Questions About Proving a Trinity Citing from Jehovah Witness Bible

By Pastor Ed Anderson

I was taught to believe that there is no trinity. Please cite biblical references that show Moments or mentions when Jesus, the father, and Holy Spirit show up or are separated at same time. Give citations of a trinity from the Jehovah witness bible.

Answer:

Beautiful and profound question. First, just to be clear – I am not a Jehovah Witness.

However, there are several *sacred moments in Scripture* when the **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit** are simultaneously revealed or clearly present together — either visibly, audibly, or through action. These moments unveil the unity and distinctness of the Godhead working in perfect harmony.

Here are the **main moments**:

1. The Baptism of Jesus

Matthew 3:16-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32-34

"When Jesus was baptized, He went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'"

Who's present:

- **Jesus (the Son)** being baptized in the Jordan River.
- The Holy Spirit descending visibly in the form of a dove.
- The Father speaking audibly from heaven.

This is the clearest moment of all three persons appearing distinctly and simultaneously.

2. The Transfiguration

Matthew 17:1–8; Mark 9:2–8; Luke 9:28–36

"A bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."

Who's present:

- **Jesus (the Son)** transfigured in glory before Peter, James, and John.
- The Father speaking audibly from the cloud of divine presence.
- The Holy Spirit symbolized in the *bright cloud*, often representing His presence (see Exodus 40:34–35).

→ Here, the divine cloud recalls the Shekinah glory — the Spirit's visible manifestation of God's presence.

3. The Annunciation (Conception of Jesus)

Luke 1:35

"The angel answered her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God."

Who's present:

- The Father (Most High) initiates the plan and provides authority.
- The Holy Spirit performs the miracle of conception.
- The Son is conceived in Mary's womb.

This is the moment when the Word became flesh (John 1:14) through the triune work of God.

4. The Great Commission

Matthew 28:18–20

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

Who's present:

- **Jesus (the Son)** speaking after His resurrection.
- The Father and Holy Spirit named as co-equal persons in the baptismal formula.

This is not a vision, but a declaration of divine unity and authority — all three working together in mission.

5. The Promise and Descent of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost)

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing."

Who's present:

- **Jesus (the Son)** exalted in heaven, sending the Spirit.
- The Father who promises and authorizes the sending.
- The Holy Spirit manifesting as tongues of fire and filling the believers.

All three Persons cooperate in launching the New Testament church.

6. Paul's Trinitarian Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

Who's present:

- The Father "the love of God."
- The Son "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ."

The Holy Spirit — "the fellowship (communion) of the Spirit."

This verse beautifully captures the triune blessing experienced daily by believers.

Summary Table

Event	Father	Son	Holy Spirit	Scripture
Baptism of	Voice from	Baptized in	Descends as	Matt. 3:16–17
Jesus	Heaven	Jordan	Dove	
Transfiguratio	Speaks from	Glorified	Cloud of	Matt. 17:5
n	Cloud	before	Glory	
		Disciples		
Annunciation	"Most High"	Conceived in	Comes upon	Luke 1:35
		Mary	Mary	
Great	Named	Speaking	Named	Matt. 28:19
Commission				
Pentecost	Sends	Exalted	Outpoured	Acts 2:32–33
	Promise	Sender	Fire	
Benediction	Love	Grace	Fellowship	2 Cor. 13:14

Jehovah's Witness Bible

Called the **New World Translation (NWT)**, it does not explicitly use the word *Trinity* and deliberately phrases verses in ways that seem to deny the full deity of Christ and the personality of the Holy Spirit.

However, even within the NWT, the doctrine of the Trinity is still visible — through clear *biblical patterns* of equality, divine action, and shared attributes between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Below are several citations from the NWT that, taken together, still affirm the triune nature of God.

1. The Baptism of Jesus

Matthew 3:16–17 (NWT)

"After being baptized, Jesus immediately came up from the water; and look! the heavens were opened up, and he saw God's spirit descending like a dove and coming

upon him. Look! Also, there was a voice from the heavens that said: 'This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved.'"

