

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

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Are you “up” for a challenge about your Jesus? There are many different God’s in the world, like the Mormon “heavenly Father,” which cannot save anyone because He was once a man!¹ That’s why it’s important to know the biblical God the Father the biblical Jesus, for only Jesus died for our sins. The problem that I’ve come to see with the Watchtower Jesus is that he’s *Michael the angel* before he was allegedly conceived in the womb of Mary. This means that the Jehovah’s Witnesses’ Jesus is a *created* being, as all angels were *created* by God. This goes against both the Old and the New Testaments, which speak of Jesus as being deity from eternity past. For instance, the Prophet Micah says the Ruler (Messiah/Christ) of Israel existed *in eternity past*:

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me (i.e. God the Father), the One to be Ruler in Israel (the Messiah), whose goings forth (origins) are from ancient times, from everlasting (literally: *the days of eternity*).” See my article, *Messiah’s Deity and Micah 5:2* at <http://seedofabraham.net/Messiahs-Deity-and-Micah-5.2.pdf>.

No angel, not even Michael, can claim to have been ‘from everlasting.’ God also states in the Old Testament that the Messiah of Israel would be His Son, not an angel: “I (the Messiah) will declare the decree! Yahveh has said to Me, ‘You are My Son! Today I have *begotten* You!’” (Psalms 2:7; cf. Prov. 30:4; Mt. 16:13-17)

The term *begotten* is typically used in Scripture of a father begetting his son, and what this means for us is that the son has the exact nature of his father—human. This means that Jesus, the only begotten of the Father (John 1:14, 18; 3:16, 18) *has the exact nature of the One who begot him*—God His Father, and so they both have “God nature,” which is deity. For more on this see my articles, *Yeshua—God the Son* at <http://seedofabraham.net/Yeshua-God-the-Son.pdf> and *Yeshua—His Deity and Sonship* at <http://seedofabraham.net/Yeshua-His-Deity-and-Sonship.pdf>. (Yeshua is the Hebrew name for Jesus; the name all the Apostles called Him.)

Jehovah’s Witnesses teach that in the Old Testament “the Angel of the LORD” is seen as Jesus or Michael (e.g. Gen. 22:11, 15). This is an unfortunate and heretical English translation. In Hebrew, “angel” is literally “a messenger; one who is sent.”² As we might expect, most anyone sent from Heaven would be an angel, but not in this case. This “Angel” (note always the capital “A”), is not an angel at all, but Jesus, God the Son, as all Christian theologians realize. This “Angel” is first seen by Hagar (Gen. 16:7, 9, 10, 11), and after she sees Him she doesn’t call Him an angel, but **God**: “Then she called the name of the LORD *who spoke to her*, You–Are–the–**God**–Who–Sees; for she said, “Have I also here *seen Him* who sees me?” (Gen. 16:13 NKJV)

In the whole passage the term “God” is not even seen; only the “Angel” whom she called God. Obviously Hagar saw Jesus and knew He was God (the Son). Just as your parents and you have the exact same human nature, so too God the Son, Jesus, has the exact nature as His Father: deity. Abraham also saw this “Angel,” but note how the Angel speaks, *as only God would speak*: “And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son, but the Angel of the LORD called to him from Heaven and said, ‘Abraham, Abraham!’ So he said, ‘Here I

¹ See my two page Handout, *Mormons–Are They Christians?* at <https://seedofabraham.net/Mormons-Are-They-Christians.pdf>.

² Ludwig Koehler, Walter Baumgartner, and J. J. Stamm, Authors; M. Richardson, translator, *The Hebrew-Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*, vol. 2 (Boston, MA USA: Brill Academic Publishers; 2002), p. 585 (Accordance Software). “(human) messenger; Ezk 23:40 Neh 6:3...1st Sam 23:27; 2nd Sam 11:19 (17 times)...messengers of God...prophets...Hag 1:13, pl. Is 44:26...heavenly messengers, angels...an angel: Gn 48:16...the angel of God (of Yahweh)” i.e. Jesus.

