

The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures is not a good translation at all; it is a biased translation based on Watch Tower doctrine, not on the Greek or Hebrew language.

(This court transcript mentioned below “Walsh Trial is in the Free Christian Library in PDF form)

I will start with a quote from pgs. 72-73 of the book titled The Kingdom of the Cults, by Walter Martin. “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. In fact, Frederick W. Franz, then representing the translation committee and now the Watchtower Society's fourth president, admitted under oath that he could not translate Genesis 2:4 from the Hebrew.

From the Pursuer's Proof of cross-examination held on Wednesday, November 24, 1954, p.7, paragraphs A-B, Examining Fred W. Franz, vice-president of the Watchtower [sic] Bible and Tract Society and sent as representative of the Society and the Translation Communications:

Q. Have you made yourself familiar with Hebrew?

A. (Franz) Yes.

Q. So that you have a substantial linguistic apparatus at your command?

A. Yes, for use in biblical work.

Q. I think that you are able to read and follow the Bible in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Spanish, Portuguese, German and French?

A. Yes.

Later, during the same cross-examination:

Q. You, yourself, read and speak Hebrew, do you?

A. I do not speak Hebrew.

Q. You do not?

A. No.

Q. Can you, yourself, translate that into Hebrew?

A. Which?

Q. That fourth verse in the second chapter in Genesis?

A. You mean here?

Q. Yes.

A. No.

We asked a Hebrew teacher at Biola University/Talbot Theological Seminary if the fourth verse in the second chapter of Genesis was a particularly difficult verse to translate. After all, the pursuer'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 NWT."(End of quote)

Go to Walsh Trial PDF book then look up page.7, paragraphs A-B and Then Page.102, paragraph E-F and onto page 103.

There is a lot more said in Walter Martin's book Kingdom of the Cults for those who care to read it. This book is now also available in MP3 audio.

I also have examined and found some problems trusting the New World Translation that I would like to share with you here.

I have the Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures 1985 Edition copyright by the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society.

A Greek Interlinear show both the original Greek language as well as the direct translation into English below the word. The full text in English is off to the side. I have included copies of some of these texts with my added comments for you on the following pages.

The 1985 Kingdom Interlinear on page 5 states: (PDF pg.5)

(Note: The PDF version is 1969 and slightly different in places. Still my points remain the same)

"The Kingdom Interlinear English translation is specifically designed to open up to the student of the Sacred Scriptures what the original koine' Greek basically or literally says."

Take note of a couple of things in the following two copies from the 1985 Kingdom Interlinear. Take a good look at the Greek word translated as "did obeisance" in Matthew 14:33 and the same exact Greek word translated as "worshiped" in Revelation 7:11:

Matthew 14: 31 -33 (PDF pg.49)

31	εὐθέως Immediately	δὲ but	ὁ the	Ἰησοῦς Jesus	31 Immediately stretching out his hand Jesus caught hold of him and said to him: "You with little faith, why did you give way to doubt?"
ἐκτείνας having stretched out	τὴν the	χεῖρα hand	ἐπελάβετο caught hold		
αὐτοῦ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ of him and is saying to him	Ὀλιγόπιστε, One with little faith,				
εἰς τί ἐδίσταςας; into what doubted you?	32 καὶ ἀναβάντων And having stepped up				
αὐτῶν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ἐκόπασεν ὁ ἄνεμος. of them into the boat abated the wind.					32 And after they got up into the boat, the windstorm abated.
33 οἱ δὲ ἐν τῷ πλοίῳ προσεκύνησαν The (ones) but in the boat <u>did obeisance</u>					33 Then those in the boat <u>did obeisance</u> to him, saying: "You are really God's Son."
αὐτῷ λέγοντες Ἀληθῶς θεοῦ υἱὸς εἶ. to him saying Truthfully of God Son you are.					

