>righteousness are like a garment for periods of menstruation</u>; and we shall fade away like leafage, all of us, and our errors themselves will carry us away just like a wind.

## Romans 3:20-24 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1408)

Therefore by works of law no flesh will be declared righteous before him, for by law is the accurate knowledge of sin. But now apart from law God's righteousness has been made manifest, as it is borne witness to by the Law and the Prophets; yes, God's righteousness through the faith in Jesus Christ, for all those having faith. For there is no distinction. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and it is as a free gift that they are being declared righteous by his undeserved kindness through the release by the ransom paid by Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 8:11-13 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1498) (The Law came to an end it is fulfilled in Christ) "'And they will by no means teach each one his fellow citizen and each one his brother, saying: "Know Jehovah!" For they will all know me, from the least one to the greatest one of them. For I shall be merciful to their unrighteous deeds, and I shall by no means call their sins to mind anymore.' "In his saying "a new covenant" he has made the former one obsolete. Now that which is made obsolete and growing old is near to vanishing away.

## Ephesians 2:8-9 (N.W.T) ( PDF pg. 1459)

By this undeserved kindness, indeed, YOU have been <u>saved through</u> <u>faith</u>; and this <u>not owing to YOU</u>, it is <u>God's gift</u>. No, <u>it is not owing to works</u>, in order that no man should have ground for boasting.

## Galatians 2:21-3:3 (N.W.T) ( PDF pg. 1454)

I do not shove aside the <u>undeserved kindness</u> of God; <u>for if righteousness</u> is through law, Christ actually died for nothing. O senseless Ga·la\_tians, who is it that brought YOU under evil influence, YOU before whose eyes Jesus Christ was openly portrayed impaled? This alone I want to learn from YOU: Did YOU receive the spirit due to works of law or due to a hearing by faith? <u>Are YOU so senseless? After starting in spirit are YOU now being completed in flesh?</u>

# According to the Watchtower if you read your Bible alone you will reject their teachings!

The Watchtower August 15, 1981, pg.28-29 (PDF pg. 508-509)

"From time to time, there have arisen from among the ranks of Jehovah's people those who, like the original Satan, have adopted an independent, faultfinding attitude ......They say that it is sufficient to read the Bible exclusively, either alone or in small groups at home. But, strangely, through such 'Bible reading,' they have reverted right back to the apostate doctrines that commentaries by Christendom's clergy were teaching 100 years ago, "

## The Watchtower, Sept 15, 1910) (PDF pg. 689)

If the six volumes of Scripture Studies are practically the Bible topically arranged, with Bible proof-texts given, we might not improperly name the volumes—the Bible in an arranged form. That is to say, they are not merely comments on the Bible, but they are practically the Bible itself, since there is no desire to build any doctrine or thought on any individual preference or on any individual wisdom, but to present the entire matter on the lines of the Word of God. We therefore think it safe to follow this kind of reading, this kind of instruction, this kind of Bible study.

Furthermore, not only do we find that people cannot see the divine plan in studying the Bible by itself, but we see, also, that if anyone lays the Scripture Studies aside, even after he has used them, after he has become familiar with them, after he has read them for ten years—if he then lays them aside and ignores them and goes to the Bible alone, though he has understood his Bible for ten years, our experience shows that within two years he goes into darkness. On the other hand, if he had merely read the Scripture Studies with their references, and had not read a page of the Bible, as such, he would be in the light at the end of the two years, because he would have the light of the Scriptures. (End Quote)

I find it interesting that if they only read the Bible and not Watchtower literature they end up accepting Christian doctrine and reject the doctrine they were taught as Jehovah Witnesses. That should speak volumes in its self. The Bereans did not just accept what the Apostle Paul said they checked the scriptures daily to see if what he said was true and they were commended for it.

## Acts 17:11(N.W.T) (PDF pg.1386)

Now the latter were more noble-minded than those in Thes·sa·lo·ni\_ca, for they received the word with the greatest eagerness of mind, <u>carefully</u> examining the Scriptures daily as to whether these things were so.

The Apostle John seemed to believe the Holy Spirit could teach us.

#### 1 John 2:26-27 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1520)

These things I write YOU about those who are trying to mislead YOU. **27** And as for YOU, the anointing that YOU received from him remains in YOU, and YOU do not need anyone to be teaching YOU; but, as the anointing from him is teaching YOU about all things, and is true and is no lie, and just as it has taught YOU, remain in union with him.

