

called “Russellites.” Why? because they followed Charles Russell. If early **NT** believers were followers of “Jehovah,” proclaiming *Jehovah’s* kingdom,” they would not have been called “Christians” (*Acts 11:26*), but “Jehovahians!” or “Jehovahites!” or “Jehovah’s Witnesses!” but not “Christians!” That name is reserved for *Jesus people!*

“Jehovah” — God’s Personal Name ?

The Watchtower (**WT**) teaches **JWs** that calling God by his personal name, which they say is “Jehovah,” is of the utmost importance. They say God’s true followers can be identified by their use of “Jehovah” in their prayers, congregational singing, preaching, and Bible study. **JWs** are taught that God’s true name was removed from the Bible by superstitious scribes (a claim based upon no facts whatsoever!), but that the **NWT** has “faithfully” restored God’s name in the **OT** where the Hebrew consonants “YHWH” appear. In fact, even in the **NT**, the **NW** translators have inserted the name “Jehovah” at their own discretion. The **WT** may be justified in rendering God’s name, “Jehovah,” in its version of the **OT**, but not in inserting it 237 times in the **NT** where there’s no evidence at all that the **NT** writers used God’s name. Of the 5,000 Greek manuscripts we possess today of the **NT**, not a single one contains God’s full name. In this respect, the **NWT** is guilty of adding to God’s Word, which he strictly warns against! (*Prov 30:6; Rev 22:18-19*). By inserting “Jehovah” where it doesn’t belong in the **NT**, the **NWT** distorts Jesus’ identity by creating an artificial distinction between him and “Jehovah.”

The **NT** leaves no doubt about what name Christians should identify with and uplift at all times! They meet together in the name of Jesus! (*Matt 18:20; 1 Cor 5:4*) Demons are subject to the name of Jesus! (*Luke 10:17; Acts 16:18*) Repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in the name of Jesus! (*Luke 24:47*) Salvation comes through faith in the name of Jesus! (*Acts 4:12; 10:43; 1 John 3:23; 5:13*) We are to pray in the name of Jesus! (*John 14:13-14; 16:23-24*) The Holy Spirit is sent in the name of Jesus! (*John 14:26*) The sick and the lame were healed in the name of Jesus! (*Acts 3:16; 4:7-10,30*) The apostles taught upon the basis of the name of Jesus! (*Acts 4:17-18; 5:28*) Christians call upon the name of Jesus! (*1 Cor 1:2*) Paul was to bear to the nations the name of Jesus! (*Acts 9:15*) Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess to the name of Jesus! (*Phil 2:10-11*) The name that is above every name is the name of Jesus! (*Eph 1:21*) In fact, “whatever it is that we do, whether in word or in work, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus!” (*Col 3:17*)

“Jehovah” — God’s “Nickname” !

Since one of the outstanding features of the **NWT** is their abundant usage of the word “Jehovah” (6,973 times in the **OT** and 237 in the **NT**!), we would like to point out that in the opening appendix of the early editions of the 1984 revised **NWT**, they plainly admitted that “Yahweh” is “the more correct way” to render God’s name! Here’s their original quote: “While inclining to view the pronunciation ‘Yahweh’ as the more correct way, we have retained the form ‘Jehovah’ because of people’s familiarity with it since the 14th century.”

Why then did the **NWT** forfeit accuracy to use the word *Jehovah*, which began to be used in the 14th century? Their answer is “because of people’s familiarity with it.” That’s another way of saying that they’ve upheld the traditions of man’s inventions (since the 14th century) at the expense of truth and accuracy, which they knew about. How can the **NWT** claim that “Jehovah” is the restoration of the Divine Name to its rightful place in the English text, since they openly admit “Yahweh” is “more correct”? Shouldn’t they rather have stated that knowingly they have omitted the more correct name for God, that is “Yahweh” and substituted a different name which began to be used in the 14th century—Jehovah?

