# Jehovah's Witnesses?

Charts Exposing the Erroneous Doctrines
Of the Watch Tower Organization

R. David Brewer

# Jehovah's Witnesses? –Examining Doctrine Table of Contents

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### Jehovah's Witnesses? –Examining Doctrine

### • Statement of Purpose

- These charts are intended to be used to repudiate the error being taught by those who follow the teachings of Charles T. Russell and call themselves "Jehovah's Witnesses." I pray they will be useful both in study with those of this persuasion, and those who have been taught by them. They are not intended to be unkind in any way. They are intended to expose some of the erroneous teachings of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society. Please do not use these charts in lieu of diligent Bible study. Also, please use these charts only after you have studied and become familiar with the concepts presented within them.
- This work is copyrighted. If you find them useful for their intended purpose, you may write to me for permission to copy them without alteration, or request additional copies from me. Most of the charts are of my design, but the material was gleaned from the Scriptures and other valuable sources. The Scriptures referred to are from the King James, New King James, and American Standard (1901) translations of the Bible except where otherwise noted.
- These charts were originally prepared for a discussion with Jehovah's Witness leaders in Bethel, Vermont, January 1990. They were revised for the adult Bible class of the Westside church, meeting in Moon Township, PA, August, 1997. They were revised for *Power Point* presentations and CD use (and are now available on such CD's by contacting the author), February 2004.
- It is my sincere hope that these charts will be beneficial in converting lost souls to Jesus Christ and will bring glory to:
  - Jehovah our Father Who adopts us!
  - Jesus Christ Who saves us!
  - The Holy Spirit Who indwells and seals us!

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### **Examining Doctrine: The Soul**

- Doctrine: "Man IS a soul; he does not possess a soul."
  - "Proof" -- Genesis 2:7 (KJV) "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."
  - Problem # 1
    - Failure to recognize the use of synecdoche (a figure of speech by which a part is put for the whole). If man is "all soul" then there is nothing to return to God.
      - Ecclesiastes 12:7 (KJV) "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."
      - Compare with:
        - » Genesis 3:19 (KJV) "...till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."
        - » Genesis 35:18 (KJV) "And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) ..." HER BODY WAS STILL PRESENT, BUT HER SOUL DEPARTED!
        - » 2 Peter 1:13-14 (KJV) "... as long as I am in this tabernacle... {14} Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle..."



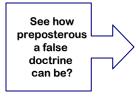


### **Examining Doctrine: The Soul**

- Doctrine: "Man <u>IS</u> a soul; he does not possess a soul."
  - Problem # 2
    - Contradicts other plain passages of Scripture.
      - 1 Kings 17:22 (KJV) "... and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived."
      - Job 12:10 (KJV) "In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind."
      - Ezekiel 18:4 (KJV) "... the soul that sinneth, it shall die."
      - Matthew 10:28 (KJV) "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."
      - 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (KJV) "... and I pray God your whole <u>spirit</u> and <u>soul</u> and <u>body</u> be preserved blameless..."
      - Hebrews 4:12 (KJV) "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, ..."
      - James 5:20 (KJV) "... he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death ..."

### **Examining Doctrine: The Spirit**

- Doctrine: "The word 'spirit' comes from the same Greek word as 'wind' (pneuma), and means only 'the breath."
- Purpose: So they can "prove" that when a man's spirit leaves him, it is only "breath" that leaves him.
- Must Admit: "pneuma" may be sometimes be interpreted or translated both "wind" (John 3:8 (KJV) "... the wind bloweth where it listeth...") and "breath" (2 Thessalonians 2:8 (ASV) "... whom the Lord Jesus shall slay with the breath ["spirit" KJV] of his mouth..." and Revelation 11:11 (ASV)" ... the breath ["spirit" KJV] of life from God entered into them...")
- Deny: That "pneuma" may be interpreted or translated as "wind" or "breath" on every occasion.
  - If so, shall we attempt to harmonize these passages of Scripture as follows:
    - John 8:24 "God is a wind"?
    - Acts 7:59 Stephen saying while dying, "Lord Jesus receive my wind"?
    - John 3:5 "born of the water and the wind"?
    - Matthew 10:1 The apostles having "power over unclean breath"?
    - 1 Peter 3:4 "...even the ornament of a meek and guiet breath"?
    - 1 Corinthians 5:5 "to deliver such a one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the *wind* may be saved in the day of the Lord"?



