

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

*Who are Jehovah's Witnesses?
Knowing Your Doctrines*



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Knowing Your Doctrines

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Jehovah's Witnesses – History - Basic Doctrines

You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life...

John 5:39.

History - Charles Taze Russell 1870 - 1914

According to the book *Proclaimers of the Kingdom of God*, Charles Taze Russell was born in the United States, in Allegheny, Pennsylvania on February 16, 1852. His parents were from the Presbyterian church, the young man was educated in the teachings of this church, but ended up joining the Congregational church, as he preferred its concepts.

In search of Truth

Young Russell did not accept some of the teachings of the churches of his day, he himself said: "Although each of the creeds contained some elements of truth, they were generally misleading and contradicted the Word of God." Leaving the creeds of the churches and in search of truth, he examined some of the major religions. – *Proclaimers of God's Kingdom, 1993, page 43.*

Adventists Restoring Charles T. Russell's Shaken Faith

One night in 1869, Charles T. Russell's faith was restored when he was walking and heard a hymn being sung from a basement room. In his own words, he said: "As if by chance, I visited one evening a dusty, dimly lit room, where I had heard that religious services were being held, to see if the handful of people who assembled there had anything more sensible to offer than the beliefs of the great religions. There, for the first time, I heard something of the views of the Adventists [Advent Christian Church], Mr. Jonas Wendell being the preacher... Thus I acknowledge that I am indebted to the Adventists and to other denominations. Although his exposition of the Bible was not entirely clear,... it was sufficient, under God's guidance, to restore my shaken faith... – *Proclaimers of the Kingdom of God, 1993, pages 43-45.*

Bible Students and Jehovah's Witnesses

It was from 1914 onwards that they adopted the name Associate Bible Students. After the death of Charles T. Russell, some former associates refused to cooperate with the Watch Tower Society and the International Bible Students Association, this caused further confusion, in 1931, they adopted the name Jehovah's Witnesses, according to the text of Isaiah 43:10-12. After Russell's death, J.F.R. Rutherford took over the Watch Tower Society. – *Proclaimers of the Kingdom of God, 1993, pages 150-152.*

Jehovah's Witnesses in Brazil

According to the 1997 Yearbook, pages 126, 127, eight young Brazilian sailors on leave from their ship in New York City became interested in the meetings of the Bible Students. (...) When they returned to Brazil in March 1920, after having associated for a few months with the Bible Students in New York, they continued to meet and speak to others about what they had learned. In 1936, at the request of J.F. Rutherford, Mr. Alson Yuile arrived in Brazil to help continue the dissemination of his doctrines. The Bible they used was the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, a single volume edition of 1967, and the New Testament in 1963.

Jehovah's Channel of Communication, The Governing Body

Jesus Christ himself said that he would send another Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who teaches us all things (John 14:16-26), who will guide us into all truth (John 16:13). In the history of the Church in the first century, we do not find any "Channel of Communication between God and men." This theory of a "Channel of Communication between God" began with the second President of Jehovah's Witnesses, J.F. Rutherford. Notice what they say:

"Just as Bible prophecies pointed to the Messiah, they also point us to the united body of anointed Christians, Jehovah's Witnesses, who are serving today as the faithful and discreet slave. They help us to understand God's Word. All who desire to understand the Bible must recognize that God's vastly diversified wisdom can be known only through Jehovah's channel of communication, the faithful and discreet slave.—John 6:68."—*The Watchtower* October 1, 1994, page 8.

The Governing Body is a group made up of nine men according to information from the study magazine *The Watchtower* February 2024, page 29, who are: Kenneth Cook Jr, Gage Fleegle, Samuel Herd, Geoffrey Jackson, Stephen Lett, Gerrit Losch, Mark Sanderson, David Splane and Jeffrey Winder, who are located at the world headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses in Warwick, New York, in the United States. They are the "Channel of Communication" of Jehovah's Witnesses. Through these men, heretical doctrines are transmitted through publications throughout the world. Jehovah's Witnesses are unable to read the Bible without the help of these men. Note at the end of the statement in the text above, they quote John 6:68, what the text says: "Then Simon Peter answered them, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life."

The aforementioned biblical text is applied only to Jesus Christ who is the Way, the truth and the life (John 14:6), the Governing Body applies this text to itself.

Basic Doctrines of Jehovah's Witnesses

God

Sanctification of God's Name

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that they are the "true religion" because they believe that God's Name is "Jehovah." Is this really the correct pronunciation of God's Name?

Consider what they say: "...Jesus made God's name, Jehovah, known to others. He did not stop using that name.— *You Can Live Forever on Earth, 1989, page 184.*

The truth is that nowadays no one knows how the Divine Name was pronounced, not even Jehovah's Witnesses, see what they say: It is not known exactly how it was pronounced, although some scholars believe that Yahweh is the correct form. - *You Can Live Forever on Earth, 1989, page 43.*

The Name of God

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that they alone make use of the divine name, so they also believe that they are a people set apart by God to convey Bible truths through Jehovah's channel of communication on earth, the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses.

How did the pronunciation Jehovah come about? What is its origin?

