

desert plain straight” (v3). All four New Testament Gospel references to John announcing the Messiah are listed in the margin. Then in verse 5, Isaiah says, “The glory of Jehovah will certainly **be revealed.**” This is the coming Messiah (compare *Isaiah 53:1ff*). Then following: “**good news**” is proclaimed of that One who is coming (v9). Compare all of this with Mark 1:1-9, where John announces the Messiah, and it opens this way, “The beginning of the **good news about Jesus Christ...**” So the “good news” in Isaiah of One who is coming, is the same “good news” in the Gospels of One who has come, and it’s all “**about Jesus Christ.**” Notice John “declaring **good news** to the people” in Luke 3:18. This is of “the one” who was “coming” (v16). So the question: “Who is Jesus Christ?” is answered by allowing Scripture to interpret Scripture. The “good news” of Isaiah 40 is immediately proclaimed—“Say to the cities of Judah: **‘HERE IS YOUR GOD’**” (v9). Then, “**LOOK! THE SOVEREIGN LORD JEHOVAH HIMSELF WILL COME...**” (v10). This is none other than the One John was referring to in Matthew 11:3—“**THE COMING ONE!**” (see also *John 1:23-31*).

After it says, “**Jehovah himself will come,**” notice the phrase “even as a **strong one.**” This, too, identifies Jesus as Jehovah. John said, “After me someone **stronger** than I am is coming” (*Mark 1:7; see Matt 3:11; Luke 3:16*). The “**strong one**” is Jesus himself! Then in the next verse, “Like a **shepherd** he will **shepherd** his own...he will collect together the **lambs**” (v11). Who says this is not Jesus? Not the Watchtower! Under “shepherd,” they list these references to compare Scripture with Scripture and prove that this is indeed Jesus, and no other! (1) “the great shepherd of the sheep...our Lord Jesus” (*Heb 13:20*) (2) “you have returned to the shepherd and overseer of your souls” (*1 Peter 2:25*). This is “Christ” (see *v v 4 & 21ff*) (3) “Jesus said...‘Feed my lambs’” (*John 21:15*) (4) “I am the fine shepherd” (*John 10:14*) (5) “I have other sheep which are not of this fold...” (*John 10:16*). Now how can you argue with that!

The reason Jehovah’s Witnesses do not see Jesus the Messiah to be Jehovah who came is due to their **refusal** to see—willful blindness! Their problem is not that they **cannot see**; they **will not see!** The “Jehovah” of the **JW’s** is “the Father” only. But we all know that “Jehovah the Father” is **not** the One who “came” after John the Baptist, but “Jehovah the Son.” Language could not possibly be any plainer than that of Luke 1:76 where it refers to John as the forerunner going **before Jesus**,—“You will go in advance **BEFORE JEHOVAH** to make his ways ready.”

“REASONING” IT AWAY WATCHTOWER STYLE!

Because of **WT** indoctrination and programming, the **JW’s** have bowed to the Watchtower Society as “the sole channel of communication” between God and man.³ This enables the **WT**—in the face of such powerful evidence as we have seen above—to offer **JW’s** any little silly excuse or explanation (no matter how flimsy or ridiculous!) to help them reject and deny plain statements in the Word of God—and they swallow it! This is what their little 1985

book, *Reasoning from the Scriptures*, is all about—giving **JW’s** any kind of an answer at all to help them weasel out of just about any dilemma they find themselves caught in. (It ought to be *Reasoning Away the Scriptures!*) Well, how will they pacify their fans with this one? What grand “reasoning” will they use in the face of such an overwhelming avalanche of Scriptural testimony that “**THE COMING ONE,**” Jesus the Messiah, is “**JEHOVAH GOD HIMSELF**”? Here it is, lock, stock & barrel. In all 445 pages of *Reasoning*, this is their one and only response as to why Isaiah 40, which speaks of “preparing the way before **Jehovah**” is applied to John “preparing the way for **Jesus Christ**”—their answer: “Jesus *represented* his Father” (p414).