Scriptural Conclusion? Man has a body, soul, and spirit.
The Soul is a possession more valuable than his body – Matthew 10:28

### Doctrine:

- "...persons who want to know the true God and serve him find it a bit difficult to love and worship a complicated, freakish-looking, three headed God." – Let God Be True, page 102
- "We see God in heaven as the superior One... We see his Son on earth...; clearly two separate and distinct personalities not at all equal. That Jesus is inferior to his Father, is also apparent..." Watchtower January 1, 1953, pages 21-24
- "Clearly, Jesus is not Almighty God" (emphasis mine rdb) <u>You Can Live</u>
   Forever in Paradise on Earth, page 40

### "Proof":

- The New World 'translation' of the following New Testament passages:
  - John 1:1 "Originally the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god."
  - Colossians 1:15-16 "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, because by means of him, all <u>other</u> things were created."
  - Hebrews 1:8 "God is your throne..." (all emphasis mine rdb).

Note: Compare these passages with legitimate translations such as the King James or the American Standard. See how Witnesses have altered and perverted in order to "justify" their doctrine.





## The Truth? Jesus <u>IS</u> God!

- Scripture Claims:
  - John 1:1 (KJV) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
  - Colossians 1:15-16 (KJV) "Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: {16} For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:"





 Hebrews 1:8 "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."

Isaiah 9:6-7 – Prophecy of Christ sitting on David's throne.

Compare with:

Acts 2:39-31 (KJV) "...he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this Before spake of the resurrection of Christ..."

When was He to sit on David's throne?
When He was resurrected!

1 Timothy 6:15 (NKJV) "... He <u>who</u> is the blessed and only <u>Potentate</u>, <u>the King Of kings</u> and Lord of Lords."

Romans 9:5 (KJV) Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, <u>God blessed for ever.</u>

Amen.





- Answering a "quibble"
  - "Jesus could not be God because (Witnesses' say) 'No one has seen God at any time." (John 1:18).
- Answer:
  - Should read further!
  - John 14:6-9 (KJV) "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. {7} If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. {8} Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. {9} Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?"



### Jesus as Creator:

### God created

- Genesis 1:1 (KJV) "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."
- Genesis 1:26-27 (KJV) "And God said, Let us make man in our image...So God created man in his own image"

Genesis 2:7 (KJV)
"And the LORD God
formed man of the
dust of the ground,
"

Genesis 2:15 (KJV) "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden..."

Genesis 2:18 (KJV) "And the LORD God said, ... I will make him an help meet for him."

God created!
The Word created!
Only just conclusion?
The Word was God!

John 1:3 (KJV) "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

Colossians 1:16-17 (KJV) "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible... And he is before all things, and by him all things consist"

Hebrews 1:1-2 (KJV) "God...Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son ... by whom also he made the worlds."

Revelation 4:11 (KJV) "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

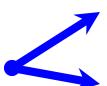


**Jesus as Savior:** Isaiah 45:22 Isaiah 43:11 Isaiah 43:11 (KJV) ...for I (KJV) I, even (KJV) I, even am God, and I, am the I, am the There is no there is none LORD; and LORD; and other God else. beside me beside me there is no there is no God is the saviour. saviour. only Savior Hosea 13:4 (KJV) Yet I am Matthew 1:21 the LORD thy Luke 2:11 (KJV) And she God ... and thou (KJV) For unto shall bring forth Acts 13:23 (KJV) shalt know no you is born this a son, and thou Of this man's god but me: for day in the city shalt call his seed hath God there is **no** of David a name JESUS: for according to his saviour beside Saviour, which he shall save his promise raised me. is Christ the people from their unto Israel a Lord. sins. Saviour, Jesus: Jesus is the Savior John 1:29 (KJV) The next day **Psalms 49:15** Therefore: John seeth Jesus (KJV) But God Jesus Christ coming unto him, will redeem my and saith, Behold is God! soul from the the Lamb of God. power of the which taketh grave: for he away the sin of shall receive Jehovah's Witnesses? 12 the world.

me. Selah.



### Jesus & John the Baptist:



- John 1:6-7 (KJV) "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. {7} The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe."
- John 1:10-11 (KJV) "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. {11} He came unto his own, and his own received him not."

### WHO DID JOHN PREPARE THE WAY FOR? GOD!



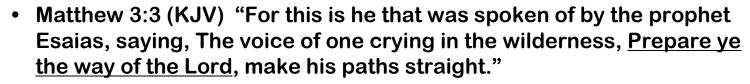
 Isaiah 40:3 (KJV) "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."



 John 1:1 (KJV) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."



Matthew 3:1 (KJV) "In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea."







- Whom do we worship?
  - Other men? NO! Example: Barnabas & Paul.
    - Acts 14:11-18 (KJV) "And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voice... The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men... brought oxen ... unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice ... Which when the apostles, ... heard of, they rent their clothes... saying... We also are men... ye should turn from these vanities <u>unto the living God</u>, which made... all things... And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them."
  - Angels? NO! Example: John & Angel.
    - Revelation 19:10 (KJV) "And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."
    - Revelation 22:8-9 (KJV) "And I John ... I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel ... Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant... worship God."
  - Creatures? NO! Example: Wicked Men
    - Romans 1:25 (KJV) "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."





