



Spiritual Hostages

THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

This research article outlines what the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society has taught its followers (Jehovah's Witnesses) in regards to the following:

1. Why they think they are the one right religion – being exclusive to salvation
2. What is required of salvation
3. What they believe justifies the practice of disowning/shunning members who leave
4. Who they think Jesus is and is not.

This article and the companion 1984 New World Translation Bible has more than 150 scriptures highlighted and tabbed that will show how the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society's teachings on these matters are false right from their own Bible. The New World Translation Bibles are available upon request and based on supplies we have in stock.

If you are a Jehovah's Witness reading this, Please read this with your 1984 New World Translation Bible to find out the truth about salvation, as your eternal life depends on it!

First and foremost, I want you to know **I have NOT left the teachings of Christ (2 John 9-11), and I did not disown Jesus (Matt. 10:32-35).** These are the two main scriptures used by the religion to justify their practice of disowning their own family. According to the scriptures, I confess His name and I try to walk in union with Him daily, although I am not perfect. I have found the truth about Jesus in the New World Translation Bible. Because no Jehovah's Witness that I asked could answer my questions with proof directly from their Bible, I have disassociated myself from the religion, and for that I have been disowned by my Jehovah's Witness family.

Even after years of training, meetings and field service, my mother and sister could not answer questions I was asking about Watchtower Bible & Tract Society publications and the New World Translation Bible. These same questions I asked of elders when I was preparing to be baptized at the age of 18. The elders could not answer me. They would just question if I had faith, so I was scared into going along with it, even though **my questions were never answered.** I lived my life in fear of my salvation, even when I was a practicing Jehovah's Witness. **According to the scriptures, salvation can be 100% guaranteed and it is not by works.** And, it was because those questions could not be answered and **I knew that my salvation was in jeopardy** if I stayed in a religion that has changed the original canon of scriptures, that I was disowned. This practice of disowning taught by the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society is very unloving and Jesus would never allow this type of conditional love. **I did NOT leave Christ and I did NOT leave the family I still love.**

Watchtower Bible & Tract Society’s teaching of salvation (grace/underserved kindness):

Salvation is ONLY through their religion and by works. There is NO scriptural proof of this in ANY Bible!

The Scriptural teaching of salvation: Salvation IS through faith and belief in Jesus Christ. Salvation is not owing to the works we do. **Here is a PARTIAL list of very clear scriptures that proves this.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Matthew 7:21-23• John 1:12, 13• John 3:14-16 and 36• John 5:24• John 8:12• John 8:24• John 10:22-28• John 11:24-26• John 16:7-11• Acts 2:38• Acts 16:30,31• Romans 3:20, 27, 28• Romans 4:1-5• Romans 6:23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Romans 10:1-12 <u>verse 4 says Christ is the end of the law (i.e. works)</u>• Romans 12:1-10• Galatians 2:21 – if salvation or grace/underserved kindness is by law (i.e. works) then Christ died for nothing!• Galatians 5:4• Ephesians 2:8-10• Philippians 3:8, 9• 2 Tim 3:15-17• Reading all of Romans 3-5 and Galatians 3-5 will show you that if you believe that you are saved by faith <u>AND</u> works, then you are not saved at all.
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The Watchtower Bible & Tract Society takes James 2:26 “Faith without works is dead” out of context and teaches without works you do not have salvation. The Watchtower Bible & Tract Society takes this one step further by stating without works in the Jehovah’s Witness religion you do not have salvation. **NO scripture says this.** They also take **Ephesians 4:5 out of context. It says “ONE faith” (not one religion), Faith is defined in the Bible as our faith in Christ!** Christian means “Christ Follower”, which we are. And, the world population of Christians is steadily dying and non-Christian religions are growing, such as Islam extremists (ISIS) who persecute and behead Christians. The deteriorating population of Christians is in line with what **Matt 7:13, 14** says.

What the scriptures in James chapter 2 actually say: You can still have works, but faith can be dead. Faith needs to be in the right belief – the belief in who Jesus is and what he did for us! When you have true faith (not just saying it), you will want to please God in your heart and do the right things. It comes without hesitation or burden. (See **1 John 5:3**) It comes natural. **But, it is not the works that saves! (Philippians 3: 8, 9)** You cannot earn salvation – it is a gift, a gift one can never repay, because we will always be sinners and nothing we can do will make up for the sins we all commit everyday of our lives. It is out of God’s mercy he gave us this gift by sending Jesus to die as a ransom for our sins. **Since the BIBLE PROVES salvation is NOT through one, exclusive organized religion, then why do Jehovah’s Witnesses disown their own family?** We have not left the teachings of Christ, but we have been disowned.

Watchtower Bible & Tract Society teaches: There is only ONE true religion. **In the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society's *Reasoning from the Scriptures* book pages 328 to 330** they have these 7 questions under the subject, "How can a person know which religion is right?"

1. "On what are its teachings based? Are they from God, or are they largely from men?"