Well, you’ve gotta hand it to those old men of “the Governing Body” up in Brooklyn—at least they didn’t throw up their hands, and say, “We don’t have an answer for that!” No, they gave it their best shot. It was a nice try. Witnesses, the faithful devotees they are, will even fall for it! Oh yea, they’ll buy it. But there’s an obvious problem with the **WT’s** “reasoning.” The Lord “himself” preempted it with just one word. You see, the **WT’s** argument is “representation”—“Jesus *represented* Jehovah.” In other words, they’re saying, he came “for Jehovah,” he stood “for Jehovah,” he was *not* Jehovah, but he merely *represented* Jehovah. But the one word they hope their followers never notice in the text is “**himself.**” The Lord “himself” took care of this **WT** objection a long time ago—“**LOOK! THE SOVEREIGN LORD JEHOVAH HIMSELF WILL COME**” (v10). No stand-in! No agent! No ambassador! No delegate! No representative!—**HE HIMSELF WILL COME!**

The Lord often uses this double emphasis throughout Isaiah—“myself” and “himself”—to make a definite point! “Mine eyes have seen the King, **Jehovah of armies, himself**” (*Isaiah 6:5*). “Look! Your own God will come...**He himself** will come and save you people” (*Isaiah 35:4*). Absolutely no room is left for doubt or discussion! “**Jehovah himself!**” “**God himself!**” What about the New Testament? “**Jesus himself** is the foundation cornerstone” (*Eph 2:20*). “**The Lord himself** will descend from heaven” (*1 Thess 4:16*). “**He himself** bore our sins in his own body” (*1 Peter 2:24*). The Lord himself is speaking as plainly as possible! We **know** who’s being referred to in every one of these passages! And we also **know** who’s being referred to in Isaiah 40!—Jesus himself! “**THE SOVEREIGN LORD JEHOVAH HIMSELF!**” Those who refuse to bow to this clear Scriptural truth, without doubt, serve a human master; it is obvious that they’ve stopped their own ears and shut their own eyes, even as the Jews did in Christ’s own day! (*Matt 13:15*).

2. “YOUR OWN GOD HIMSELF” — ISAIAH 35:1-6

This passage is another bombshell dropped right in the **WT** camp! It’s striking similarities to the previous text in Isaiah show it to be equally devastating to **WT** teaching. The sovereign glory of the Messiah is here set on display! Remember what it said in chapter 40 previous to “**Here is your God**” (v9)—“**The glory of Jehovah will certainly be**

revealed” (v5). Well, here in chapter 35, Isaiah precedes his strong statements about the “coming” of the Messiah with the same expression—“**There will be those who will see the glory of Jehovah, the splendor of our God**” (v2). It will be seen! The glory of Jehovah! And what does Isaiah follow this with?—“**LOOK! YOUR OWN GOD WILL COME** with vengeance itself, **GOD** even with a repayment. **HE HIMSELF WILL COME AND SAVE YOU PEOPLE**” (v4).

Again, the Society does a good job on its “reference” work and makes it easy for us! The last phrase above, “**He himself will come and save you people,**” has a direct marginal reference to Matthew 1:21, “**Call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.**” No argument! This “**JESUS**” is “**YOUR OWN GOD...HE HIMSELF WILL COME AND SAVE YOU PEOPLE!**” Isaiah had just said the same thing on the page before, “**JEHOVAH IS OUR KING, HE HIMSELF WILL SAVE US**” (33:22). What one word is jumping out of all these Isaiah passages?—“**HIMSELF!**” “**HIMSELF!**” “**HIMSELF!**” You can not escape it! God **himself** is making a point that no one can deny! No one’s coming “for” him! No one’s coming to “represent” him! No one’s coming to “stand in” his place. That’s **his** position, and no one can fill it but “**HE HIMSELF!**” Jesus is “**JEHOVAH GOD HIMSELF!**”

And if that’s not enough, the three words that directly follow, “**He himself will come and save you people,**” are “**AT THAT TIME...**” So, what we have here is whatever is happening “**AT THAT TIME**” definitely tells us that that’s “Jehovah God” who has “himself” come to save us—“**AT THAT TIME.**” Well, what is it?—the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, and the dumb speak (vv5,6). That narrows it down! But the **WT’s** “references” settle it once and for all! They leave no room for doubt, debate, or dispute, but **point us directly to the ministry of JESUS!**—(*Matt 9:30; Mark 7:35; Luke 7:22*). Well done!