Still just the same we are told that we cannot read the Bible alone. In the next quote we see that we need them to interpret the Bible for us.

## Watch Tower, Feb.15, 1981, pg.19 (PDF pg. 115)

"We all need help to understand the Bible, and we cannot find the Scriptural guidance we need outside the 'faithful and discreet slave' organization."



For a similar reference where we have Jehovah speaking in the Old Testament and in the New Testament it refers to the Holy Spirit as the speaker, compare Isaiah 6:8-10 with Acts 28:25-27

Summary: The Watchtower says if we read the Bible alone we will reject their teachings and accept orthodox Christian beliefs. They claim to be a prophet of God and yet made false prophecies. They produced the New World Translation of the Bible with no scholars of Greek or Hebrew making it a poor translation. They misrepresented 6 early Christian writers in their attack against the Trinity. They tried to have us believe that no Christian writer in the first 3 centuries believed the Trinity which is not true. They completely changed their doctrine concerning worship of Jesus. Their doctrine concerning Jesus is contrary to the Bible. Now I ask you: Is it wise to trust your soul to the teachings of such an organization? Please don't! At least investigate such matters. Don't take my word for it check it out for yourself.



Remember the Jehovah Witness is not the enemy rather they are the victim deceived by this organization.

**Ephesians 6:12** (K.J.V) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Any reference here with a PDF pg. number means the PDF Book can be found on the USB stick and the page number can be entered into Adobe Reader so you can read the quote yourself in full context.

John 1:29 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1328)

- 29 The next day he beheld Jesus coming toward him, and he said: "See, the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world!
- 30 This is the one about whom I said, Behind me there comes a man who has advanced in front of me, because he existed before me.

What we have just seen is the New World Translation said Jehovah was coming and the one who came is identified as Jesus.

To complete the Trinity in the New World Translation let's look at a couple of verses comparing Jehovah and the Holy Spirit.

## Hebrews 3:7-11 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1493)

- 7 For this reason, **just as the holy spirit says**: "Today if YOU people listen to his own voice,
- **8** do not harden YOUR hearts as on the occasion of causing bitter anger, as in the day of making the test in the wilderness,
- 9 in which YOUR forefathers made a test of <u>me</u> with a trial, and yet they had seen <u>my</u> works for <u>forty years.</u>
- 10 For this reason I became disgusted with this generation and said,
- 'They always go astray in their hearts, and they themselves have not come to know **my** ways.'
- 11 So I swore in my anger, 'They shall not enter into my rest.'"

Psalm 95: 6-11 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 793)

(See also Num 14:22-23)

- **6** O come in, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before <u>Jehovah</u> <u>our Maker</u>.
- 7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasturage and the sheep of his hand. Today if YOU people listen to his own voice,
- **8** Do not harden YOUR heart as at Mer\_i bah, As in the day of Mas\_sah in the wilderness,
- **9** When YOUR forefathers put me to the proof; They examined me, they also saw my activity.
- **10** For <u>forty years</u> I kept feeling a loathing toward that generation, And I proceeded to say: "They are a people wayward at heart, And they themselves have not come to know my ways";
- 11 Concerning whom <u>I swore in my anger: "They shall not enter into my resting-place.</u>

To add to their authority we find they claim to be a prophet of God.

The *Watch Tower*, April 1, **1972**, p.197 (PDF pg. 197)

In ancient times he sent prophets as his special messengers. While these men foretold things to come, they also served the people by telling them of God's will for them at that time, often also warning them of dangers and calamities. People today can view the creative works. They have at hand the Bible, but it is little read or understood. So, does Jehovah have a prophet to help them, to warn them of dangers and to declare things to come?

#### "IDENTIFYING THE 'PROPHET'

"These questions can be answered in the affirmative. Who is this prophet? The clergy of the so-called 'Christian' nations hold themselves before the people as being the ones commissioned to speak for God. But, as pointed out in the previous issue of this magazine, they have failed God and failed as proclaimers of his kingdom by approving a man-made political organization, the League of Nations (now the United Nations), as 'the political expression of the Kingdom of God on earth.'