R. L. Harris, Editor; Gleason Archer, Jr. and Bruce Waltke, associate Editors, *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*, vol. I, p. 30 (Accordance Bible Software). “*Messenger, representative, courier, angel*. “There were both human and supernatural; including...the Angel of the Lord.”

am!’ And He said, ‘Do not lay your hand on the lad or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, *since you have not withheld your son, your unique son, from Me.*’” (Genesis 22:10-12)

In the New Testament it speaks of Jesus being deity, Creator and God the Son, from eternity past:

“He (Jesus) is the Image of the invisible God, the Firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in Heaven and that are on Earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him...For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell.” (Col. 1:15-16, 19)

If Jesus created the Heavens and the Earth in six days, then it’s not possible that Michael *the angel* did it:

“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the Fathers by the Prophets, has in these last days spoken to us *by His Son*, whom He has appointed heir of all things, *through whom also He made the worlds*, who, being *the brightness of His glory and the express Image of His Person*, and upholding all things by the Word of His power, when Jesus had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on High, *having become so much better than the angels*, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. *For to which of the angels* did He ever say: ‘*You are My Son!* Today I have *begotten* You!’? And again: ‘I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son’?” (Hebrews 1:1-5)

Nowhere in the New Testament does it say that Jesus used to be, or still is, Michael, something we would expect if Michael became Jesus. Nowhere in the New Testament is Jesus ever equated with Michael. Interestingly enough though, Michael is seen in Jude 1:9 contending for the body of Moses, but it doesn’t say anything about Michael being Jesus “now” or then (when Jesus was in Israel). Also, in Revelation 12:7, Michael is leading his angels into battle, but again, nothing about him being Jesus, or having been Jesus.

Finally, the bastion of JW theology: John 1:1—In the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and *the Word was God*. The structure of this last clause, *theos en ho logos*, demands the translation, “The Word was God” as opposed to ‘God was the Word.’ Since *logos* (word) has the article preceding it, it’s the subject, “*the Word.*” The fact that *theos* (God) is the first word after the conjunction *kai* (‘and’) shows that the main emphasis of the clause lies on God. Had *theos* as well as *logos* been preceded by the article *the*, the *meaning* would have been that *the Word was completely identical with God*, which is *impossible if the Word was also with God*.³

“The absence in Greek of the definite article with “God” lead some to assume it to be used as an adjective (‘the Word was divine’ or God-like) or even to supply, with polytheistic implications, an indefinite article: ‘the Word was *a* god,’” which is how “the New World Translation of the Jehovah’s Witnesses, 1961” heretically translates it. “There are two reasons why *Word* has the definite article in Greek and *God* does not:”

1. “To indicate that Word is the subject of the clause, even though in Greek it follows the verb “to be” (i.e., “the Word was God” but not, “God [the Father] was the Word”), and
2. *To indicate that Word and God are not totally interchangeable terms.* Though the Word is God (deity), God is more than just the Word; He is also the Father, while the Word is identified in v. 14 not as the Father, but as the Father’s *one and only*”⁴ *begotten* Son. In other words, the Word and the Father are not the same Person, but both are deity or “God.”

How can Jesus be the angel Michael if no angels existed before Creation? Angels are *created* beings. Truly, Jesus is God the Son and only His shed divine blood can cleanse us of our sins, transform our nature into His (2nd Cor. 3:18), and give us eternal life. The Jesus of the Jehovah’s Witnesses is not able to do that.

The biblical Jesus said we must be Born Again (Jn. 3:3, 5), which is more than a mental belief in Jesus. Being Born Again is a spiritual experience. This is the biblical foundation for entering into His Kingdom. Ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and to come into your heart and also, to set you free from the deception that is Jehovah’s Witnesses. When He does you will begin to *know* the biblical Jesus—not just know *about* Him.⁵

³ F. F. Bruce, *The Gospel and Epistles of John* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2001), p. 31.

⁴ J. Ramsey Michaels, *New International Biblical Commentary: John* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 2002), p. 25, note 1:1.

⁵ Last revised on Thursday, May 23, 2024.