A Christian Response To A Jehovah's Witness

Note: After watching the informational video at a CCPO Sunday evening service, a member of this body was able to write the following letter to a Jehovah's Witness who came to her door wanting to discuss religion. Thankfully, this person has now heard the Truth. Please pray for those who are caught up in this, and other cults. (The video "How to Witness to Jehovah's Witnesses", part of the John Ankerberg series, [shown here on Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 2005] is available in our video library for check-out.

January 3, 2006

Dear (Friend),

Thank you for sharing your address with me when you and your friend stopped by my home. As I mentioned, I work from home, so am not generally free during the day. I thank you for the opportunity to share my faith by letter.

(Friend), I believe that the Bible clearly teaches that Jesus Christ is God. As a Christian, I have accepted Jesus Christ as my personal savior, I have a personal relationship with Him, and have the witness of the indwelling Holy Spirit that I am a child of God (*Romans 8:16*).

There are many Scriptures that speak to the deity of Christ: *John 8:58* and *10:30*; *Titus 2:13*; and *Hebrews 1:8*, are a few. In *1 Timothy 17*, Jesus is called the King Eternal (not created.) (Note placement of "Amen" and that in the early manuscripts, there were no verse divisions.)

While *Colossians 1:15* does refer to Jesus as the first-born of all creation, it goes on to say in verse 16 that "all things have been created by Him and for Him." How can all things be created by Him, if he Himself was created? In Scripture, the word we translate as "first-born" can refer to rank, position, or authority instead of physical birth order (or creation). For example, God refers to Jacob and Jacob's descendents (Israel or Ephraim) as His firstborn (e.g. *Jeremiah 31:9*). In fact, Esau was born before Jacob. The theme of *Colossians* is the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ over all creation, – "first-born" is used here to help paint that picture.

Also in *Hebrews 1*, the writer clearly distinguishes between Christ and "the angels" and expounds on His superiority over "the angels." And as you know, there is NO Scripture anywhere that even suggests that Jesus was once or is Michael the Archangel. In fact, in *Jude 9* we see that Michael did not dare rebuke Satan. As you know, Jesus rebuked Satan many times.

So how can we know which view is right? God gives us at least two ways for us to test to see whether we are in the true faith. First, 2 Corinthians 13:5 says, "Test

yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you--unless indeed you fail the test?" (I use the New American Standard Bible. I encourage you to check your Greek Interlinear version. You will see that the original words make it clear that we can have Christ in us.)

Another test is whether or not prophecies come true. In *Deuteronomy 18:21, 22* we read, "You may say in your heart, 'How will we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?' When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not come about or come true, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him." (Friend), for more than 100 years, the Watchtower Society has been falsely prophesying the end of the world, which was supposed to happen in 1914, then 1915, then 1918, then 1925, then 1975, then... There are also conflicts in WS documents about the date that Jesus was supposed to have returned to the earth (1914 or 1874). According to Scripture's own test for truth, the WS fails.

Like you, I believe we may be very close to the time that Jesus Christ returns to judge the world. However, Scripture makes it clear that when He does, it will be visibly. (*Acts 1:11; Revelation 1:7* and others).

As you can tell, I believe that the teachings of the Watchtower Society are damnably wrong and can cost your soul for all eternity. It is critical to believe in the Jesus Christ of the Bible, not the Jesus of the Watchtower Society. But if you trust in the Jesus Christ of the Bible, who <u>is</u> God, you can know that you are right for all eternity.

John 20:31, "...but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."

John 14:3, "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."

Titus 3: 6 and 7: "...whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

I know that the verses in your New World Translation of the Bible may read differently. In their preparation of their own translation, the WS altered many of the verses that speak to the deity of Christ. Again, I urge you to obtain the Greek Interlinear version, which should be available to you from your Kingdom Hall.

If you have read this letter, I thank you for doing so. I know how risky it is for you. If you have any inkling at all that what I say might be true, I urge you to cry out to God for the truth. I know God will answer that prayer, because He promises to (Jeremiah 29:13 and 14) "and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." (John 8:32).

I'll be praying for you!

Blessings,

A friend

Note: See page following this letter for "Steps That Lead to Peace with God", or "The Romans Road to Salvation"

Steps That Lead To Peace With God

Romans 3:23

...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Admit that you are a sinner (having broken God's Laws).

Romans 6:23a

...the wages of sin is death...

Recognize, as a sinner, you deserve death (Spiritual Separation from God).

Romans 6:23b

...but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Nevertheless, God desires to give you everlasting life!

Romans 5:8

God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

So great is His love for you that Jesus died in your place! Are you now willing to love Him?

Romans 10:9

If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you shall be saved;

Have your lips confessed Jesus (alone) as your Savior?

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

Jesus is knocking on the door of your heart! Why not let Him in to cleanse and save your soul?

The horrible alternative: continued spiritual death. Think about it! (John 8:21-24)