However, Jehovah did not let the people of Christendom, as led by the clergy; go without being warned that the League was a counterfeit substitute for the real kingdom of God. He had a 'prophet' to warn them. This 'prophet' was not one man, but was a body of men and women. It was the small group of footstep followers of Jesus Christ, known at that time as International Bible Students. Today they are known as Jehovah's Christian witnesses. (End Quote)

They claim to be a prophet of God and inform us that we need to have their literature to interpret the Bible for us. Therefore we should ask have their prophecies been accurate? And is their literature trustworthy?

Following are a couple of short quotes from **J. F Rutherford the 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the Watchtower Society**. A paperback version of this book can be purchased at Amazon.com

Does this prophecy sound like it came true to you?

## Millions now living will never die pg. 88

by J. F Rutherford (PDF pg. 89)

The chief thing to be restored is the human race to life; and since other Scriptures definitely fix the fact that there will be a resurrection of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and other faithful ones of old, and that these will have the first favor, we may expect 1925 to witness the return of these faithful men of Israel from the condition of death, being resurrected and fully restored to perfect humanity and made the visible, legal representatives of the new order of things on earth.

#### Millions now living will never die pg. 97

by J. F Rutherford (PDF pg. 98)

"Based upon the argument heretofore set forth, then, that the old order of things, the old world, is ending and is therefore passing away, and that the new order is coming in, and that 1925 shall mark the resurrection of the faithful worthies of old and the beginning of reconstruction, it is reasonable to conclude that millions of people now on the earth will be still on the earth in 1925. Then based upon the promises set forth in the divine Word, we must reach the positive and indisputable conclusion that millions now living will never die.

Deuteronomy 18:18-22 gives us the test of a prophet and Rutherford fails the test. When what a prophet says does not come true we know he is a false prophet. We were told that millions living then before 1925 will NEVER die. We were also to expect Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as well as others to return in 1925. I would call that a false prophecy. Ok so the 2<sup>nd</sup> president of the Watchtower messed up. What about more current literature? How about the Jehovah Witnesses Bible?



**Isaiah 40:3** (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 931) Listen! Someone is calling out in the wilderness: "Clear up the way of Jehovah, YOU people! MAKE the highway for our God through the desert plain straight.

This same context continues with:

## Isaiah 40:9-11 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 931)

- **9** Make your way up even onto a high mountain, you woman bringing good news for Zion. Raise your voice even with power, you woman bringing good news for Jerusalem. Raise it. Do not be afraid. Say to the cities of Judah: "Here is YOUR God."
- **10** Look! <u>The Sovereign Lord Jehovah himself will come</u> even as a strong one, and his arm will be ruling for him. Look! His reward is with him, and the wage he pays is before him.
- 11 <u>Like a shepherd he will shepherd his own drove</u>. With his arm he will collect together the lambs; and in his bosom he will carry them. Those giving suck he will conduct with care.

(Side note: It is worth mentioning here that Jehovah is called the Shepherd this is a job title that Jesus applied to himself when he said "I am the good shepherd" John 10:11)

#### Matthew 3:1-3 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1218)

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Ju de a.

2 saying: "REPENT, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near."
3 This, in fact, is the one spoken of through Isaiah the prophet in these words: "Listen! Someone is crying out in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way of Jehovah, YOU people!

## Matthew 3:11 $^{\rm (N.W.T)}$ (PDF pg. 1218)

I, for my part, baptize YOU with water because of YOUR repentance; but the one coming after me is stronger than I am, whose sandals I am not fit to take off. That one will baptize YOU people with holy spirit and with fire.

## Rev.1:17-18 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1527)

17 And when I saw him, I fell as dead at his feet. And he laid his right hand upon me and said: "Do not be fearful. I am the First and the Last, 18 and the living one; and I became dead, but, look! I am living forever and ever, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

## Rev.2:8 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1527)

**8** "And to the angel of the congregation in Smyrna write: These are the things that he says, 'the First and the Last,' who became dead and came to life again,

(Jesus is the one who died and came to life again & is the First and Last)

#### Rev 22:13-16 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1547)

- 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.
- 14 Happy are those who wash their robes, that the authority to go to the trees of life may be theirs and that they may gain entrance into the city by its gates.
- 15 Outside are the dogs and those who practice spiritism and the fornicators and the murderers and the idolaters and everyone liking and carrying on a lie.'
- 16 " 'I, Jesus, sent my angel to bear witness to YOU people of these things for the congregations. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright morning star.

