

# Bible Passages Related to the Doctrine of the Trinity

## and a Comparison of Jehovah Witness' New World Translation with New American Standard Translation

Passage	New American Standard	Jehovah Witness' NWT	Explanation
John 1:1	In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.	In [the] beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god.	"kai theos an ho logos" There is no definite article before the word God (theos) because definite nouns that appear before a "to be" verb do not typically carry an article. Other nouns (theos) without articles are in verses 6, 12, 13 and 18 where the rendering is 'God', not 'a god'. No legitimate Greek scholars render this translation 'a god.' However, even if 'a god' was correct, the JW's are left with polytheism. The JW's claim there is only one true God, so is Jesus a true god or a false god?
John 8:58	Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."	Jesus said to them: "Most truly I say to you, before Abraham came into existence, I have been."	The phrase in question is "ego eimi". This clearly should be translated, "I am." The past tense of "to be" is completely different. The Jews listening to Jesus recognized exactly what Jesus was saying. He was claiming equality with God, the great "I Am" (Ex. 3:14 & Isa. 41:1). Thus, they attempted to stone Him (v. 59). See John 18:6 in the NWT where the same phrase is not rendered "I have been" but "I am".

Colossians 1:16-17	For by Him all things were created, <i>both</i> in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created by Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.	v. 16 ...because by means of him all [other] things were created in the heavens and upon the earth...all [other] things have been created through him and for him. Also he is before all [other] things and by means of him all [other] things were made to exist.	JW's add the word 'other' (nowhere in the Greek text) in order to defend their view that Jesus is not the original creator. They claim he is created by God. On the contrary, this passage clearly indicates Jesus is the creator of heaven and earth. And since Genesis 1:1 tells us that "God created the heavens and the earth," Jesus is God. Paul would have clearly understood these implications as he wrote Colossians.
Colossians 2:9	For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form	Because it is in him that all the fullness of the divine quality dwells in bodily form.	The word in question is "theotatos" which means 'diety.' Their translation of 'divine quality' is designed to detract from Jesus' divinity.
Hebrews 1:8	But of the Son <i>He says</i> ,  "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever, And the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom.	But with reference to the Son: "God is your throne forever and ever and [the] scepter of your kingdom is the scepter of uprightness."	See Psalm 45:6. The phrasing here in the NWT doesn't make sense in either Hebrews or the Psalm. The context in both places indicates that God is being addressed.
Acts 20:28	"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.	...to shepherd the congregation of God, which he purchased with the blood of his own [Son].	The Greek word for "son" does not appear in the verse or anywhere surrounding it. It is added in the NWT to make sure that the reader does not see that God purchased us with His blood (the blood of Jesus, God Himself in the flesh).