3. “I MYSELF JEHOVAH/JEHOVAH OF ARMIES” — ZECH 2:5, 8-11

If you’re a Jehovah’s Witness reading this tract and have made it this far, and are still sailing the **WT** seas, I give you fair warning, the wind is about to be taken out of your sails! If there was ever a passage in the prophets that “threw a monkey wrench into the **WT** works”—this is it! “Jehovah the Son” (the One sent) speaks of “Jehovah the Father” (the One sending) with unmistakable clarity. Notice the passage in the box how I have inserted brackets into the text to help us to see plainly who is speaking [THE SON] and who is being spoken about [THE FATHER]. Carefully follow it right through to see it clearly.

The fulfillment of Zechariah’s prophecy is Christ and his Church. We know that “**JEHOVAH**” of verse 5 is none other than **THE SON**, the “**GLORY IN THE MIDST OF HER,**” because of verses 10 & 11. One (v10) speaks of the Son “coming,” one (v11) speaks of the Son being “sent,” and in both of them **THE SON** says, “**I WILL RESIDE IN THE MIDST OF YOU.**” That’s the same “**JEHOVAH**” of verse 5!

(5) “And **I MYSELF** [SON] shall become to her,” is the utterance of **JEHOVAH** [SON], “a wall of fire all around, and a glory is what **I** [SON] shall become in the midst of her.”

• • •

(8) This is what **JEHOVAH OF ARMIES** [SON] has said, “Following after the glory **he** [FATHER] has sent **ME** [SON] to the nations that were despoiling you people; for he that is touching you is touching **MY** [SON] eyeball.

(9) For here **I** [SON] am waving **MY** [SON] hand against them, and they will have to become spoil to their slaves. And you people will certainly know that **Jehovah of armies himself** [FATHER] has sent **ME** [SON].”

(10) “Cry out loudly and rejoice, O daughter of Zion; for here **I** [SON] am coming, and **I** [SON] will reside in the midst of you,” is the utterance of **JEHOVAH** [SON].

(11) “And many nations will certainly become joined to **JEHOVAH** [SON] in that day, and they will actually become **MY** [SON] people; and **I** [SON] will reside in the midst of you. And you will have to know that **Jehovah of armies himself** [FATHER] has sent **ME** [SON] to you.”

As you can see, the words in the box above in bold and all capitals refer to **THE SON**, and the words underlined in bold refer to **the Father**. In verses 8 & 9 we have a continuous quote with “**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES**” speaking. “**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES**” says, “**HE** has sent me” (v8), and “**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES**” says, “**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES HIMSELF** has sent me” (v9). It would be difficult to make a passage any clearer! “**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES**” is “**sent**” by “**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES.**” Notice verses 10 & 11. The One who is “**coming**” (v10) is the One who is “**sent**” (v11) by “**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES.**” And who is it that says, “**I am coming**”?—“**JEHOVAH**” (v10). The Lord is “**spelling it out in crayon**” for us here! Either we bow to the Word of God, or we bow to the Watchtower. Because that in essence is what it boils down to. Either there is a **plurality** in the Godhead, or language has no meaning at all!

It’s interesting how the Word of God speaks about the destruction of Sodom—“Then **JEHOVAH** made it rain sulphur and fire **FROM JEHOVAH, FROM THE HEAVENS**” (*Gen 19:24*). But “**JEHOVAH**” was right there with Abraham, and Lot! (see *Gen 18:1,22 & 19:18*). Just something to think about!