By examining the publications of Jehovah's Witnesses, we find the answer to these two questions. Let us see what it says in the book: *Hallowed Be Thy Name, 1963, pages 18, 19:*

"By combining the vowel signs with the Tetragrammaton, pronunciations such as IEOVI and IEOVA were formed. (...) Centuries before the Protestant rebellion against the religious authority of the popes of Rome in the sixteenth century, Roman Catholic clergy pronounced Ieová, the sacred combination of the four letters. **All available evidence indicates that it was Roman Catholic clergy who introduced this pronunciation.**" –Our emphasis. Is the origin of the name "Jehovah" Roman Catholic? Many Jehovah's Witnesses are unaware of this information, because this publication was once distributed from house to house. Therefore, it uses the name Jehovah, not because it is biblical, but because of Roman Catholic tradition.

How was God's Name pronounced in the Original?

Jehovah's Witnesses have the answer, see what it says in the book: *You Can Live, 1989, page 43:*

"(...) **It is not known exactly how it was pronounced.**, although some scholars believe that Yahweh is the correct form. **However, the form Jehovah has been in use for many centuries and is the best known.**" – Our emphasis. The Name Jehovah is used by Jehovah's Witnesses because it is the most well-known, not because it is Biblical, as the Governing Body states.

Does the New Testament include the Tetragrammaton, the Name of God?

From the brochure *The Divine Name That Will Endure Forever*, 1984, page 23:

"(...)But apart from that, no Greek manuscript of the books of Matthew to Revelation available today contains the name of God in full." – Our emphasis.

The Governing Body is aware that the pronunciation of the Divine Name has been lost over time, and that we are not certain how it was pronounced in its original form.

Jesus Christ

The Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses is "Another Jesus"

In the various publications of Jehovah's Witnesses for many years, Jesus Christ is merely a "creation of Jehovah," "a lesser god," "a god equal to Satan," "an angel." These are doctrines of men foretold by the Holy Scriptures (Colossians 2:22).

The Divinity of Jesus Christ and Jehovah's Witnesses

In the year 325, a man named Arius believed and preached that Jesus Christ was a creature. Today, Jehovah's Witnesses have adopted Arius' heretical belief and have been spreading it throughout the world in their publications. Let's see who the Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses is:

Jehovah's Witnesses' Jesus Compared to Satan

"But isn't Jesus called a god in the Bible? someone might ask. This is true. However, Satan is also called a god." (2 Corinthians 4:4) – *You Can Live Forever*, 1989, page 40.

The Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses is the Angel of the Abyss "Apollyon", "Destroyer"

"They have a king over them, the angel of the bottomless pit. His name in Hebrew is Abaddon [meaning "Destruction"], but in Greek he is called Apollyon [meaning "Destroyer"]. (Revelation 9:11) Jesus, as "angel of the bottomless pit" and "Destroyer," will indeed unleash a tormenting woe upon Christendom. Yet more will follow. – *Revelation*, 1989, page 178.

The Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses is Archangel Michael

"It proves that Michael, the archangel, is none other than the only begotten Son of God, now Jesus Christ." – *New Heavens and a New Earth*, 1957, page 31.

The Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses no longer exists

"The earthly man, Jesus of Nazareth, is no more." – *Awake!* 12/22/1984, page 20.

The Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses is not the Mediator of all mankind

"In the same way, the Greater Moses, Jesus Christ, is not the Mediator between Jehovah God and all mankind. He is the Mediator between his heavenly Father, Jehovah God, and the nation of spiritual Israel."

– *World Security Under the Prince of Peace, 1986, page 10.*

Jesus of Jehovah's Witnesses cannot be Worshipped

We begin with two statements about the affirmation and denial of worshiping Jesus Christ. It is common for the Governing Body to justify their doctrinal changes by claiming that they have received "New Light" from Jehovah, that is, a new understanding of the text. Here it is:

In the book *Make Sure of All Things...*, 1960, page 104: "Christ Is to Be Worshipped as a Glorious Spirit, Victorious Over Death on the Torture Stake." In the same book, 1970 edition, on page 148, the statement simply disappeared!

While this worship of Jesus Christ by Jehovah's Witnesses has lasted for these ten years, what was that worship? We leave it to the Governing Body to answer:

Title: Do Angels Worship Jesus? "Although Psalm 97:7, which speaks of worshiping God, was applied to Christ in Hebrews 1:6, Paul had already shown that the resurrected Jesus is the "reflection of [God's] glory and the exact representation of his very being." (Hebrews 1:1-3) So any "worship" that angels render to the Son of God is **relative** and through him it is addressed to Jehovah." – *The Watchtower January 15, 1992, page 23.*

Is there relative worship in the Bible? According to Jehovah's Witnesses, there is. Therefore, a person who worships a carved image can do so, because his or her worship will be directed to God through Jesus Christ. Constant doctrinal changes happen so often that they don't even remember what they write, so much erroneous information, they create interpolations in biblical texts and publish them to the whole world as if they were biblical truths. Let's see what they say about relative worship:

Before relative worship was biblical teaching, now it is heresy:

"It shall not be permissible, however, to address prayers through images of angels and saints, as a **relative worship**? No. – *Let God Be True, 1955, pages 146, 147.*

"There is no place in pure worship for the worship of angels, or even for the adulation of

New World Translation and its fallacies

"But when he brings his firstborn again to the inhabited earth, he says: And let all the angels of God worship him." – *New World Translation, 2015, Hebrews 1:6.*

One of the characteristics of a sect is to deny the Divinity and humanity of Jesus Christ. In the case of Jehovah's Witnesses, they deny both humanity, claiming that Jesus of Nazareth no longer exists and that he was resurrected in another body, and they deny Divinity, claiming that he is just a god. Therefore, in light of these claims, let us examine the Holy Scriptures.