(Jesus is the Alpha and Omega, the first and last, the beginning and the end)

It has already been contended here that Jesus/Jehovah is the one coming in Rev. 1:7-8. Now let's look who the Bible says was coming the first time before the birth of Jesus Christ.

Kingdom of the Cults by Walter Martin pg. 72-73 ...let it be remembered that the New World Bible translation committee had no known translators with recognized degrees in Greek or Hebrew exegesis or translation. ...... Frederick W. Franz, then representing the translation committee and later serving as the Watchtower Society's fourth president, admitted under oath that he could not translate Genesis 2:4 from the Hebrew. ...... We asked a Hebrew teacher at Biola University/Talbot Theological Seminary if the fourth verse of the second chapter of Genesis was a particularly difficult verse to translate. After all, the pursur's question would hardly have been fair if it were the hardest verse in the Old Testament to translate. The professor said that he would never pass a first-year Hebrew student who could not translate that verse. This is an example of the "scholarship" backing the N.W.T. (End Quote)

This court transcript can be found aon the USB stick (Walsh Trial PDF pg. 7 paragraph A-B, page 102 paragraph E-F and onto page 103)

## This does not speak well of the Jehovah Witness Bible, but what about the rest of their literature?

The Watchtower put out a magazine attacking the Christian belief in the Trinity. In it they give quotes from 6 early Christian writers with no references of where to find the quotes. Since I have all of these writings on CD Rom with the ability to search for words or phrases I tried to look them up. None of the quotes were there in fact I found that all 6 authors taught the opposite of what the Watchtower said. To keep this short I will just deal with two quotes from this booklet by the Watchtower.

## Should You Believe in the Trinity?, 1989 (PDF pg. 7)

THE ante-Nicene Fathers were acknowledged to have been leading religious teachers in the early centuries after Christ's birth. What they taught is of interest. ......

Clement of Alexandria, who died about 215 C.E., called Jesus in his prehuman existence "a creature" but called God "the uncreated and imperishable and only true God." He said that the Son "is next to the only omnipotent Father" but not equal to him.

(End Quote)

Following is a quote from the ante-Nicene Fathers showing what Clement of Alexandria really said.

The Ante-Nicene Fathers Volume 2 (PDF Vol. 2 pg. 171)

Clement of Alexandria: "For it was not without divine care that so great a work was accomplished in so brief a space by the Lord, who, though despised as to appearance, was in reality adored, the expiator of sin, the Saviour, the clement, the Divine Word, He that is truly most manifest Deity, He that is made equal to the Lord of the universe; because He was His Son, and the Word was in God, not disbelieved in by all when He was first preached, nor altogether unknown when, assuming the character of man, and fashioning Himself in flesh."

As you can see the Watchtower claimed Clement said Jesus was not equal to Father, but in reality Clement said that our savior was equal to the Lord of the universe. They quote five other writers being equally in error and end with this quote.

## Should You Believe in the Trinity?, 1989 (PDF pg. 7)

Summing up the historical evidence, Alvan Lamson says in The Church of the First Three Centuries: "The modern popular doctrine of the Trinity . . . derives no support from the language of Justin [Martyr]: and this observation may be extended to all the ante-Nicene Fathers; that is, to all Christian writers for three centuries after the birth of Christ. It is true, they speak of the Father, Son, and . . . holy Spirit, but not as co-equal, not as one numerical essence, not as Three in One, in any sense now admitted by Trinitarians. The very reverse is the fact. "Thus, the testimony of the Bible and of history makes clear that the Trinity was unknown throughout Biblical times and for several centuries thereafter. (End Quote)

#### Rev.1:7-8 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1526)

7 Look! <u>He is coming with the clouds</u>, and every eye will see him, and <u>those who pierced him</u>; and all the tribes of the earth will beat themselves in grief because of him. Yes, Amen.

**8** "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says Jehovah God," the One who is and who was and who is coming, the Almighty

#### Revelation 1:7-8 (KJV)

<sup>7</sup> Behold, <u>he cometh with clouds</u>; and every eye shall see him, and they <u>also which pierced him:</u> and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

<sup>8</sup> I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

(Jesus is the one coming on the clouds: Acts 1: 9-11, Matthew 24:30, Mark 13:26, 14:62)

The Watchtower would have us think that we changed persons between verse 7 and 8. Who is coming? The context before and after this text is concerning Jesus; who is coming.

