

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures is the Bible published and used by those of the Jehovah Witness faith. All of the scriptures quoted in this paper are directly from the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures.

Jehovah Witnesses are headquartered in Brooklyn, New York

The Jehovah Witnesses theology was begun by Charles Taze Russell (February 16, 1852 – October 31, 1916). He began to publish his theology in the Watchtower magazine in 1879. He incorporated the organization in 1884.

Charles Russell prophesied that Christ would return to this earth in 1874 to set up His Kingdom on this earth. When Christ did not show up in 1884, Russell changed the return to 1914.

When Russell died in 1916, the organization was taken over by a second President, Joseph Franklin Rutherford (November 8, 1869 – January 8, 1942). Under his leadership, the organization changed their name to “Jehovah’s Witnesses” in 1931.

Rutherford taught that neither Jesus nor the Holy Spirit was a part of the Godhead. He taught that only the Father was Jehovah God.

Jehovah was one of the names that the Jews used to refer to God. However, the Jews never pronounced the

name "Yehovah" or "Jehovah". When they would write the name they would write the Hebrew consonants which correspond to our English "Y H W H".

Rutherford introduced many organizational and doctrinal changes that helped shape the beliefs and practices of Jehovah's Witnesses today. He imposed a centralized administrative structure on the worldwide "Bible Student Movement", which he later called a theocracy, requiring all adherents to distribute literature via door to door preaching and to provide regular reports of their activity. He also instituted training programs for public speaking as part of their weekly worship meetings. He established 1914 as the date of Christ's invisible return, asserted that Christ died on a tree rather than a cross, formulated the current Witness concept of Armageddon as God's war on the wicked, and reinforced the belief that the start of Christ's millennial reign was imminent. He condemned the observance of traditional celebrations such as Christmas and birthdays, the saluting of national flags and the singing of national anthems. He introduced the name "Jehovah's Witnesses" in 1931 and the term "Kingdom Hall" for houses of worship in 1935.

Nathan Homer Knorr (April 23, 1905-June 8, 1977) became the third president of the incorporated Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society on January 13, 1942, replacing Joseph Franklin Rutherford, who had served in the position since 1916. The doctrine of not accepting blood transfusions was also introduced during Knorr's leadership. In the 1950's they developed their own translation of the Bible called "The New World Translation".

In 1966, Nathan Knorr began to prophecy that Armageddon would occur in 1975 and would usher in the end of the age. When Christ did not return and begin the first battle in the valley of Megiddo (the first battle of Armageddon) in 1975, over 1 million people left the organization in 1976.

Following Knorr's death in June 1977, Frederick W. Franz succeeded him as corporation president. His nephew and fellow governing body member Raymond Franz resigned from the governing body and was subsequently disfellowshipped in 1980 during F.W. Franz's presidency. Franz died in Brooklyn, New York in 1992 at the age of 99 and was succeeded by Milton G. Henschel.

Some of the things that Jehovah's Witness deny are as follows.

1-They deny the Trinity.

They do not believe that there is one Jehovah God who reveals Himself to mankind as the Father, as the Son and as the Holy Spirit in three different and distinct ways. Since the human mind cannot understand how Jehovah God could be three and yet be one, they deny that such a thing could be. They believe that the concept of a Triune God originated from Satan. They deny the deity of Jesus Christ and teach that He is the archangel Michael in spite of what their own Bible teaches. They say that Michael (the person called Jesus Christ) was the first creation made by Jehovah God. They also deny the personality as well as the deity of the Holy Spirit

According to their own Bible, Jesus did not claim to be the archangel Michael. <u>Jesus claimed to be Jehovah God who could forgive sins.</u>

“1 However, after some days he again entered into Ca-per´na-um and he was reported to be at home. 2 Consequently many gathered, so much so that there was no more room, not even about the door, and he began to speak the word to them. 3 And men came bringing him a paralytic carried by four. 4 But not being able to bring him right to [Jesus] on account of the crowd, they removed the roof over where he was, and having dug an opening they lowered the cot on which the paralytic was lying. 5 And when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic: “Child, your sins are forgiven.” 6 Now there were some of the scribes there, sitting and reasoning in their hearts: 7 “Why is this man talking in this manner? He is blaspheming. Who can forgive sins except one, God?” 8 But Jesus, having discerned immediately by his spirit that they were reasoning that way in themselves, said to them: “Why are YOU reasoning these things in YOUR hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and pick up your cot and walk’? 10 But in order for YOU men to know that the Son of man has authority to forgive sins upon the earth,”—he said to the paralytic: 11 “I say to you, Get up, pick up your cot, and go to your home.” 12 At that he did get up, and immediately picked up his cot and walked out in front of them all, so that they were all simply carried away, and they glorified God, saying: “We never saw the like of it.” Mark 2:1-12
 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

