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*The Jehovah Witness
Delusion*

by Harold Kaufmann

“And we know that the
Son of God is come....
This is the true God.”

I John 5:20

THE HIDDEN DANGERS

One of the saddest of all tragedies today is the trauma in the life of one who leaves the Jehovahs Witness organization.

With tear dimmed eyes a lovely lady from Salinas, California, told me of the total rejection she experienced from family and friends when she made her break.

In Chewelah, Washington, a middle aged couple wanted to break with the organization but didn't because their children and grandchildren would not be allowed to ever speak to them again. How tyrannical!

In Pelham, North Carolina, a young mother of three told of her husband's divorce and subsequent remarriage when she choose to break with the Witnesses.

Others have told of the censureship imposed upon them for questioning the teachings of the organization.

Here is how one lady described it. "I was assigned to the back pew of the Kingdom Hall for six months. No Witness would speak to me, not even my family. When the time was up, the leaders questioned me. They Said, 'If you promise not to ever question Witness teachings again, we will reinstate you to full membership.' " It was more than she could bear.

It is unthinkable that anyone would willfully subject themselves to this type of slavery in a free world.

Once a member, you forfeit the freedom to "prove all things." I Thess. 5:21.

Anyone having had experiences similar to the ones sighted and would be willing to share your testimony, do send it to the author of this article.

THE CORNER STONE

Anyone wishing to study with a Jehovahs Witness should begin with the question, "Who is God?"

Witnesses have told me that anyone rejecting their concept of "Who is God?" will be lost.

Hence, it becomes of prime importance that this is the first question to be resolved.

JEHOVAH

The name Jehovah appears a few times in the King James Bible. It is translated from the Hebrew word (YHWH) which appears 6,823 times. Inasmuch as the name has no vowels, no one knows the correct pronunciation. For this reason (YHWH) is generally translated LORD, using all capital letters.

The name has the meaning of "cause to be." It would be fitting to use the name Creator wherever the names LORD or Jehovah appear.

Two New Testament writers name Jesus creator of everything on earth and in heaven. See Col. 1:16, 17 - John 1:10 - Eph. 3:9 - Heb. 1:2.

Therefore it may rightfully be concluded that the names of LORD or Jehovah in the Old Testament refer to Jesus Christ of the New Testament.

Just in case there may still be doubt in anyone's mind that Jesus is Jehovah, please notice what Jesus said. "No man hath seen God at any time." John 1:18.

In Genesis 17:1 the "LORD," "The Almighty God" appeared to Abraham. (See also chapter 18.) Who is this almighty LORD that appeared to a man? There is only one possible answer— it was Jesus, the creator of heaven and earth. Col. 1:16, 17.

Jesus rightfully wears the name of Jehovah.

REVELATION 3:14

To some it would appear that the entire religious concept of the Jehovah's Witness Kingdom is built upon one text, namely Rev. 3:14.

In the King James version of the Bible, Jesus is referred to as "The beginning of the creation of God." If this verse is correctly translated, it contradicts many other texts of scripture. If Jesus is a created being, he is not equal with the Father. This is what the Jehovah's Witness movement is all about. This theological apparent contradiction must be resolved.

The word "beginning" in Rev. 3:14 comes from the Greek word ARXA. If the word were spelled in the active tense it should be translated "The creator of all things." Then it would harmonize with Col. 1:16, 17 - Eph. 3:9 - Heb. 1:2 and John 1:10.

If the word were spelled in the passive tense, it should be translated as it appears in the King James Bible, "The beginning of the creation of God" which contradicts the verses just sighted.

It so happens that in the Greek New Testament the spelling of this word is the same for both the active and passive tenses.

Jesus said the scriptures cannot contradict (be broken) (John 10:35). Therefore the correct translation of Rev. 3:14 should refer to Jesus as the creator of all things. On this mistaken translation of Rev. 3:14, the Jehovah's Witnesses have built their religion.

To cover the mistake, they have written their own bible. In it they have added the words "other" four times to Col. 1:16, 17 to imply that Jesus was created and then created all other things.

The adding or taking away of words of scripture is unjustifiable. (See Rev. 22:18, 19.)

THE FIRSTBORN

If Christ is the firstborn (Col. 1:15) shouldn't this prove that he is a created being? Not necessarily. In Jewish homes it was an honor to be the firstborn son. If he were the son of a king he could expect to be heir to the throne.

However, there were exceptions to the rule. King David, known as the firstborn son of Jesse (Ps. 89:27) had seven older brothers. David, God's anointed one, assumed the leadership of ancient Israel, thus gaining firstborn status.

Eventually, Christ was to inherit the throne of David. Therefore firstborn status belongs to him also. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Rev. 19:16).

Firstborn denotes position, not necessarily geneology.

