So What's The Difference?

Fritz Ridenour
Chapter Eight
Jehovah's Witness

Taken from So What's The Difference Fritz Ridenour

http://constitutionclub.org/2011/09/14/answering-a-critic-of-christianity-and-god



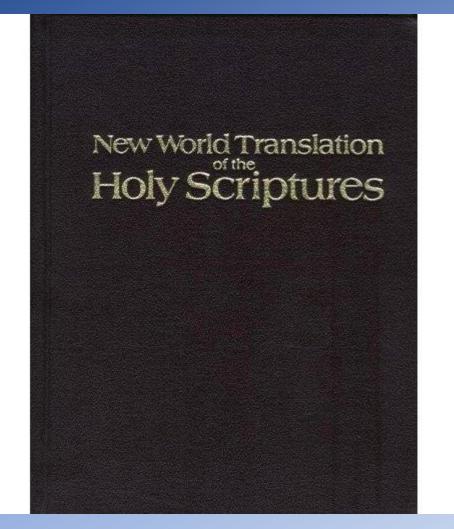
Jehovah's Witness: There Is No Hell...Hard Work Earns 'Paradise' PLUMB LINE: 1 Cor. 15:3-4

Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures...he was buried...he was Raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

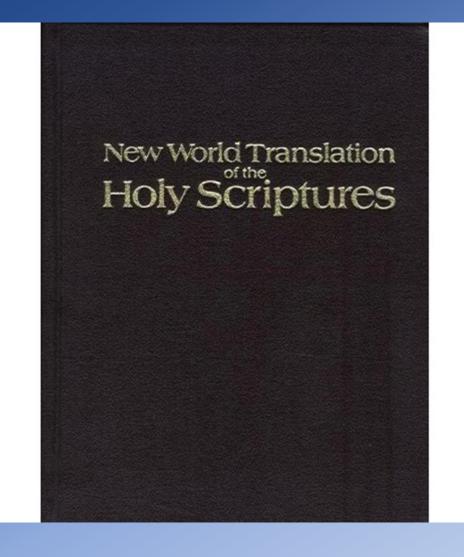
http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/LAN/Urmston/KingdomHall.shtml

Introduction

- Jehovah's Witnesses are officially called The <u>Watchtower</u> Bible and Tract Society (WTBTS)
- One of the Jehovah's Witnesses tools is The Watchtower Society's own version of the Bible, *The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures (NWT)*.



 The JWs are totally convinced by Watchtower headquarters that all those who disagree with themparticularly biblical Christians-are not only wrong but are mortal enemies who will finally be destroyed by Jehovah at the great battle of Armageddon, which is yet to come.



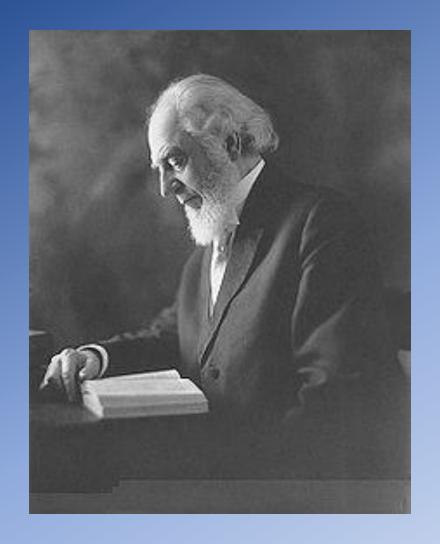
 JWs are tightly controlled by Watchtower headquarters and are constantly told they cannot interpret the Bible for themselves in any way; they must avoid independent thinking; they are never to question the counsel provided by the Watchtower (1 Thessalonians 5:21). [*]



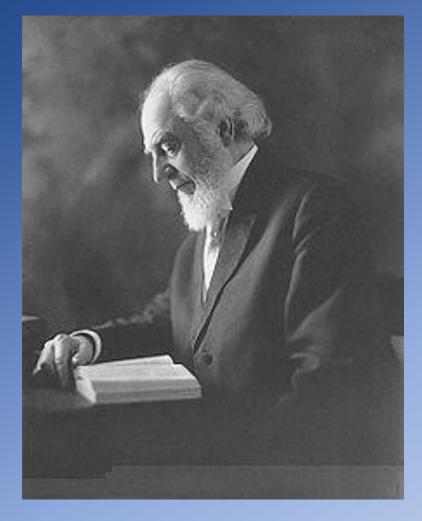
http://jwsurvey.org/cedars-blog/new-light-watchtower-magazine-leaked-from-organization-week ahead-of-general-release

Charles Taze Russell: How It All Began

 The roots go back to Charles Taze [Taz] Russell (1852-1916) who, as a teenager, rejected many of the views taught in his **Congregational** church, particularly the doctrines of hell and the Trinity, which struck him as unreasonable. (Isa. 55:8-9) [*]



 At the age of 18, Russell formed his own Bible study and began developing his own system of theology, emphasizing the second coming of Christ, which many Adventists predicted would happen in 1874. When it didn't happen, Russell was further influenced by some who decided that Christ's coming had happened in a "spiritual and invisible way" in 1874.



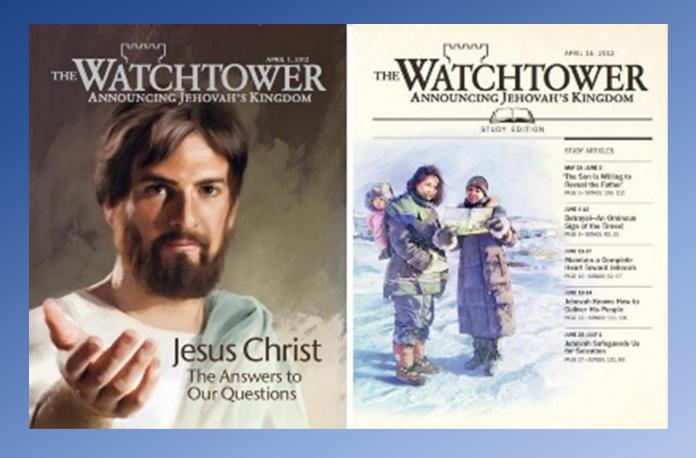
http://associazione-legittimista-italica.blogspot.com/2012/02/la-massoneria-e-le-origini-dei.html

- In 1879, Russell launched his own magazine, eventually known as <u>The Watchtower</u>.
- Russell set 1914 as the year of the battle of Armageddon when God would destroy all present governments of the earth, end "Gentile times" and establish His kingdom.