The New World Translation says "Jehovah" in verse 8 where other translations say "Lord" KJV or" Lord God" in the NAS instead. Furthermore in their <u>Kingdom Interlinear</u> the direct translation in the Greek also says "Lord" not Jehovah (PDF pg. 542). Interestingly enough The Strong's # 2962 translated Jehovah in verse 8 in the N.W.T is the same Greek word used in John 20:28 where Thomas called Jesus Lord and God)

(Strong's Exhaustive Concordance PDF pg. 634 Joh. 20:28 right column. #2962 PDF pg. 636 Rev. 1:8 left column.)

John 20:28 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 1359) In answer Thomas said to him: "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him: "Because you have seen me have you believed? Happy are those who do not see and yet believe

This is the same Greek word # 2962 used in the proceeding passage Revelation 1:8 that the New World Translation identifies as Jehovah. Let's look at a couple of more scriptures showing Jesus is the first and the last the one whom we have seen is coming. Then we will look at another example of who was coming the first time before the birth of Jesus Christ.

The Watchtower teaches that we cannot even understand our bible without the Watchtowers' interpretation for us. They have claimed to be a prophet of God. Well God's prophets are never wrong and they do not contradict themselves. Yet the Watchtower has been wrong and has contradicted itself. It is therefore unreasonable to accept them as such. Rather they have proven to be a false prophet and a false teacher.

The Watchtower has changed numerous key passages in the New World Translation that have to do with the deity of Christ. However even with the corrupt text of the New World Translation we can still see Jesus and the Holy Spirit as Jehovah. Remember the Bible teaches that there are three separate persons within the one God. There are no other Gods besides him Isaiah 43:10 & Isaiah 44:8

#### How many first and last, Alpha and Omega's are there?

Isaiah 44:6 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 937)

"This is what <u>Jehovah has said</u>, the <u>King of Israel</u> **and** the Repurchaser of him, Jehovah of armies, '<u>I am the first and I am the last</u>, and <u>besides</u> me there is no God.

(Jehovah is the first and last, the King of Israel and besides him there is no God.)

How many first and last are there? Jesus is King of kings and Lord of Lords Rev.17:14 and he is the first and last.

Consider this next passage as we look at it in both the New World Translation and the King James Version.





Was the Trinity really unknown by all Christian writers in the first three centuries? Well we will simply look at a couple of quotes before the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century.

Tertullian c. 155 – c. 240 AD, The Ante-Nicene Fathers Volume 3 (PDF pg. 1107-1108)

Tertullian, Against Praxeas, Chapter XII

"But in respect of the previous works of the world what says the Scripture? Its first statement indeed is made, when the Son has not yet appeared: 'And God said, Let there be light, and there was light.' Immediately there appears the Word, 'that true light, which lighteth man on his coming into the world', and through Him also came light upon the world. From that moment God willed creation to be effected in the Word, Christ being present and ministering unto Him: and so God created. And God said, 'Let there be a firmament, ... and God made the firmament' and God also said. 'Let there be lights (in the firmament); and so God made a greater and a lesser light'. But all the rest of the created things did He in like manner make, who made the former ones—I mean the Word of God. 'through whom all things were made, and without whom nothing was made'. Now if He too is God, according to John, (who says.) 'The Word was God', then you have two Beings—One that commands that the thing be made and the Other that executes the order and creates. In what sense, however, you ought to understand Him to be another. I have already explained, on the ground of Personality, not of Substance—in the way of distinction, not of division. But although I must everywhere hold one only substance in three coherent and inseparable (Persons)."

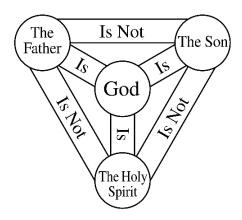
Here we find the Christian belief in the Trinity being taught as early as c. 155 - c. 240 AD, but we can go back even earlier than that to *Ignatius* (c.35 - c.108)