Jehovah's Witnesses are unaware of the doctrinal changes of their Organization, one of these changes is that they could worship Jesus before the year 1954, see:

"(...) for public Christian worship of Almighty God and Christ Jesus." – *Yearbook, 1945, page 32*. In the present year Jesus could receive worship from this Religious Organization.

In the Watchtower Magazine, January 1, 1954, pages 30, 31, it denies the worship of Jesus, in this year any worship of Jesus was forbidden, let us see what it says: "no distinct worship should be given to Jesus Christ now glorified in heaven".

In the New World Translations editions of 1967, 1963 and 1986 with references, Jesus theoretically received the worship of Jehovah's Witnesses for the same reason. In the 1967 and 1963 Translations in Hebrews 1:6, it is translated as worship of Jesus, in the 1986 Translation with reference in Hebrews 1:6 in a footnote, the word worship is found, in the other New World Translations the text is translated as pay homage to Jesus.

When Jehovah's Witnesses quote dictionaries and lexicons, they only quote the parts that interest them and that are in accordance with their beliefs. They state on their official website with the title: "Is it right to worship Jesus?" Two dictionaries are cited for the word "worship", they are: "Vine's Old and New Testaments, and "Unger's Dictionary of the Bible".

Analyzing the meaning of the word "Worship", in the Old Testament of Vine's dictionary page 31:
Love

Sāhāh "to worship, to prostrate oneself, to bow down." This word is found in Hebrew in the sense of "to bow down" or "to incline." But not in the general sense of "to worship." The fact that it occurs more than 170 times in the Hebrew Bible shows something of its cultural significance. – *W.F.Vine, Merrill F.Unger, William White Jr. CPAD, 1st edition 2002.*

In fact, the meaning of the term "Sāhāh" in the Old Testament can be "to prostrate oneself", "to bow down", and "to worship" but not in the general sense. Therefore, we can see that it is also translated as worship, the Bible citations from the dictionary are translated as "worship" in the New World Translation of Jehovah's Witnesses in the texts (Genesis 22:5; Isaiah 44:15-17).

Analyzing the meaning of the word "Worship", in the New Testament of Vine's dictionary page 374,956:
Love: The verb proskuneō means "to worship," "to reverence" (Mt 18:26), page 956.

Proskuneō. "to bow, to bow to" (formed from pros. "to", and kuneō, "to kiss"), is the most common term with the meaning of "worship". Let's look at some texts applying the term:

God for example, Mt 4:10; ICo 14:25; Acts 13:43,17:4,17, the quotations can be found in the New World Translation with the meaning "Worship".

To Jesus for example (Mt 2:2,8,11;8:2;9:18;14:33;15:25;20:20;28:9,17;Jn 9:38;Hb 1:6.... In these dictionary quotations the New World Translation translates it as "Pay homage", referring to Jesus Christ.

To the Dragon for example(Rev 13:4)**the Beast**Rev 13:15;14:11:16:2.**To Demons**Rev 9:20;**to idols** Acts 7:43,17:23.;**To a god** 2Thess 2:4. All quotations are translated in the New World Translation as “**Love**”.

Therefore, in the Vine dictionary, the term *proskuneō* (Greek) can be translated as “worship” and “reverence”, depending on its context. The problem is that Jehovah’s Witnesses translated the same word in the sense of “worship”, referring to idols, the beast, demons, and when it is applied to Jesus Christ, it translates as “**Pay homage**”, Why? According to the Governing Body of Jehovah’s Witnesses, Jesus cannot receive worship.

Analyzing the meaning of the word “Worship”, in The New Unger’s dictionary page 1828 the word Worship (English), “to worship”, the term can be translated as: “homage”, “to kiss the hand as a sign of reverence”. It is however, used specifically to bow before God; spoken of worship to God and also to false gods (Gen 22:5; Ex 24:1; 33:10; Judg 7:15; Job 1:20; Ps 22:27; 86:9). Let us see that the term *proskuneō*, can be translated as “Worship”. Interestingly, on the page about the meaning of the word Angel (angels), it brings the following statement:

(...) the revelations of Scripture about angels are few, but of great value; (...) they help us to acquire a proper conception of Christ, who is above the angels, and the object of angelic worship.