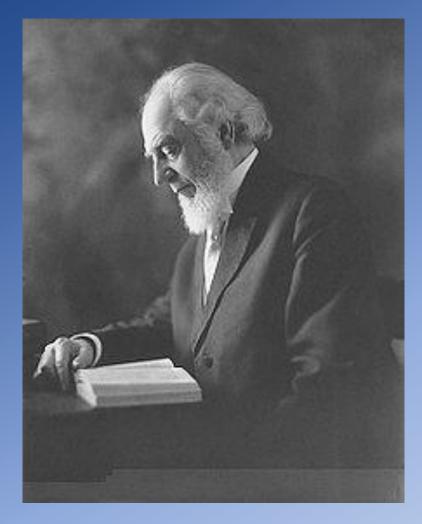
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Watchtower_Magazine_English_issues.jpg

- Russell moved his headquarters from Pennsylvania to New York City.
- Russell financed his magazine with personal income from his profitable men's clothing business.



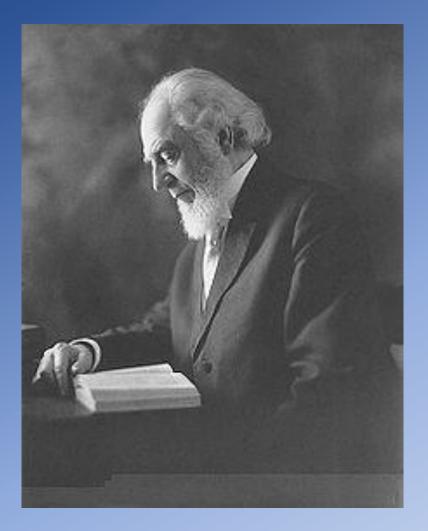
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Watchtower_Magazine_English_issues.jpg

- Russell never had any formal theological training, and his tempestuous career included his exposure in court in 1912 as a perjurer.
- He claimed to know the Greek alphabet, but under examination he could not read Greek letters. (See Deuteronomy 18:22) [*]



http://associazione-legittimista-italica.blogspot.com/2012/02/la-massoneria-e-le-origini-dei.htm

- Nonetheless, he wrote a six-book series called Studies in the Scriptures, which he described as "practically the Bible itself."
- Russell died in 1916 after claiming that the beginning of World War I, which started in 1914, was also the beginning of Armageddon.
- JW history tried to continue the predictions for the end of the world.



http://associazione-legittimista-italica.blogspot.com/2012/02/la-massoneria-e-le-origini-dei.html

Rutherford Sets New Date For Armageddon

- Joseph F. Rutherford, a lawyer who had served as legal advisor to the WTBTS, became its new president.
- Rutherford set 1925 as a new date for Armageddon. This was widely advertised across the nation, particularly in *The Watchtower*, as being not of man but of God and "absolutely and unqualifiedly correct."

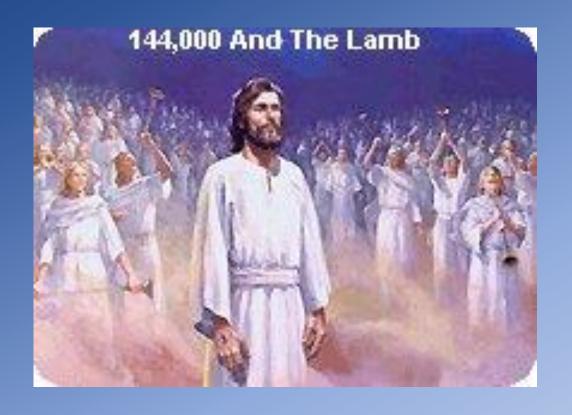


• In 1931, Rutherford adopted the new name for the Society-Jehovah's Witnesses-taken from Isaiah 43:1,10 (KJV): "Ye are my witnesses, saith (Jehovah)." []



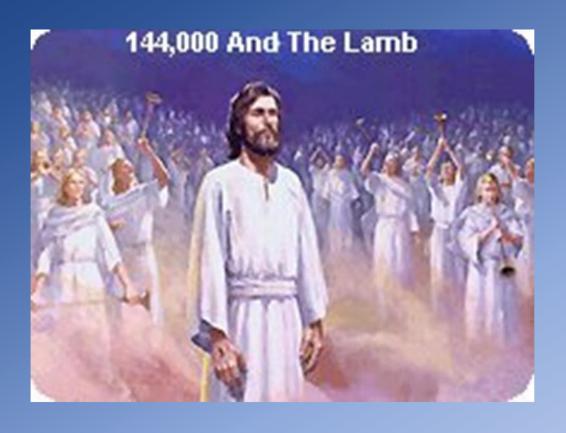
http://www.jehovahs-witness.net/watchtower/beliefs/184456/1/Why-Joe-Rutherford-was-a-JUDGE#.UvF NgyPI2w

 Rutherford started the doorto-door visitation program. At first one of Rutherford's main goals was to increase membership, which he attempted to do by spreading the word that only 144,000 people were going to make it to heaven.



