

## Fear No Evil

**F**ear not! How many times can that phrase be found in the pages of Scripture? Your guess is as good as mine, but it is somewhere between bunches and alot. That is why you and I, as Christians, do not fear anything, right? Right.

Craig, one of the members of our support group, told of an experience he had recently when he met with two JW elders. He said that even though he was as prepared for the meeting as possible, something caused him to become extremely agitated, and his hands to shake almost uncontrollably, and his mouth to become dry. He related quite honestly that he could not wait for the encounter to end, and that afterwards he felt strongly that he would like never to have such an encounter again, even though Craig cares more for the lost than almost anyone else I know, and has a special love for JWs, since he came very close to becoming one of them. What caused this reaction? I would suggest that it was good old fashioned FEAR.

I am very grateful to Craig for his honesty in sharing this experience, because I feel that most Christians tend to hide their fears, especially from other Christians. Why?? FEAR, of course. Fear of not appearing spiritual enough, or fear of being accused of having no faith in God.

Not everyone experiences fear in witnessing to the lost, but I believe that such fears are widespread, especially in the area of witnessing to those lost in the cults.

Where do these fears come from, and what can we do to combat them? The source is the big three...the world, the flesh, and the devil. What is it about the world that casts a pall of fear across our path? Well, the world tells us, especially in our day and culture, that our American pluralism demands tolerance, and then defines "tolerance" as accepting all religious beliefs as having equal merit, and

having equal truth. To dialog in disagreement with someone of a different religious persuasion, then, is to put your truth over their truth, which in our multicultural environment is considered to be an act of extreme rudeness. So the Christian who desires to share his or her faith with those of other religious persuasions must be willing to break the first commandment of American Culture, "THOU SHALT NOT DISAGREE ABOUT RELIGION". What is it that makes it so difficult to buck societal pressure on this issue? That, my friends, is where the FLESH comes in...

It is very hard for us in our humanity to disobey this very Politically Correct societal "law" and "follow God rather than men", isn't it? Perhaps we see ourselves as "Christian-Americans", with the accent on the "American". The Eagle is our national bird, and openminded tolerance is our national virtue. Of course, this openmindedness is extremely CLOSEMINDED against religious proselytization, and our American "tolerance" is INTOLERANT of the bedrock Christian belief that Jesus is the only way to the Father.

I know from experience that it often seems just as "wrong" to break one of these "American commandments" as one of Moses' big ten. We know we have been commanded by Jesus to bear witness of Him, and not to be ashamed of Him or His gospel, yet we may feel "guilty" in doing what we know to be right. The Bible states that the gospel will BE offensive to non-Christians, yet so heavily conditioned are we as Americans to be "polite", affirming of others views, and "broadminded", that is seems downright unAmerican to take a stand for what will be seen as offensive to many. Our "flesh", which is the old nature we are all born with and which stays with us until death, hates the very thought of being labeled as narrow minded, doesn't it? Wouldn't we much rather be seen as broad-minded, tolerant, and ecumenical? (This article is not addressing you LIONS out there; you know who you are!!! I admire those of you who are LIONS, but I must add that it has been my observation that a LION may need to learn as much about sensitivity as a LAMB needs to learn about boldness)

How else does the flesh get in our way? Well, back to Craig, and his trembling hands and quaking heart, to get our answer...

Sometimes such a reaction is due to a type of "performance anxiety", a fear that we won't have all the answers, and that we may look bad to the cultist and to any others present. To those of you afflicted with this, it is not a joke. It is a very real affliction, though it may lack justification, and though we know that we are to please God and not men. The fact that we may sense that this fear is "of the flesh" may not make it any more palatable to us...in fact, it will probably be harder to admit to for that reason. Nevertheless, I would venture to say that this anxiety is quite common.

It may be easier to admit to the next fear, and that is the fear of "messing up", and ultimately hurting the very one we wish to reach for Christ. What if for all our reading and studying about some particular group, we find ourselves not prepared enough, or what if there



"Please, Mr. Custer..."