Trinitarian insight:

Even in the NWT, the *Father's voice*, *the Son's presence*, and *the Spirit's descent* all appear **simultaneously** — three distinct persons operating in divine harmony.

2. The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19 (NWT)

"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."

Trinitarian insight:

The word "name" (singular, not plural) implies **unity of essence** among the three. Despite Watchtower theology, this verse still lists the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as coequal in baptismal authority.

3. The Annunciation

Luke 1:35 (NWT)

"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 the one who is born will be called holy, God's Son."

Trinitarian insight:

All three divine Persons are seen:

- Most High (Father) source of power
- Holy Spirit active divine agent
- **Son** born as "God's Son"

Even the NWT cannot avoid this triune cooperation in the incarnation.

4. The Transfiguration

Luke 9:35 (NWT)

"Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying: 'This is my Son, the one who has been chosen. Listen to him."

Trinitarian insight:

As in the baptism, we see:

- The Father's voice
- The Son glorified
- The cloud (symbol of the Spirit's presence)

The NWT keeps this intact.

5. Jesus' Equality with the Father

John 10:30 (NWT)

"I and the Father are one."

Even though Jehovah's Witnesses reinterpret this as "oneness in purpose," the grammar in Greek ($\varepsilon v \varepsilon \sigma \mu \varepsilon v - hen esmen$) means "one in essence or nature." The NWT still contains this statement — a bold declaration of unity with God.

6. The Deity of the Son

John 20:28 (NWT)

"In answer Thomas said to him: 'My Lord and my God!"

Trinitarian insight:

Even in the NWT, Thomas directly calls Jesus "my God." Jesus does not correct him. This remains one of the clearest confessions of Jesus' deity — unchanged even in Watchtower translation.

7. The Holy Spirit as a Person

Acts 5:3-4 (NWT)

"But Peter said: 'Ananias, why has Satan emboldened you to play false to the holy spirit and to hold back secretly some of the price of the field?... You have played false, not to men, but to God."

Trinitarian insight:

To lie to the **Holy Spirit** is to lie to **God** — clearly equating the Spirit with God Himself.

8. Trinitarian Blessing

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NWT)

"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."

Trinitarian insight:

A threefold divine benediction:

- · Grace (Jesus)
- Love (Father)
- · Fellowship (Holy Spirit)

All three are active in the believer's life — side by side, in equal relational status.

9. The Creator Shared

Genesis 1:26 (NWT)

"Then God said: 'Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness..."

Trinitarian insight:

God refers to Himself in the ${\bf plural}$ ("us," "our").

While the NWT doesn't interpret this as the Trinity, the language remains — strongly implying plurality within God's unity, consistent with later revelation.

10. The Spirit's Divine Attributes

1 Corinthians 2:10-11 (NWT)

"For it is to us God has revealed them through his spirit, for the spirit searches into all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the things of a man except the man's own spirit within him? So, too, no one has come to know the things of God except the spirit of God."

Trinitarian insight:

The Spirit has **divine omniscience** — He knows "the deep things of God," a quality only God possesses. Even the NWT preserves this.

Summary

Concept	Verse (NWT)	Divine Persons Present	
Baptism of Jesus	Matthew 3:16–17	Father, Son, Spirit	
Great Commission	Matthew 28:19	Father, Son, Spirit	
Annunciation	Luke 1:35	Father, Son, Spirit	
Transfiguration	Luke 9:35	Father, Son, Spirit	
Divine Unity	John 10:30	Father & Son	
Deity of Christ	John 20:28	Jesus as God	
Spirit as God	Acts 5:3–4	Holy Spirit & God	
Trinitarian Benediction	2 Cor. 13:14	Father, Son, Spirit	
Plurality in Creation	Gen. 1:26	Elohim's plural unity	
Spirit's Omniscience	1 Cor. 2:10–11	Spirit as God's mind	

Even though Jehovah's Witnesses deny the traditional doctrine of the Trinity, **their own translation cannot remove the triune pattern** deeply embedded in Scripture.