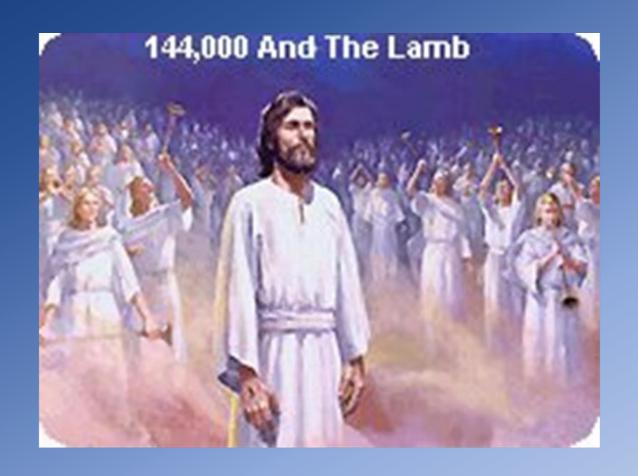
http://jesus-messiah.com/html/who-are-the-144000.html

 As converts grew, Rutherford announced that everyone who had become a JW before 1935 would go to heaven (the "little flock"), while everyone who became a JW after 1935 would be among the "great crowd" who would not go to heaven but could look forward to living on Earth in a new paradise after Armageddon and the Millennium.



http://jesus-messiah.com/html/who-are-the-144000.html

• 1940 was to be the "most important year yet." In 1941, the WTBTS mentioned "there were just a few remaining months before Armageddon."



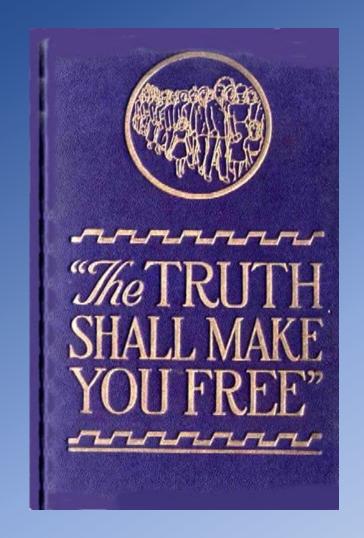
http://jesus-messiah.com/html/who-are-the-144000.html

 Rutherford died in 1942 and Nathan Knorr became president and wrote anonymously.



https://truthgospel.org/information/nathan-knorr/

- In 1943, the WTBTS released a book entitled *The Truth Shall Make You Free*, which was the first step in coming up with a new dating system teaching that Jesus had not returned invisibly in 1874, as Russell had taught.
- The new Watchtower revelation taught that Christ had returned invisibly in 1914; and, in accordance with Matthew 24:34, the generation that had been alive in 1914 would not "pass away" before Armageddon would occur. [*]

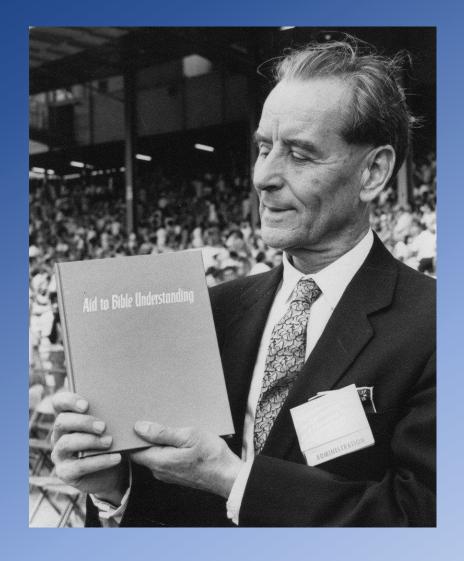


• During Knorr's presidency, JW taught that the latest-and certainly the "absolutely final"-date for Armageddon would be 1975.



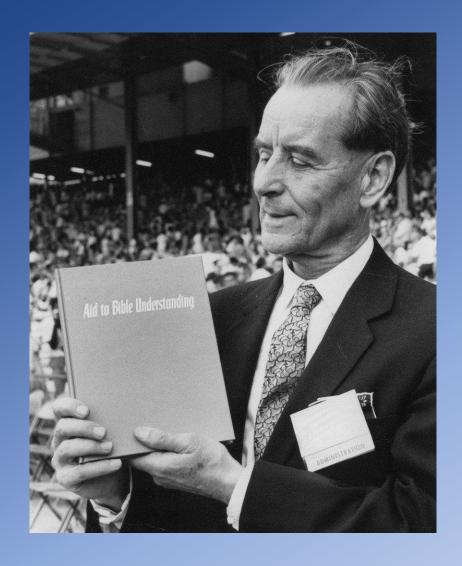
https://truthgospel.org/information/nathan-knorr/

• In 1977, Frederick Franz, Watchtower's vice president, succeeded Knorr as president. Touted as the Watchtower's most "knowledgeable" Hebrew scholar, Franz suffered the same fate during a court trial as did Charles Russell.



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/325596248035800922

 In Franz's case, he had to confess he could not cast a simple Bible verse (Gen. 2:4) back into **Hebrew**, even though he claimed he was knowledgeable in Greek and Hebrew, as well as many other languages. [*]



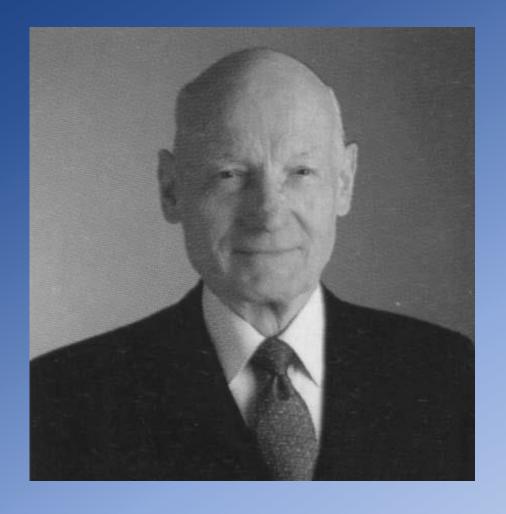
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- During Franz term as president, he was steadfast in teaching that persons alive during 1914 would definitely experience <u>Armageddon</u>.
- Franz died in 1992 at the age of 99, and JWs were running out of time for people who had been alive in 1914.