## The Ante-Nicene Fathers: Volume I, (Vol. 1 PDF pg. 98)

The Epistle of Ignatius to the Philippians

There is then one God and Father, and not two or three; One who is; and there is no other besides Him, the only true [God]. For 'the Lord thy God,' saith [the Scripture], 'is one Lord.' And again, 'Hath not one God created us? Have we not all one Father?' And there is also one Son, God the Word. For 'the only-begotten Son,' saith [the Scripture], 'who is in the bosom of the Father.' And again, 'One Lord Jesus Christ.' And in another place, 'What is His name, or what His Son's name, that we may know?' And there is also one Paraclete. For 'there is also,' saith [the Scripture], 'one Spirit,' since 'we have been called in one hope of our calling.' And again, 'We have drunk of one Spirit,' with what follows. And it is manifest that all these gifts [possessed by believers] 'worketh one and the self-same Spirit.' There are not then either three Fathers, or three Sons, or three Paracletes, but one Father, and one Son, and one Paraclete.' Wherefore also the Lord, when He sent forth the apostles to make disciples of all nations, commanded them to 'baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,' not unto one [person] having three names, nor into three [persons] who became incarnate, but into three possessed of equal honour." (End Quote)

(Note: Webster's Dictionary tells us, Paraclete is another word for the Holy Spirit)



#### Watchtower 1981 (PDF pg. 157)

#### WHY ADJUSTMENTS IN UNDERSTANDING?

Some may ask: 'If Jehovah's Witnesses are getting "food at the proper time," why have their views on certain teachings changed from time to time?' The Bible answers: "The path of the righteous ones is like the bright light that is getting lighter and lighter until the day is firmly established." (Prov. 4:18) Even as the congregation in the first century had only partial knowledge, so it is with the "faithful and discreet slave" today. Knowledge of many spiritual matters will become complete only as God's purposes are worked out in completion. (1 Cor. 13:9-12) The "slave" is not divinely inspired but continues to search the Scriptures and carefully scrutinize world events, as well as the situation of God's people, so as to understand the ongoing fulfillment of Bible prophecy. Because of human limitations, at times there may be an incomplete or incorrect understanding of some matter that may require correction later. (End Quote)

I would like to point something out here. It is true that the more we learn the clearer some things may become. However if we make a complete change in our belief on a particular subject then that means we were wrong then or that we are wrong now.

We can see where Old Testament saints had limited knowledge. We can even see where the disciples before the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ did not understand some things. However clearer knowledge or understanding came with more revelation or events that we have recorded in the bible. The teachings from these writers inspired by God do not contradict themselves. We have not had new revelation after the Book of Revelation. We as individuals still gain understanding the more we study, but I repeat if we make a complete change in our belief on a particular subject then that means we were wrong then or that we are wrong now.

#### Watchtower 1939 Nov 15 p.339 (PDF pg.329)

"Jehovah God commands all to worship Christ Jesus because Christ Jesus is the express image of his Father, Jehovah, and because he is the Executive Officer of Jehovah always carrying out Jehovah's purpose (Heb.:3-6)."

# How does the Watchtower view this same subject concerning worship of Jesus today?

#### Watchtower 1954 (PDF pg.31)

"Should we worship Jesus?

Consequently, since the Scriptures teach that Jesus Christ is not a trinitarian co-person with God the Father, but is a distinct person, the Son of God, the answer to the above question must be that <u>no distinct worship is to be rendered to Jesus Christ</u> now glorified in heaven. Our worship is to go to Jehovah God.

Check in any bible other than the New World Translation and you will find worship going to Jesus in the following passages. Hebrews 1:6, Matthew 2:11, Matthew 14:33, Matthew 28:9, John 9:37-38. These people were never rebuked for worshiping Jesus and still we cannot forget that Jesus said worship is for God alone Matthew 4:10. The conclusion is as we see in John 1:1-14 Jesus is God in the flesh.

The Watchtower is now teaching exactly the opposite concerning worship toward Jesus. Following is a typical response for contradictions in Watchtower teachings



## Ok so the Early Church believed the Trinity, but is it taught in the Bible?

## Isaiah 48:12-16 N.W.T (PDF pg. 943-944)

- (12) "Listen to me, O Jacob, and you Israel my called one. I am the same One. I am the first. Moreover, I am the last.
- (13) Moreover, my own hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my own right hand extended out the heavens. I am calling to them, that they may keep standing together.
- (14) "Be collected together, all YOU people, and hear. Who among them has told these things? Jehovah himself has loved him. He will do what is his delight upon Babylon, and his own arm will be upon the Chaldeans.
- (15) I—I myself have spoken. Moreover, I have called him. I have brought him in, and there will be a making of his way successful.
- (16) "Come near to me, YOU people. Hear this. From the start I have spoken in no place of concealment at all. From the time of its occurring I have been there." And now the Sovereign Lord Jehovah himself has sent me, even his spirit.