Still in the Lexicon F. Wilbur Gingrich and Frederick W. Danker, publisher vida nova, 1993, page 179, widely used by Jehovah’s Witnesses to defend their beliefs, arbitrarily citing the meanings of words, let’s see what it says about the meaning of the term *proskuneō*:

(to prostrate oneself and) worship, to bow down before, to revere, to receive respectfully, depending on the object-**1. To human beings**Mt 18:26; Acts 10:25; Rev 3:9.**Goodbye**Mt 4:10; John 4:20,23;12:20;At 24:11; 1Co 14:25; Heb 11:21; Rev4:10; 14:7; 19:4;.**The foreign deities**Acts 7:43.**To the Devil and the demons**Mt 4:9; Luke 4:7; Rev 9:20; 13:4; 14:9;.**To the angels**Rev 22:8.**To Christ**Mt 2:2,8,11;8:2;9:18;14:33;20:20;15:25;28:9;Mc 5:6;15:19;Luke 24:52.

Examining the texts cited in the New World Translation of Jehovah’s Witnesses, referring to Jesus when *proskuneō* is applied, it translates as homage, but when the same Greek term is applied in other cases, it applies to worship. Why is the term not applied to Jesus Christ in the sense of worship? The answer is in the book Reasoning from the Scriptures, 1989, Watchtower Society, pages 215,216:

In Matthew 4:10, Jesus said, “You shall worship [from pro-sky-né-o] the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.”

(...) In harmony with this, we must understand that it is pro-sky-né-o, with a special attitude of heart and mind,**that should be given only to God.**

Therefore, the term “proskuneō”, according to the dictionaries cited above, can also be translated as worship, the problem is that Jehovah’s Witnesses do not want to give worship to Jesus Christ. Remember that the text of Matthew 2:2, referring to Jesus in the New World Translation, is translated as “pay homage”. In the book: My Book of Bible Stories, 2004, page 86 says: “When the men came to Jerusalem, they asked: Where is the child who is to be king of the Jews? (...) We saw the star of the child there in the East, they said,**and we came to worship him**”.

Although Jehovah's Witnesses do not admit to worshipping Jesus Christ in practice, they do so in theory. Interestingly, in the New World Translations, a Bible authored by Jehovah's Witnesses, 1963, 1967 in Portuguese, in Hebrews 1:6, they apply the term “Worship” to Jesus Christ, but what Worship is this that Jehovah's Witnesses rendered to Jesus Christ in these Translations? Let's let their Leaders, the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses, answer:

The Two Natures of Christ

The Bible teaches us about the two natures of Christ, Divine and Human, each of which is real and perfect. Let us examine each with biblical references.

Before we talk about the two natures of Jesus Christ, we cannot forget what happened in the first century, with the emergence of various groups that distorted the two natures of Jesus Christ, not believing what the Holy Scriptures say. Over the centuries, many heresies have emerged and some of them, such as Arianism, persist to this day, propagated by Jehovah's Witnesses in the 20th century.

The Groups that emerged:

The Ebionites

They appeared in the year 107 after Christ, and denied the reality of the divine nature of Christ. According to their teachings, Christ was only man.

The Docetists

This word comes from the Greek doketes, from dokein, which means to seem, to believe in an appearance, etc. The Docetists appeared in the year 70 of the Christian era, and existed approximately until the year 170. They denied the humanity of Christ. According to the philosophy of the Docetists, material things were, by nature, evil. Evil resided in matter, and since Jesus had no sin, therefore, He did not have a material body either. For the Docetists, all matter was corrupt.

Arianism

Arianism emerged in the year 325. Arius, its founder, denied the integrity and perfection of the divine nature of Christ. The Word who became flesh, according to the Gospel of John, was not God, but one of the highest beings of the Creator. The Word was, after all, nothing more than a creature of God.

Apollinarius' Theory

This theory of Apollinarius in the year 381 of the Christian era, denying the integrity of the human nature of Christ. According to the teachings of Apollinarius, Christ did not have a human mind. What he had that was human was the body and the spirit.

Nestorius' Theory

This theory appeared in the year 431. Nestorius, its founder, denied the true union between the two natures of Christ. He attributed to Christ two parts or divisions, one human, the other divine.

The Theory of Eutyches

According to this theory, the two natures of Christ fused together to form a third nature, which was neither divine nor human. Therefore, Jesus was neither human nor divine. –*First Century Group – Excerpt from the Book: Outline of Systematic Theology, ABLangston, Juerp, 1999, pages 176,177.*

We can add to this list the **Jehovah's Witnesses** that emerged in the 20th century, deny the divinity of Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ is only a being created by Jehovah, he was not resurrected in the same body, he cannot be worshiped as God, and is therefore only a lesser god.

The Humanity of Christ and Jehovah's Witnesses

The redemption of humanity was to be accomplished by a Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5), Jesus Christ, He would reconcile man with God (John 14:6; Romans 5:12-17).

For many centuries, the early church went through many councils, the Council of Nicea, the Council of Ephesus, and Chalcedon, councils that arose to expose erroneous ideas in the first century regarding the nature of Christ and resolve them. However, this council did not prevent many erroneous ideas from spreading to this day.

In the Holy Scriptures we find proof of the humanity of Christ, one of the best-known texts is 1 Timothy 2:5, which says: For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. In the first centuries, there were many heretics who denied the humanity of Christ, one of these was Gnosticism ("Gnosis, Knowledge"), a movement that denied the humanity of Christ, for them Jesus Christ did not have a body.