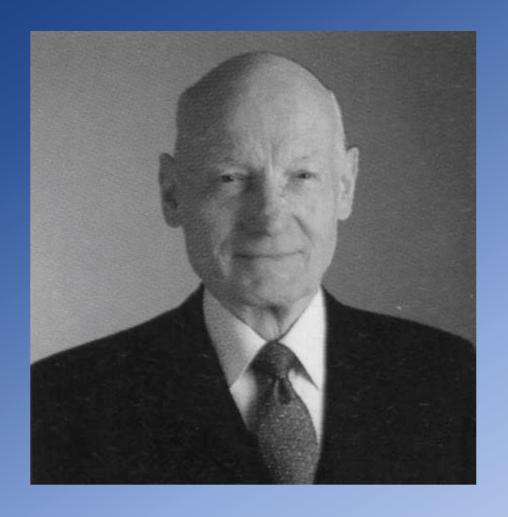
http://deanburnep.primaryblogger.co.uk/2010/06/10/armageddon/armageddon/

• Franz's successor, 72year-old Milton G. Henschel discarded the entire 1914 generation prophecy in 1995 by producing more "new light".



http://www.watchtower.org.pl/fotokopie.php

 Henschel stated that the word "generation" had nothing to do with individuals who had been alive in 1914; now it simply applied to all people of the earth in any generation who would see the signs of Christ's coming but "fail to mend their ways."

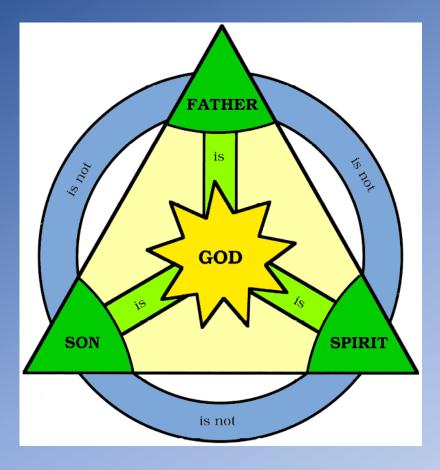


http://www.watchtower.org.pl/fotokopie.phr

The following is an examination of Russell's teachings, all of which are taught by JWs today.

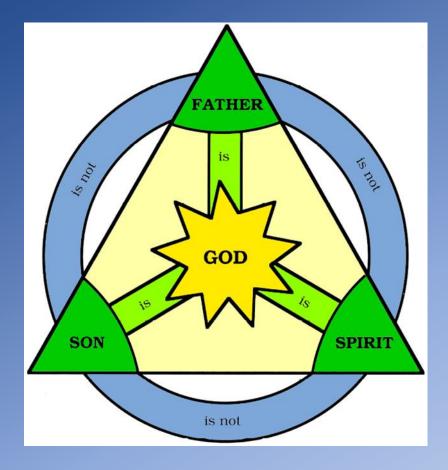
Jehovah's Witnesses Deny The Trinity

 JWs believe that the doctrine of the Trinity is an insult to "Godgiven intelligence and reason." And, because God is not a God of confusion (1 Cor. 14:33), they reason that He would never author such a confusing doctrine; Satan is the author instead. [*] [*]



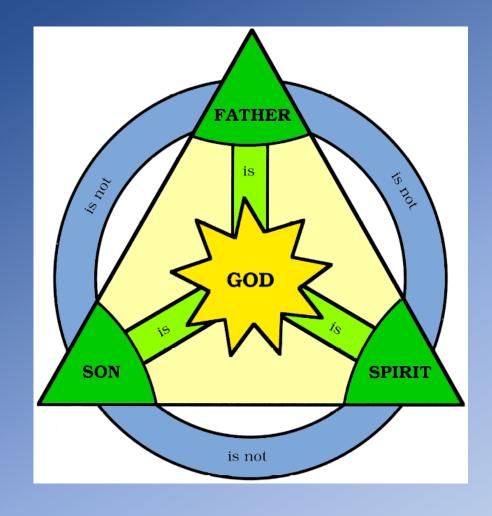
http://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/TrinityGodIsThreeInOne.html

• JWs point out that the word "Trinity" is not in the bible, and this adds to the "unbiblical" nature of the term.



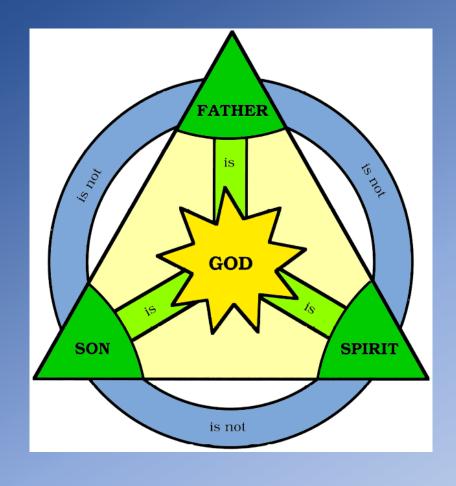
<u> http://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/TrinityGodIsThreeInOne.htm</u>

- An obvious response is that the word "Bible" is not in the Scriptures either. Nor is the word "theocracy" (a favorite JW term for God's rulership).
- The *concept* of the Trinity is definitely in the Bible. (Daniel 7:13-14; Matt. 28:9-10-Jesus accepted worship). [*]



http://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/TrinitvGodIsThreeInOne.html

- Genesis 1:26 Jehovah speaks in the plural, saying, "Let us make man in our image". See also Gen. 1:1; 11:7; Isa. 6:8). [*]
- While the Old Testament suggests plurality in the Godhead, the New Testament states it clearly. Three distinct, divine persons of the Trinity are specifically mentioned in John 14:26; 15:26; 2 Cor. 13:14; and 1 Peter 1:2. [*]

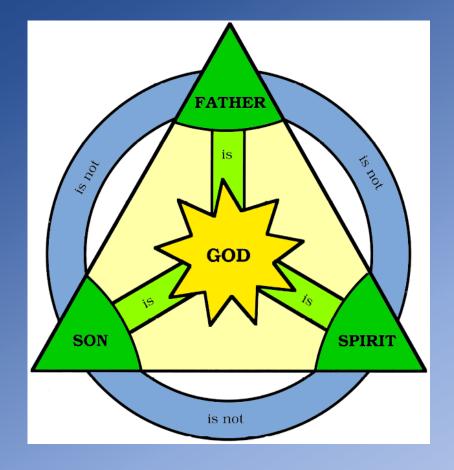


http://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/TrinityGodIsThreeInOne.html

You do not have this:

What does Jesus say about Himself?