Re-read 2 Timothy 3:15-17. Salvation can be known through the scriptures alone! You need not all the additional interpretive teachings and writings from man (i.e. the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society publications). We go to a Christian, non-denominational church that teaches **ONLY** from the Bible. There are no additional man's teachings brought into it. According to the scriptures, no additional books and publications are needed to, "make you wise for salvation." (2 Tim 3:15)

As to the additional question under #1 that says, "For example: Where does the Bible teach that God is a Trinity?" In regards to the "Trinity" (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit – 2 Cor. 13:14), I have highlighted and tabbed quite a few scriptures in the New World Translation Bible that show the Deity of Christ (i.e. God the Son)! In the *Reasoning from the Scriptures* book, many of the arguments the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society use are to deny Jesus as God the Father. No one is claiming Jesus to be God the Father, rather according to the scriptures He is God the Son. In fact, I would be able to prove, with scriptures from the New World Translation that the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society is definitely wrong. Later in this article is a chart of many of those scriptures (and, those are not even all of them)!

So why does the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society deny who Jesus is and change scripture to deny Him? **Scripture says that denying Him, will cost one their salvation (See John 8:24).** The Bibles they have used have been changed six times throughout their history (1950, 1951, 1961, 1981, 1984, 2013). Furthermore, these revisions have resulted in changing the meaning of some important scriptures. God would not allow his Word to be hidden or not available to centuries of people, and God would NEVER allow his Word to be changed! In fact, scriptures tell us that God has always made it available for all, since it was written (See Col: 2:6-8; 1 Tim. 1: 3, 4; 2 Tim. 2:2).

God did not speak to Charles Taze Russell (Founder of the religion) in the 1870's. Russell claimed that God gave him NEW meaning of the scriptures, which CHANGED the Gospel (i.e. Good News). In fact, **Galatians 1:8, 9** says to NEVER change the Good News (Gospel) and anyone who does should be accursed. Charles Taze Russell also claimed to be the one and only Faithful and Discreet Slave and people should bow down and worship him. He also stated Jesus was NOT Michael the Archangel. He also said that "New light" never extinguishes "older light". The list goes on and I have many of these old books in hand that show this, along with all the false prophecies that have been made throughout the history of the religion. What the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society has done in changing the scriptures and the Gospel (the Good News) is something the scriptures warn us to **NEVER** do (See. Deut. 4:2; Deut 12:32; Psalms 119:89, 90; Proverbs 30:5, 6; Galatians 1: 8, 9; Rev. 22:10, 18) Also, see 1 Cor. 15:1-4; Eph. 1:13; 1Thess 1:8 for **what the Good News REALLY IS** – first and foremost it is Christ died for our sins and was raised according to the scriptures. The Good News is NOT about God's Kingdom on a "Paradise Earth". **The phrase "Paradise Earth" is nowhere in the Bible!** That is something Charles Taze Russel devised to put a different spin on God's Word. The Bible clearly states that we are to witness the Good News about Jesus! And Deut. 18:20-22 and Deut. 13:1-10 warns us against false prophesying. In all these old books I have that are written

by the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society, they claim to be “prophets of God” and they have predicted the end to come since the late 1800’s, to 1914, to 1918, to 1925, to 1941, to 1975, to “this generation” (those who would have seen and understood what happened in 1914), to now a “generation that overlaps”. But, they say, “the light is getting brighter”. NO, the light is not getting brighter when the “light” is extinguished and a different “light” is lit. **According to the scriptures, one who says they are making a prediction in God’s name and then it does not come true, IS the definition of Deut. 18:20-22.** And, since **the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society has even admitted to false prophesying** throughout all the years of the religion (Vindication, 1931; AWAKE, October 8, 1968; Watchtower, Apr. 1, 1972), are they really the Faithful and Discreet Salve (which they take out of context) mentioned at Matt. 24:45-47. **God would NEVER allow a false prophet to be his spokesperson or sole channel of communication to those on Earth.**

A TIME TO
Lift Up Your Head
in
CONFIDENT HOPE



THE evidence that we are far along in the “last days” can be either good news or bad news to you, depending on the position you take. If you long to be free from a rule that has proved both unsatisfactory and unrighteous and that is torn more and more by discord and confusion; if you really love what is right and have a sincere desire to do the will of your Creator, then this evidence should make you rejoice. Why? Because, as Jesus Christ said: “As these things start to occur, raise yourselves erect and lift your heads up, because *your deliverance is getting near.*”—Luke 21:28.

A perfect government, heaven-based and with heaven’s blessing and heaven’s power backing it up, will soon take complete control of this earth. In this way God will answer the prayer: “Let your kingdom come.” What better news could there be?

Still some persons may say: “How can you be sure? Maybe it is later than many people think. But maybe it is not as late as some persons claim. People have been mistaken about these prophecies before.”

The Difference

True, there have been those in times past who predicted an “end to the world,”

even announcing a specific date. Some have gathered groups of people with them and fled to the hills or withdrawn into their houses waiting for the end. Yet, nothing happened. The “end” did not come. They were guilty of false prophesying. Why? What was missing?