Continued On Page 3



# Questions and Reflections From **CYBERSPACE**

**J**ehovah's Witnesses often argue online (on computer bulletin board systems, my screen name is **CULTSRUS**) that only the Father is Jehovah and therefore, only the Father is God. We have argued that the Tetragrammaton is applied to both the Father and the Son and shown in a previous issue that the Watchtower's own translation supports this premise. The following is a condensed version of a multi-part exchange showing that at least two persons in the Hebrew Scriptures are referred to as YHWH or Jehovah. It was aptly titled:

## WHO SENT JEHOVAH?

The Jehovah's Witness wrote: "Jehovah is jealous for his name, tolerating no rivalry." (The JW defender is here making the case that if Jesus' name is also Jehovah along with the Father, that there would thus be a "rivalry" over the name)

*We respond:* If it is "rivalry" for two persons to bear the name Jehovah, we have a real problem in the following passage taken from Zechariah Chapter 2, since it clearly states that Jehovah of armies HIMSELF sent Jehovah of armies.

"Hey there, Zion! Make your escape, you who are dwelling with the daughter of Babylon. For this is what Jehovah of armies has said (What did Jehovah of armies say?), 'Following after [the] glory he has sent me to the nations that were despoiling YOU people; for he that is touching YOU is touching my eyeball. (Question-Who ever sent Jehovah anywhere?) For here I am waving my hand against them, and they will have to become spoil to their slaves.' And YOU people will certainly know that Jehovah of armies himself has sent me."

"Cry out loudly and rejoice, O daughter of Zion; for here I am coming, and I will reside in the midst of you," is the utterance of Jehovah (Who is coming and who will reside?). "And many nations will certainly become joined to Jehovah in that day, and you will actually become my people; and I will reside in the midst of you." (On what authority would they know that Jehovah would reside in the midst of them?) And you will have to know that Jehovah of armies himself has sent me to you. And Jehovah will certainly take possession of Judah as his portion upon the holy ground, and he must yet choose Jerusalem. Keep silence, all flesh, before Jehovah, for he has aroused himself from his holy dwelling. (Zech. 2:7-13, NWT)

So, Jehovah of armies was sent by Jehovah of armies. Jehovah went to reside with the people because Jehovah sent Jehovah. Interesting indeed.

*The JW responds:* Talk about the blind leading the blind while trying to influence those who aren't!! Who was being sent?

Zechariah or Jehovah? To gain a correct understanding of Zechariah 2:7-15, first compare Zechariah 1:1-5 and observe how Zechariah mingles what Jehovah says to him with his OWN comments:

"In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of Jehovah unto Zechariah... Therefore say unto them, 'Thus saith Jehovah of Hosts,' ...'Remember unto me, saith Jehovah of Hosts, and I will return unto you, saith Jehovah of hosts.'"

Now- was there an echo in the room where Zechariah was writing, or is the repeated use of "...saith Jehovah..." an example of Jehovah talking to Jehovah as CULTSRUS would obviously contend, or is the repeated use of "...saith Jehovah..." done for emphasis?

In chapter two, we are first told that Zechariah encounters an angel holding a measuring rod. Then, ANOTHER angel begins speaking to the first angel and says, "...For I, saith Jehovah, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and I will be the glory in the midst of her." (Zech 2:1-5, ASV)

So to be consistent with the position he takes in "Who Sent Jehovah," CULTSRUS must now contend with an "angel" who claims to be Jehovah - according to the way CULTSRUS seeks to use scripture.

(The JW defender claims that this passage does NOT refer to two persons named Jehovah, but that one of the persons "speaking" in the passage is the prophet Zechariah)

*We volley back with:* CULTSRUS would not "obviously contend" that Zech. 1:1-3 is an example of Jehovah talking to Jehovah. Such a statement is simply childish. I agree that the term "...saith Jehovah..." is done for emphasis and was the designation which Zechariah and other Hebrew prophets used to EMPHASIZE when Jehovah was speaking and what He said versus when they (the prophets) were speaking.

The JW would like to believe that I have been forcing Scripture in order to support this position. There was NO forcing Scripture in my presentation. The Scriptures clearly said that Jehovah sent Jehovah and that Jehovah went because Jehovah sent Him.

Regarding "The Angel of the Lord" claiming to be YHWH, it has nothing to do with the way I seek "to use Scripture" but rather, dealing with what Scripture says.