4. “THE KING, JEHOVAH HIMSELF” — ISAIAH 6:5

Isaiah saw “**JEHOVAH**” (*Isaiah 6:1*). He said, “my eyes have seen **THE KING, JEHOVAH OF ARMIES HIMSELF!**” (*v5*). John the apostle, lead by the Holy Spirit, gives us inspired commentary on this. He actually takes Isaiah’s vision of Jehovah’s glory and applies it to **JESUS!** It’s right there as plain as day in the Gospel of John, chapter 12, paragraph verses 36b-43. His opening word is “**JESUS**” (*v36*). He says the people were “not putting faith in **HIM**” (*v37*). He then cites two passages out of Isaiah concerning their unbelief (*vv 38-40*). The first from chapter 53, which is all about **JESUS**, his sufferings and his glory. And the second is taken from the immediate context of our passage above—Isaiah 6:10. Then this is what follows, and watch how John uses his pronouns throughout for **JESUS**, who is the theme of the entire paragraph—“Isaiah said these things because he saw **HIS** glory, and he spoke about **HIM**. All the same, many even of the rulers actually put faith in **HIM**, but because of the Pharisees they would not confess **HIM**...” (*vv 41,42*). You cannot separate these pronouns! And the **WT** lists the key “reference” pointing everything back to Isaiah 6:1!—Isaiah saw “**THE KING, JEHOVAH OF ARMIES HIMSELF!**” (*vv 1,5*). The “**HIM**” to “put faith in” and “confess” is none other than the glorious “**HIM**” that Isaiah saw and spake of!

5. “THE TRUE LORD/JEHOVAH” — MALACHI 3:1

My congratulations to every **JW** reader who has made it this far! I know the road has been rough, but I encourage you to keep going! You are “carefully examining the Scriptures” to see “whether these things are so” (*Acts 17:11*). You are “making sure of all things” (*1 Thess 5:21*). This is the duty of every Christian! Now, hold on—the ride’s gonna get bumpy. This passage in Malachi, and the passage in Isaiah 40 that we first looked at, are THE two classic Old Testament prophecies of John’s ministry preceding that of the Messiah (see the references). First of all, notice—“**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES**” says that John “must clear up a way **BEFORE ME**”—and just as we saw earlier, not “before a representative of me”—but “**ME**!”—“**JEHOVAH OF ARMIES!**” Then Jehovah says, “And suddenly there will **come** to **HIS** temple **THE TRUE LORD**...Look! **HE** will certainly **come**.” This is **JESUS!** But Jehovah said the One who is coming after John is “**ME!**” John will be on the scene “**BEFORE ME!**” But **JESUS** followed John! **JESUS IS “ME” — JEHOVAH!** There are three words that Jehovah uses here that all refer to the same One—“me,” “his” & “he.” This shows the Father and the Son to be **distinct** one from the other, yet unmistakably—**ONE!** “I and the Father are **ONE!**” (*John 10:30*).

Now let’s look carefully at this title: “**THE TRUE LORD.**” “There will **come** to **HIS** temple **THE TRUE LORD**...Look! He will certainly **come**.” John called the Messiah “**THE COMING ONE**” in Luke 7:19; and that NT passage has a “reference” pointing back here to Malachi 3:1. So the **WT** ties it all together for us—the Messiah is “**THE COMING ONE,**” who is “**THE TRUE LORD,**” who “**WILL COME TO HIS TEMPLE.**” Then the **WT** gives us this helpful “reference”

beside “temple”—Matthew 21:12, “And **JESUS** entered into **the temple** and threw out all those selling and buying in **the temple.**” This all agrees with the **WT**’s “page heading” above Malachi 3—“**THE TRUE LORD COMES TO CLEANSE HIS TEMPLE.**” So **JESUS** is, by the **WT**’s own definition, “**THE TRUE LORD,**” who “**WILL COME TO HIS TEMPLE.**” Now, this is amazing! It’s amazing because of what the **WT** says about the Hebrew phrase for “**the true Lord**”—*ba’A-dbohn*—in their own *New World Translation* (reference ed. revised 1984 appendix 1H):

“**The true Lord**”—Heb., *ba’A-dbohn*

The title *A-dbohn*, “Lord; Master,” when preceded by the definite article *ba*, “the,” gives the expression *ba’A-dbohn*, “**the true Lord.**” The use of the definite article *ba* before the title *A-dbohn* limits the application of this title **exclusively to Jehovah God**. In the entire Hebrew Scriptures the expression *ba’A-dbohn* occurs nine times, namely, in Ex 23:17; 34:23; Isa 1:24; 3:1; 10:16,33; 19:4; Mic 4:13; Mal 3:1.