The birthright of Reuben went to Ephraim. Esau sold his to Jacob. The Levites were called the firstborn after assuming the priesthood in Israel.

The new testament church is called the church of the firstborn. Therefore the descriptive title firstborn applied to Christ does not prove that he is a created being. Rather it emphasizes his position as head of the church. Eph. 4:15.

Immediately after applying firstborn status to Christ, Paul added, "He, Christ, is before all things." Col. 1:17.

Accordingly, not even the Father could have existed before Christ.

EQUALITY OF THE SON

Is Jesus an equal with the Father? Paul said that Christ "thought it not robbery to be equal to God." Phil. 2:6. Jesus taught that all men should honor the Son, **even as** they honor the Father. John 5:23. The words "even as" mean in the same degree (equally).

When Jesus consented to be made flesh, he took upon himself a form lower than the angels, and could say, "The Father is greater than I." But conditions soon changed. Jesus went back to his Father. He was given a name above every name. Phil. 2:9. "Jesus Christ (is) the same yesterday and today and forever." Heb. 13:8. "In Him dwelleth **all** the fullness of the God head bodily." Col. 2:9. Jesus said to Philip, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." John 14:9. Thomas said of Him, "My Lord and my God." John 20:28 (and Jesus did not correct him). It is unbelievable that anyone should question the deity of Christ.

CO-ETERNAL

If only God is to be worshipped (Matt. 4:10), how is it that Jesus received worship of both angels and men? Matt. 28:9 and Heb. 1:6. Jesus answered this question when he said, "I and my Father are one." John 10:30. "...what things soever he (the Father) doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise." John 5:19. The attributes of one become the attributes of the other. When Paul says that Jesus existed before all things (Col. 1:17) we understand that the Father co-existed with Jesus from all eternity.

WISDOM

In the Old Testament, Witnesses found a text which they have twisted to imply that Christ was a created being. It reads, "The LORD possessed me (referring to wisdom) in the beginning of His way, before the works of old."

The LORD (Jesus' Old Testament title) certainly did possess wisdom. To this day man lacks the know how to convert energy into matter. Yet when it came to the creation of the universe, "He, Jesus, spake and it was done, He commanded and it stood fast." Ps. 33:6, 9. See also Col. 1:16, 17.

THE ARCHANGEL

1 Thess. 4:16 - Jude 9. If Jesus were an angel He would be a created being and beneath the Father as Witnesses claim. Is Jesus the archangel? Yes. Is Jesus an angel? No. Then who was he? He was captain of the angelic host. Here are a few texts which prove that Jesus is not an angel.

1. Christ received worship of angels. Heb. 1:6.

2. Angels were not allowed to receive worship. Rev. 19:10 - Rev. 22:8, 9.

3. Christ received worship of men. Matt. 14:33.

4. Only Jehovah is to be worshipped. Ex. 34:14. Christ said worship is due only to God. Matt. 4:10. He also said, "That all men should honor the Son even as they honor the Father." John 5:23.

5. Therefore, with doubting Thomas we can say "my Lord and my God."

THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST

Was Jesus totally human when here on earth as Witnesses claim? Definitely not! Here is why. Jesus received worship. (See Matt. 8:2.) The apostles and angels refused to be worshipped. How completely this disproves the Jehovah's Witnesses teaching that Jesus was only human! At birth Jesus was named Emmanuel which means "God with us." How could he possibly have been "God with us" if he were only a man? Jesus declared, "All men should honor the Son **even as they honor the Father.**"

Also to be considered is Christ's claim to forgive sins. "Who can forgive sins but God only." "That ye may know that the Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy). I say unto thee, arise, take up thy bed and go thy way..." Mark 2:7, 10, 11. Thus Jesus demonstrated that he was more than human.

GRAMMAR - JOHN 1:1

In John 1:1 Witnesses say Christ is "a god." The translators of **The New World Translation** say the small "g" is required because the Greek word for God (Theos) is not preceded by a definite article.

In the Greek grammar a definite predicate nominative which precedes a verb does not have a definite article. In the part of John 1:1 which says "God was the word" (Theos en o logos) the subject is "the word," the verb is "was" and the predicate nominative is "God." Usually the predicate nominative follows the verb, but **here it precedes it**. Since it precedes the verb it does not need an article. The **New World Translation** doesn't follow its no article small "g" rule in John 1:6, 12, 13. The word God does not have the article in the Greek, but it does have a capital "G" in their bible.

Is it really correct to use a capital in one instance and not in another?

CHRIST TODAY

Is Christ a spirit being today? Not at all. In Philippians Paul speaks of the glorious body of Christ. At that time Jesus had a body. The saved will receive a body like Christ's. Phil. 3:20, 21.