- Whom do we worship?
  - If NOT:
    - Other men.
    - Angels.
    - Creatures.
  - THEN WHOM DO WE WORSHIP?

## The LORD your GOD!

Matthew 4:10 (KJV) Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the <u>Lord thy</u> <u>God</u>, and him <u>only</u> shalt thou serve.





### Jesus: The OBJECT of Worship.

- ➤ Matthew 14:33 (KJV) "Then they that were in the ship came and <u>worshipped</u> him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God."
- ➤ Matthew 28:9 (KJV) "And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him."
- ➤ Matthew 28:17 (KJV) "And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted."
- ➤ John 20:28 (KJV) "And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God."
- ➤ Hebrews 1:6 (KJV) "And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let <u>all</u> the <u>angels of God worship him</u>."

Only GOD to be worshiped!

Jesus allowed Himself to be Worshipped

Therefore – Jesus <u>IS</u> GOD!



Jesus & Glory.

Isaiah 48:11 (KJV) "For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another."

John 17:5 (KJV) "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was."

If Jehovah God would not give His glory to another, yet gave His glory to Jesus, then Jesus must be God!



### 4

### **Examining Doctrine: Jesus Christ – Who is Jesus Christ?**

Note: JW's say:
"Jesus never said
he was God"

"And I give unto them <u>eternal life</u>; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of <u>my hand</u>." John 10:28 (KJV)

"I and my Father are one" John 10:30 (KJV)

### Jesus' claims for Himself:

John 10:33 (KJV) "The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God."

John 10:36 (KJV) "Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because <u>I said</u>, I am the Son of God?"

John 10:38 (KJV) "But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the <u>Father is in me</u>, and <u>I in him</u>."

Compare Father worketh hitherto sanswered them My and work [18] Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him because he not Sabbath had also that only had broken the God was his Father .. 18



### Jesus & "I AM":

- Exodus 3:14 (ASV) "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."
- Deuteronomy 32:39 (ASV) "See now that I, even I, am he, And there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal; And there is none that can deliver out of my hand."
- Isaiah 43:10 (ASV) "Ye are my witnesses, saith Jehovah, and my servant whom I have chosen; that ve may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: ..."

- John 8:58 (ASV) "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was born, I am."
- John 8:24 (ASV) "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for except ye believe that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."

# Proper Conclusion?

John 5:23-24 (KJV) "That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him. {24} Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from

### **Examining Doctrine: Earth's Future?**

- Doctrine: "You can live forever in Paradise on Earth."
  - What do the Scriptures teach concerning the Earth's future?
    - Implied: Earth's time is limited.
      - Genesis 8:22 (KJV) "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."
    - Jesus' teaching concerning the future of the earth:
      - Matthew 24:35 (KJV) "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

Answering a "quibble" – "if 'heaven' will pass away, won't your 'heaven' (eternal life) pass away also?

The Scriptures many times refer to the ethereal atmosphere surrounding the earth where birds fly as 'heaven' i.e. Psalms 104:12 (KJV) "by them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation..." & Jeremiah 4:25 (KJV) "...and all the birds of the heavens were fled."

### **Examining Doctrine: Use of "For Ever"**

- Doctrine: Use of 'for ever'
  - Witnesses' favored passages:
    - Psalms 104:5 (ASV) Who laid the foundations of the earth, That it should not be moved for ever.
    - Ecclesiastes 1:4 (ASV) One generation goeth, and another generation cometh; but the earth abideth for ever.
    - Psalms 37:29 (ASV) The righteous shall inherit the land, And dwell therein for ever.





### **Examining Doctrine: Earth's Future?**

### Question...DOES 'FOR EVER' OR 'EVERLASTING' ALWAYS MEAN NEVER ENDING?

### Consider:

- 1. Palestine was promised to Israel "forever" Genesis 13:15
- 2. Circumcision was an "everlasting covenant" Genesis 17:13
- 3. The Passover was an ordinance "for ever" Exodus 12:14
- 4. The Levitical priesthood system had an "everlasting priesthood" Numbers 25:13
- These passages use the terms "for ever" and "everlasting," but we understand their "time" to be limited in light of other passages. Thus, passages like those on the preceding page must be understood to be limited in "time" in light of other plain passages of Scripture, such as:
  - Genesis 8:22 (KJV) While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.
  - 2 Peter 3:9-12 (KJV) "... the heavens shall pass away ..., and the elements shall melt... the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up..."

Psalms 37:29 (KJV) "The righteous shall inherit the land..." is often compared with: Matthew 5:5 (KJV) "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Please notice the context of Matthew 5:5 – verse 11 "rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward <u>in heaven</u>..."

