

would be *disfellowshipped* for his beliefs and practices! Among these are the following:

- Using the *symbol of the sun god Ra* on the cover of his books.⁵
- Using the *Masonic Knights Templar logo* of the Cross and Crown on the cover of *Zion's Watch Tower*.⁶ (upper left corner)
- Teaching that he was the "Faithful and Wise Servant" of Matthew 24:45-51, which resulted in many of his followers actually *worshipping* him.
- Teaching that "the forming of a visible organization...would be out of harmony with the spirit of the divine plan." "**Beware of 'organization,'**" he said, "It is wholly unnecessary."⁸
- Teaching that Christians "*are divine beings—hence all such are Gods*, thus we have a family of God...in the resurrection we will rise in our true character *as Gods*."⁹
- Teaching that Jesus must be *worshipped*.¹⁰
- Celebrating *birthdays* and *holidays* such as *Christmas*.¹¹
- Teaching that one can *join the military* as long as he "did not shoot anybody."¹²
- Teaching that white skin is better than black skin, and "*the white race* exhibits some qualities of *superiority* over any other."¹³
- Teaching that the *shape of one's brain* determines his responsiveness to God.¹⁴
- Teaching that Jehovah "governs his universe" from the star "*Alcyone*" in the *Pleiades* constellation.¹⁵
- Teaching that the "*Great Pyramid of Gizeh*" was "*God's stone witness*" which proved Russell's claims that "the time of the end" was from 1799-1914, with Jesus' "invisible presence" (his return) beginning in 1874, and the destruction of all present governments in 1914.¹⁶

The Douglas Walsh Trial

In the 1954 *Douglas Walsh Trial* in Scotland, Fred Franz, who was **WT** president from 1977-1992, was asked about the Society's **changes in doctrine**. Here is how he answered:

Q. So that what is published as the truth today by the Society may have to be admitted to be *wrong* in a few years?

A. We have to wait and see.

Q. And in the meantime the body of Jehovah's Witnesses have been following *error*?

A. They have been following misconstructions on the Scriptures.

Q. Error?

A. Well, *error*.

—*Douglas Walsh Trial, Pursuer's Proof, 1954, p114*

A fitting quote from the *Watchtower*—

Satan attempted to use his influence in a subtle way, and in this he was successful. How so? By insinuation and falsehood. He put forth error, under cover of a lie, as a substitute for truth. In other words, he put darkness for light (5/15/1976, p304).

The **WT** published their own translation of the Bible during the 1950's—the *New World Translation* (**NWT**). **JWs** are told that this is the most accurate, unbiased translation available. The **WT** claims that the **NWT** Committee was made up of highly trained Greek scholars who did their best to "transmit God's thoughts and declarations as accurately as possible."¹⁷ However, if you try to check the credentials of these men, you will find that the Society is *unwilling* to release this information, stating that the Committee desires that all the glory for this translation go to Jehovah God; therefore the translators wish to remain anonymous.

But is this *the real reason* why they desire to remain anonymous? Over the years, through investigation, the identity of these translators has been revealed; and the facts show that these "scholars" were totally unqualified for such a task. They had *no qualifications* to function as critical Bible translators. Their names are: **Frederick Franz**, **Nathan Knorr**, **Albert Schroeder**, **Milton Henschel** and **George Gangas**. *None of them hold degrees in the biblical languages!* And except for Franz, none of them knew biblical Greek or Hebrew. Further, Franz's biblical language abilities are open to serious question. In the *Douglas Walsh Trial*, he gave this testimony under oath:

Tuesday, 23rd November, 1954:
Frederick Franz, Examined:

Q. Have you also made yourself familiar with Hebrew?

A. Yes.

Q. So that you have a substantial linguistic apparatus at your command?

A. Yes, for use in my biblical work.

Q. I think you are able to read and follow the Bible in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Spanish, Portuguese, German, and French?

A. Yes.

The next day, his claims were put to the test:

Wednesday, 24th November, 1954:
Frederick Franz, Examined:

Q. You, yourself, read and speak Hebrew, do you?

A. I do not speak Hebrew.

Q. You do not?

A. No.

Q. Can you translate that into Hebrew?

A. Which?

Q. That fourth verse of the second chapter of Genesis?

A. You mean here?

Q. Yes.

A. No, I won't attempt to do that.

—*Pursuer's Proof, pp7 & 102-103*

What Franz failed to do was a simple exercise which an average 1st or 2nd year Hebrew student in any seminary would have no difficulty with. No wonder the Society *refuses* to publicly reveal the translators names. Would you put your trust in a doctor who refused to give his credentials? Yet this is what **JWs** do when it comes to vital Bible truths.