*The JW chides:* Hey - the "angel" DID SAY, "I Jehovah" didn't he? So, Mr. CULTSRUS, Don, now Jehovah sends Jehovah as an "angel" to be a fire round about. So, explain Jehovah being an angel and therefore, a created being.

*We oblige:* Where does it say that the

word "angel" means created being? The text doesn't say nor imply that the word angel means created being nor that "The Angel of the Lord," who claimed to be Jehovah, was a created being. The word translated "angel" is the Hebrew word "malak" and means "messenger or agent." In fact, the Watchtower publication "Insight on the Scriptures," 1988 edition on page 106 confirms this, "ANGEL. Both the Hebrew mal'akh and the Greek ag'ge-los literally mean 'messenger.'" The responsibility would be the JW's to prove that the designation "angel" means "created being" and especially that "The Angel of the Lord" was a created being, especially since "The Angel of the Lord" claimed to be YHWH which, if He is correct, would mean that He is God.

We will review the text in question so that we don't lose track of what we are discussing. In Zechariah 2:8 the prophet writes, "...this is what Jehovah of armies has said." So, who is saying this? Jehovah of Armies. What does Jehovah of armies say? "Following after [the] glory he has sent me to the nations..." Jehovah said He was sent. Who sent Him? In verse 9 Jehovah said, "Jehovah of armies has sent me."

In verse 10 we read that someone is coming and will reside with the people. Who is it? "I am coming and I will reside in the midst of you," is the utterance of Jehovah." Jehovah is coming and will reside in the midst of the people.

In verse 11 we read that many nations will become joined to Jehovah, He will reside in the midst of His people and then they will know that "Jehovah of armies" sent Him (Jehovah).

*The JW argues:* The Angel of the Lord could not have been Jehovah, for angels are created and Jehovah is not created. Jehovah is the Father's name and the son's name is Jesus or Michael. We know this because "The Angel of the Lord" is a powerful angel and Michael is the most powerful angel. Therefore, "The Angel of the Lord" must be Michael. Are you saying that Michael was not created?

*We clarify:* You haven't shown that 1) the Father's Name is YHWH. 2) That YHWH is absolutely and ONLY applicable to the Father. 3) That the term "angel" means created being. I will write this out in a logic statement, called a syllogism, to make my position more understandable.

- A) Everything except God is created.
- B) YHWH is God
- C) The "Angel of the Lord" claimed to be YHWH
- D) Therefore, "The Angel of the Lord"

**Continued on page 6**



## ■ Fear *continued from page 1*

is some issue raised that we cannot answer and that will send the person away only more convinced in their error? I find this fear to lay particularly upon me, just before I am to meet with a cultist. Not because I have not studied and worked very hard to prepare, but because their salvation matters to me so much. I do not take my calling lightly, because I care very much about those He has called me to be a witness to.

Then there is the fear of being hated, and this one is also a biggie with me. I have a sort of "people pleaser" personality, and I enjoy being LIKED...I definitely do not enjoy being looked upon as "the whore of Babylon", or scorned as an opposer. Contrary to the old familiar schoolyard rhyme, words can hurt, and often do. Especially when dealing with people who are wrapped up in cult groups you will encounter this hatred, because it is the reaction they are conditioned to have towards those "opposed" to the group. I'll never forget Charlotte's words to me, though these words have been repeated countless times by countless other "Charlottes" that I have sat across the table from, "Why have you taken the trouble to learn ALL ABOUT Jehovah's Witnesses? It must have taken you years to learn all of this... What makes you HATE us so much?". And I'll never forget either the bitter expression on her face as she spat out those words. This type of anger and hostility is not easy for a non-combative person to endure. In fact, it is most difficult to endure...

