

JWs Awake

The Holy Scriptures are to be read in context, but much may also be learned by comparing scripture to scripture.

There are many well-meaning Jehovah's Witnesses, who spend time in the scriptures, and yet do not realize whom Jesus Christ really is.

The goal of this writing is to share a few scriptures, out of love for all, in hopes all will come to a true saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Is Jesus Jehovah? Let's go to the scriptures. The Prophet Isaiah tells us whom Jesus really is:

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Isaiah 40:3 ***A voice is calling, "Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God."***

Here Isaiah mentions the LORD, Jehovah in the Old Testament Hebrew, and according to this verse He (Jehovah) will be coming in the wilderness.

Matthew quotes this exact verse regarding Jesus.

Matthew 3:3 ***For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said, "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT!'"***

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Isaiah 44:6 states that Jehovah is the first and the last, and there is no God besides Him!

This points to the fact that only Jehovah is the first and the last.

The New Testament gives this same title to Jesus Christ:

Revelation 1:17 ***When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,***

It goes on to say, in context speaking of Jesus Christ, that the first and the last became "dead" at one point, and then alive again.

Revelation 1:18 ***and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.***

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In Philippians 2:10-11, it also states ***“that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.”***

It is interesting to note that this passage is quoted by Paul from Isaiah 45:23.

If you read the entire context in Isaiah you will find that bowing the knee and confessing this oath was to be done to God, Jehovah, the Savior of the world.

Isaiah 45:21-23, Isaiah speaks of Jehovah (also known as Yahweh);

***"Declare and set forth your case; indeed, let them consult together.
Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it?
Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior;
there is none except Me. "Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am
God, and there is no other." I have sworn by Myself; the word has gone forth from My
mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to Me every knee will bow, every
tongue will swear allegiance.***

For Paul to use this passage in Philippians, in reference to Jesus, would be blasphemy if Jesus were not the same as Jehovah.

Also in Isaiah 43:11, it is said there is no Savior besides Jehovah, and yet the entire New Testament calls Jesus Christ the Savior.

Is this what you believe and confess to others? Do you believe that He is the Christ, the Savior of the world, that He is Lord, and that He is the very God of heaven manifest in human form?

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Jesus also made a very specific claim to be God.

In John 8:24 He said, ***“If you do not believe that I AM he, you will die in your sins.”***

The word *he* is in italics in most Bibles, denoting that it is not in the original text.

So what was Jesus saying when he said “believe that I AM”?

In Exodus 3:13-15, when Moses is confronted by God in the burning bush, he asked God, ***“What is your name?” God declared, “I AM WHO I AM... This is My name forever... to all generations.”***

In addition, Jesus claimed to be the great “I AM” several more times. When He did, the Pharisees understood exactly what He was claiming.

We know this because in several instances, they took up stones to stone Him to death. Stoning was for blasphemy. They understood that He was claiming to be Jehovah God. (See John 5:17-18; 8:57-59 10:29-33)

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The Jehovah’s Witnesses also claim Jesus being the “firstborn of all creation” means He was created, and therefore He can't be God.

Colossians 1:15 ***He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.***

This simply refers to our Lord's humanity. For some reason, people complicate what the Lord did. Even though He was God in heaven, He chose to "empty Himself" of His deity to become truly human, for our benefit. (Philippians 2:5-8)

Exactly how that happens is a supernatural occurrence, but that is what Holy Scripture tells us.

Philippians 2:5-8 ***Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.***

In this way, as a human being, He was able to take the place of all humanity on the cross. He had to truly become one of us to be our substitute. But this in no way takes away from his divinity...

Colossians 1:16 ***For by Him (Jesus) all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things have been created through Him and for Him.***

Colossians 2:9 ***For in Him (Jesus) all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.***

By the way, the “firstborn” does not mean the first one to be born, but it is a title of preeminence, such as God spoke of David in Psalm 89:27. And in Exodus 4:22, Jehovah says Israel is His "firstborn" son.

Colossians 1:17-18 ***He (Jesus) is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.***

Jesus was the first one raised from the dead, to open heaven's gates for all who would trust in Him as LORD and Savior. (John 3:16-36)

He will have "first place" in everything; speaking of the privileges of a "firstborn".

Similarly, when Jesus is called God's "only begotten Son", as in John 1:14 and 3:16, it speaks of His uniqueness. He was the Son of God in heaven, before He entered bodily form for our sakes. (John 8:31)

This is part of the mystery of Christ. We are speaking of supernatural truths.

How God Himself became a man is something our human mind cannot fully comprehend.

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Do you believe that Jesus is Jehovah God our Savior, in the flesh? The scripture is overwhelming. Jesus is also called our "God and Savior" in the New Testament.

Titus 2:11-13 ***"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,"***

Titus 3:4-7 ***"But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."***

In comparing scripture with scripture we can see that Jesus is assigned THE SAME TITLES as Jehovah.

In the Old Testament, God Himself promised to come save His people. And this has happened, He has done it.

We pray that people will open their hearts and minds, and see the direct teachings of Holy Scripture regarding the deity of Jesus Christ, "Immanuel", which means "God with us".

Matthew 1:23 ***"BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US."***

And so we implore you, repent and believe in the good news that Jehovah God **has come to save His people.**

ACT 16:31 says ***“Believe in the LORD Jesus and you will be saved - you and your household.”***

You are a sinner, as we all are. There is not one who is righteous, not even one. (Romans 3:10,23)

The LORD Himself took the form of a man, choosing to come down and save us, as He promised in the Old Testament prophecies.

But to say you believe in a Jesus who is not Jehovah, is to believe in “another Jesus”. (2Corinthians 11:4)

Repent! Change your mind and turn to Christ, the Messiah, who is God in the flesh, the Savior of the world!

In Christ alone there is eternal life, and only by trusting in Him from the heart can a man be saved.

Romans 6:23 ***For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

Romans 10:9-13 ***that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, “WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; 13 for “WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.”***

*For more detailed scriptures on Jehovah’s titles and how they are used in the New Testament, visit www.ChristSavesMinistries.org, and under Proof by Prophecy, click on “Is Jesus Jehovah?”

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