Gnosticism portrayed Christ as a heavenly spirit. The Apostle John fought this first-century heresy in his first letter, which says: And every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not from God. This is the spirit of antichrist, of which you have heard that it would come, and even now is it in the world. (1 John 4:3) The humanity of Christ is confirmed in many texts in the Holy Scriptures, another is Luke 24:30-39, after the resurrection Christ appeared to his disciples, and Jesus Christ said: "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see: for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see me have."

In the book of Acts we find evidence of Christ's humanity. The text reads: "And they said unto them, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11). Analyzing the biblical text, is it possible to see a spirit? These men were gazing up into heaven and saw the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ, not as a spirit as Jehovah's Witnesses understand.

Jesus Christ was not resurrected in the same body, the carnal body was not taken to heaven

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus Christ was not resurrected in the same body, let's see what they say: "However, many believe that Christ took his fleshly body to heaven. (...) "But since it was possible for the apostle Thomas to put his hand into the hole in Jesus' side, does this not show that Jesus was resurrected in the same body that was nailed to the stake?? **No**, because Jesus simply **materialized**, or assumed a fleshly body, as the angels had done in the past. **In order to convince Thomas** when to whom He was, **He used a body with wound marks**. It had the appearance, or **seemed to be fully human**, able to eat and drink, as had been done by the angels whom Abraham had once entertained. (Genesis 18:8; Hebrews 13:2"); (...) Therefore, Jesus, who was departing, **became invisible to them. They couldn't see him**. Then in his spirit body he ascended to heaven. (1 Peter 3:18) So his return would also be invisible, **in a spiritual body**. – *You Can Live Forever in Paradise, 1989, pages 143-146.*

The exegesis of the text of John 20:24-29 is interpreted erroneously and absurdly by Jehovah's Witnesses, who create interpolations thus giving another meaning to the text.

Following this line of reasoning, if Jesus Christ was not resurrected with the same body, he appeared to Thomas in **another body with marks of injuries**, so did Jesus deceive Thomas? What happened to the body of Jesus Christ after the resurrection? These are unanswered questions that Jehovah's Witnesses through their leaders the Governing Body are taught to believe.

The Divinity of Christ and Jehovah's Witnesses

The teaching of Arianism has survived for centuries and reigned in the 20th century among Jehovah's Witnesses, who also deny the Divinity of Christ, believing that Jesus Christ is only a god.

Bible Text Misinterpreted by Jehovah's Witnesses

Bible Texts Used by Jehovah's Witnesses

Holy Bible – The Divinity of Christ

Scripture: Philippians 2:6-11

That, being in **form** of God, did not consider it usurpation to be **equal** God, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The context makes clear the understanding of the Divinity of Christ, even though He emptied Himself by taking the form of a servant, it did not affect His Divinity, and God gave Him a name that is above every name, and at the name of Jesus Christ every knee should bow.

When analyzing the word “form”, in Greek (μορφή), — Morphe”, we have its meaning, indicates: “form, implying essential character”. – *A Pocket Lexicon The New Testament by Alexander Souter, M.A., Oxford 1917, page 162.*

Therefore, it has nothing to do with a “Copy”, a created being, the text says about the character, that is to say, even if Jesus made use of his prerogatives of divinity, it would not be a usurpation, the text confirms his Divinity, being in the form of God.

Now analyzing another word in the text, the term, “equal”, in Greek (ἴσος), Equal, the same, identical (the same in size, quality, etc.). Here the term “Equal”, means absolute equality of nature, confirming the true divinity of Christ. – *VINE Dictionary, Old and New Testament, CPAD, 1st Edition 2002, page 480.*

Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-3

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son,

To whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also made the world.

Who, being the brightness of his glory, **and the express image of your person**, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as he has inherited a more excellent name than they.

The Greek term for "Image" is (χαράκτήρ ἁπλοῦς ἢ ἐπὶ) "Exact expression". – *Greek/Portuguese Interlinear New Testament, SBB, 2000, Hebrews 1:3*. It can also be translated as "Exact expression", it can be found in *Greek English Lexicon New Testament, Joseph Henry Thayer, DD, 1886, page 665*. The same translation can be found at *The Kingdom Interlinear Translation Of the Greek Scriptures 1985, Hebrews 1:6. Greek/English Translation, Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania Jehovah's Witnesses*.

Therefore, analyzing the context, Jesus Christ is the exact expression of God, He is the reflection of the Glory of God as described in the text, in the book of John 1:14,

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

According to the Commentary *Biblical, Hebrews Introduction and Commentary, Donald Guthrie, Vida Nova, 1983, page 61,62*, which says: "The word used here for "exact expression" (caraktêr).

Bible Text: Micah 5:2

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, yet out of you will come forth for me one who will be ruler in Israel, whose origins have been from of old, **from the days of eternity**'. – *Holy Bible Apologetics, ICP, 2000*.

The Text in the New World Translation of Jehovah's Witnesses has been changed, let's see what they believed before and now what has changed.

New World Translation, 1960 edition, English

"And you, O beth'le-hem Eph'ra-thah, the one too little to get to be among the thousands of Judah, from you there will come out to me the one who is to become ruler in Israel, whose origin is from early times, from the days of time indefinite".