Missing was the full measure of evidence required in fulfillment of Bible prophecy. Missing from such people were God’s truths and the evidence that he was guiding and using them.

But what about today? Today we have the evidence required, *all of it.* And it is overwhelming! All the many, many parts of the great sign of the “last days” are here, together with verifying Bible chronology.

Take a simple illustration: Suppose on a hot day at the beginning of summer, someone told you that winter was coming within a week because he had seen some trees without leaves. But those trees could have died from disease or age. So, by itself that would not be enough evidence that winter was approaching. Especially so when none of the other trees had shed their leaves, when the heat continued day after day, and when the calendar told you it was just the beginning of summer. You



They shall know that
**A PROPHET
WAS
AMONG THEM'**

JEHOVAH GOD is interested in having people know him. Though he is invisible to human eyes, he provides various ways by which they can know his personality. They can know what to expect from him and what he expects of them.

One can come to understand that Jehovah is a God of surpassing wisdom by observing creation. This also reveals the loving care with which he designed things for man's welfare and enjoyment. A second way to know God is through his Word of truth, the Bible. Herein one finds the full expression of Jehovah's purpose toward mankind—why man is on the earth and the blessings that God has in store.

A third way of coming to know Jehovah God is through his representatives. In ancient times he sent prophets as his special messengers. While these men foretold things to come, they also served the people by telling them of God's will for them at that time, often also warning them of dangers and calamities. People today can view the creative works. They have at hand the Bible, but it is little read or understood. So, does Jehovah have a prophet to help them, to warn them of dangers and to declare things to come?

IDENTIFYING THE "PROPHET"

These questions can be answered in the affirmative. Who is this prophet? The cler-

gy of the so-called "Christian" nations hold themselves before the people as being the ones commissioned to speak for God. But, as pointed out in the previous issue of this magazine, they have failed God and failed as proclaimers of his kingdom by approving a man-made political organization, the League of Nations (now the

United Nations), as "the political expression of the Kingdom of God on earth."

However, Jehovah did not let the people of Christendom, as led by the clergy, go without being warned that the League was a counterfeit substitute for the real kingdom of God. He had a "prophet" to warn them. This "prophet" was not one man, but was a body of men and women. It was the small group of footstep followers of Jesus Christ, known at that time as International Bible Students. Today they are known as Jehovah's Christian witnesses. They are still proclaiming a warning, and have been joined and assisted in their commissioned work by hundreds of thousands of persons who have listened to their message with belief.

Of course, it is easy to say that this group acts as a "prophet" of God. It is another thing to prove it. The only way that this can be done is to review the record. What does it show?

During the World War I period this group, the International Bible Students, was very active in preaching the good news of God's kingdom, as their Leader Jesus Christ had set this work before them in his prophecy at Matthew 24:14. They took literally Jesus' words to the Roman governor Pontius Pilate: "My kingdom is no part of this world." (John 18:36) They also took to heart Jesus' words to his fol-

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2. "Consider whether it is making known the name of God."

Growing up, I was told no other religion recognizes God's name, and in fact the name of God had been taken out of the Bible. However, now that I have experienced going to other churches, I am pleasantly surprised by their recognition of God's name, Jehovah, Yahweh, etc. What I found even more interesting is that the New World Translation Bible has added the name Jehovah 237 times in the New Testament. **Even the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society's latest worldly scholar, Jason BeDuhn, who is the only one who will endorse their Bible as being one of the most accurate, says that they have inaccurately added the name Jehovah in the New Testament in place of the original word "Lord".** But, Jehovah's Witnesses, have not been told this part of Jason BeDuhn's analysis of their Bible. Adding Jehovah in place of Lord changes what these scriptures mean. **Read Romans 10:1-13.** The entire passage is talking about Jesus Christ. Now, when you substitute Jehovah for Lord in verse 13, it no longer is harmonious to what verses 1-12 state. This is just ONE example! I have many others.

Now, many other scriptures say we are to “be witnesses for JESUS’ name sake and we’d be persecuted for JESUS’ name – not “JEHOVAH”.

Matt. 10:18, 22	Acts 4:18
Matt. 24:9	Acts 15:26
Luke 21:12	Col. 3:16, 17
John 1:12	1 John 1: 1, 2
John 14:14	Rev. 2:3
Acts 1:8	

3. “Is true faith in Jesus Christ being demonstrated?”

To answer if the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society demonstrates true faith in who Jesus is, you first need you to look at the bottom of **page 1547 in the 1984 New World Translation**. It says, “[] Brackets enclose words inserted to complete the sense in the English text.” **“Inserted” is a synonym for added. So, as mentioned under #1 on page 3 and according to the scriptures we are not to add to God’s word if it changes the meaning of the scriptures.** In many places in the New World Translation Bible where bracketed words are used, the meaning of the scriptures does not change, but in nine scriptures, **the bracketed words take away the Deity of Christ.** Jehovah’s Witnesses have gotten used to these bracketed words and now with the 2013 revision of the New World Translation, the footnote about bracketed words has been taken out and so have all the brackets around words that have been added. Many Jehovah’s Witnesses probably have never questioned what those brackets meant. What a sneaky way to add words that change meaning of scriptures. **PLEASE, re-read the scriptures about changing God’s Word. These are strong words!**

Here is a list of those scriptures that have bracketed words added – read with the added word and then READ WITHOUT the added word. You will see the Deity of Christ exists in those scriptures when the added/bracketed word is removed.