<p> It is true that the Bible <u>does</u> teach that there is only one Jehovah God. </p>
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*“5 **For there is one God,** and one mediator between God and men, a man, **Christ Jesus,** 6 who gave himself a corresponding ransom for all—[this is] what is to be witnessed to at its own particular times.” 1 Timothy 2:5-6 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

*“20 Now there is no mediator where only one person is concerned, but **God is only one.**” Galatians 3:20 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

*4 “Listen, O Israel: **Jehovah our God is one Jehovah.** 5 And you must love Jehovah your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your vital force.” Deuteronomy 6:4 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

According to the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, however, there are three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and all three persons are each referred to as Jehovah God. Please allow me to remind you that the following verses are reprints from The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, the Bible published and used by the Jehovah Witnesses.

**I-ACCORDING TO THE NEW WORLD
TRANSLATION OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES,**

**THE FATHER IS REFERRED TO AS JEHOVAH
GOD**

*“16 No, it was not by following artfully contrived false stories that we acquainted YOU with the power and presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, but it was by having become eyewitnesses of his magnificence. 17 For he received from **God the Father** honor and glory, when words such as these were borne to him by the magnificent glory: “This is my son, my beloved, whom I myself have approved.” 18 Yes, these words we heard borne from heaven while we were with him in the holy mountain. 2 Peter 1:16-18 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

**II-ACCORDING TO THE NEW WORLD
TRANSLATION OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES,
THE SON IS REFERRED TO AS JEHOVAH GOD**

Please note that Isaiah 44:6 tells us that Jehovah is The First and The Last and besides Him there is no God.

*6 **“This is what Jehovah has said, the King of Israel and the Repurchaser of him, Jehovah of armies, ‘I am the first and I am the last, and besides me there is no God.’** Isaiah 44:6 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

We find in Revelation 1:8 that Jehovah God is The Alpha and The Omega, The Almighty.

8 **"I am** the Al'pha and the O-me'ga," **says Jehovah God**, "the One who is and who was and who is coming, the Almighty." Revelation 1:8 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

We see in Revelation 21:5-7 that The Alpha and The Omega, The Beginning and The End is Jehovah God who will give the water of life free to anyone who is thirsting.

"5 And the One seated on the throne said: "Look! I am making all things new." Also, he says: "Write, because these words are faithful and true." 6 And he said to me: "They have come to pass! **I am the Al'pha and the O-me'ga, the beginning and the end.** To anyone thirsting **I will give** from the fountain of the water of life free. 7 Anyone conquering will inherit these things, and **I shall be his God** and he will be my son." Revelation 21:5-7 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

We find in Revelation 22:12-16 (printed below) that **Jesus is identified as The Alpha and The**

Omega, The First and The Last, The Beginning and The End. If The Alpha and The Omega, The First and The Last, The Beginning and The End is Jehovah God, then the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teaches us that Jesus Christ is Jehovah God.

*“12“Look! I am coming quickly, and the reward I give is with me, to render to each one as his work is. 13 **I am the Alpha and the O-me’ga, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.** 14 Happy are those who wash their robes, that the authority [to go] to the trees of life may be theirs and that they may gain entrance into the city by its gates. 15 Outside are the dogs and those who practice spiritism and the fornicators and the murderers and the idolaters and everyone liking and carrying on a lie.’ 16 **“I, Jesus,** sent my angel to bear witness to YOU people of these things for the congregations. **I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright morning star.**” Revelation 22:12-16
New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

Again, the person who says He is coming quickly in Revelation chapter 22 is identified as the Lord Jesus, The Alpha and The Omega.

7 And, look! **I am coming quickly.** Happy is anyone observing the words of the prophecy of this scroll.” Revelation 22:7 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

12 “Look! **I am coming quickly,** and the reward I give is with me, to render to each one as his work is. 13 **I am the Al’pha and the O-me’ga,** the first and the last, the beginning and the end..” Revelation 22:12-13 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

20 “He that bears witness of these things says, ‘Yes; **I am coming quickly.**’” “Amen! **Come, Lord Jesus.**” Revelation 22:20 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

The person who says He is coming quickly in Revelation chapter 22 is identified as the Lord Jesus, The Alpha and The Omega.

Therefore, we see that the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures agrees that Jesus is Jehovah God.

8 **“I am the Al’pha and the O-me’ga,” says Jehovah God,** “the One who is and who was and who is coming, the Almighty.”

9 I John, YOUR brother and a sharer with YOU in the tribulation and kingdom and endurance in company **with Jesus**, came to be in the isle that is called Pat´mos for speaking about God and bearing witness to Jesus. 10 By inspiration I came to be in the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a strong voice like that of a trumpet, 11 saying: “What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven congregations, in Eph´e-sus and in Smyr´na and in Per´ga-mum and in Thy-a-ti´ra and in Sar´dis and in Philadelphia and in La-o-di-ce´a.”