Then I believe that the evil one takes our natural fears of bucking society's prohibition against religious disagreement, and the fears that are a part of our own nature, and capitalizes upon them, blowing them up beyond reality, and striking nameless terror into our hearts. It is the very vague "can't put your finger on it" quality of this feeling that makes it all the more terrorizing, for it produces in us a fear of fear itself that can be absolutely paralyzing at times. I believe that this fear often goes undiagnosed, because we are used to thinking in terms of the natural rather than the supernatural. Again, as Americans, steeped in our secular/scientific culture, isn't it hard for us to admit to a belief in supernatural forces, even to ourselves? "What's wrong with me?" is more easily asked than, "Who is bothering me?" The Bible teaches us that it is the evil one who is blinding the eyes of the cultist, and it is he who is holding them captive to do his will. How do you suppose that he will feel about your attempts to free them from his grasp? What weapon is the most potent in his arsenal to discourage you from making any rescue attempt? FEAR, of course... He is a skilled adversary, having had thousands of years to perfect his techniques, while we have only been around for a nanosecond by comparison. We're outgunned, and unless we take this spiritual warfare seriously, we will not be willing to take the trouble to put on the armor of God to make our stand.

A more potent fear than that of looking foolish or messing up is the fear of loss of relationship. This is a very real fear when dealing with family members or friends who have gotten trapped in cult groups. It is hard enough to overcome the world, the flesh and the devil when the person is a stranger...multiply that 1000 times for a loved one. Aunt Sue may not just "get mad" at your attempts to free her from a cult group; Aunt Sue may cut all ties with you forever.

Multiply the anxiety exponentially when Aunt Sue is not your aunt, but your mother, sister or brother. The trepidation can be crippling.

I am in the ministry to rescue those who have been taken captive by cult groups, and I have been a Christian myself for many years, so naturally I am immune to these fears that may plague "regular people". Not! The truth is, I'm not immune at all!!! I have been tasted every fear on the menu, I think, as far as witnessing to people is concerned, and so I do not write this piece as an intellectual exercise about fear, but as a plea to those who have suffered like me in these situations: DON'T GIVE UP on reaching out to the lost when you find yourself engulfed in one or more of these fearful feelings. If you feel that God is calling you to reach out to JW's or Mormons, or anyone else for that matter, DON'T allow yourself to become convinced that because your stomach may churn at the thought of any antagonistic encounter, you are just not cut out for this work. Cheer

up!!! Your reward will be great! Fear is the most common weapon in the enemy's arsenal to still the voice of the church. So, when you find your palms are sweaty or your hands are shaking before or even during an encounter, do not just assume that you just aren't "spiritual enough" to engage in this work. And DO NOT QUIT. PLEASE.

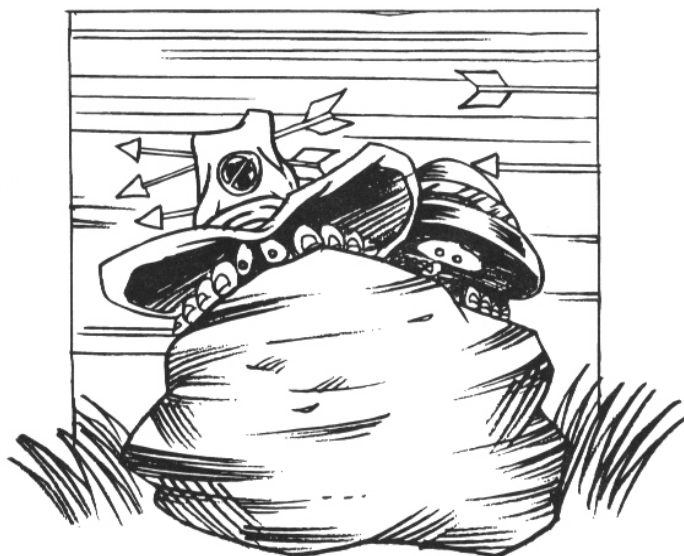
The apostle Paul refers to the Christian life as warfare, and tells us that our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against evil spiritual forces that we cannot see, but with whom we grapple with nonetheless. I guess I should not be too surprised that I do not like spiritual warfare, any more than I personally would like ANY KIND of warfare. Warfare does not sound like anything I want

to have anything to do with! I am no Gideon, believe me. No military leader Joshua either, nor warrior David. I cannot even imagine having the guts to stand firm when bullets, arrows, spears or even BB's are whirring around my pacifist little head. (Who ME??? Please Mr. Custer, I don't wanna go!!!)