- 1. John 8:24, 28 – [he] has been added after “I AM”.** This passage is all about Jesus telling the people and Pharisees about Him being God. Jesus says, “I am”. In ancient Greek it is “ego eimi”, which means “I exist”, “to be” describing an eternal nature. In the old testament at **Exodus 3:14** (in all translations we have, except the New World Translation) God says “I AM WHO I AM”. This translated from Hebrew means the same as in Greek. However, the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society has gone out of their way to change these scriptures. In the statement “I am” it refers to God’s eternal existence and Jesus says “I am” in this same context several times in the New Testament. Then in **verse 58 and 59** it says “they picked up stones to hurl at him.” Here and in other accounts Jesus was accused of blasphemy (**Matt. 26:65, 66; Mark 2:1-7; Luke 5:21; John 10:30-33**). They were going to stone him because of blasphemy – not because he claimed to be God’s son (The New World Translation adds and changes words in this passage, calling Jesus “a god”), but he was actually claiming to be God. The Pharisees would not stone him for simply saying he was the son of God. Blasphemy

is defined as defiling who God is/his name. Blasphemy is disrespect or false claims against God's name (**Psalms 74:18; Isa. 52:5; Romans 2:24; Rev. 13:6**). Blasphemy is punishable through stoning (**Leviticus 24:16**). Also, blasphemy is an unforgiveable sin (**Matt. 12:31; Luke 12:10; Mark 3:29**).

2. **John 14:9** – the word [also] has been added. Without [also] it is saying “he that has seen me has seen the Father – indicating their oneness.
3. **Acts 20:28 – the word [son] has been added.** It should read, “...which he purchased with the blood of his own.” [Son] is added in brackets without any support in the Greek text. This again demonstrates the length that the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society will go through in their effort to deny that Jesus is God the Son who shed His own blood for us.
4. **Galatians 1:3 – the word [the] has been added** and takes the oneness away of God the Father and Lord Jesus Christ.
5. **Philippians 2:9, 10** – the word [other] has been added. The other takes away the Deity or Oneness with God. If you read onto verse 10, it says that Jesus name should be exalted and every knee should bow down to him. An angel – would never be bowed down to or worshipped. Only God is to be worshipped. Again this shows the Oneness of God the Father and God the Son, and is one of several scriptures that disprove Jesus being Michael the Archangel. (**Compare to Romans 14:10-11**)
6. **Colossians 1:16-17 – [other] has been added four times.** This scripture is very unharmonious with the rest of the Bible. Other scriptures state that Jesus made all things. (**John 1:3**) How could Jesus have been a created being if **all things** came into existence through him? **Isaiah 44:24** says God made **all things** by himself. Thus, the oneness of God the Father and God the Son is proven once again. So, what does it mean in verse 15 where it says Jesus is the firstborn of all creation? In various scriptures in the Bible “firstborn” does not mean first created. The Greek word for “firstborn” is different than the Greek word for “first created”. In the Bible, “firstborn” was also used as a title of preeminence (**Psalms 89:20, 27**). And, yes it can mean the first born child of a family. According to **Philippians 2:5-7** Jesus came to earth as God the Son in the flesh and was the first born son of Mary. But, according to the scriptures Jesus (God the Son) had always been (**Rev. 22:13; John 8:58**).
7. **2 Thes. 1:1, 2 – the word [the] has been added twice.** Reading it without [the] clearly indicate God and Jesus are One (see **John 10:30 where Jesus even says they are one**). To go along with this, in **Gen. 1:26** God is stating their oneness as they made **all things** together in their likeness.
8. **Titus 2:13 – “of [the]” has been added.** The Greek phrase as found in the original scriptures “Theou kai soteris emon” meaning “God and Savior of us” or “our God and

Savior” is mistranslated in the New World Translation as “the Great God and of [the] Savior of us”. This word “the,” being inserted in brackets with no basis in the Greek text is yet another attempt of the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society translators to separate Christ from being God the Son. **Many scriptures say God is our Savior and other scriptures say Jesus is our Savior.**

9. **2 Peter 1:1 – the word [the] is added** and takes away the Deity of Christ. Without the word [the] it reads that Jesus Christ is our God and Savior.

These are 9 examples! One time is all it takes to be guilty of changing God’s word.