414 Palmetto Road New Port Richey Florida 33552

July 11, 1974

Watchtower Bible & Tract Society 117 Adams St. Brooklyn New York 11201

### **Dear Sirs:**

I have a copy of your letter addressed to <u>Caris</u> in Santa Ana, California, and I am writing to express my disagreement with statements made in that letter, as well as in quotations you have made from the Dan-Mantey Greek Grammar.

- (1) Your statement: "their work allows for the rendering found in the <u>Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures</u> at John 1:1." There is no statement in our grammar that was ever meant to imply that "a god" was a permissible translation in John 1:1.
- A. We had no "rule" to argue in support of the trinity.
- B. Neither did we state that we did have such intention. We were simply delineating the facts inherent in biblical language.





- C. Your quotation from p. 148 (3) was in a paragraph under the heading: "With the subject in Copulative sentence." Two examples occur there to illustrate that "the article points out the subject in these examples." But we made no statement in this paragraph about the predicate except that, "as it stands the other persons of the trinity may be implied in theos." And isn't that the opposite of what your translation "a god" infers? You quoted me out of context. On pages 139 and 140 (VI) in our grammar we stated: "without the article theos signifies divine essence...theos en ho logos emphasizes Christ's participation in the essence of the divine nature." Our interpretation is in agreement with that in NEB and the TEV: "What God was, the Word was"; and with that of Barclay: "the nature of the Word was the same as the nature of God", which you quoted in your letter to Caris.
- (2) Since Colewell's and Harner's articles in JBL, especially that of Harner, it is neither scholarly nor reasonable to translate John 1:1 "The Word was a god". Word-order has made obsolete and incorrect such a rendering.
- (3) Your quotation of Colwell's rule is inadequate because it quotes only a part of his findings. You did not quote this strong assertion: "A predicate nominative which precedes the verb cannot be translated as an indefinite or a 'qualitative' noun solely because of the absence of the article."
- (4) Prof. Harner, vol 92:1 (1973) in JBL, has gone beyond Colewell's research and has discovered that anarthrous predicate nouns preceding the verb function primarily to express the nature or character of the subject. He found this true in 53 passages in the Gospel of John and 8 in the Gospel of Mark. Both scholars wrote that when indefiniteness was intended the gospel writers regularly placed the predicate noun after the verb, and both Colwell and Harner have stated that theos in John 1:1 is not indefinite and should not be translated "a god." Watchtower writers appear to be the only ones advocating such a translation now. The evidence appears to be 99% against them.





(5) Your statement in your letter that the sacred text itself should guide one and "not just someone's rule book". We agree with you. But our study proves that Jehovah's Witnesses do the opposite of that whenever the "sacred text" differs with their heretical beliefs. For example the translation of kolasis as cutting off when punishment is the only meaning cited in the lexicons for it. The mistranslation of ego eimi as "I have been" in John 8:58. The addition of "for all time" in Heb. 9:27 when nothing in the Greek New testament supports it. The attempt to belittle Christ by mistranslating arche tes ktiseos "beginning of the creation" when he is magnified as "the creator of all things" (John 1:2) and as "equal with God" (Phil. 2:6) before he humbled himself and lived in a human body here on earth. Your quotation of "The Father is greater than I am" (John 14:28) to prove that Jesus was not equal to God overlooks the fact stated in Phil. 2:6-8. When Jesus said that he was still in his voluntary state of humiliation. That state ended when he ascended to heaven. Why the attempt to deliberately deceive people by mispunctuation by placing a comma after "today" in Luke 23:43 when the Greek, Latin, German and all English translations except yours, even in the Greek in your KIT, the comma occurs after lego (I say)? - "Today you will be with me in Paradise". II Cor 5:8, "to be out of the body and at home with the Lord". These passages teach that the redeemed go immediately to heaven after death, which does not agree with your teachings that death ends all life until the resurrection. Cf. Ps. 23:6 and Heb. 1:10.





The above are only a few examples of Watchtower mistranslations and perversions of God's Word.

In view of the preceding facts, especially because you have been quoting me out of context, I herewith request you not to quote the <u>Manual Grammar of Greek New Testament</u> again, which you have been doing for 24 years. Also that you not quote it in any of your publications from this time on.

Also that you publicly and immediately apologise (sic - rdb) in the Watchtower magazine, since my words had no relevance to the absence of the article before theos in John 1:1. And please write Caris and state that you misused and misquoted my "rule".

On the page before the <u>Preface</u> in the grammar are these words: "All rights reserved - no part of this book may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the publisher."

If you have such permission, please send me a photo-copy of it.

If you do not heed these requests you will suffer the consequences.

Regretfully yours, (signed)

Julius R. Mantey.