12 And I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me, and, having turned, I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands someone like a son of man, clothed with a garment that reached down to the feet, and girded at the breasts with a golden girdle. 14 Moreover, his head and his hair were white as white wool, as snow, and his eyes as a fiery flame; 15 and his feet were like fine copper when glowing in a furnace; and his voice was as the sound of many waters. 16 And he had in his right hand seven stars, and out of his mouth a sharp, long two-edged sword was protruding, and his countenance was as the sun when it shines in its power. 17 And when I saw him, I fell as dead at his feet. And **he** laid his right hand upon me and said: “Do not be fearful. **I am the First and the Last**, 18 and the living one; and **I became dead**, but, look! **I am living forever and ever**, and I have the keys of death and of Ha´des. Revelation 1:8-18 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

<p>The Alpha and The Omega, The First and The Last is Jehovah God. But The Alpha and The Omega, The First and The</p>

Last said in Revelation 1:18 that He
became dead but now He is living
 forever and ever.

WHEN DID JEHOVAH DIE?

**WHEN DID HE BECOME ALIVE
 AGAIN?**

According to the testimony of the
 apostle Thomas, Jesus Christ was his
 Lord and Jesus Christ was God.

*“26 Well, eight days later his disciples were again indoors,
 and Thomas with them. **Jesus** came, although the doors were
 locked, and he stood in their midst and said: “May YOU have
 peace.” 27 Next he said to Thomas: “Put your finger here, and see
 my hands, and take your hand and stick it into my side, and stop
 being unbelieving but become believing.” 28 In answer Thomas
 said to him: “**My Lord** and **my God!**” 29 **Jesus** said to
 him: “Because you have seen me have you believed? Happy are
 those who do not see and yet believe.” John 20:26-29 New
 World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

The Kingdom Interlinear
 Translation of the Holy Scriptures

(published by The Watchtower Bible And Tract Society) tells us that the word translated "God" in the scripture printed above is the Greek word that is pronounced in English "Theos." It is the same Greek word that is also translated "God" in other passages as well. Therefore, according to their own Bible, Thomas proclaimed that Jesus Christ was Jehovah God.

III- ACCORDING TO THE NEW WORLD
TRANSLATION OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES,
THE HOLY SPIRIT IS REFERRED TO AS
JEHOVAH GOD

*"3 But Peter said: "An-a-ni'as, why has Satan emboldened you **to play false to the holy spirit** and to hold back secretly some of the price of the field? 4 As long as it remained with you did it not remain yours, and after it was sold did it not continue in your control? Why was it that you purposed such a deed as this in your heart? **You have played false, not to men, but to God.**"*
Acts 5:3-4 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

Peter explained to Ananias that when he played false to the Holy Spirit, he played false to Jehovah God.

“2 As they were publicly ministering to Jehovah and fasting, the holy spirit said: “Of all persons set Bar’na-bas and Saul apart for me for the work to which I have called them.” Acts 13:2 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

We see that the Holy Spirit speaks **(please note that the holy spirit said)**. That certainly does not describe a disembodied, impersonal force. Only a person is capable of speech. Second, the Holy Spirit uses the personal pronoun **“I”** as He takes credit for calling Barnabas and Saul and sending them forth on their missionary journey.

“29 Let a rotten saying not proceed out of YOUR mouth, but whatever saying is good for building up as the need may be, that it may impart what is favorable to the hearers. 30 Also, do not

be grieving **God's holy spirit, with which YOU have been sealed for a day of releasing by ransom.**” Ephesians 4:29-30
New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

We see that the Holy Spirit seals the saved for a day of releasing by ransom. That certainly does not describe a disembodied, impersonal force. Only a personal Holy Spirit of God is capable of sealing the saved until the day of releasing by ransom.

**THE THREE PERSONS OF THE
 TRINITY ARE TAUGHT IN THE NEW
 WORLD TRANSLATION OF THE HOLY
 SCRIPTURES .**

We have the Trinity at the birth
 of Jesus Christ.

*“30 So the angel said to her: “Have no fear, Mary, for you have found favor with God; 31 and, look! you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and you are to call his name Jesus. 32 This one will be great and will be called **Son of the Most High;** and **Jehovah God** will give him the throne of David his father, 33 and he will rule as king over the house of Jacob forever, and there will be no end of his kingdom.” 34 But Mary said to the angel:*

“How is this to be, since I am having no intercourse with a man?”
 35 *In answer the angel said to her: “**Holy spirit** will come upon you, and power of **the Most High** will overshadow you. For that reason also what is born will be called holy, **God’s Son.**”* Luke 1:30-35 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

We have the Trinity at the baptism
of Jesus Christ.