Many other scriptures in the New World Translation have not been changed and definitely prove the Deity of Christ (God the Son). And, many other scriptures have been changed to take the Deity of Christ out of the New World Translation, but Jehovah’s Witnesses have been taught that the New World Translation Bible is the most accurate translation of the Bible. **My point in showing these changed scriptures, and the other scriptures that have not yet been changed shows how unharmonious the New World Translation is on this MOST important subject, on which our salvation depends!**

Unchanged Deity of Christ Scriptures – Proves Deity	Changed Deity of Christ Scriptures w/Words in Brackets added and added word takes away the Deity of Christ	Changed Deity of Christ Scriptures – acknowledged by Watchtower Bible & Tract Society takes away the Deity of Christ
Philippians 2: 5-7 – this scripture is saying Jesus who existed in God’s form emptied himself to come to Earth to be a slave in the likeness of man, having his equality with God seized!!!!	John 8: 24, 28 [he] added	John 1:1 – God has been changed to “a god”, which is unharmonious to all the scriptures in column 1. This is a problem scripture, because it is not backed up by any other scriptures.
Gen 1:26 – God states their ones, “Let US make man in OUR image, according to OUR likeness”	John 14:9 [also] added	John 10:33 – This is another problem scripture because it contradicts John 10:30 and the entire Column 1. God was changed to “a god”. Jesus is being accused of blasphemy in this passage, thus Jesus was claiming to be God the Son. The scripture should read, “... although being a man, make yourself God.”
Isaiah 7:14 – Prophecy of virgin giving birth to savior to be named Immanuel	Acts 20:28 [son] added	
Matt 1:23 – Prophecy being fulfilled. Immanuel means, “With us is God”	Philippians 2: 9, 10 [other] added	
John 20:25-29 – This passage tells us Jesus was God in verse 29 when Thomas said to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!” (Notice the “G” in “God” is capitalized). Thomas was	Colossians 1:15-17 [other] added 4 times	

<p>recognizing Jesus to be God the Son and if Jesus was not God the Son, Jesus would have corrected him, but Jesus did not correct him, rather praised him. The Watchtower Bible & Tract Society claims in the <i>Reasoning from the Scriptures</i> book that Jesus never claimed to be God and that Jesus was considered “a god”, but in John 8:24 Jesus does claim to be God. The Watchtower Bible & Tract Society says that Jesus was “a god” and that is why he did not object to Thomas saying, “My Lord and my God!” But, again, notice the capital “G” in “God”!) In the <i>Reasoning from the Scriptures</i> book under “birthdays”, it says that everything is in the Bible for a reason and Jehovah’s Witnesses take note of scriptures that mention something is “unfavorable”. That being the case, Jesus would never want to be considered “a god”, as many scriptures forbid giving glory or worship to “a god”. Herod was eaten with worms for having people worship him as a god. (Acts 12:21-23). Satan is the “god” of this world (2 Cor. 4:4)! 1 Cor. 8:5 says in a derogatory way there are many gods and many lords. Jesus was never a lower case “lord” in the Bible, so why would he be a lower case “god”? All the scriptures that speak of “a god” or “gods” are negative, making being “a god” a bad thing. There is ONE God the Father, yes, and One God the Son.</p>	<p>Titus 2:13 [the] added</p>	
<p>Acts 16:30-34 – the jailer was told to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved and verse 34 says that he (the jailer) rejoiced greatly...that he had believed God.</p>	<p>Galatians 1:3 [the] added</p>	
<p>2 Cor. 13:14 – shows the oneness of God the Son, God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>2 Peter 1:1 [the] added</p>	
<p>Col 2:9 – says the Deity (i.e. Divine Qualities in New World Translation Bible) dwells bodily in Jesus.</p>	<p>2 Thess. 1: 1, 2 [the] added</p>	

<p>Isaiah 9:6 – Prophecy of Jesus and he is being called, “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace”. If Jesus was just “a god”, this scripture would not classify Him as a “Mighty God” and “Eternal Father” Eternal means he has no beginning and no end. (Cross reference with the next 5 scriptures)</p>		
<p>Isaiah 10:21 – says Jehovah is the “Mighty God”</p>		
<p>Isaiah 45:5, 22 – says there is no other God, yet Jesus and Jehovah have both been called “Mighty God” in the same book of the Bible.</p>		
<p>1 Corinthians 8:5, 6 – states the oneness of God the Father and God the Son being one and through whom ALL THINGS are. This proves again that Jesus was not created.</p>		
<p>Col. 3:16, 17 – clarifies God the Father. This clarification shows that there is God the Father, and thus God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. (See 2 Cor. 13:14)</p>		
<p>Revelation 1:8 – God the Father says that he is the Alpha and the Omega</p>		
<p>Revelation 22:13 – God the Son, Jesus says he is the Alpha and the Omega. The only way they can both be the Alpha and the Omega is if they are One.</p>		