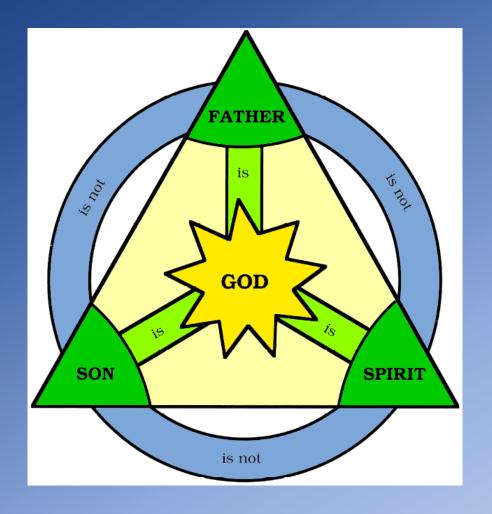
- John 10:30
- John 14:9-11
- John 17:11 [*]



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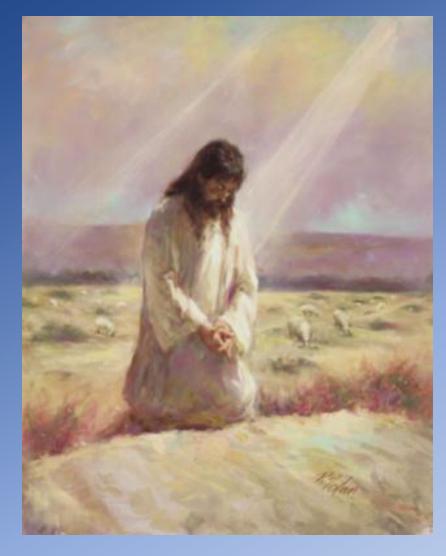
Jehovah's Witnesses Deny Christ's Deity

- JWs teach a kind of polytheism with their doctrine of "two gods."
- They say Jehovah is the Almighty God who created Jesus.
- Then Jesus, the <u>mighty</u> god, created everything else.
- JWs say Jesus Christ had been the archangel Michael in heaven before He came to Earth. [*]



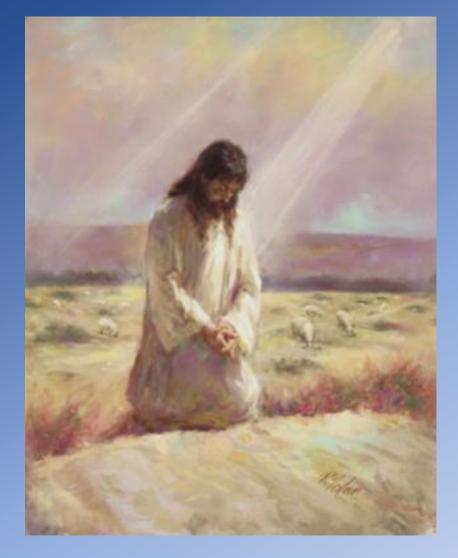
http://www.lavistachurchofchrist.org/LVarticles/TrinityGodIsThreeInOne.html

- JWs twist the scriptural phrase "the only begotten Son of God" (John 1:14,18; 3:16,18), claiming that Jesus was the "first and only being created directly by Jehovah." []
- Begotten is translated Monogenes [mon'-o-gen-es] from monos.

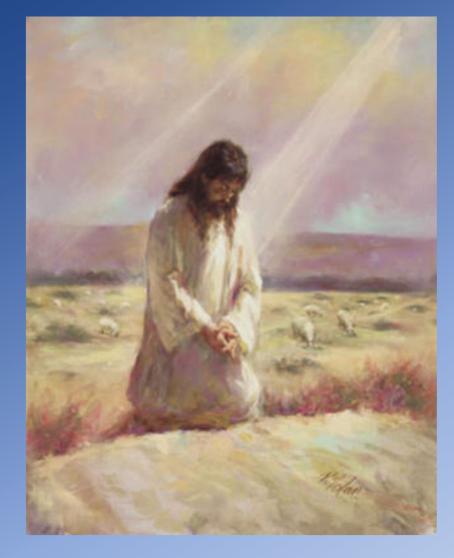


http://commonmansbiblejourney.wordpress.com/2011/05/24/day-84-matthew-141-14-jesus-wanted-to-boat alone/jesus-praying-2/

 Only John uses monogenes to describe the relation of Jesus to God the Father, presenting Him as the unique One, the only One (monos) of the family (genos), in the discussion of the relationship of the Son to the Father.

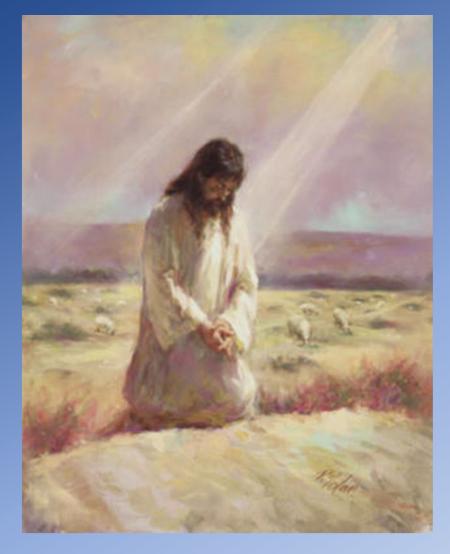


- Jesus is never called teknon, child of God as the believers are.
- This word Monogenes is to be differentiated from gennao, to beget or generate.
- JWs try to prove Jesus was a created being.