*“16 After being baptized **Jesus** immediately came up from the water; and, look! the heavens were opened up, and he saw descending like a dove **God’s spirit** coming upon him. 17 Look! Also, there **was a voice from the heavens that said: “This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved.”**”* Matthew 3:16-17 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

We have the Trinity included in
the Great Commission.

*“19 Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of **the Father** and of **the Son** and of **the holy spirit**, 20 teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded YOU. And, look! I am with YOU all the days until the conclusion of the system of things.”* Matthew 28:19-20 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

We have the Trinity included in the benediction of Paul's second letter to the church at Corinth.

“14 The undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the sharing in the holy spirit be with all of YOU. “ 2 Corinthians 13:14 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

We have the Trinity taught at the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:8-10 tells us that the Father, Jehovah God, raised Jesus from the grave

. “8 The fact is, not only has the word of Jehovah sounded forth from YOU in Mac-e-do´ni-a and A-cha´ia, but in every place YOUR faith toward God has spread abroad, so that we do not need to say anything. 9 For they themselves keep reporting about the way we first entered in among YOU and how YOU turned to God from [YOUR] idols to slave for a living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised up from the dead, namely, Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath which is coming.” 1 Thessalonians 1: 8-10 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

But in John 2:19-22, Jesus said
He, Himself, would raise his body from
the grave.

*“19 In answer **Jesus said** to them: “Break down this temple, and in three days **I will raise it up.**” 20 Therefore the Jews said: “This temple was built in forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” 21 But **he was talking about the temple of his body.** 22 When, though, he was raised up from the dead, his disciples called to mind that he used to say this; and they believed the Scripture and the saying that Jesus said.”*
New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

And in Romans 8:11, the Bible says
the Holy Spirit will raise our mortal
bodies from the dead just as the Holy
Spirit raised Jesus from the grave.

*“11 If, now, **the spirit** of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in YOU, **he** that raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also make YOUR mortal bodies alive **through his spirit** that resides in YOU.”* Romans 8:11 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

Again, in Acts 17:30-31, we find
that Jehovah God raised Jesus from the
dead.

“30 True, **God** has overlooked the times of such ignorance, yet now **he** is telling mankind that they should all everywhere repent. 31 Because **he** has set a day in which **he** purposes to judge the inhabited earth in righteousness by a man whom **he** has appointed, and **he** has furnished a guarantee to all men in **that he has resurrected him from the dead.**” Acts 17:30-31 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

So, the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures tells us **Jehovah God raised Jesus from the grave** (Thessalonians 1:8-10 and Acts 17:30-31), **Jesus raised Himself from the grave** (John 2:19-22) and **the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the grave** (Romans 8:11).

How could all three be true?

Because the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teaches that (1) **the Father is Jehovah God**, (2) **Jesus Christ is Jehovah God** and (3) **the Holy Spirit is Jehovah God**. The reason the members of the Kingdom Hall have not seen this before is that they have not read all of their own Bible. Just like many people in other faiths, they rely on people whom they highly respect to tell them

what their Bible says rather than studying the scriptures **extensively** to see what God has said about the subject they would like to know about. I believe that one of the greatest compliments that God has given man was what God had recorded in Acts 17:10-11.

*“10 Immediately by night the brothers sent both Paul and Silas out to Be-roe´a, and these, upon arriving, went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 Now the latter were more noble-minded than those in Thes-sa-lo-ni´ca, for they received the word with the greatest eagerness of mind, **carefully examining the Scriptures daily as to whether these things were so.**” Acts 17:10-11 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

“15 Do your utmost to present yourself approved to God, a workman with nothing to be ashamed of, handling the word of the truth aright. 16 But shun empty speeches that violate what is holy; for they will advance to more and more ungodliness,” 2 Timothy 2:15-16 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

2- The people of the Jehovah Witness faith deny the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ.

They say that He rose as a spirit but that His material body did not die and then live again three days and three nights after His crucifixion on Calvary (Revelation 1:17-18).

The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures tells us that Jesus Christ is the only one who has died and who, three days and three nights later, rose from the dead, never to die again.

*“38 Then as an answer to him some of the scribes and Pharisees said: “Teacher, we want to see a sign from you.” 39 In reply he said to them: “A wicked and adulterous generation keeps on seeking for a sign, but no sign will be given it except the sign of Jo’nah the prophet. 40 For just as Jo’nah was in the belly of the huge fish three days and three nights, so the Son of man will be in the heart of the earth **three days** and **three nights**.” Matthew 12:38-40 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

According to the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, Jesus Christ is the only one who has died and, three days and three nights later, rose again **with a body of flesh and bones.**