So, without question, this title, “**the true Lord,**” is applied “**exclusively to Jehovah God.**” Let’s see these OT passages:

- “before the face of **THE TRUE LORD, JEHOVAH**” (*Ex 23:17*)
- “before **THE TRUE LORD, JEHOVAH**” (*Ex 34:23*)
- “The utterance of **THE TRUE LORD, JEHOVAH**” (*Isaiah 1:24*)
- “Look! **THE TRUE LORD, JEHOVAH**” (*Isaiah 3:1*)
- “Therefore **THE TRUE LORD, JEHOVAH**” (*Isaiah 10:16*)
- “Look! **THE TRUE LORD, JEHOVAH**” (*Isaiah 10:33*)
- “The utterance of **THE TRUE LORD, JEHOVAH**” (*Isaiah 19:4*)
- “**JEHOVAH...THE TRUE LORD** of the whole earth” (*Micah 4:13*)
- “Look!...there will come to His temple **THE TRUE LORD**... Look! He will certainly come” (*Malachi 3:1*)

It doesn’t get any clearer than that! That’s as plain as A-B-C! The Lord would have us to know by his exclusive usage of this rare Hebrew phrase—*ba’A-dbohn*—exactly who it is that’s coming into the world!—none other than **THE TRUE LORD HIMSELF!** Only those who serve a man-made organization, the Watchtower, would say that the first 8 occurrences of *ba’A-dbohn* refer to **the Creator** himself, “the true Lord, Jehovah,” but the last occurrence refers to **a mere creature**, “the first creation of Jehovah.”⁴ That’s making the Word of God fit into what you believe! The apostle told us there would be those who do that!—“**twisting the Scriptures** to their own destruction” (*2 Pet 3:16*).

6. “JEHOVAH” ON THE MT. OF OLIVES — ZECH 14:3,4

A prophecy indeed that needs no comment! It speaks of “**JEHOVAH**” (*v3*), and says that “**HIS FEET WILL ACTUALLY STAND** in that day upon **the mountain of the olive trees**, which is in front of Jerusalem” (*v4*). You say, “God is a Spirit” (*John 4:24*), he doesn’t have feet! This One does! He’s the God-man!—“**GOD MANIFEST IN THE FLESH**” (*1 Tim 3:15,16*). “Call his name **IMMANUEL**, which means... ‘**WITH US IS GOD**’” (*Matt 1:23*). And the **WT** again “nails it down” for us! Their references direct us right to Jesus! (1) Jesus is near Jerusalem “at the mountain called **the Mount of Olives**” (*Luke 19:29*). (2) He has just ascended into heaven, and the disciples “returned to Jerusalem from a mountain called **the Mount of Olives**” (*Acts 1:11,12*). This prophecy of Zechariah strips us of every possible argument! **JESUS IS “JEHOVAH!”**

7. “YOUR KING HIMSELF COMES” — ZECH 9:9

“Look! Your **King** himself **comes** to you. He is righteous, yes, saved [*Amplified: having salvation*], humble, and riding upon an ass...” This powerful prophecy found its fulfillment in John 12:12-16 (*see margin*). Focus on the three words in bold—**KING, COMES & SALVATION**. These are conspicuously linked to other prophecies! Remember Isaiah saw “**THE KING, JEHOVAH OF ARMIES, HIMSELF**” (*Isaiah 6:5*). And here, “**YOUR KING HIMSELF** comes to you... **HAVING SALVATION.**” Link that with, “**JEHOVAH IS OUR KING, HE HIMSELF** will **SAVE** us.” “**YOUR OWN GOD** will **COME...HE HIMSELF** will **COME** and **SAVE** you people” (*Isaiah 33:22; 35:4*). As Jesus rode upon the ass, the people shouted, “**SAVE**, we pray you!” (*John 12:13*). “Look! **THE SOVEREIGN LORD JEHOVAH HIMSELF** will **COME.**” “Look! Your **SALVATION** is **COMING**” (*Isaiah 40:10; 62:11*). “**JEHOVAH**” said, “**I AM COMING**” (*Zech 2:10*). “Look! This is **OUR GOD**...He will **SAVE** us. This is **JEHOVAH**...rejoice in the **SALVATION** by him” (*Isaiah 25:9*). “Suddenly there will **COME** to His temple **THE TRUE LORD**...Look! He will certainly **COME**” (*Mal 3:1*).