The New World Translation vs. the Kingdom Interlinear Translation

In 1969, the **WT** produced *The Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures*, "...a literal word-for-word translation into English under the Greek text as set out in 'The New Testament in the Original Greek' [Westcott and Hort]."¹⁸

The purpose behind the publishing of *The Kingdom Interlinear Translation*...is to aid such seekers of truth and life. Its literal interlinear English translation is specially designed to open up to the student of the Sacred Scriptures what the original *koine*' (common) Greek basically or literally says. ...The word-for-word interlinear translation and the *New World Translation* are arranged in parallel on the page, so that comparisons can be made between the two readings. Thus, the accuracy of any modern translation can be determined.¹⁹

What follows is an eye-opening comparison between the *Kingdom Interlinear Translation* (**KIT**) and their *New World Translation* (**NWT**):

Col 2:9— KIT: "all the fullness of the divinity" dwells in Christ.

NWT: "all the fullness of the divine quality" dwells in Christ.

Greek scholar Joseph Henry Thayer states that the Greek word used here "*Theotes*" literally means "**deity**"; that is, the state of being **God**, Godhead."²⁰

Col 1:16— KIT: Christ created "all (things)."

NWT: Christ created "all other things."

The word "**other**" is inserted *four times* in verses 16 & 17 in order to make this passage agree with **WT** doctrine that says *Christ himself was created*. (Yet in John 1:3, they have Christ creating "all things.")

Phil 2:9— KIT: God gave Christ the name "over every name."

NWT: God gave Christ the name "above every other name."

JWs teach that "Jehovah" has the name above *every* name, so they insert "**other.**"

Acts 10:36— KIT: "Jesus Christ: this is of all (them) Lord."

NWT: "Jesus Christ: this One is Lord of all others."

JWs teach that "Jehovah" is Lord of *all*, so in order to keep Jesus in his place and Jehovah as supreme, they insert "**others.**"

2 Peter 1:1— KIT: "the God of us and of Savior Jesus Christ."

2 Peter 1:11— KIT: "the Lord of us and of Savior Jesus Christ."

(1:1)— NWT: "our God and the Savior Jesus Christ."

(1:11)— NWT: "our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

The *exact same Greek phrase* is used in both of these verses with the exception of just one word: *Theos* (God) (*v1*) and *Kurios* (Lord) (*v11*). So the apostle declares Jesus to be not only "Lord and Savior," but also "**God and Savior.**" It's okay for Jesus to be "Lord and Savior" (*v11*), but when it comes to "**God and Savior**" (*v1*), the **WT** inserts the word "**the**" for it to *appear* that Peter is referring to two persons—(1) "God" (Jehovah) and (2) "the Savior" (Jesus).

Titus 2:13— KIT: "the great God and of Savior of us...Jesus."

NWT: "the great God and of the Savior of us...Jesus."

Again, the **WT** inserts the word "**the**" before "Savior" for it to *appear* that Paul is referring to two persons: God and Jesus.

John 14:14— KIT: "If ever anything you should ask me..."

NWT: "If you ask anything..."

Because the **WT** believes that Jesus is not God, they teach that no one should pray to him, since prayer is a form of *worship*. But Jesus lets his followers know they can request things of him in prayer. The **NWT** omits the words "**ask me.**"

Acts 7:59— KIT: "Lord Jesus, receive the spirit of me."

Acts 7:60— KIT: "Lord, not you should make to stand to them this the sin."

(v59)— NWT: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

(v60)— NWT: "Jehovah, do not charge this sin against them."

Stephen here is most clearly praying to the Lord Jesus—the **same** "*Kurios*" (**Lord**) in both verses! The only reason the **WT** didn't insert "Jehovah" for *Kurios* in verse 59 is because it would read "Jehovah Jesus." So they translated the first *Kurios* as "**Lord**" (*v59*) and the second *Kurios* as "**Jehovah**" (*v60*) to direct at *least one* of these prayers to their "Jehovah" instead of Jesus.²¹

Does the **WT's** *New World Translation* pass the test of “**accuracy**” when measured by their own *Kingdom Interlinear Translation*? Not at all! This is why *no* recognized scholar will endorse the **NWT**; they see the deception. They concur with Dr. Julius R. Mantey, Professor and world-renowned Greek scholar, that the **WT's** translation is “*a grossly misleading translation.*”²²

The Watchtower Prophet

The **WT** has claimed for over 100 years to be God’s only living “prophet” on earth—“**The Prophet of God.**” Let’s do some exploring:

1874: Christ came in the character of a Bridegroom in 1874.²³ Surely there is not the slightest room for doubt...the Lord Jesus is present and has been since 1874.²⁴

1914: The “battle of the great day of God Almighty” (*Rev 16:14*), which will end in 1914 with the complete overthrow of earth’s present rulership, is already commenced.²⁵

1918: In the year 1918, when God destroys the churches wholesale and the church members by millions...²⁶

1925: We may confidently expect that 1925 will mark the return of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and faithful prophets of old...based upon the promises set forth in the divine Word, we must reach the positive and indisputable conclusion that *millions now living will never die.*²⁷

Having prophesied of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob’s return in 1925, the **WT** backed up their claim by building a house for them to live in!