“36 While they were speaking of these things he himself stood in their midst [[and said to them: “May YOU have peace.”]] 37 But because they were terrified, and had become frightened, they were imagining they beheld a spirit. 38 So he said to them: “Why are YOU troubled, and why is it doubts come up in YOUR

hearts? 39 See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; feel me and see, **because a spirit does not have flesh and bones just as YOU behold that I have.** 40 [[And as he said this he showed them his hands and his feet.]] 41 But while they were still not believing for sheer joy and were wondering, he said to them: “Do YOU have something there to eat?” 42 And they handed him a piece of broiled fish; 43 and he took it and ate it before their eyes.
 Luke 24:36-43 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures tells us that Jesus Christ is the only one who has died and three days and three nights later rose again **with a body could be seen and could be touched.** In the scripture printed above (Luke 24:36-43), Jesus invited His disciples to touch His resurrected body. We also find in John 20:24-29 that Jesus Christ had a resurrected body that could be **seen and touched.**

“24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, who was called The Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 Consequently the other disciples would say to him: “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them: “Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and stick my finger into the print of the nails and stick my hand into his side, I will certainly not believe.”

26 Well, eight days later his disciples were again indoors, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and he stood in their midst and said: "May YOU have peace." 27 Next he said to Thomas: "Put your finger here, and see my hands, and take your hand and stick it into my side, and stop being unbelieving but become believing." 28 In answer Thomas said to him: "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him: "Because you have seen me have you believed? Happy are those who do not see and yet believe." John 20:24-29 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

3- The people of the Jehovah Witness faith deny the immortality of the soul.

<p>But according to the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, <u>both humans and fallen angels who will be cast into the Lake of Fire and Sulphur have immortality and will be tormented day and night forever and ever.</u></p>
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*"10 And the Devil who was misleading them was hurled into the lake of fire and sulphur, where both the wild beast and the false prophet [already were]; and they will be tormented day and night **forever and ever.**" Revelation 20:10 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

“11 And I saw a great white throne and the one seated on it. From before him the earth and the 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 scrolls were opened. But **another scroll was opened**; it is the scroll of life. And **the dead were judged out of those things written in the scrolls according to their deeds**. 13 And the sea gave up those dead in it, and death and Ha´des gave up those dead in them, and **they were judged individually according to their deeds**. 14 And death and Ha´des were hurled into the lake of fire. This means the second death, the lake of fire. 15 Furthermore, **whoever was not found written in the book of life was hurled into the lake of fire.**” Revelation 20:11-15 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

It is important for us to recognize that every human being has both a physical body (an outer body) and a spiritual body (an inner body).

“The word of Jehovah concerning Israel,” is the utterance of Jehovah, the One who is stretching out [the] heavens and laying the foundation of [the] earth and **forming the spirit of man inside him.**” Zechariah 12:1 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

“44 It is sown a physical body, it is raised up a spiritual body. **If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual one.**”1 Corinthians 15:44 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

“19 But he said to her: “Give me your son.” Then he took him from her bosom and carried him up to the roof chamber, where he was dwelling, and laid him upon his own couch. 20 And he began calling to Jehovah and saying: “O Jehovah my God, is it also upon the widow with whom I am residing as an alien that you must bring injury by putting her son to death?” 21 And he proceeded to stretch himself upon the child three times and call to Jehovah and say: “O Jehovah my God, please, **cause the soul of this child to come back within him.**” 22 Finally Jehovah listened to E-li’jah’s voice, so that **the soul of the child came back within him and he came to life.**” 1 Kings 17:19-22 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

“59 And they went on casting stones at Stephen as he made appeal and said: **“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”** 60 Then, bending his knees, he cried out with a strong voice: “Jehovah, do not charge this sin against them.” And after saying this he fell asleep [in death].” Acts 7:59-60 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

<p>According to the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, <u>whoever was not found written in the Book of Life will be hurled into the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:11-15).</u> According to Revelation 20:10, <u>the purpose of the Lake of Fire will be to torment those who have been cast into it day and night, forever and ever.</u> In</p>
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order to be tormented day and night, Jehovah God will give their outer body immortality. Otherwise, they would just be annihilated as soon as they are hurled into the Lake of Fire and would cease to exist so they would not be tormented day and night (Revelation 20:11-14).

Do You Believe That Jehovah God
Can Give The Outer Body Of A Lost
Person Immortality If He Chooses To?

When our physical body dies, we are separated from those who are still alive on this earth. When the spiritual body of someone who has **not** asked Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt dies, they are separated from the Living God. When the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures tells us that the soul of a lost person will die because of sin (Ezekiel 18:4), it means that the spiritual body of a lost person will be separated from Jehovah God forever

and ever if their material body dies before they ask Jesus Christ to be their Savior.

Isaiah 14:9-17 describes the moment that Satan (Lucifer) shall be thrown into Sheol (the place of the departed dead). The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures tells us that the name of the compartment in Sheol that he will be thrown into is called "Tartarus". The other compartment that is there now, of course, is called "Paradise" (Luke 23:39-43; 2 Corinthians 12:1-4). According to 2 Corinthians 12:1-4, Paradise is a different place from the Third Heaven just as Tartarus is a different place from Paradise.