Bruce Metzger (Princeton Professor of **NT** Language) said: “The form ‘Jehovah’ is of late medieval origin; it is a combination of the consonants of the Divine Name and the vowels attached to it by the Masoretes, but belonging to an entirely different word...The word ‘Jehovah’ does not accurately represent any form of the Name ever used in Hebrew” (*New RSV Bible, 1989, To the Reader*).

The **WT** openly admits to the **Catholic origin** of the name “Jehovah”—“By combining the vowel signs of ‘Adonai’ [LORD] and ‘Elohim’ [GOD] with the four consonants of the Tetragrammaton [YHWH], the pronunciations ‘Yehowah’ and ‘Yehowih’ were formed. The first of these provided the basis for the Latinized form ‘Jehovah.’ The first recorded use of this form dates from the 13th century. C.E. Raymundus Martini, a Spanish monk of the Dominican Order, used it in his book *Pugio Fidei* of the year 1270. Hebrew scholars generally favor ‘Yahweh’ as the most likely pronunciation” (*Aid to Bible Understanding, 1971, pp884-85*).

So, what the **WT** is admitting for us here is that the name “Jehovah” is a **man-made concoction!** The original, ancient manuscripts of the **OT** were written in Hebrew—all in consonants, with no vowels. The Hebrew characters for the Divine Name are transliterated into English as YHWH. Random vow-

els were taken **by man** and merely inserted between these four letters from a totally different word—“**Adonai**”—thus, rendering it “**YaHoWaH**” or “Jehovah.” This word *Jehovah* is a **human fabrication!** Anyone who denies this is simply ignoring the facts! Use it all you want, but recognize it for what it is—**man-made**—and know that its origin is not from heaven. It is neither God’s “personal” name, nor is it “THE DIVINE NAME.”

Imagine a man moving here from Australia whose name is **Arthur Ray Bry**. And because the name “Bry” is not familiar around here, but seems odd, someone gets the notion to make a few changes so it sounds better. So he takes the initials from Mr. Bry’s first two names—“**A.R.**”—and places them into “Bry” like this—“**BArry**.” Now, it sounds familiar; he likes it! “Barry!” And because he uses it often, it catches on with quick familiarity, and before you know it, people all over are referring to the Australian as “Barry!” (yet they know his name is “Bry”). And so, for years Mr. Bry is “Barry” to just about everyone. How did this happen? Why did this **nickname** stick? because people became familiar with it! But does *people’s familiarity* make it any more “correct”? No! And how silly would it be for somebody to stand up one day and **officially proclaim** that “Barry” is the Australian’s *real name* and that that’s the *only proper way* to address him!

Yet that’s exactly what the **WT** is doing with “**JeHoVaH**!”—clearly an *invention of man!* That’s what a nickname is: “an invented name.” God was nicknamed “Jehovah” centuries ago! The **WT** has simply wrapped their whole organization around this nickname! They’ve been obsessed with it ever since 1931 when J.F. Rutherford officially named them “*Jehovah’s Witnesses!*” And the **WT** publishes great swelling words to the whole wide world that God’s true followers are identified by their use of this nickname—“**JeHoVaH**!”—a name fabricated from man’s imagination! They even take it into the realm of salvation!

Salvation & the Name “Jehovah” ?

Here’s where the **WT** really goes off the deep end with this inaccurate name for God. They exalt its usage to a *salvation issue!*—“Have you been taught to use God’s name, Jehovah? If not, your salvation is in jeopardy, for ‘everyone who calls on the name of Jehovah will be saved!’—Acts 2:21; compare Joel 2:32” (*Watchtower, 8/15/1997, p6*). Now, that’s a statement for the record books!—not an ounce of truth in it or a *smidgen* of common sense!

This prophecy, Joel 2:32, is quoted by Peter in Acts 2 and by Paul in Romans 10. In

the **NT**, everywhere the **WT** has translated the Greek word for “Lord” (*Kurios*) as “Jehovah” (237 times), they assert dogmatically that each of these occurrences has reference, not to the Son, but to the Father only. But anyone who takes even a cursory look at these two **NT** passages, can easily see the **WT**’s bias and deceit in their **NWT**, as it’s obvious that the name “Jehovah” is forced upon both of them!