This is the glorious and magnificent **JESUS!** His name means “**JEHOVAH SAVIOR!**” “Call his name **JESUS**, for he will **SAVE** his people from their sins” (*Matt 1:21*). “**THERE IS NO SALVATION IN ANYONE ELSE**, for there is **NOT ANOTHER NAME** under heaven...by which we must get **SAVED**” (*Acts 4:12*). “What must I do to get **SAVED**?...**BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS** and you will get **SAVED**” (*Acts 16:30,31*). □

— Dan Shanks

End-Notes:

(1) See our tract: *Facts the Watchtower Society Doesn't Want You to Know* (2) See also our tract: *Jehovah's Witnesses—Refuted by Their Own Bible #1* (3) *Watchtower*, 1 Oct 1967, pp 587,590 (4) *What Does the Bible Really Teach?*, 2005, p41

An open invitation is extended to **ALL ELDERS OF THE JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES** (1) to come with Bible in hand (and perhaps *Kingdom Interlinear*) for a time of friendly discussion of God’s Word using the *New World Translation*, and (2) to come with any research or documentation that may be helpful in discussing any existing differences relevant to our publications regarding the Watch Tower Society. A time at your convenience can be arranged. Please get in touch. If a person claims to be “**in the truth,**” yet avoids open and in-depth dialogue with one of another faith, his claims then concerning “the truth” become suspect. “Any organization that claims to be the way of salvation should be willing to submit to scrutiny and criticism” (*Awake! Aug 22, 1984 p28*). “The Watchtower invites careful and critical examination of its contents in the light of Scripture” (*Watchtower*, Aug 15, 1950 p263).

TO ALL JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES—If what you have read in this publication is of interest to you, and you would like to hear more, please come and be our guests at our *New World Translation Bible Classes!* We wait to hear from you!

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JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES— Refuted by their own Bible #2

If there was ever a committee of Bible translators that deserved the championship prize for “best effort” in attempting to **hide who Jesus really is**—it would be those five fellas’ who, from 1950 to 1960, created the Jehovah’s Witness Bible—the *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*. They deserve the “gold star”—1st place! You’ve got to give ‘em credit too, their’s was no easy task. After all, the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ is a glaring truth that runs throughout Scripture! It’s not hidden in some obscure corner of the Bible. God’s Spirit has seen to it that this glorious truth—that Jesus is Jehovah God himself!—is openly proclaimed in the Word of God from cover to cover—for everyone to see, and know, and believe, and bow, and worship him as Lord of all!

But Jehovah’s Witnesses (**JWS**), cunningly indoctrinated by the Watchtower Society (**WTS**), and willfully blinded by their own prejudice, reject this truth outright and refuse to see it and believe it—even when it’s proclaimed right out of their own Bible! And that’s what we intend to do here for the benefit of every honest reader—set forth the Deity of Jesus Christ by comparing Scripture with Scripture, and all from the **JW**’s very own Bible.² There are so many passages we could look at, but our space is limited, so we’ll only turn to a few. Every verse that appears in this tract is taken from the *New World Translation*. As you go through each subsection, you be the judge as to whether this is not an open-and-shut case where the Bible in the plainest of terms declares Jesus to be **very God of very God!**

And make no mistake about it, every true believer knows Christ—“They will all know me, from the least one to the greatest one” (*Heb 8:11*). There’s no salvation apart from knowing Jesus and believing in him. He said, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you did know me, you would know my Father also” (*John 8:19*). In the plainest of language, who does the Bible proclaim Jesus to be?

1. “JEHOVAH, OUR GOD/THE SOVEREIGN LORD JEHOVAH HIMSELF” — ISAIAH 40:3-11

This 40th chapter of Isaiah is a prophecy of John the Baptist announcing the Messiah who was to come after him. The language is unmistakably clear. John calls Jesus “**JEHOVAH, OUR GOD**”—“Listen! Someone is calling out in the wilderness, ‘Clear up the way of **JEHOVAH**, you people! Make the highway for **OUR GOD** through the