http://commonmansbiblejourney.wordpress.com/2011/05/24/day-84-matthew-141-14-jesus-wanted-to-bearing-2/

- In any reputable translation of the Greek, John 1:1 clearly states, "1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
- In the NWT, however, the JWs translate the verse, "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was a god"



You do not have this-Grammar lesson time

- There are one or two specific articles in English, Greek, and Sahidic Coptic (Egyptian during 1st and 2nd centuries) languages.
 - Definite Article "the"
 - Indefinite Article "a" or "an"
- English and Coptic has both a definite and indefinite article.
- Coptic only has definite articles
- John 1:1 does not have either article, "The Word was God and the Word was God.
- Jehovah's Witness states, "The Word was God and the Word was a God. Over---

Jehovah's Witness takes the Coptic translation of John 1:1 that has an indefinite article before the word *noute (God).* This seems to imply that the Copts (short for Coptic people) that Jesus was a god and not God Jehovah.

Misinterpretations:

• The Coptics fully accepted the Nicene Creed (325 AD) stating, "True God from True God." That Jesus was actually God. It was penned by Egyptian church father Athanasius 2(aTHə'nāSHəs/).

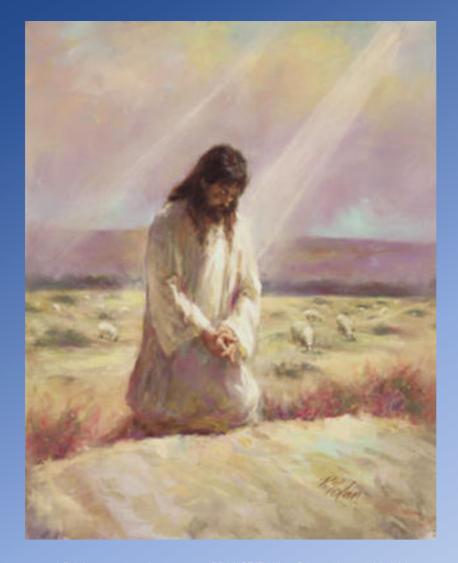
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1tps://www.equip.org/articles/jehovahs-witnesses-john-11-new-evidence-advances-discussion/

- The Coptics often used the indefinite article to mean qualitative/descriptive. In other words the indefinite article "a god" would mean the Word had the same qualities as the Christian God.
- Reducing the Word to a lesser god would go against Coptic scriptes like John 1:18, 20:28, Titus 2:13, and John 5:20 [*]

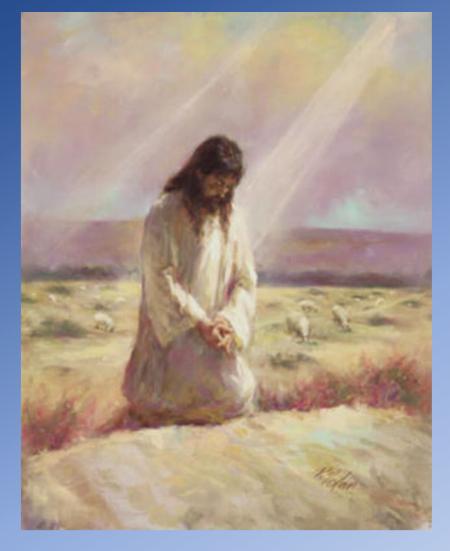
Back to Notes

- NWT misconstrues
 Colossians 1:15-20 by
 describing Jesus not as
 "first born over all
 creation," a term showing
 His preeminence, but as
 "first created" by God. [*]
- Colossians 1:16 goes on to say that Jesus is the preeminent One, because through Him "all things were created."



http://commonmansbiblejourney.wordpress.com/2011/05/24/day-84-matthew-141-14-jesus-wanted-to-be <u>alone/jesus-praying-2/</u>

 The JW translation inserts the word "other" into the passage in several more places to make it look as if Jesus were created first by God, and then He created "all other things." The problem, of course, is that the word "other" is simply not there in the Greek text.



http://commonmansbiblejourney.wordpress.com/2011/05/24/day-84-matthew-141-14-jesus-wanted-to-be <u>alone/jesus-praying-2/</u>

Jehovah's Witnesses deny Jesus' bodily resurrection

 The JWs feel that the body and soul are one and when the body dies, God must recreate the "life pattern" of a person, and He can easily do this by retrieving that life pattern from His memory. 1 Thessalonians 5:13-18; Revelation 20:11-15 [*]



nttp://www.australianmarianacademy.blog.com/2011/05/23/christ%E2%80%99s-resurrection-conquered-wall-ofspiritual-death-pope-explains/

Jehovah's Witnesses deny the Holy Spirit is God

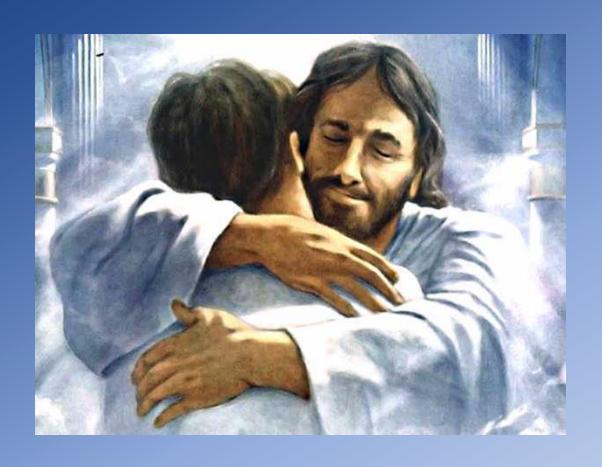
- The WTBTS teaches that the Holy Spirit is an "invisible act or force" that God uses to inspire His servants (JWs) to do His will.
- According to the Watchtower, the "holy spirit" is like electricity. (Acts 13:2, Romans 8:14,26-27; 1 Cor. 12:11; Heb. 3:7 and Rev. 2:7). [*]



https://8factss.blogspot.com/2013/09/five-interesting-facts-about-electricity.html