Revelation 7:11-12 (PDF pg. 552)

11	καὶ πάντες οἱ ἄγγελοι ἱστήκεισαν And all the angels had stood	11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell upon their faces before the throne and <u>worshipped</u> God, 12 saying: "Amen! The blessing and the glory and the wisdom and the thanksgiving and the honor and the power and the strength to the God of us into the ages of the ages; amen."
κύκλῳ τοῦ θρόνου καὶ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων καὶ to circle of the throne and of the older persons and		
τῶν τεσσάρων ζώων, καὶ ἔπεσαν of the four living [creatures], and they fell		
ἐνώπιον τοῦ θρόνου ἐπὶ τὰ πρόσωπα αὐτῶν in sight of the throne upon the faces of them		
καὶ προσεκύνησαν τῷ θεῷ, 12 λέγοντες and <u>worshipped</u> to the God, (they) saying		
Ἀμήν· ἡ εὐλογία καὶ ἡ δόξα καὶ ἡ σοφία Amen; the blessing and the glory and the wisdom		
καὶ ἡ εὐχαριστία καὶ ἡ τιμὴ καὶ ἡ and the thanksgiving and the honor and the		
δύναμις καὶ ἡ ἰσχὺς τῷ θεῷ ἡμῶν εἰς power and the strength to the God of us into		
τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων· ἀμήν. the ages of the ages; amen.		

Matthew 14:33 PDF pg. 49

προσεκύνησαν
did obeisance

Revelation 7:11 (PDF pg. 552)

προσεκύνησαν
worshiped

You do not have to be able to read Greek to see that these two Greek words that I copied and pasted are the same.

It appears the Watch Tower has changed the English translation of the Greek word. It appears that this Greek word was not translated two different ways to be true to the translation of the Greek, but rather to try to be consistent with Watch Tower theology.

In the context of Revelation 7: 11, we have worship of Jehovah God. In the context of Matthew 14:33 we have worship of Jesus. The Watch Tower cannot have the Bible showing worship to Jesus; this would be in direct conflict with their teachings, as they do not believe that Jesus is God or that He should be worshiped. Jesus Himself stated that worship belonged to God alone. Matthew 4:10” “Then Jesus said to him, ‘Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.”’ (See also Luke 4:8.)

Since Jesus did not rebuke them for worshiping Him in the boat in Matthew 14:33, this would make Jesus God. Therefore, Watch Tower had to change the Bible to fit their theology, as they do not believe that Jesus is God. This is not being true to the translation from Greek into English.

Matt 14:33

And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "You are certainly God's Son!"
NASB

Rev 7:11

And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God
NASB

ΚΑΤΑ ΙΩΑΝΗΝ ACCORDING TO JOHN	
1 Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος. In beginning was the Word, and the Word was toward the God, and god was the Word.	1 In [the] beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and <u>the Word was a god.*</u>
2 Οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν. This (one) was in beginning toward the God.	2 This one was in [the] beginning with God.
3 πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν. All (things) through him came to be, and apart from him came to be not-but one (thing).	3 All things came into existence through him, and apart from him not even one thing came into existence.
ὁ γέγονεν Which has come to be	

Notice that the word “a” is not under the direct translation from the Greek — yet it is added into the text on the right. Adding the word “a” to John 1:1, which is clearly not in the direct translation, the meaning of the verse is changed. Why would the Watch Tower add a word not found in the Greek, and change the meaning of the text? I believe that the change was made to change the Bible to fit their theology. Otherwise, it would read as other translations, which make Jesus out to be God.

John 1:1: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” (NAS)

John 1:14: “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (NAS)

627	ACTS 20:28—35
28 προσέχετε ἑαυτοῖς καὶ παντὶ τῷ ποιμνίῳ, ἐν ᾧ ὑμᾶς τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον ἔθετο ἐπισκόπους, ποιμαίνειν τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ θεοῦ, ἣν περιεποιήσατο διὰ τοῦ αἵματος τοῦ ἰδίου. 29 ἐγὼ οἶδα ὅτι εἰσελεύσονται μετὰ τὴν ἄφιξίν μου λύκοι βαρεῖς εἰς ὑμᾶς μὴ φειδόμενοι τοῦ ποιμνίου, 30 καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν ἀναστήσονται ἄνδρες λαλοῦντες διεστραμμένα τοῦ ἀποσπᾶν τοὺς μαθητὰς ὀπίσω ἑαυτῶν;	28 Pay attention to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the holy spirit has appointed you overseers, to shepherd the congregation of God,* which he purchased with the blood of his own [Son].^a 29 I know that after my going away oppressive wolves will enter in among you and will not treat the flock with tenderness, 30 and from among you yourselves men will rise and speak twisted things to draw away the disciples after themselves.

Looking at the 1985 Kingdom Interlinear published by Watch Tower, we can see that the word (Son) is not in the direct translation of the Greek. Why would the word (Son) need to be added to the text? Again, I believe it was added to change the Bible to their theology. Following is how this text appears in the New American Standard:

Acts 20:28: “Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”

It is true that the church of God was purchased by the blood of Jesus, who is called the Son of God. However, that is not what Luke wrote in the Book of Acts. Luke was the author of the Book of Acts, and throughout attacks on the Bible Luke has earned credibility as a reliable Historian. Luke chose to say that God purchased the church with “His own blood”. Why should the Watch Tower have the say authority to declare that Luke wrote it incorrectly?