*4 Certainly if God did not hold back from punishing the angels that sinned, but, by **throwing them into Tar'tarus**, delivered them to pits of dense darkness **to be reserved for judgment**; 5 and he did not hold back from punishing an ancient world, but kept Noah, a preacher of righteousness, safe with seven others when he brought a deluge upon a world of ungodly people; 6 and by reducing the cities Sod'om and Go-mor'rah to ashes he*

*condemned them, setting a pattern for ungodly persons of things to come; 7 and he delivered righteous Lot, who was greatly distressed by the indulgence of the law-defying people in loose conduct— 8 for that righteous man by what he saw and heard while dwelling among them from day to day was tormenting his righteous soul by reason of their lawless deeds— **9 Jehovah knows how to deliver people of godly devotion out of trial, but to reserve unrighteous people for the day of judgment to be cut off,** 10 especially, however, those who go on after flesh with the desire to defile [it] and who look down on lordship. 2 Peter 2:4-10
New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

One of these days the unrighteous will be cut off from the presence of Jehovah God when they are thrown into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone where they will pay their sin debt for eternity. Death means separation.

Isaiah records that those who have died without Christ as their Savior will comment on Satan (Lucifer) being thrown into Tartarus with them.

“9 “Even She’ol underneath has become agitated at you in order to meet you on coming in. At you **it has awakened those**

***impotent in death, all the goatlike leaders of the earth.** It has made all **the kings of the nations** get up from their thrones. 10 **All of them speak up and say to you, 'Have you yourself also been made weak like us?** Is it to us that you have been made comparable? 11 Down to She'ol your pride has been brought, the din of your stringed instruments. Beneath you, maggots are spread out as a couch; and worms are your covering.'*

12 "O how you have fallen from heaven, you shining one, son of the dawn! How you have been cut down to the earth, you who were disabling the nations! 13 As for you, you have said in your heart, 'To the heavens I shall go up. Above the stars of God I shall lift up my throne, and I shall sit down upon the mountain of meeting, in the remotest parts of the north. 14 I shall go up above the high places of the clouds; I shall make myself resemble the Most High.'

15 "However, down to She'ol you **will** be brought, to the remotest parts of the pit. 16 **Those seeing you will gaze even at you; they will give close examination even to you,** [saying,] 'Is this the man that was agitating the earth, that was making kingdoms rock, 17 that made the productive land like the wilderness and that overthrew its very cities, that did not open the way homeward even for his prisoners?'" Isaiah 14:9-17 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

<p>Please remember that God told us that the Devil and his angels are going to be cast into the Lake of Fire</p>
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where they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. The cursed lost will also be cast into the Lake of Fire where they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

*10 And the Devil who was misleading them was hurled into the lake of fire and sulphur, where both the wild beast and the false prophet [already were]; and they **will be tormented day and night forever and ever.** Revelation 20:10 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

*37 Then the righteous ones will answer him with the words, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty, and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and receive you hospitably, or naked, and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to you?' 40 And in reply the king will say to them, 'Truly I say to YOU, To the extent that YOU did it to one of the least of these my brothers, YOU did it to me.' 41 "Then he will say, in turn, to those on his left, 'Be on YOUR way from me, YOU who have been cursed, **into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.** Matthew 25:37-41
New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

*6 This takes into account that it is righteous on God's part to repay tribulation to those who make tribulation for YOU, 7 but, to YOU who suffer tribulation, relief along with us at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with his powerful angels 8 in a flaming fire, as he brings vengeance upon **those who do not***

know God and those who do not obey the good news about our Lord Jesus. 9 These very ones will undergo the judicial punishment of everlasting destruction from before the Lord and from the glory of his strength, 10 at the time he comes to be glorified in connection with his holy ones and to be regarded in that day with wonder in connection with all those who exercised faith, because the witness we gave met with faith among YOU. 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

5- The people of the Jehovah Witness faith deny that the atoning blood of Jesus Christ is the finish work of Christ for our salvation.

“18 For YOU know that it was not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, that YOU were delivered from YOUR fruitless form of conduct received by tradition from YOUR forefathers. 19 but it was with precious blood, like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb, even Christ’s. 20 True, he was foreknown before the founding of the world, but he was made manifest at the end of the times for the sake of YOU 21 who through him are believers in God, the one who raised him up from the dead and gave him glory; so that YOUR faith and hope might be in God.” 1 Peter 1:18- 21 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

6- The people of the Jehovah Witness faith deny the White Throne Judgment.

They believe that the lost will just be annihilated and will go out of existence. They deny that there will be a time when everyone who has not asked Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt will have their sins reviewed and will learn of their condemnation. They deny that there is a place of everlasting torments (the Lake of Fire and Sulphur) where unrepentant sinners must pay their own sin debt through eternity

But that is not what their Bible teaches.