Notice that in verse 12 God is the speaker, the one who says Israel is his called one. He states, "I am the first. Moreover I am also the last" "I" and "me" are singular. Follow the context down noting all the places that we see a singular speaker who is God and identifies himself as the first and the last, is also the same one speaking in verse 16. The context does not change speakers. Then this single speaker (God) says ."And now the Sovereign Lord Jehovah himself has sent me, even his spirit."

In this text God is speaking, but says, <u>And now the Sovereign Lord Jehovah himself has sent me</u>. Not only has He sent Him, but He also includes "even his spirit" Other translations say, <u>and</u> His Spirit. <u>What we have here is three separate persons in a singular God.</u>

This type of plurality in a singular God is found all throughout the Bible and is commonly referred to as the Trinity; meaning that there are three separate persons within one God.

The Watchtower also known as the Jehovah Witnesses teach that Jehovah created Jesus and then through Jesus created all other things.

## Reasoning from the Scriptures, pg. 209 (PDF pg. 208)

Jesus Christ - Definition: The only-begotten Son of God, <u>the only Son produced by Jehovah alone.</u> This Son is the firstborn of all creation. <u>By means of him all other things in heaven and on earth were created.</u>

#### Aid to Bible understanding, pg.918 (PDF pg.918)

Thus the Scriptures identify the Word (Jesus in his prehuman existence) as God's first creation, his firstborn Son.

Jehovah Speaking in the Bible said:

## ISAIAH 44:24 (N.W.T) (PDF pg. 938)

This is what Jehovah has said, your Repurchaser and the Former of you from the belly: "I, Jehovah, am doing everything, stretching out the heavens by myself, laying out the earth. Who was with me?

I was once given the illustration of a contractor. The contractor may say this is the building I built even though others were involved. The problem with that illustration is the contractor could not say I did it by myself or he would be a liar. The question "Who was with me?" puts further emphasis on the previous statement "by myself".

John 1:3, Hebrews 1:2 and Colossians 1:15-16 all tell us Jesus is the creator. Then in Genesis 1:26 it tells us God said let <u>us</u> make man in <u>our</u> image..." Then we are told in Isaiah 44:24 that He did it by himself. For the Christian who believes in the doctrine of the Trinity this does not present a problem. We believe that there are three separate persons within the one God. So he can say he did it by himself.

However the Jehovah Witness does not believe that Jesus and the Father are both part of one God. Therefore they find that Isaiah 44:24 is in conflict with what they teach because <u>Jehovah said he did it by himself</u>.

The Watchtower changed its teachings on worship concerning Jesus. Not only did they change their view on whether Jesus should be worshipped, but they also changed their Bible accordingly. Hebrews 1:6 in the 1961 New World Translation reads:

## Hebrews 1:6 1961 N.W.T (PDF pg. 648)

But when he again brings his first-born into the inhabited earth he says: "And let all God's angels worship him."

Now let's look at how it reads in the 1984 New World Translation.

**Hebrews 1:6** 1984 N.W.T (PDF pg. 1491-1492) But when he again brings his Firstborn into the inhabited earth, he says: "And let all God's angels do obeisance to him."

Now why is that a big deal? The answer is because Jesus when being tempted by the devil in Matthew 4:10 stated that worship belonged to God alone. Worship going to and accepted by Jesus makes him out to be God. Since the Jehovah Witness does not believe Jesus is God this presents a problem for them. How did the Watchtower view worship of Jesus in the past?

## Watch Tower 1880 (PDF pg. 321-322)

That He was a mere man, whether with a fallen or a perfect nature, seems inconsistent with the idea of His preexistence; and yet both the classes referred to above believe in His preexistence. If He was Divine, and ceased to be Divine when He came in the flesh, where is the security that we will not lose our Divinity when we are made like Him? It seems clear that His Divinity was retained in humanity because He repeatedly spoke of Himself as having come down from heaven, and because He, though passing through trial and sorrow as a man, was yet possessed of the authority and exercised the prerogatives of a God. He was the object of unreproved worship even when a babe, by the wise men who came to see the new-born King. Matt. 2:2-11. Even the angels delighted to do Him honor. "When He bringeth the first begotten into the world, He saith, "And let all the angels of God worship Him." Heb. 1:6. He never reproved any one for acts of worship offered to Himself,