Let’s look first at Romans 10:13 and its context (*vv8-17*) to see just how Paul uses this passage in Joel—“Everyone who calls on the name of Jehovah [YHWH] will get away safe” (*Joel 2:32*). I’ve inserted *Kurios* so you can easily follow Paul’s thought right through. (Begin reading at Romans 9:30 for a broader context.)

8 “The word is near you, in your own mouth and in your own heart”; that is, the “word” of faith, which we are preaching. 9 For if you publicly declare that “word in your own mouth,” that **JESUS IS LORD** [*Kurios*], and exercise faith in your heart that God raised him up from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one exercises faith for righteousness, but with the mouth one makes public declaration for salvation. 11 For the Scripture says: “None that rests his faith on him will be disappointed.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for there is **THE SAME LORD** [*Kurios*] over all, who is rich to all those calling upon him. 13 For “everyone who calls on the name of **JEHOVAH** [*Kurios*] will be saved.” 14 However, how will they call on him in whom they have not put faith? How, in turn, will they put faith in him of whom they have not heard? How, in turn, will they hear without someone to preach? 15 How, in turn, will they preach unless they have been sent forth? Just as it is written: “How comely are the feet of those who declare good news of good things!” 16 Nevertheless, they did not all obey the good news. For Isaiah says: “Jehovah, who put faith in the thing heard from us?” 17 So faith follows the thing heard. In turn the thing heard is through the word about **CHRIST**.

This is a prime example of how far the **WT** will go in their desperate attempts to conceal who Jesus really is! You won’t find a clearer passage in all the Word of God! Paul is referring to “the Lord Jesus” right through. No question! Anyone can see that! But the **WT**’s “Jesus” is just too little for Joel’s prophecy. So, no matter what the apostle says, or how silly it looks, they take their “Jehovah,” and **PASTE HIM** right smack dab in the middle of everything!

Paul explicitly states: (1) that Jesus is Lord, (2) that the Lord Jesus richly blesses all who call upon him, and (3) that these truths refer back to Joel 2:32 where the Divine Name

"YHWH" is found in the Hebrew, and Paul applies it to **Jesus!** His clarity of thought, follow through, and use of language are all *unmistakable*. There's only *one name* that fits in Romans 10:13—the *name of Jesus!* The **NT** leaves no room for debate about this! I know the **WT** directs us to another name—a *hybrid* name, their favorite *pet-name* "Jehovah"—that no one ever heard of till the year 1270! But the voice of the apostles all point us in another direction!—to the majesty and glory of "the *name of Jesus!*" Peter stood up and declared: "**There is no salvation in anyone else**, for there is not another name under heaven...by which we must get saved!" (Acts 4:10-12).

The **WT** is calling upon us to shut down our sense of reason! This passage (vv8-17) has nine direct references to Jesus. Yet on the 6th reference, the **WT** underhandedly slips their "Jehovah" into the text, completely breaking Paul's *train of thought*, leaving it looking like this: **Jesus-Jesus-Jesus-Jesus-Jesus-Jehovah-Jesus-Jesus-Jesus**. That's a strange looking train indeed! A train that cannot possibly fit into Paul's thinking. He uses an unbreakable chain of *key words* throughout this passage that will allow for no such **WT** intrusion! Words like: **him, word, faith, heard, preach, saved, call**. This is no loose passage; it's bound together by phrases and expressions that just keep reoccurring verse after verse. There's no question about the one and only person Paul has on his mind throughout this entire discourse—the **Lord himself, even Jesus!**

We have "**Jesus is Lord**" [**Kurios**] (v9). Then we have "those calling upon" "**the same Lord**" [**Kurios**] (v12). And the very next verse says, "everyone who calls on the name of **Kurios** will be saved" (v13). Are you telling me there are "intelligent" people arguing about who this **Kurios** is? Without question, this **Kurios** refers to **Jesus**; but if the **WT** wants to, it can turn this **Kurios** into a totally *different* being—the **WT's** "Jehovah!"