*“10 And the Devil who was misleading them was hurled **into the lake of fire and sulphur**, where both the wild beast and the false prophet [already were]; and **they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.** 11 And I saw a great white throne and the one seated on it. From before him the earth and the 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 scrolls were opened. But another scroll was opened; it is the scroll of life. And the dead were judged out of those things written in the scrolls according to their deeds. 13 And the sea gave up those dead in it, and death and Ha´des gave up those dead in them, and they were judged individually according to their deeds. 14 And death and Ha´des were hurled into the lake of fire. This means the second death, the lake of fire. 15 Furthermore, **whoever was not found written in the book of life was hurled into the lake of fire.**”* *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

To help them understand their need for a Savior, you might want to ask them the following questions.

1- If you believe a lost person will to be annihilated and go out of existence, would you like to live on the New Earth (Revelation chapters 21 and 22) through eternity or would you prefer to be annihilated and go out of existence?

2-What does the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teach must be done in order for you to live on the New Earth through eternity?

3- The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teaches a person must have their name recorded in the Book of Life in order to escape being thrown into the Lake of Fire where they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. What does the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teach must be done in order for you to have your name recorded in the Book of Life?

A- The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teaches that every one of us has sinned. *“23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

B- The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teaches that the sins we have committed must be paid for because Jehovah God considers

them a debt. *“23 For the wages sin pays is death, but the gift God gives is everlasting life by Christ Jesus our Lord..” Romans 6:23 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

C- The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teaches that Jehovah God views our acts of righteousness and our good works as filthy rags and we certainly cannot pay our sin debt with filthy rags. *“6 And we become like someone unclean, all of us, and all our acts of righteousness are like a garment for periods of menstruation; and we shall fade away like leafage, all of us, and our errors themselves will carry us away just like a wind..” Isaiah 64:6 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

D- The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures teaches that we can request that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ pay our sin debt so that we will not have to pay the debt our self.

“1 Who has put faith in the thing heard by us? And as for the arm of Jehovah, to whom has it been revealed? 2 And he will come up like a twig before one, and like a root out of waterless land. No stately form does he have, nor any splendor; and when we shall see him, there is not the appearance

so that we should desire him. 3 He was despised and was avoided by men, a man meant for pains and for having acquaintance with sickness. And there was as if the concealing of one's face from us. He was despised, and we held him as of no account. 4 Truly our sicknesses were what **he himself carried**; and as for our pains, **he bore them**. But we ourselves accounted him as plagued, stricken by God and afflicted. 5 **But he was being pierced for our transgression; he was being crushed for our errors. The chastisement meant for our peace was upon him, and because of his wounds there has been a healing for us.** 6 **Like sheep we have all of us wandered about; it was each one to his own way that we have turned; and Jehovah himself has caused the error of us all to meet up with that one.** 7 He was hard pressed, and he was letting himself be afflicted; yet he would not open his mouth. He was being brought just like a sheep to the slaughtering; and like a ewe that before her shearers has become mute, he also would not open his mouth.

8 Because of restraint and of judgment he was taken away; and who will concern himself even with [the details of] his generation? **For he was severed from the land of the living ones.** Because of the transgression of my people he had the stroke. 9 And he will make **his burial place** even with the wicked ones, and with the rich class in his death,

despite the fact that he had done no violence and there was no deception in his mouth.

10 But Jehovah himself took delight in crushing him; he made him sick. If you will set his soul as a guilt offering, he will see his offspring, he will prolong [his] days, and in his hand what is the delight of Jehovah will succeed. 11 Because of the trouble of his soul he will see, he will be satisfied. By means of his knowledge the righteous one, my servant, will bring a righteous standing to many people; and **their errors he himself will bear.** 12 For that reason I shall deal him a portion among the many, and it will be with the mighty ones that he will apportion the spoil, **due to the fact that he poured out his soul to the very death,** and it was with the transgressors that he was counted in; and **he himself carried the very sin of many people,** and **for the transgressors he proceeded to interpose.**
Isaiah 53 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

Those who make that request will have their names recorded in the Book of Life.

Those who do not request that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ pay their sin debt will have to pay for their sin debt through eternity in the Lake of Fire.

7- The people of the Jehovah Witness faith teach that only 144,000 people will make it to Heaven.

They teach that the rest of those who are not annihilated will live through eternity in a Paradise on this present earth if they are found as faithful slaves when Armageddon occurs.

To begin with, The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures states that this present earth will be destroyed just before the White Throne Judgment .