8	Βλέπετε	μή	τις	ὑμᾶς	ἔσται	
	Be you looking at	not	someone	you	will be	
ὁ	συλαγωγῶν	διὰ	τῆς			
the (one)	leading as booty	through	the			
φιλοσοφίας	καὶ	κενῆς	ἀπάτης	κατὰ		
philosophy	and	empty	seduction	according to		
τὴν	παράδοσιν	τῶν	ἀνθρώπων,	κατὰ		
the	tradition	of the	men,	according to		
τὰ	στοιχεῖα	τοῦ	κόσμου	καὶ	οὐ	
the	elementary things	of the	world	and	not	
κατὰ	Χριστόν·	9	ὅτι	ἐν	αὐτῷ	
according to	Christ;	because	in	him		
κατοικεῖ	πάν	τὸ	πλήρωμα	τῆς	θεότητος	
is dwelling down	all	the	fullness	of the	divinity	
σωματικῶς,	10	καὶ	ἐστέ	ἐν	αὐτῷ	
bodily,	and	you are	in	him		
πεπληρωμένοι,	ὅς	ἐστίν	ἡ	κεφαλὴ		
(ones) having been filled,	who	is	the	head		
πάσης	ἀρχῆς	καὶ	ἐξουσίας.			

8 Look out: perhaps there may be someone who will carry you off as his prey through the philosophy and empty deception according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary things of the world and not according to Christ; 9 because it is in him that all the fullness of the divine quality dwells bodily. 10 And so you are possessed of a fullness by means of him, who is the head of all government and authority.

In Colossians 2:9 we can see that the word "quality" was added by the Watch Tower even though this word is not in the direct translation of the Greek. By adding the word "quality", the meaning of the passage is changed. The literal translation in the Kingdom Interlinear reads, "Because in him is dwelling down all the fullness of divinity bodily."

Why would the Watch Tower add the word "quality", when even their publication shows that this word is not in the Greek? I believe it was added because without it, the verse shows that Jesus is both God and man. This is contrary to Watch Tower doctrine; once again, I suggest that it is not the Bible that needs changing, but rather the doctrine of Watch Tower that needs changing.

Jesus does not exhibit a Godlike "divine quality", as stated in the New World Translation; rather in Him is "the fullness of God" in bodily form.

Colossians 2:9: "For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form..." (NAS)

Colossians 2:9: "For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." (KJV)

7	Ἴδου	ἔρχεται	μετὰ	τῶν	νεφελῶν,	
	Look!	He is coming	with	the	clouds,	
καὶ	ὄψεται	αὐτὸν	πᾶς	ὀφθαλμὸς	καὶ	7 Look! He is coming
and	will see	him	every	eye	and	ing with the clouds,
	οἵτινες	αὐτὸν	ἐξεκέντησαν,	καὶ		and every eye will see
	whichever (ones)	him	stabbed out,	and		him, and those who
	κόψονται	ἐπ’	αὐτὸν	πᾶσαι		pierced him; and all
	they will strike themselves	upon	him	all		the tribes of the earth
αἱ φυλαὶ	τῆς	γῆς.	ναί, ἀμήν.			will beat themselves
the tribes	of the	earth.	Yes, amen.			in grief because of
						him. Yes, Amen.
8	Ἐγώ	εἰμι	τὸ Ἄλφα	καὶ	τὸ Ὠ,	8 “I am the Al’pha
	I	am	the Alpha	and	the Omega,	and the O-me’ga,” says
λέγει	Κύριος,	ὁ	θεός,	ὁ	ὢν	<u>Jehovah* God,</u> “the
is saying	<u>Lord,</u>	the	God,	The (one)	being	One who is and who
	ὁ	ἦν	καὶ	ὁ	ἐρχόμενος,	was and who is coming,
	the (one)	was	and	the (one)	coming,	the Almighty.”
	παντοκράτωρ.					
	Almighty.					