After his resurrection Jesus said, "Feel of me and handle me, a spirit hath not flesh and blood as ye see me have." Luke 24:39 - John 20:25-28. Referring to the resurrection Job said, "Though often my skin worms destroy this body yet in my flesh shall I see God." Job 19:26.

Buda is still in his tomb. So is Confucius. But we serve a risen Lord. His is an empty tomb. "Take heed," the Master said, "that no man deceive you."

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The individuality, intelligence, and personality of the Holy Spirit is demonstrated by the duties he performs. For example, he was to guide into all truth. John 16:13; 14, 26. He also intercedes for us. See Romans 8:26. The word "also" in Romans 8:34 proves that Christ is not the only one interceding.

If Witnesses were the ones preaching the truth today, long ago they would have found the truth about the personality of the Holy Spirit. Only an intelligent personality can plead.

THE MIGHTY GOD

Isa. 9:6 calls Christ "The Mighty God." Jer. 32:18 says Jehovah is the mighty one.

In Christ dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. The Father and the Son were one in purpose yet maintained their individual identities. Matt. 18:10.

The Hebrew word for God was usually in the plural form. The phrase "There is no God with me" in Deut. 32:39 is translated from the plural form of the word God.

The one true God is therefore the Godhead composed of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This then is the true concept of God.

CONCLUSION ON THE DIETY

Jehovah of the Old Testament is Jesus of the New Testament. This statement Witnesses challenge. The name Jehovah is translated from the Hebrew word (YHWH) Yahweh. It appears 6,823 times in the Old Testament. It is translated LORD (All capital letters) with few exceptions.

David tells us that the heavens were made by the breath of Jehovah's mouth (LORD - Ps. 33:6) Paul tells us that it was Jesus who created all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible. (Col. 1:16) all of which proves that the LORD as Jehovah of the Old Testament is Jesus of the New Testament.

It may also be shown that the LORD (Jehovah) appeared to Abraham, talked with him and ate the food prepared (Gen. 18:1, 8). Yet the Scriptures state that "No man hath seen God at any time." John 1:18. Then who was this Jehovah who appeared to Abraham? Jesus tells us, "your Father Abraham, rejoiced to see my day; and he saw it, and was glad. John 8:56. It was Jesus whose name was Jehovah (LORD) that was seen of men. Whether the Father ever wore the name Jehovah is not the doctrine under question here. What is important is the knowledge that Jesus wore the name Jehovah.

Another evidence of the Jehovah-ship of Christ is found in Acts 4:12 and Jer. 33:2-9. Jehovah cleanses from all iniquity, yet only through Christ's shed blood can our sins be washed away.

Still another evidence of the Jehovah-ship of Christ is that the heavens are the work of the LORD'S (Jehovah) hands. Ps. 102:22, 25. Paul attributes this same work to the hands of Jesus. Heb. 1:8, 10.

(YHWH) Lord is believed to be a form of the verb "To be" hence meaning, The Existing One, The Self Existing One, Etc.

The fact that Jesus bore the name of Jehovah, makes it impossible to catalog Him as a created being or as an inferior being to God the Father.

Jesus was the beginning, the causitive force in the creation of God. Rev. 3:14. All things were created by Jesus Christ. Eph. 3:9. He made the worlds. Heb. 1:2. He is before all things. Col. 1:17. All things were made by him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. John 1:3.

Jesus and the Father were one in purpose. John 6:38. Yet not one in being. Matt. 18:10.

With whom might we compare Christ? His greatness is unsearchable. Ps. 145:3. He "who being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God." Phi. 2:6.

"If Christ made all things, he existed before all things. The words spoken in regard to this are so decisive that no one need be left in doubt. Christ was God essentially, and in the highest sense. He was with God from all eternity, God over all, blessed forevermore." B.C. 5 p. 1126.

THE CONVERSION OF A JEHOVAH'S WITNESS

If you want to win a Jehovah's Witness to your faith, listen, reason, and ask questions; but, do not argue. Usually they are well versed in their belief.

Of all doctrines, the one that seems paramount in their thinking is— who is Jehovah God. This should be the only topic of discussion until agreement can be reached. This may take months.

OTHER TEACHINGS EXAMINED

A. BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS— As a people, Jehovah's Witnesses are opposed to blood transfusions, even in cases of life and death. Blood transfusions are not cannibalism. They are a means of saving life. Witnesses have made martyrs of themselves using a Bible pretense. They quote Lev. 3:17 which forbids eating the blood of animals. They are inconsistent in their reasoning in that they eat meat containing both blood and fat. Apparently their stand on blood transfusions is only an attention getter. Vegetarians and Orthodox Jews are the people who eat neither the blood or the fat of animals. Witnesses fail to practice what they preach on this issue.