Translation:

"And you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are too small to be among the thousands of Judah, out of you will come one who will be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from the days of time indefinite."

New World Translation, 1984 edition, English

"And you, O beth'le-hem Eph'ra-thah, the one too little to get to be among the thousands of Judah, from you there will come out to me the one who is to become ruler in Israel, whose origin is from early times, from the days of time indefinite".

Translation:

"And you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are too small to be among the thousands of Judah, from you will come one who will be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from ancient times, **since the days of indefinite time**"

New World Translation, 1986 edition, Portuguese

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are too small to be counted among the thousands of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler in Israel, whose origin is **since time indefinite**”.

New World Translation, 2015 edition, Portuguese

“And you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, too small to be among the thousands of Judah, from you will come forth for me one who will be ruler in Israel, whose origin goes back to ancient times, **from the days of antiquity**”.

In the text in question, in the first century there was an understanding of a messianic prophecy, when comparing it with (Matthew 2:4-6). In the term applied to eternity in Hebrew, it is “Ôlam”, the meaning will depend on the context applied, applied to man, the word has the meaning of long life or many years, for God it means eternity, applied to the Messiah it refers to the preexistent state of the Son. – *Introduction and Comments Micah, David W. Baker T. Desmond Alexander Richard J. Sturz, Vida Nova, Serie Cultura, 1988, page 242,243.*

There have been significant changes in the New World translations, the text has been altered to conform to their doctrines, the text in question points to the eternity of the Messiah. In the 2015 edition the term “Olam” is translated as “of the days of old”, completely changing the meaning of the text, in this understanding, the Messiah is not Eternal, some time ago He was created by Jehovah.

Before consulting the meaning of the term “Ôlām” Hebr., the same term is applied in Psalms 90:2, referring to God, in the sense of “**Indefinite Time**”, the same term applied to the Messiah in Micah 5:2, in the sense of “**Indefinite Time**”, the same term has the meaning of eternity applied to God and the Messiah.

Bible Text: Psalm 90:2

“Before the mountains themselves were born, Or before you began to bring forth as with labor pains the earth and the productive land, yes, **from indefinite time to indefinite time**, you are God”.
– *New World Translation, 1986 edition, Portuguese.*

The Etymology of the term “Ôlām”, in Hebrew.

In the book *Insight on the Scriptures Volume II*, 2020 edition, page 1101, there are references from renowned Lexicographers to explain the meaning of the term, however, when consulting these references we notice that there is a lack of information from Jehovah's Witnesses, it is noted that they only included the meanings that are in accordance with their beliefs, omitting meanings from the cited Lexicon itself.

The first Lexicon cited is Gesenius' Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon Old Testament Scriptures, 1907,1932, page DCXII, 612, follows the meaning of the term “*oh lam*”, “Hidden time”, “Long”, “whose beginning or end is uncertain or indefinite”, “eternity”, “perpetuity”, “long past time, antiquity”.

The second Lexicon cited is that of Lexicon Hebrew and English old testament William Gesenius Edward Robinson 1836, page 746, follows the meaning of the term "*oh lam*", "indefinite time", "duration", "perpetuity", "eternity", "long duration", "antiquity".

Before discussing the application of the term, let us quote a statement from Awake! November 2012, page 28, which says: "How to understand the Bible, you have probably heard someone say this before. But did you know that it is possible to analyze the Bible by letting it explain itself? The secret is this: If the context does not make the meaning of a certain verse clear, compare that verse with others that deal with the same subject. In this way, we allow the Bible, not personal opinions, to guide our understanding."

Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus is Omnipotent	Matthew 28:18; Revelation 1:8
Jesus is Omniscient	John 6:64; 16:30; Colossians 2:2,3
Jesus is Omnipresent	Matthew 18:20; 28:20
Jesus is Savior	Luke 2:10,11; Acts 4:12; I Timothy 1:15
Jesus is Worshipped	Matthew 2:1,2; Hebrews 1:6; Revelation 5:12-14
Jesus is Lord	Acts 10:36; Romans 10:12
Jesus is Life	John 1:4; 11:25
Jesus is Good	1 Corinthians 10:1
Jesus is Eternal	Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; John 1:1; 8:58

Remembering that Jehovah's Witnesses would not dare to apply the expression "Time Indefinite" to God in Psalm 90:2, with the understanding that there was a time when God ceased to exist. Being the same expression applied to God in the sense of eternity, the same expression "time indefinite" is applied to Jesus in the sense of eternity.

The text in question is Micah 5:2, which announces a prophecy about the coming and the place where the Messiah would be born. This messianic prophecy is confirmed in Matthew 2:1. The text also tells us that the Messiah is Eternal.

Therefore, the Holy Scriptures testify of Jesus Christ (John 5:39), biblical evidence that Jehovah's Witnesses do not accept, because they have the Governing Body as their leader and follow its guidelines as being biblical truths, without even checking to see if they really are teachings of God or traditions of men. (Mark 7:7-13; Acts 17:11; Colossians 2:8).