1929: San Diego, California...in the year 1929, there was built a house, known as Beth-Sarim. The Hebrew words *Beth Sarim* mean “House of the Princes”...the faithful men of old will soon be resurrected...²⁸



When it became obvious that the **WT's** prediction was nonsense, the house, pictured here, became an embarrassing monument to a false prophecy. It was sold in 1948!

1940's: There is no reasonable or Scriptural injunction to bring children into the world immediately before Armageddon, where we now are.²⁹

1975: Reports are heard of brothers selling their homes and property and planning to finish out the rest of their days in this old

system in the pioneer service. Certainly this is a fine way to spend the short time remaining before the wicked world’s end.³⁰

This organization, since the first *Watchtower* was published in 1879, has had an on-going history of proclaiming the end of the world: 1914, 1915, 1918, 1925, 1940’s, 1975. You be the judge if this qualifies them as a “false prophet.”

The prophet who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded...must die...when the prophet speaks in the name of Jehovah and the word does not occur or come true (*Deut 18:20-22 NWT*).

They are also judged by their own definition:

False Prophets: Individuals and organizations proclaiming messages that they attribute to a super human source but that do not originate with the true God and are not in harmony with his revealed will.³¹

Jesus warned that in the last days false prophets would arise and say that he came back when he did not: “If any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets” (*Matt 24:23-24*). **JWs** presently believe that Jesus’ “presence” (*second coming*) began in 1914, and that he has been reigning “invisibly” in the heavens ever since. But they haven’t always taught this. From the very first *Watchtower* publication in 1879 all the way to 1943—**more than 60 years!**—they falsely proclaimed that Christ’s “invisible presence” began in 1874.

A clearer understanding of biblical chronology [pointing to 1914] was published in 1943.³² [It] did away with the year 1874 as the date of the return of the Lord Jesus.³³

Under oath, at the *Douglas Walsh Trial*, Hayden Covington (former **WTVP**) gave this testimony of the 1874 date: (*Pursuer’s Proof*, pp 346-348)

A. That was the publication of a false prophesy...

Q. If a **JW** took the view himself that the prophesy was wrong and said so, he would be disfellowshipped?

A. Yes...Our purpose is to have unity.

Q. Unity based upon an enforced acceptance of a false prophesy?

A. That is conceded to be true.

Why would Jehovah appoint a false prophet to be his “representative to mankind” (as they claim), especially since Jesus warned his followers not to follow prophets who would *falsely prophesy his return*?—“Many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many” (*Matt 24:11*). He told us to beware of those who say “THE TIME IS AT HAND” (*Luke 21:8 NASV*). How fitting a warning from our Lord himself against the organization founded by Charles

Russell who specifically entitled a book, “THE TIME IS AT HAND.”³⁴

In that famous *Watchtower* (4/1/1972) where the Society sings its own praises about being God’s only true prophet, they say, “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 this can be done is to review the record” (p197). Well, we’ve done just that—review the record—and the final verdict is...

True, there have been those in times past who predicted an “end” to the world, even announcing a specific date. Yet nothing happened. The “end” did not come. They were guilty of false prophesying. Why? What was missing? Missing from such people were God’s truths and the evidence that he was using and guiding them.

—*Awake!* magazine, Oct. 8, 1968, p.23

“For by your own words you will be justified, and by your own words you will be condemned.” —Matthew 12:37



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FACTS

the watchtower society
doesn't want you to know

Millions of Jehovah’s Witnesses (**JWs**) worldwide spend approximately a billion hours each year serving the Watchtower Society (**WT**). Claiming that people must “**come to Jehovah’s organization for salvation,**”¹ great pressure is placed upon **JWs** to perform according to all their guidelines. In addition to attending five meetings each week, **JWs** are required to distribute **WT** material, conduct **WT** “Bible studies,” and research topics in **WT** literature for discussion. **JWs** are forbidden to serve in the military, salute the flag, say the pledge of allegiance, vote, take blood transfusions, celebrate birthdays and holidays including Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter, and are forbidden to read literature critical of the **WT**.

If a **JW** fails to follow the **WT's** guidelines, they are subject to be “disfellowshipped,” and thus shunned by all their **JW** friends and relatives.² Because of these policies and the overwhelming control this organization has over the physical and spiritual lives of so many, it is of paramount importance that a person thoroughly examine the **WT's** claims and history before becoming involved with them. The Society itself has said,

We need to examine, not only what we personally believe, but also what is taught by any religious organization with which we may be associated. Are its teachings in full harmony with God’s Word, or are they based on the traditions of men? If we are lovers of the truth, there is nothing to fear from such an examination.³

Charles Taze Russell

In 1879, at the age of 27, Charles Taze Russell, founder of the *Watchtower Bible & Tract Society*, began publishing *Zion's Watch Tower* and *Herald of Christ's Presence*. For ten years prior, he had studied with a splinter group off of *Second Adventists*, and he was greatly influenced by their teachings against the bodily return of Christ and the immortality of the soul.⁴ Russell engaged in practices and taught many things that today’s **JWs** totally reject and consider to be of pagan origin. In fact, if he was a **JW** today, he