Jehovah's Witnesses Deny Christ's full atonement

 JWs may say that salvation is "of grace," but nowhere will you find anything saying salvation is by faith in Christ alone. (Ephesians 2:8; John 5:24, 11:25; 20:31; Rom. 3:24-25; 10:9-10). JWs are working their way to heaven. [*]



ttps://www.notesonlife.org/YDN/archive/2019-11-13.php

- JWs say that Christ was a "ransom to God for Adam's sin," but what they means is Christ (Michael the Archangel in human form and not equal to God) was a sort of fair trade to pay for Adam's sin.
- Salvation comes through works and perfect obedience to Jehovah and by being and doing exactly what the WTBTS teaches.



https://www.notesonlife.org/YDN/archive/2019-11-13.php

The last days according to the watchtower

 According to the Watchtower, during the Millennium the earth will be repopulated by faithful JWs who survive Armageddon, plus billions of people who are "resurrected" (re-created from Jehovah's memory bank).



• During the Millennium, those on Earth will be taught the truth (as JWs see it) and constantly evaluated on how faithful they are to Jehovah.



http://ubdavid.org/advanced/new-life2/new-life2_11.htm

- At the end of the 1,000 years, there will be a final test when Satan and his demons are let loose from the abyss where they have been imprisoned.
- They will challenge Jehovah and tempt His people.
- The faithful will be rewarded with everlasting life on a paradise Earth while those led astray will suffer a final horrible fate.



http://ubdavid.org/advanced/new-life2/new-life2_11.htm

How to answer Jehovah's Witnesses with love

 The late Walter Martin stated that every Christian needs to be absolutely sure of what the Bible teaches regarding the Trinity, Jesus' deity and resurrection, the Holy Spirit and salvation through grace, not works. (1 Pet. 3:15). [*]



http://pastorwarner.blogspot.com/2012 04 01 archive.html

 Above all, you need to know that Christ is, indeed, God and He died for our sins and was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures



<u> http://pastorwarner.blogspot.com/2012_04_01_archive.htm</u>

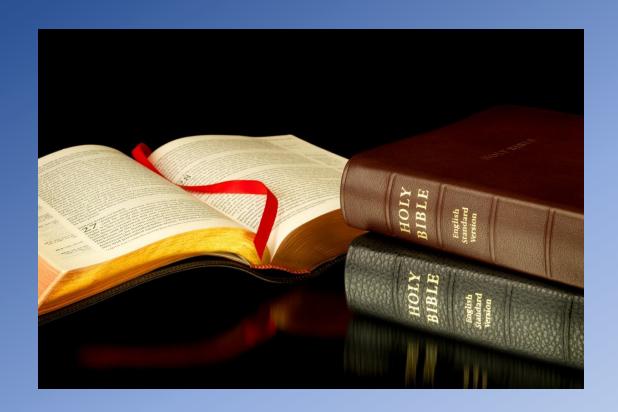
Summing Up Major Differences Between Jehovah's Witnesses and Christians

Regarding Authority

- Jehovah's Witnesses are not allowed to do independent thinking.
- They must obey the Watchtower Society's teaching.



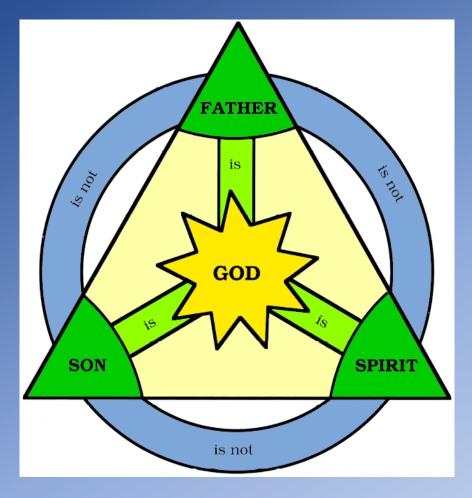
- Christians depend upon the Holy Spirit for guidance.
- The Bible is the ultimate authority for the Christian. (Acts 5:29; 17:11; 1 John 2:26-27. [*]



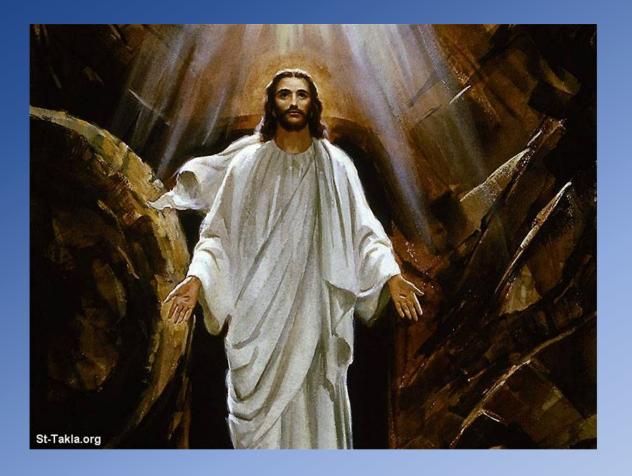
ttps://rhemalogy.com/2020/04/20/the-holy-bible/

Regarding the Trinity, Christ's deity, and the Resurrection

- Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe in the Trinity.
- They believe Jesus is a mighty God but not Jehovah.
- They believe Jesus was raised from the grave not in a human body but in spirit.