The Holy Spirit

“As for the “Holy Spirit”, the supposed third Person of the Trinity, we have already seen that it is not a person, but the active force of God.–*You Can Live Forever...*, 1989, page 40. This is the understanding of Jehovah’s Witnesses regarding God’s Holy Spirit. On the same page, they cite Acts 2:4, refuting with unscriptural arguments, claiming that the Holy Spirit is not a person, but merely an “Impersonal Force.” Let’s see what it says:

“The Bible says: They were all filled with holy spirit.” (Acts 2:4) Were they “filled” with a person? No, but they were filled with God’s active force.

In the book of John 14:23 it says: “Jesus answered and said to him: If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with him. Here in the text “abode”, (Greek. *μονήν*), according to the VINE Dictionary, page 654, means “dwelling”. In the Linguistic Key to the Greek New Testament, publisher WilFrid, Heinrich, Hagnos, page 631, it is translated as: “to lodge, to dwell”. According to the text, the Father and Jesus make their abode in the person who loves him and keeps his commandments. How is it possible for God and Jesus Christ to be one person and dwell in another? Following the same reasoning of Jehovah’s Witnesses, this would not be possible to happen. Question, would they be full of two persons? Still in Galatians 4:19, which says:

“My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

In the New World Translation, in the text in question, footnote, it translates: “take form”; Can Jesus be formed in someone while being a person? Another text that we can cite is Luke 22:3, which says: “But Satan entered into Judas, who was surnamed Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve.” Jehovah’s Witnesses agree that Satan is a person, in their book *You Can Live Forever*, 1989, page 18, which says: “Satan the Devil is a real person”; so we ask: How is it possible for Satan, being a real person, to enter into Judas?

We know from the Holy Scriptures that the Holy Spirit is a person, He Thinks, Guides, has His own direction, His own conscience, Wants, Feels, He offers us proof, let us see if an “Impersonal Force” is capable of having these attributes.

The Holy Spirit Guides Us	John 16:13
Jesus is Eternal	John 6:64; 16:30; Colossians 2:2,3
Jesus is Omnipresent	Matthew 18:20; 28:20
Jesus is Savior	Luke 2:10,11; Acts 4:12; I Timothy 1:15
Jesus is Worshipped	Matthew 2:1,2; Hebrews 1:6; Revelation 5:12-14
Jesus is Lord	Acts 10:36; Romans 10:12
Jesus is Life	John 1:4; 11:25
Jesus is Good	1 Corinthians 10:1
Jesus is Eternal	Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; John 1:1; 8:58

Contradictions in Jehovah's Witness Teachings

For centuries the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses has claimed to be guided by "Jehovah" through the Watchtower magazine, which says: "Jehovah teaches his people especially through a weekly Bible study, in which he uses *The Sentinels* as an aid to teaching." – *The Watchtower*, August 1, 1995, page 17.

We know from the Bible that with God there is no variation or shadow of turning (James 1:17); we also find in the Bible that God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent (Numbers 23:19). The Scriptures are the testimony of the Creator, and we can analyze the teachings of the Governing Body over all these years and see if they are truly the teachings of God or of men (Matthew 15:9).

Can you worship Jesus?

Can be worshipped	New World Translation 1950,1963,1967*
Cannot be worshipped	New World Translation 1984,1986,2015*
Can be worshipped	The Watchtower 1/15/92, page 23
Can be worshipped	My Storybook...,2004, page 86

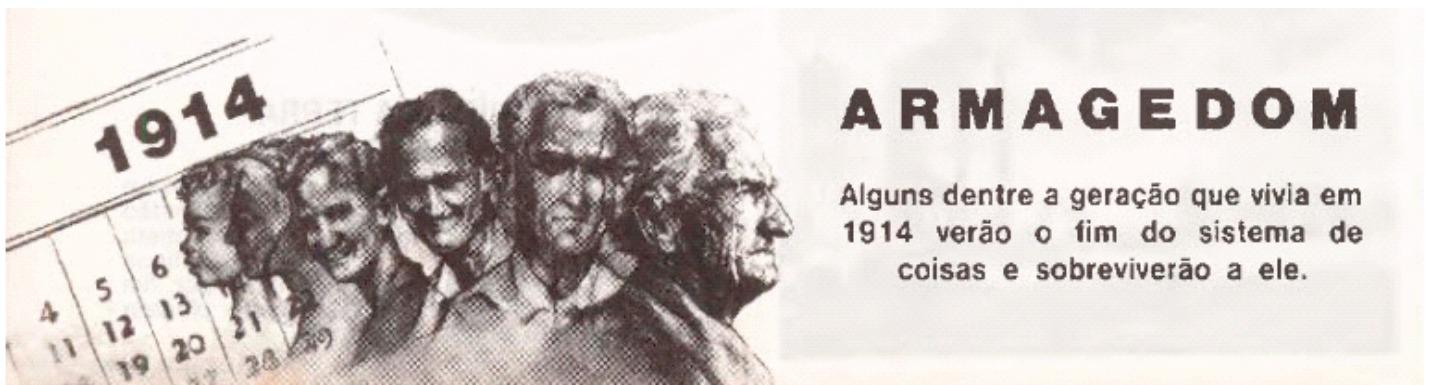
* New World Translation, the text to consult is Hebrews 1:6.

Will the Sodomites be resurrected?

