

Is Jesus God or an Angel?

by Wayne Goff

Our Jehovah's Witness friends insist that there is no other Person as "God" except "Jehovah." That excludes Jesus and the Holy Spirit. They argue that Jesus was created, is not eternal, and was not God in the flesh. What does the New Testament teach about this?

The True Confession

Philip baptized the Ethiopian eunuch on the confession: "*I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God*" (**Acts 8:37**). He was confessing the Deity of Jesus Christ, without which he could not be properly baptized or saved.

Jehovah's Witnesses

According to their own publications, Jesus was "...the most beloved of all his angelic sons in the invisible heavens" Proverbs 8:30 [*Good News To Make You Happy*, p. 69]. "Jesus was not half God, half man. He was not God in the flesh" [*ibid.*, p. 118]. "This Son is described as 'only begotten' because He is the first and only direct creation of God" [*Good News*, p. 117].

The Truth About Jesus

John 1:3 declares that *nothing* was created without Jesus. Did He create Himself? Obviously not, therefore He is not a created being.

John 1:1 says that "*the Word*" (logos) existed "*in the beginning*" with God. It did not say that there was a point in time in which He did not exist.

Isaiah 7:14 and **Matthew 1:23** proclaim that when Jesus was to be born of a virgin that He would be called "*Immanuel*," which means "*God with us!*"

John 5:17-18 tells us that Jesus called Jehovah "*My Father*" thus "*making Himself equal with God.*" The Jews sought to kill Jesus for this claim because they did not believe it. If He were not God, then this would be a blasphemous statement. But Jesus is true God.

John 8:58 says "*Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.'*" "I AM" is a declaration of eternity, a quality only true of God. This is the meaning of the Name "Jehovah" and is the Name given to Moses by God Himself, **Exodus 3:14**.

We could go on and on regarding the Deity of Jesus. For example, read **Philippians 2:5-8**; **Hebrews 1:2-3** and **Matthew 16:16-18**, to name a few! But the point is already well proven by Scriptures. Our dear friends in the Jehovah's Witness movement are sadly mistaken.

The Godhead

The mistake of the Jehovah's Witnesses is that they cannot conceive of ONE GOD being *manifested* in three Persons. But each Being in the Godhead — **Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit** — possesses the qualities of God! **Colossians 2:9** says of Jesus "*For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.*" "*Godhead*" (theotēs) means "*deity, the state of being God, Godhead*" [*Thayer's Greek-English Dictionary of the NT*]. **Acts 5:3-4** proclaims that when Ananias lied to "*the Holy Spirit*" he lied "*to God!*" Therefore the Holy Spirit is likewise God. Many passages referring to the Holy Spirit view Him as a "person," not an influence, or force.

Deuteronomy 6:4 says "*Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God, the LORD is one!*" The word translated "one" is the Hebrew word 'echad, and can mean *composite unity* as in **Genesis 2:24**. So the Jehovah God of Israel is actually the "*Godhead*" composed of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Bible does not affirm (1) three separate Gods; nor (2) one God in different forms. The Bible affirms a "Godhead" of three Beings Who all possess the qualities of "God" and act in perfect unison and harmony with each other.

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