<p>Isaiah 42:8 – Only Jehovah gets the glory, but other scriptures say Jesus gets the glory – and certainly an Angel – even Michael would not get God’s glory. (Cross reference with the next 8 Scriptures)</p>		
<p>John 1:14 – says glory to Jesus (God the Son). Scriptures says they had a view of his glory.</p>		
<p>John 8:54 – Jesus gets the glory – he and the Father are one</p>		
<p>John 17 :10 – glory has come to Jesus</p>		
<p>Luke 9:26 – Jesus arrives in his glory</p>		
<p>Hebrews 1:6 – Let God’s angels do obeisance to him. (Older New World Translation Bibles say worship – obeisance means worship.) Worshipping Jesus is giving him glory – Angels would not worship another angel. Jesus is not Michael. Jesus is God the Son who is deserving of such worship and glory.</p>		
<p>Matthew 4:10 – says we should only worship Jehovah, but other scriptures say we are to worship Jesus.</p>		
<p>Rev. 1:6 – Jesus is to receive the glory</p>		
<p>Rev. 22:9 – says to worship God</p>		

Isaiah 43:3, 10, 11 – says Jehovah is Savior and there is only one God (Cross reference with the next 12 scriptures)		
Isaiah 45:15 – says God is our Savior		
Isaiah 49:26 – says Jehovah is Savior		
Jeremiah 23:5, 6 – speaking of the coming of the Messiah. “...he will be called, Jehovah Is Our Righteousness.”		
John 4:14, 42 – says Jesus is the savior of the world		
Luke 1:47 – says God my Savior		
1 Timothy 1: 1, 2 – says God our Savior and Jesus are one.		
1 Timothy 2:3 – God is our Savior		
2 Timothy 1:10 – says Jesus is our Savior		
Titus 1:3 – says our Savior is God		
Titus 3:6 – says Jesus is our Savior		
2 Peter 1:1 – read without the bracketed word [the] and it says “our God and Savior Jesus Christ.”		
2 Peter 2:20 – Jesus Christ is our Savior		

Daniel 7:13-14 – says Jesus will be given rulership, but angels do not rule people, so Jesus is not Michael. (Cross reference with the next 2 scriptures)		
Matthew 13:41 – Jesus owns the angels. Another angel would not own other angels.		
John 17:10, 22 – Jesus, God the Son, says in his prayer to God the Father, “all things he has are your and yours are mine.” An angel would not have all God’s things. Verse 22 proves their oneness.		
Hebrews 1: 1-14 – is clearly stating that Jesus is NOT an angel.		

Mark 14:58 – Jesus is referring to his body (temple) (Cross reference with the next 2 scriptures)		
John 2:19-21 – Jesus says “I will raise it up” speaking of the temple of his body. Could an angel raise himself? No. This again proves the oneness between God the Father and God the Son.		
Romans 10:9 – God raised Jesus.		
God & Jesus are the LIGHT & Salvation (proving oneness) :		
Psalm 27:1 – Jehovah is the light and the salvation		
Psalm 119:105 – Your word is the light (compare John 1:1-4)		
Matt. 5:14 – Jesus is the light of the world.		
John 1:4, 5 – Jesus is the light		
John 8:12 – Jesus is the light of the world		
2 Cor. 4:6 – Jesus is the light		
1 John 1:5 – God is the light		

All these scriptures, plus the false prophesying should make one wonder about how accurate the New World Translation is. Why is it that the translation committee has always remained anonymous? They say it is because they don't want anyone to get the glory, as God is the translator. Knowing who was on the translation committee and what credentials and education they had in the ancient Hebrew and Greek languages, as well as their theological training is more important to know for one's eternal life, than wanting to know the education credentials of a heart or brain surgeon with whom one is entrusting their earthly life.

By the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society denying the Deity of Christ and changing God's word on this most important subject, **they clearly DO NOT demonstrate true faith in Jesus!** True faith in Jesus Christ is knowing and believing who he is. Why would the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society change some, but not all the scriptures that point to the Deity of Christ? Perhaps it is because they don't think followers are smart enough to see how unharmonious the New World Translation Bible is, especially when they are always telling followers how accurate and harmonious their Bible is. If you have the companion Bible, look through the tabs marked for "Deity" to see all the scriptures that point to GOD the Son, Jesus! Saying Jesus is Michael the Archangel is minimizing who He is and will rob one of their salvation according to the scriptures. **(See John 8:24 again)! If you have the false Jesus, you have a false doctrine of salvation. Thus, not accepting who Jesus really is, will rob you of salvation.** This is a deep subject and one I had a hard time grasping, but it is real. So many scriptures tell us who Jesus

really is – God the Son. We cannot limit God’s abilities just because our puny brains cannot comprehend something. Imagine an egg – it has three parts and they can be separated. **Why couldn’t God put himself as God the Son on Earth as man? Philippians 2:5-7 tells us He did just that!** God can do anything. **We should never deny who Christ is – our salvation depends on it according to the scriptures.**

4. “Is it largely ritualistic, a formality, or is it a way of life?”