B. SALUTING THE FLAG— Witnesses have achieved considerable publicity in that they refuse to salute the flag. Apparently this is just another attention getter for the Scripture is clear in the matter. It states, "Submit yourselves... whether it be to the king... or unto governors...." See I Peter 2:13-15; Titus 3:1.

C. HEAVENLY BEINGS— Witnesses teach that the inhabitants of the heavenly world will be spirit creatures. Those familiar with the Scripture will recall that following Jesus' resurrection there remained only an empty tomb. He came forth bodily. See Luke 24:3.

The resurrected body of Jesus was made of flesh and bone. See Luke 24:39. The saints will inherit a glorious body like His. See Phil. 3:20, 21 and also I John 3:1, 2 and I Cor. 15:49.

Eight days after Christ's resurrection, Jesus said to Thomas, "Feel the nail prints in My hands and the wound in My side...." Thomas answered, "My Lord and my God." See John 20:28.

It is a sad thing when anyone will give up the glorious christian hope for mysticism.

D. THE 144,000— Witnesses have long taught that only 144,000 will make it to heaven. John the Revelator who gives us the 144,000 number in the seventh and fourteenth chapters of Revelation goes on to say that besides the 144,000 he saw a multitude that no man could number before the throne (Rev. 7:9). And last, but not least, he then saw the angels also before the throne (Rev. 7:11).

Our only safety is in accepting the word of God as it reads, rather than the fanciful interpretations of men.

E. THE CROSS— Did Jesus die on a cross? The Witnesses say no and ridicule the Christian world for believing that he did. Here are the facts. Jesus stated, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." See John 3:14. Bible history tells us that, "Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it on a pole." See Numbers 21:8, 9. The word pole is translated from the Hebrew word NES. The only place in the Bible where NES is translated pole is in the above verse. The Hebrew word NES appears 20 times in the Hebrew Old Testament. It is seven times translated standard, six times translated ensign, two times translated banner, two times translated sail, two times translated

pole, and one time translated sign. Accordingly, the chances that Jesus was crucified upon a pole are only one in ten.

It is time for Christians to take the offensive and spurn such ridiculous attacks upon the Bible.

F. 1914— Did Jesus come in 1914 as Witnesses are teaching? Just the opposite. Our first world war started that year rather than the glorious coming of the Son of Man.

Here are a few texts of Scripture describing what to expect in the closing events of this earth's history. Jesus said, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come.... for as lightning cometh out of the east and shineth even unto the west so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.... then shall all the tribes of earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds of heaven, from one end of the earth to the other." See Matt. 24:14-31. This is not what happened in 1914. How then do the Witnesses arrive at their 1914 date for the coming of Christ?

They have taken the seven year period (See Dan. 4, which had nothing to do with the end of the world), applied the day for a year principle and calculated 2,520 days or prophetic years from the last king of Judah in 607 B.C. and it adds up to 1914 A.D.

It meant near catastrophe for the Witness organization when the year 1914 came and passed and no Savior appeared.

G. THE MILLENNIUM— Witnesses expect to inhabit this earth during the millennium. This is impossible, because God will remove this earth out of her place. Isa. 13:13. How long could man exist on this planet without the light and heat of the sun? Certainly not very long. It is believed in some circles that Isaiah 13:13 is descriptive of the bottomless pit of Rev. 20:1, 2.

The apostle Paul wrote, "...Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.... Yet once more signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken..." (Heb. 12:26, 27).

The only thing that cannot be moved is the kingdom, and of it Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world." (Heb. 12:28 and John 18:36.)

The Lord pictured for Jeremiah the thing He is about to do. "I beheld the earth, and lo, it was without form, and void, and the heavens and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down **at the presence of the Lord**, and by his fierce anger." (Jer. 4:23-26.) This event is still future and can only apply to the millennial period.

The prophet John said, "I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is called the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years." Rev. 20:1, 2. In the Greek version of the Holy Bible the same word which is translated abyss or bottomless pit is used to describe conditions as they were upon this earth prior to creation week.

"In the beginning God created heaven and earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep..." Gen. 1:1, 2. This is the same word picture that Jeremiah gave us of the earth at Christ's return. "I beheld the earth, and lo, it was without form and void, and the heavens had no light." Ibid.

It is apparent then that this earth will not be a place of paradise during the millennium. Yet the LORD will not make a full end. Jer. 4:27. The meek are to inherit the earth. Matt. 5:5.

At the end of the millennium this earth is again inhabited. Satan is loosed and the resurrection of the wicked takes place. Rev. 20:3, 5. Next the Holy City is seen descending from heaven with men (the saved of all ages). It is then surrounded by the newly resurrected, the doomed and lost of all ages. They then receive their reward—the lake of fire. See Rev. 20:9. Then will be ushered in the new heavens and the new earth. See Rev. 21:1-4.

