

BEING A WITNESS TO A JEHOVAH'S WITNESS
A WITNESSING OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION - Two principles to follow

1. Prayerfully discuss God's word, showing the f_____ of the Spirit (Gal 5:22,23)
2. Focus ONLY on those matters that pertain to salvation.

FOCUS THE DISCUSSION ON WHO JESUS IS

WHO DO JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES SAY THAT JESUS IS?

1. He is the f_____ created being by Jehovah
 - a. Col 1:15 – the firstborn of all creation
 - b. Col 1:18 – the beginning
 - c. Rev 3:14 – the beginning of the creation by God
2. They deny that Jesus is Jehovah God
 - a. Col 1:16 reads in the New World Translation (their Bible) that *because by means of him all [other] things were created in the heavens and upon the earth.*
 - 1) The word “other” is in brackets, which means the New World Translators recognized that “other” is NOT in the G_____ text.
 - 2) You can tell them that by inserting this word, it dramatically changes the meaning of the Greek text, because it implies that there is something Jesus did not c_____.
 - 3) Point them to John 1:3, which does NOT have the word “other” in their translation– *All things came into existence through him and apart from him not even one thing came into existence.*
 - b. Is it possible that the New World Translation can be wrong?
 - 1) WatchTower publications have been wrong before – e.g. several publications predicted the end of the world in 19_____).
 - 2) The Organization apologized for the errors but proclaimed, “God’s word has not failed.”
 - 3) Encourage them to trust the Bible as originally written (2Tim 3:16)

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT JESUS IS THE FIRSTBORN OF ALL CREATION?

1. The word “firstborn” has only two meanings and the Bible gives them to us
 - a. The first one born in a f_____ (e.g. Lk 2:7)
 - b. R_____, or having to do with authority (e.g. Ps 89:27)
 - 1) This is a prophecy referring to the C_____ who would establish David’s throne forever.
 - 2) *I will make him My firstborn*
 - a) Notice the tense is f_____ - Jesus was under the authority of
 - His p_____ (Lk 2:51)
 - G_____ (Jn 19:11)
 - The F_____ (Jn 14:28; 12:29)
 - b) The next phrase gives the definition, *the highest of the kings of the earth* – after Jesus rose from the dead, _____ authority was given to Him (Matt 28:18).

2. The second definition of ruler naturally developed out of the first definition of being born first in a family - in ancient cultures the first born son eventually became the h_____ of the family after the father died.
3. The context determines the meaning of a word
 - a. What is the context of Col 1:15? – Verse 16-18 gives several reasons WHY Jesus is the firstborn of all creation; notice the first word (*for* or *because*)
 - 1) Because by Him all things were created, including all a_____ (v. 16)
 - 2) Because He is the before all things and h_____ all things together (v. 17)
 - 3) Because He is the h_____ of the church (v. 18)
 - 4) Because He is the beginning, the firstborn f_____ the dead (v. 18)
 - This DOES NOT mean that Jesus was the first to rise from the dead; He was not. Many rose before him (e.g. L_____)
 - This means that He was put in a position of being firstborn because He rose from the dead (see Matt 28:18)
 - 5) All was for the purpose that Jesus might be f_____ in everything (which obviously refers to being in the highest position)
 - b. Therefore firstborn of all creation means ruler of all creation

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT JESUS IS THE BEGINNING OF GOD'S CREATION?

1. The word beginning has several meanings in the Bible
 - a. It can mean the s_____ of something
 - b. It also can mean r_____
 - 1) It is translated as “authority” or “authorities” by the New World Translation in Lk 12:11; ICor 15:24; Col 1:16)
 - 2) The Greek word is “Arche”
 - a) It is used as an English prefix to mean the h_____ (e.g. archbishop, archangel)
 - b) It is used as a Greek prefix to mean the highest (e.g. h_____ priest – Matt 26:3)
2. Context always determines the meaning
 - a. The context of Col 1:18 that says that He is the beginning
 - a. Notice the c_____ following the word beginning, which means the next phrase is another way of saying it – firstborn or ruler!
 - b. The context of Rev 3:14 – Jesus is establishing His authority to r_____ the Laodiceans and even ends the letter with a statement of His authority.
 - b. Therefore Jesus as the beginning means that He is the r_____

WHO DOES THE BIBLE SAY JESUS IS?

1. He is the F_____ and the Last (Rev 1:17)
 - a. How many firsts and lasts can there be?
 - b. Yet Jehovah calls Himself the First and the Last (Is 44:6)
2. He is Jehovah (or Yahweh)
 - a. Rom 10:9 requires us to confess Jesus as L_____ in order to be saved. So if we deny who He is we cannot be saved.
 - b. Jesus let people w_____ Him, which is to be reserved for Jehovah only (Matt 28:9)

- 1) A good angel s_____ John from worshipping him and stated that John was to worship God (Rev 19:10)
- 2) Peter stopped Cornelius from “doing obeisance” to him, which clearly means worship in this context – *I am just a man* (Acts 10:25,26)
- 3) The word can mean to bow in r_____ as it does in Matt 9:18, but when a person falls down at a person’s feet and hold their feet, it is no doubt worship!
 - c. Thomas said TO Jesus, *My Lord and My God* and Jesus called it f_____ or belief (John 20:28,29)
 - d. Jesus requires us to h_____ Him in the same way that we honor the Father; if we do not we are not honoring the Father at all! (Jn 5:22,23)
3. He has no b_____
 - a. Micah 5:2 states that His origin is f_____ the days of eternity (New World Translations reads *time indefinite* instead of eternity)
 - b. The same words are used to describe Jehovah in Ps 90:2 as having no beginning and no end.

FOCUS THE DISCUSSION ON WHAT JESUS DID

JESUS CAME TO DIE FOR THE SINS OF BELIEVERS

1. Matt 28:20 – He gave His life as a r_____ for MANY
2. Matt 26:28 – His blood was poured out for MANY for the forgiveness of s_____

JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEAD TO PROVE HIS SUCCESS

1. The Jehovah’s Witness deny the physical resurrection of Jesus from the dead
2. The scriptures clearly teach His physical resurrection as well as all believers
 - a. He declared His resurrected body as having f_____ and bones (Lk 24:39)
 - b. The same body that was crucified is what rose, since it contained the w_____ of the crucifixion (Jn 20:27)
 - c. Rom 10:9 requires us to trust that God raised Jesus from the dead (we cannot change the definition of resurrection and call it faith)

THE BIBLE PROMISES COMPLETE RESTORATION OF ALL BELIEVERS

1. We will be restored in b_____, soul, and spirit (I Thess 5:23)
2. It will be completed at Christ’s visible c_____ (I Thess 5:24; I Cor 15:26, 50-56)

CONCLUSION:

1. The organization of Jehovah’s Witnesses holds its members in fear, requiring them to do good works with the hopes that they will save themselves in the end.
2. Jesus, gives no fear, but assurance to all who truly trust in Him
 - c. Jn 3:16 – will NOT perish, but HAVE eternal life
 - d. Jn 10:27,28 – will NEVER perish
3. When a Jehovah’s Witness comes knocking at your door - _____