Once again I will reference growing up. I was taught that other religions were just a formality where people only went to church once a week, if that. When those members were not at church, their lives did not meet Bible principles. I was under this impression most of my life, until I started to learn all the things other churches do. Most churches have missionaries, Bible study groups, youth programs, family programs, singles programs, benevolence programs, the list goes on. There are still plenty of churches that teach good morals and a Christian lifestyle. Our church teaches the same morals as Jehovah’s Witnesses. In this day and age you do need to beware of churches claiming to be Christian, but teaching contrary to the Bible. To say that only ONE religion truly lives up to this and all other Christians do not, is one of those judgments we humans should not be making. That type of judging can also make one feel superior, prideful and unloving toward their fellow believers in Christ. Again, **this characteristic of having a Christian way of life and not attending church just as a formality is not exclusive to Jehovah's Witnesses.**

5. “Do its members truly love one another?”

Should Jehovah’s Witnesses only love other Jehovah’s Witnesses? Is this what Jesus taught? No, just the opposite. Scriptures in the Bible (**Matt. 5:44; Matt. 22:37-39; Luke 6:27-36; John 13:35; Romans 12: 14 and 19-21; 1 John 3:11-20; 1 John 4:7**) tell us we are to not only love our fellow brothers in Christ, but others as well. **This does not mean ONLY love one another in ONE religion.** There are many Christian believers, all believing in and having faith that Jesus Christ is our Savior. Our fellow brothers and sisters go far beyond the walls or confines of our church, Kingdom Hall, or religion.

As a practicing Jehovah's Witness, I experienced both love and unjust judgments from fellow members. The kind of above and beyond love Jehovah's Witnesses claim to have, I really can say happened only once when I nearly died in a car accident. Members of my congregation came to my side to assist me and for that I am forever grateful. However, my experience with my new church is they do the same and more for members in need. However, as a Jehovah’s Witness, you are taught that only that kind of love exists in the Jehovah’s Witness religion. And, unfortunately, being judged happened far more than the experience of love. **From youth to the time I decided to leave the religion, many unloving and unjust judgments were made by fellow members.** I mention a few of them below, so one can see what happened to me. Even though these things happened to me, if any one of those involved with the list below ever wanted to have a relationship with me, I would, as I have forgiven them. According to the scriptures, if we do not forgive others, how can we expect God to forgive us? (**Matt: 6:14, 15**)

- a. Reprimands were made because my participation levels did not meet that of an "average" publisher
- b. Someone thought they saw something inappropriate (kissing my fiancé) and reported us to the elders

- c. Social contact was cut off when I went through a divorce
- d. Gossip behind my back that I was bad association
- e. Being told I was materialistic from my own mother
- f. Not being invited to certain social gatherings of the congregation
- g. My entire Jehovah's Witness family has disowned me for no scriptural reason.

With the exception of the last one, all this happened when I was an active, practicing member. **Is this the kind of love for each other we are to have? No, it is called conditional love. Jesus' love for us and the example he set was UNCONDITIONAL LOVE. There were no conditions to receive Jesus' love.** To conditionally love only those members in ONE religion is not what the Bible teaches. The kind of love Jesus commanded us to have exists with many people of many religions and churches. I am sure every church has its fair share of members who exhibit unloving judgments too, but **most Christian churches, unlike the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society, will teach the proper meaning of Jesus' commandments about love.**

6. "Is it truly separate from the world?"

So, what is the "world" defined as? Is it everyone outside of ONE religion? NO, the scriptures do not say that. The "world", according to all the scriptures is NOT anyone outside of ONE religion. The scriptures talk about the "world" as those who are not believers in Christ and not living their life in accordance with Bible principles. In my opinion Jehovah's Witnesses take this to an extreme and are selective in what they consider "worldly". For example, Jehovah's Witnesses are known for not celebrating holidays to stay separate from the world, claiming many of these holidays have pagan origins, which some do and some don't. However, the ritual of having wedding rings (also has pagan origins) is OK. Many Jehovah's Witnesses believe that separating themselves from the world means to only have friends that are fellow Jehovah's Witnesses. However, some Jehovah's Witnesses allow their children to have "worldly" friends. There are many examples on how this concept of staying separate from the world is selective. **But, the main point here is that the "world" to the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society's is anyone who is not a Jehovah's Witness.** To claim that the "world" is everyone who is not a Jehovah's Witness is extremely judgmental and prideful, because in effect they are saying everyone else is bad and they are the only ones who are good (**See Romans 14:1-23**). How humble and loving is that? Our Christian, non-denominational church teaches the high morale Bible principles that I was taught as a Jehovah's Witness. In this time of the end when more unchristian lifestyles are being accepted into the church, it is becoming rare to find churches to uphold God's requirements, but they do exist outside of a Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall. Jehovah's Witnesses are not perfect either. There are serious cover-ups with authorities not even being notified of elders and ministerial servants being accused of sexually abusing children in the congregation. Is that not being part of this world?

7. “Are its members active witnesses concerning God's Kingdom?”