They will not be resurrected	From Paradise Lost, 1959, page 236
They will not be resurrected	The Watchtower 9/15/1965, page 15
They will be resurrected	You May Live..., 1982, page 179
They will not be resurrected	The Watchtower 6/1/1988, page 30
They will not be resurrected	You Can Live..., 1989, page 179

The Generation of 1914 will not pass!

They believed that before the Generation of 1914 that saw the events they would be alive for the end of the system of things, see: “**The Bible** not only predicted such things, but indicated that they would occur on a worldwide scale. Also, **the Bible said** that all these things would befall the generation living in 1914. (...) However, the terrible tribulations that **the Bible predicted** began at the right time, in 1914! (...) What generation was Jesus referring to? He was referring to the generation of people living in 1914. (...) However, some of them will still be alive to see the end of this wicked system. So we can be sure of this: There will soon be a sudden end of all wickedness and all wicked people, at Armageddon. – *You Can Live...*, 1982, page 154, 155.



*Source: Image from the book: *You Can Live in Paradise on Earth*, 1982, page 155.

This understanding of the 1914 Generation, creating an interpolation on the text of Matthew 24, was adopted for years by Jehovah's Witnesses, but there was a drastic change in the Awake! magazine; in the Awake! magazine of 10/22/1995, page 4, footnote, it brought the following information: “(...) It is very important that this magazine generates confidence in the Creator's promise to establish a peaceful and secure new world. **before the generation that saw the events of 1914 passes away.**” In the Awake! magazine, 11/8/1995, page 4, the following information was provided: “(...) It is very important that this magazine generates confidence in the Creator's promise to establish a peaceful and secure new world, ready to replace the current wicked and anarchic systems of things.” What happened to the Generation of 1914, which disappeared in two weeks!

Beth Sarim – The House of the Princes of Antiquity

In the book *Millions Now Living Will Never Die*, 1923, page 110, it says: “What then is the event to be expected? In type, there is to be a complete restoration of all things. The chief thing to be restored is life to the human race; since other scriptures definitely establish the fact that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob will be resurrected, along with other ancient believers, and that these would be the first to be favored, we may expect in 1925 the return of these faithful men of Israel, rising from the dead and fully restored to human perfection, who will be visible and real representatives of the new order of things on earth.”

In the book *Salvation* 1939, pages 275,276, it says: "In San Diego, California, United States, there is a small plot of land on which, in 1929, a house was built, which is called and known as Bet-Sarim. The Hebrew words *Bet-Sarim* means "House of Princes"; and the purpose of acquiring this property and building the house was that there might be some tangible proof that there are people on earth now who fully believe in God and Christ, and will return to the earth, and take charge of the visible affairs of the earth. The deed to Beth-Sarim is made in the name of the Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society, to be used for the present by the president of the society and his assistants, and thereafter to be forever at the disposal of the princes of the above-mentioned land.

Mr. J. F. Rutherford, the second president of Jehovah's Witnesses, died without even seeing the faithful of old resurrected, let us see what he says: "For years he had hoped to see the prophets, including Elijah and Elisha, raised from the dead and installed in the Kingdom as "Princes in all the earth," in God's new world, (Psalms 45:16) But on January 8, 1942, Rutherford died at the age of seventy-two, a faithful witness of Jehovah God and completely dedicated to the interests of God's kingdom." – *Hallowed Be Thy Name*, 1963, page 337.

The Year 1975 will not pass!

They believed that the end would come in the year 1975, let's see: "(...) reliable biblical chronology, the six thousand years since the creation of man will end in 1975 and the seventh thousand-year period of human history will begin in the autumn (according to the northern hemisphere) of the year 1975 CE – *Eternal Life in the Freedom of the Children of God*, 1966, page 29. This prophecy was also seen in *Awake!* magazine, 4/22/69, page 14.

In *Our Ministry* of 1974, pages 3, 4, it says: "Reports have been received concerning brothers who have sold their homes and property and who plan to spend the remainder of their days in this old system of things engaged in pioneer service."

The Governing Body in its predictions attributes to the Bible what it does not state when it uses the expression: "The Bible says," "The Bible foretold." We ask, who is the source of all true prophecy? Since none of these or other prophecies have been fulfilled. We let the Governing Body answer: "The source of all true prophecy is Jehovah God." – *The Watchtower* 7/15/99, page 29. Since Jehovah is the source of all true prophecy, then who foretold these false prophecies? What does the Bible teach us about false prophecies? According to the text of Deuteronomy 18:20-22, which says:

"20. If a prophet speaks presumptuously in my name, and I have not commanded him to speak, or speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet must die. 21. But you may say in your heart, 'How can we know that Jehovah has not spoken this word?' 22. If a prophet speaks in Jehovah's name, and what he says does not happen or come true, then Jehovah has not spoken that word. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you should not be afraid of him." – *New World Translation*, 2015.

The Bible is very clear when it comes to false prophecies. Therefore, the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses is a false prophet, not speaking in the name of Jehovah, but speaking presumptuously.

In the New Testament we find 2 Peter 2:1, which says, "But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will subtly introduce destructive sects and will even deny the owner who bought them, bringing swift destruction on themselves." – *New World Translation, 2015.*

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