“9 Jehovah is not slow respecting his promise, as some people consider slowness, but he is patient with YOU because he does not desire any to be destroyed but desires all to attain to repentance. 10 Yet Jehovah’s day will come as a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a hissing noise, but **the elements being intensely hot will be dissolved, and earth and the works in it will be discovered.** 11 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of persons ought YOU to be in holy acts of conduct and deeds of godly devotion, 12 awaiting and keeping close in mind the presence of the day of Jehovah, through which [the] **heavens being on fire will be dissolved** and [the] **elements being intensely hot will melt!** 13 But there **are new heavens** and **a new earth** that we are awaiting according to his promise, and in these righteousness is to dwell.” 2 Peter 3:9-13 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

According to the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, all of the saved will be living with God on a New Earth where righteousness is to dwell.

*“1 And I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**; for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea is no more. 2 I saw also the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God and prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say: “Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his peoples. And **God himself will be with them.** 4 And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:1-4 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

Please note that the Alpha and the Omega will no longer be dwelling in heaven. He says He will be dwelling on the New Earth with mankind after the holy city, New Jerusalem, comes down out of heaven. **All of mankind will be dwelling on the New Earth!**

When The Physical Body Dies

When our physical body dies, we are separated from those who are still alive on this earth. When the spiritual body of someone who has not asked Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt dies, they are separated from the living God. The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures tells us that **the soul** of a lost person will die (Ezekiel 18:4). This means that the spiritual body of a lost person will be separated from Jehovah God forever and ever. The spiritual bodies of the lost will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, eternally separated from Jehovah God. It is the same kind of separation or death that Jehovah God referred to in Genesis 2:16-17.

*“16 And Jehovah God also laid this command upon the man: “From every tree of the garden you may eat to satisfaction. 17 But as for the tree of the knowledge of good and bad you must not eat from it, for in the day you eat from it **you will positively die.**” Genesis 2:16-17 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*

The same Hebrew word that was translated "die" in Ezekiel 18:4 was translated "die" in Genesis 2:17. Did Adam and Eve cease to exist after they sinned? No! But their sins caused a separation between themselves and Jehovah God. They lost fellowship with Jehovah God. Once we reach the age where Jehovah God holds us accountable for our sins, the very next sin we commit causes us to die. Neither our material body nor our spiritual body is separated from the land of the living but our material body and our spiritual body loses fellowship with Jehovah God. The only way that fellowship can be restored is if the sacrifice of Jesus Christ pays our sin debt and the only way that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ will pay our sin debt is if we, ourselves, ask Him to pay it.

Would Jesus Christ Tell A Lie?

¹⁹ **There was** a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: ²⁰ And **there was** a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his

gate, full of sores, ²¹ And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom (The Jews reference to Paradise): the rich man also died, and was buried; ²³ And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴ And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. ²⁵ But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. ²⁶ And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us that would come from thence. ²⁷ Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: ²⁸ For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. ²⁹ Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. ³⁰ And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. ³¹ And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead. Luke 16:19-31 New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures

<p>The first thing we want to notice was that the passage above (Luke 16:19-31) is copied from the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures. The New World Translation of the Holy</p>
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Scriptures is the Bible published and used by those of the Jehovah Witness faith.

The second thing we want to notice was that Jesus Christ said "there was a certain rich man". He was referring to an event and a conversation that had actually happened. Sometime in the past those two people had actually lived and had actually died. The beggar found himself in Paradise and the rich man found himself in a place of torments.

We find that the name for the compartment where the rich man found himself was a Greek word that is pronounced "Tartaroo" or "Tartarus" in English. That is the correct translation for the Greek word we find in the oldest Greek copies of the Bible. It was translated correctly into English in the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures.

"4 Certainly if God did not hold back from punishing the angels that sinned, but, by throwing them into Tar'ta-rus, delivered them to pits of dense darkness to be reserved for

*judgment; 5 and he did not hold back from punishing an ancient world, but kept Noah, a preacher of righteousness, safe with seven others when he brought a deluge upon a world of ungodly people; 6 and by reducing the cities Sod´om and Go-mor´rah to ashes he condemned them, setting a pattern for ungodly persons of things to come; 7 and he delivered righteous Lot, who was greatly distressed by the indulgence of the law-defying people in loose conduct— 8 for that righteous man by what he saw and heard while dwelling among them from day to day was tormenting his righteous soul by reason of their lawless deeds— 9 Jehovah knows how to deliver people of godly devotion out of trial, but **to reserve unrighteous people for the day of judgment to be cut off.**” 2 Peter 2:4-9 *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures**

Some of this information was gleaned and presented on CD by Dr. Ron Carlson, president of Christian Ministries International. His presentations deal with many provocative issues that face church members today including how to answer those of other faiths when they knock at our door. Information on seminars, tapes, videos, books and more can be obtained by contacting him at PO Box 1156, Minnetonka, MN, 55345-1156 or on the web at www.roncarlson.com.

We invite your questions and comments. I may be contacted through our web page <http://www.bayourouge.net>, through our e-mail at roberttanner@bayourouge.net or at P O Box 142, Evergreen, LA 71333.

Yours in Christ,

Robert Tanner