The direct translation of Revelation 1:8 shows the word "Lord" as a direct translation. The N.W.T., on the right, translates this as "Jehovah God". Certainly, Jehovah is Lord, but why change the wording? I believe it is because the context from the previous verse makes Jesus out to be God. They are trying to make it appear as though the speakers changed between verses 7 and 8. (Note: In verse 11 we have first and last Alpha and Omega; then in verse 17-18 the first and last died and rose again which of course is Jesus)

The same Greek word used here in Revelation 1: 8, translated as “Lord” or “Jehovah God”, is also used in John 20:25, where it is specifically used concerning Jesus. This can be confirmed in the back of any Strong's Concordance using the Strong's numbering system. Both places use the word number 2962.

John 20:25: “The other disciples therefore were saying to him, ‘We have seen the Lord!’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I shall see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.’” (NAS)

Rev 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."
New American Standard Bible

COLOSSIANS 1:16—21	880
εἰκὼν τοῦ θεοῦ τοῦ ἀοράτου, πρωτότοκος image of the God the invisible, firstborn πάσης κτίσεως, 16 ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ of all creation, because in him ἐκτίσθη τὰ πάντα ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς it was created the all (things) in the heavens καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὰ ὁρατὰ καὶ and upon the earth, the (things) visible and τὰ ἀόρατα, εἴτε θρόνοι εἴτε the (things) invisible, whether thrones or κυριότητες εἴτε ἀρχαὶ εἴτε ἐξουσίαι· lordships or governments or authorities; τὰ πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ καὶ εἰς αὐτὸν the all (things) through him and into him ἐκτίσται· 17 καὶ αὐτὸς ἔστιν πρὸ it has been created; and he is before πάντων καὶ τὰ πάντα ἐν αὐτῷ all (things) and the all (things) in him συνέστηκεν, 18 καὶ αὐτός ἐστιν ἡ it has stood together, and he is the κεφαλὴ τοῦ σώματος, τῆς ἐκκλησίας· head of the body, of the ecclesia; ὃς ἐστιν ἡ ἀρχή, πρωτότοκος ἐκ who is the beginning, firstborn out of τῶν νεκρῶν, ἵνα γένηται ἐν the dead (ones), in order that might become in πᾶσιν αὐτὸς πρωτεύων, all (things) he holding the first place, 19 ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ εὐδόκησεν πᾶν τὸ because in him he thought well all the	the image of the in- visible God, the first- born of all creation; 16 because by means of him <u>all [other]·</u> <u>things</u> were created in the heavens and upon the earth, the things visible and the things invisible, no matter whether they are thrones or lordships or governments or authorities. <u>All [other]</u> <u>things</u> have been created through him and for him. 17 Also, he is <u>before all [other]</u> <u>things</u> and by means of him <u>all [other]</u> <u>things</u> were made to exist, 18 and he is the head of the body, the congregation. He is the beginning, the <u>firstborn from the</u> <u>dead</u>, that he might become the one who is first in all things;

We can see that the Watch Tower added the word "other" four different times. The word "other" does not appear in the direct translation of the Greek. In context, this passage is speaking about Jesus. The New American Standard translates this passage as follows:

Colossians 1:16: "For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things have been created by Him and for Him." (NAS)

Why would the Watch Tower add the word "other" four different times when it is not in the original Greek? I believe it was added because without this addition, the verse refutes the doctrine that Jehovah created Jesus, and then through Jesus created all other things. Of course, this doctrine still falls apart when you read Isaiah 44:24

Isaiah 44:24: “Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and the one who formed you from the womb, ‘I, the LORD, am the maker of all things, stretching out the heavens by myself, and spreading out the earth all alone.’” (NAS)

Colossians 1:16 says that Jesus created. The Bible also says Jesus is God. Understanding the Trinity there is no problem looking at Isaiah 44:24 saying he created all alone by himself because there is only one God. However, if one takes the view that Jehovah created Jesus, and then through Jesus created all "other" things, then we have a problem with the text in Isaiah 44: 24. How can God say he created all alone by himself if they are not one singular God? (Jesus is also the creator in John 1:3 & Hebrews 1:2)

We have shown that the Watch Tower claims to be a prophet of God; yet the organization has been proven to be a false prophet. The Watch Tower claims that we must read Watch Tower literature in addition to the Bible — but they lied about what the early church writers said concerning the deity of Christ and the Trinity. The Watch Tower has misrepresented the doctrine of the Trinity and tried to refute it based upon their false definition. Words in the Bible have been changed and added, to force the Word of God to align with Watch Tower doctrine. The Watch Tower presents us with a different God, a different Jesus, a different Holy Spirit and a different Gospel than which we find in the Bible.

Conclusion all Watchtower literature is untrustworthy!