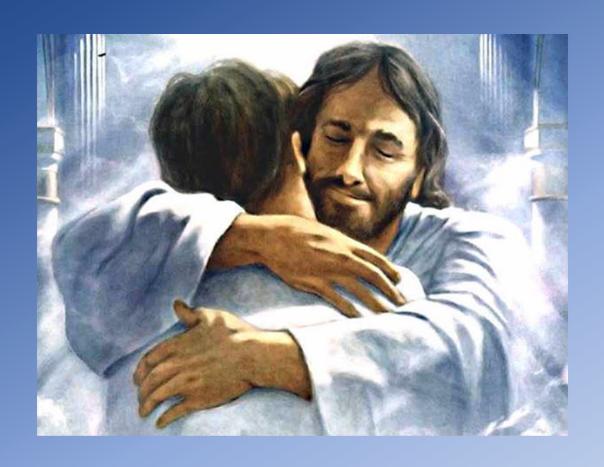


- Christians believe that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are three in one. (Matthew 3:13-17; 2 Corinthians 13:14).
- Christians believe Jesus rose from the grave in a bodily form; He was touched by the disciples; and ate with them.



Regarding Salvation

- Jehovah's Witnesses believe Christ's death provided a pathway to salvation through works.
- Christians believe Christ paid for all sin and believers are freely justified by God's grace. (Romans 3:24-25; 5:12-19; 1 Peter 2:24) [*]



ttps://www.notesonlife.org/YDN/archive/2019-11-13.php

Regarding Christ's Return and Man's Immortality

• Jehovah's Witnesses believe only 144,000 of the original Witnesses will spend eternity in heaven. The remaining will work for a place in an earthly paradise.



 Christians believe that all those who put their faith in Christ will spend eternity with Him. (John 14:1-4). [*]

https://www.judeacademy.org/what-will-spending-eternity-in-heaven-be-like-different-than-you-might-think/

1 Thessalonians 5:21

21 But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good...[*]

Isaiah 55:8-9

8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts. [1]

Isaiah 43:1; 10

1 But now, thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!...10 "You are My witnesses," declares the Lord, "And My servant whom I have chosen, So that you may know and believe Me And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me. [*]

Matthew 24:32-34

32 "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; 33so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. 34 Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. [*]

Genesis 2:4

4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made earth and heaven.

I Corinthians 14:33

33 for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. [*]

Daniel 7:13-14

13"I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him.14"And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and men of every language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.

Over---

Matthew 28:9-10

9 And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me." [*]

Genesis 1:1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. [God-elohiym: a masculine plural noun]

Genesis 11:7

7 Come, let <u>Us</u> go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech."

Isaiah 6:8

8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for <u>Us</u>?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

John 8:58

58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am." [*]

John 14:26

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

John 15:26

26 "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me...

Over---

2 Corinthians 13:14

14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

1 Peter 1:2

2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in the fullest measure. [*]

John 1:14, 18

14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the <u>only begotten</u> from the Father, full of grace and truth... 18 No one has seen God at any time; the <u>only begotten God</u> who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.

Over---

John 3:16, 18

16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life... 18 He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. [*]

Colossians 1:15-20

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn [preeminence] of all creation. [firstborn does not mean numerically-see Exodus 4:22] []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 through Him and for Him. 17 He is before all things [eternal], and in Him all things hold together. 18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

Over---

19 For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven. []

Acts 13:2

2While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

Over---

Romans 8:14, 26-27

14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God... 26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; 27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Over---

1 Corinthians 12:11

11But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

Hebrews 3:7-8

7 Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, "Today if you hear His voice, 8 Do not harden your hearts as when they provoked Me, As in the day of trial in the wilderness...

Revelation 2:7

7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. [*]

John 5:24

24 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

John 11:25

25Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies...

John 20:31

31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. Over---

Romans 3:24-25

24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed...

Romans 10:9-10

9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

Ephesians 2:8

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God...[*]

1 Peter 3:15

15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence... [*]

Acts 1:6-7

6 So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority... [*]

Revelation 7:3-4

"Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads." The 144,000 4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel... [*]

Revelation 21:1-4

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." [*]

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Revelation 20:11-15

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. 12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. [*]

Acts 5:29

• 29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.

Acts 17:11

1Now these people were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

1 John 2:26-27

26 These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you. 27 And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him remains in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you remain in Him. [*]

Matthew 3:13-17

13 Then Jesus arrived from Galilee at the Jordan, coming to John to be baptized by him. 14 But John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I have the need to be baptized by You, and yet You are coming to me?" 15 But Jesus, answering, said to him, "Allow it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.

16 After He was baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and settling on Him, 17 and behold, a voice from the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

2 Corinthians 13:14

14The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. [*]

Romans 3:24-25

24 ...being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in God's merciful restraint He let the sins previously committed go unpunished...

Romans 5:12-19

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all mankind, because all sinned— 13 for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not counted against anyone when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the violation committed by Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

15 But the gracious gift is not like the offense. For if by the offense of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many. 16 The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one offense, resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the gracious gift arose from many offenses, resulting in justification.

17 For if by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. 18 So then, as through one offense the result was condemnation to all mankind, so also through one act of righteousness the result was justification of life to all mankind. 19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous. Over----

1 Peter 2:24

24 and He Himself brought our sins in His body up on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness; by His wounds you were healed. [*]

John 14:1-4

1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. 2In My Father's house are many rooms; if that were not so, I would have told you, because I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you also will be. 4And you know the way where I am going." [*]







Deuteronomy 18:22

22 When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not come about or come true, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him. [*]

Daniel 10:13

13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was withstanding me for twenty-one days; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia.

Genesis 18:1

1 Now the Lord [Yahweh] appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, while he was sitting at the tent door in the heat of the day. (This was a theophany of Jesus. A theophany is the human manifestation of God. It could not have been Michael since Michael was never referred to as Yahweh).



Exodus 4:22

22 Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, "Israel is My son, My firstborn. [Firstborn-preeminence-not chronologically since Israel was not the first of all nations created. Abraham came from Ur-a prosperous city in Mesopotamia]. []

John 10:30

30 I and the Father are one."

John 14:9-11

9 Jesus *said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. 11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves.

John 17:11

11 am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are. [*]

John 1:18

18 No one has seen God at any time; the <u>only begotten</u> God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.

John 20:28

28 Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Titus 2:13

13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

John 5:20

20 For the Father loves the <u>Son</u>, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel. [*]