Many believers in Christ are active witnesses of the Good News/Gospel spoken of at **1 Cor. 15: 1-4**. This is what Jesus commanded to be the most important message to witness to others about. So, why do Jehovah's Witnesses not make this their primary message? Because the Bible teaches the truth about salvation being through faith in Christ, NOT adherence to a man-made religion. And, that is contradictory to what the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society teaches about salvation being through works in their religion! The Good News or Gospel is not God's Kingdom on paradise earth. It is about who Jesus is and how Jesus saves believers. **So, why do Jehovah's Witnesses spend 1.94 BILLION hours preaching to so many who are already believers and followers of Christ?** Is that really active witnessing? Why don't they try to reach those who are not believers and followers of Christ? Based on last year's baptisms (275,581), **it takes 7,040 hours to convert 1 person!** Learning the truth about the Bible and what Jesus did for us, should NOT take 7,040 hours for ONE to finally believe it. Truth is easy to believe and it is easy to explain – something the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society's teachings are not. With Watchtower Bible & Tract Society teachings, everything is like a dot-to-dot that never draws a clear picture. Their circular “logic” never answers a question completely and directly. But truth is a solid line, drawing a clear picture, and stated without interpretation, backed directly from scriptures that are harmonious with other scriptures and are not based on stand-alone problem texts. AND, the truth is never hard to remember when you need to answer someone's questions!

The Christians I know (including myself) do not keep account of their works, so as not to boast. Christians may keep track of new ones accepting Jesus. But, there is nowhere in the Bible where we are instructed to keep track of, or put in so many hours of witnessing. What we do and how we witness should be between God and ourselves, so as not to boast (**Eph. 2:8, 9**) **I do know this though, I AM MORE of a witness now than when I was a Jehovah's Witness!**

Many religions and churches also have a variety of outreach that includes more than just door-to-door witnessing. Our church has a benevolence fund to help those in need. I had no idea what a benevolence fund was when I heard about it for the first time. Attendees can give something anonymously for people in the community who are in need and come to the church for help. You don't even need to be a member of the church or a Christian to receive assistance. This is the example Jesus gave us to minister with love. Our church has also taken out care packages to the homeless, offering encouraging scriptures and providing them with Bibles. Our church packages and sends thousands of meal kits to people in starving countries who we do not even know. But, the message of Christ is in the package. All this work is done by volunteers and anonymous donations. Will we ever know if one of those people accepts Jesus? Probably not, but true witnesses of Christ do not keep account of their works. Christian churches focus on reaching people who have not yet accepted Jesus. They don't have to go door-to-door trying to find people who already are believers in Christ. What a waste of time that would be. Why would a religion count their time (works) toward trying to convert a believer in the true Christ to a Jehovah's Witness who does not have the correct understanding of Jesus? **A Believer in the TRUE Christ is already saved ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES!**

Our prayer is this, for God to lift the veil off those who feel like spiritual hostages by softening their hearts and opening your eyes (2 Cor. 3:12-18). It is interesting, Jehovah's Witnesses consider me an "apostate" who has abandoned God, but all I have done is quote their publications and Bible. So, are they calling their own literature and Bible apostate? I have not abandoned the teachings of Christ (**2 John 9-11**), nor have I disowned Jesus (**Matt. 10:32-35**). The Bible warns us to examine what we are being taught (**Acts 17:11 and 1 John 4:1**) ask questions that can be answered directly from the Bible and only the Bible – no interpretations required (**Luke 24:45**). God warns us at **Ephesians 4:18** that our own lack of knowledge when it was available all along (i.e. ignorance) will be no excuse to receive God's mercy.

Bible scripture need not be interpreted. No, it should be read in context and literally. The Watchtower Bible & Tract Society is good at pointing the finger at man for all their supposed interpretations of the Bible. I have not seen any interpreting of the Bible in my church and myself. I simply read the scriptures and believe what the scriptures say is true, and for that I am a dangerous person in the eyes of Jehovah's Witnesses. **The one true God is all powerful and will protect us from danger – but I am not the dangerous one.**

It should concern Jehovah's Witnesses that there are far more scriptures (unchanged scriptures) to prove the Deity of Christ than there are to deny it. There are also far more scriptures that prove the way to salvation is not through the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society, but through true faith in whom Jesus is and what he did for us? To me being taught from an unharmonious Bible is very dangerous. After reading these scriptures, and if you are a Jehovah's Witness, are you 100% certain you will receive salvation? Jehovah's Witnesses believe in the Bible and these scriptures do not lie. This article does not even show the proof of the false prophesying, flip-flops in teachings, false teachings and subliminal satanic imagery in books since Charles Taze Russell to present day. **Spiritual Hostages' library has proof of all these things.** I want to help any Jehovah's Witnesses who wants to find out the real truth, so as to not be robbed of their salvation. I was misled by the deceptions of the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society, but God lifted the veil off me when I asked for Him to show me the truth (**Psalm 34:4**). I was kept in the religion through fear and mind control, not love. I now have true peace knowing I WILL receive God's grace! If you are a Jehovah's Witness reading this, please pray over these scriptures. Ask God to open your eyes to the real truth. Ask Him for wisdom and He will give it to you (**James 1:5**).