The **NW** translators have actually given us *the key* that solves everything!—a 3-letter word! "**For!**" It's got verses 12 & 13 stuck together like cement! Because of this *Big /little* word, the person of verse 13 has to be the very same person of verse 12! There's no way around it! This word "for" is used like "because." Notice how it reads from verse 11:

11For [because] the Scripture says: "None that rests his faith on him will be disappointed." **12For** [because] there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, **for** [because] there is the same Lord over all, who is rich to all those calling upon him. **13For** [because] "everyone who calls on the name of _____ will be saved."

There's nothing that could possibly fill in this blank space but "**the Lord!**" Sentence structure, correct grammar, and common sense demand it! Each phrase beginning with the word "**for**" is tied to the previous phrase, and also further enlarges upon it. The "**for**" (because) of verse 13 ties what is *about to be said* with what *was just said* in verse 12.

- Verse 12 speaks of "**the Lord**" and those calling upon him.
- Verse 13 speaks of "_____" and those calling upon him.
- Verse 12 speaks of "**Kurios**" and those calling upon him.
- Verse 13 speaks of "**Kurios**" and those calling upon him.

In each phrase of verses 11-13, Paul has reference to the *universal offer of the gospel* to all persons everywhere, Jew and Gentile, none excluded! Notice his *all-inclusive* wording: "none" (v11), "no distinction," "the same Lord," "all" (v12) and "everyone" (v13). There is *no break* in his thought pattern at all! Everyone everywhere is invited to call upon the name of "**the same Lord**" who is "**over all!**" This passage is tightly knit-together. But the **WT** comes along and "breaks" it! They break it by bringing into it a totally *foreign* character! They contradict it and corrupt it by interjecting a completely *different* "Lord"—the *Jehovah* of the **WT**—when Paul makes it clear that he is speaking about "**THE SAME LORD**" who is "**OVER ALL!**" And he identifies this One—"Jesus is Lord!" (v9).

Paul, whose "sins were washed away" by his "*calling upon* the name of the **Lord Jesus**" (Acts 22:16), who later wrote to the Corinthians about "*calling upon* the name of our **Lord Jesus**" (1 Cor 2:2), and who also wrote to Timothy about "*calling upon* the **Lord Jesus**" out of a clean heart" (2 Tim 2:22)—this *very same* apostle wrote to the Romans that "everyone who *calls on* the name of _____ will be saved." (*see **NWT** center reference at Acts 9:14; see also 9:20,21)

It's as clear as the noonday sun! But not to **JWs!** Their minds have been taken captive by the **WT** to the point that they simply *will not* and *cannot* see the glory of the **Lord Jesus**, even when it's set forth so clearly right before their eyes! The **WT's** "spell" is no small thing! The hold it has on them—none can break but One. And that's the real shame; the very One they deny—the **Lord Jesus**—is their only hope of deliverance! "You do not want to come to me that you may have life" (John 5:39-40). They keep coming to their *Jehovah*, calling upon their *Jehovah*, and all the while Jesus bids them to come unto him! (Matt 11:28). "If anyone is thirsty," he said, "let him come to me and drink" (John 7:37). Not to the **WT's Jehovah**—that's a dry well! Springs of living

water are found in Jesus! "If you had known the free gift of God, and who it is that says to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water" (John 4:10).

Joel's prophecy is not only quoted by Paul, but also by Peter. Remember the **WT's** quote earlier—"Have you been taught to use God's name, Jehovah? If not, your salvation is in jeopardy, for 'everyone who calls on the name of Jehovah will be saved!'" Like I said: not an *ounce* of truth in it or a *smidgen* of common sense! The name "Jehovah" was not even known (*made-up!*) till 1,300 years later! Remember the **WT** said it was pieced together as "**YaHoWaH**" and first published by that Spanish monk as "*Jehovah*" in the 13th century! So, according to the **WT**, for 13 centuries, *everybody's* "salvation was in jeopardy"—even Peter's!—because no one had "been taught to use God's [nickname!], Jehovah!" Now, that's brilliant! If you want to follow an organization like that, help yourself. But as the song goes, "**I'D RATHER HAVE JESUS!**"

Who is this **Kurios** in Peter's quote of Joel in Acts 2:21? "Everyone who calls on the name of _____ will be saved." The best interpreter of Peter is Peter! All we need to do is turn one page over to Acts 4:12 and hear Peter preaching about **Jesus!** and listen for the *two words* above—"name" and "saved"—because Peter is not the least bit shy about making this gospel truth *known!* He says: (1) "**There is no salvation in anyone else!**" (2) "There is not another name under heaven...by which we must get saved!" Peter has just thrown the **WT's** "Jehovah" on the junk pile! That's a helpless god! a figment right out of the minds of Charles Russell and "Judge" Rutherford! Their faithful followers all these years—all "*praying to a god that cannot save!*" (Isaiah 45:20). The **JW** story is a sad tale.

"There is no salvation" in the **WT's Jehovah!** because "there is not another name" but **Jesus!** Peter cannot make it any plainer! He declares the solemn truth that Joel's prophecy of calling upon the name of **YHWH** is realized in **Jesus!** All who call on *that name* will be saved!

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I walked away from
Jehovah's Witnesses
— never to turn back!

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I'M NOT A "JEHOVAH'S" WITNESS!

I am a "witness," but I'm not a "Jehovah's" Witness! I'm a witness just like every witness in the New Testament! (**NT**)—a witness of that name "above every name" (Eph 1:21)—**JESUS!** That's right! "**Jesus' Witness!**" Let's talk about this, and use only the Jehovah's Witnesses' (**JWs**) *New World Translation (NWT)*. Isn't it true that the last words of a friend are those you would treasure the most? On the Mount of Olives, these are Jesus' *last words* to his disciples: "**YOU WILL BE WITNESSES OF ME!**" (Acts 1:8). That's what it is to "believe in Jesus!" to know him, to love him, to follow him, and honor those *last words*—to be a **witness of him!**

"We are witnesses," Peter said, of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 3:15; 4:33). In fact, he said, even the Holy Spirit is a "witness" of Jesus! Listen to him: "We are witnesses of these matters, and *so is the holy spirit*" (Acts 5:32). Jesus said the same: "*The spirit ... will bear witness about me*"; he then said, "and you, in turn, are to bear witness"—"**about me!**" (John 15:26-27). In fact, "all the prophets" are "witnesses" of Jesus! Peter said, "**To him all the prophets bear witness**, that everyone putting faith in him gets forgiveness of sins through his name" (Acts 10:43). Make no mistake about it—a true Christian is a "**Jesus' witness!**" Followers of Jesus, Paul said, are "his witnesses!" (Acts 13:31); not "Jehovah's" witnesses, but "**his witnesses!**"

What message did Saul of Tarsus preach as soon as he was converted? "Jesus!" (Acts 9:20). What message did the Ethiopian eunuch need to hear? "Jesus!" (Acts 8:35), and Cornelius? "Jesus!" (Acts 10:42-43), and the Philippian jailor? "Jesus!" (Acts 16:31). At Ephesus Apollos preached "Jesus!" (Acts 18:25), and at Achaia "Jesus!" (Acts 18:28). At Thessalonica Paul preached "Jesus!" (Acts 17:3), and at Athens "Jesus!" (Acts 17:18), and at Corinth "Jesus!" (Acts 18:5), to whom he declared, "*We preach Christ!*" (1 Cor 1:23), and even went so far as to say he didn't want to "*know anything* among them except **Jesus Christ!**" (1 Cor 2:2).

This is one of the most prominent truths displayed in all the **NT**—that Christians are *Jesus people!* They talk about Jesus, preach about Jesus, and sing about Jesus! They're "*Christians!*" "**YOU WILL BE WITNESSES OF ME!**" People are labeled after the one they follow. The early Jehovah's Witnesses (**JWs**) were