But we as Christians must realize that whether we like it or not, we ARE in a war, a war with the highest possible stakes, and our participation in the battle is essential for the sake of the lost all around us. We DARE NOT keep our heads in the sand, or turn tail. We are all needed. One missing soldier is a gaping hole in the line, and our capitulation or downright surrender is an unthinkable betrayal of our comrades in arms.

What is needed is COURAGE. Well, what is courage? I'll tell you first of all what courage is not...courage is not fearlessness. A fearless person need not exercise any courage at all, since courage is the act of facing your fears, and standing fast when your whole heart and soul is telling you to RUN!!! I would be willing to bet that most of the soldiers that have bravely faced the thought of their own mortality in battle probably wished they were someplace else. Anyplace else... Some encounters with cult members are much the same. So please do not let that stop you.

I actually think, though I could be wrong, that the Lord takes delight in stretching us beyond our comfort zone. I don't mind hearing about the battle, but I don't want to be in range of those guns!!! Much as I'd prefer to stay in the rear, safe and sound, with a kitten



"I don't wanna go!"

Continued on page 7



# “And Along Came A Spider...”

## Contrasts

**T**he 5/15/95 Watchtower states the following on page 10: “In our appreciation for the Scriptures instead of tradition, we Witnesses of Jehovah resemble the early Christians.”

Is this a true picture of the Watchtower Society?

Does the Watchtower Society really teach Bible truths, or are they following the teachings of men? Do they really have true appreciation of the Scriptures?

Let's examine some words of the Bible and CONTRAST those words with how the New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures (NWT) might read if it were REWRITTEN according to the teaching of the \*Watchtower Bible & Tract Society:

\*I will be using the designation WTBS for the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society.

### THE DOCTRINE OF SALVATION

**BIBLE:** 1 John 5:1a

“EVERYONE who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God.”

**WTBS amplified:** 1 John 5:1a

ONLY THOSE who commit to the standards of Jehovah's Organization and are born after John the Baptist and before 1935 are born of God. Exceptions are made as undeserving ones fall away from Jehovah's Organization. Only then is there an opening for someone younger to be born of God. God's holy spirit will let that one know if they are the one.

**BIBLE:** Romans 10:9

“That if you confess with your mouth, ‘JESUS IS LORD,’ and believe in your heart that God RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, you will BE SAVED.”

**WTBS amplified:** : Romans 10:9

That if you confess with your mouth ‘JESUS IS A CREATED GOD’ and believe in your heart that God RECREATED JESUS AS A SPIRIT CREATURE, you will HAVE A CHANCE TO BE SAVED if you remain faithful during the final test at the end of the millennium.

**BIBLE:** Romans 10:10

“For it is with your HEART that you believe and are justified, and it is with your MOUTH that you confess and ARE SAVED.”

**WTBS amplified:** Romans 10:10

For it is BY YOUR EFFORT that you exercise faith and by your WORKS that you are justified, AND THAT OF YOUR OWN MERIT. It is with your mouth that you spread the kingdom message to tell the world that they, like you, can HAVE A CHANCE to find salvation.

**BIBLE:** Romans 10:13 b

“For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.”

**WTBS amplified:** Romans 10:13 b (with WT amplification)

For only those who pronounce Jehovah's name correctly and align themselves with the Faithful and Discreet slave, have a chance to find salvation.

### REGARDING CREATION

**BIBLE:** Isaiah 44:24b

“I am the LORD, who has made all things, who ALONE stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth BY MYSELF.”

**WTBS amplified:** Isaiah 44:24b

I Jehovah, am doing everything, stretching out the heavens WITH ONLY THE HELP OF MY JUNIOR PARTNER, laying out the earth. ONLY A LITTLE GOD WAS WITH ME.

**BIBLE:** John 1:3

“Through Him (Jesus) ALL things were made; WITHOUT HIM NOTHING WAS MADE THAT HAS BEEN MADE.”

**WTBS amplified:** John 1:3

Through him (Jesus) ALMOST EVERYTHING was made; himself excluded.

### ONLY ONE GOD

**BIBLE:** Isaiah 45:5a

“I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.”

**WTBS amplified:** Isaiah 45:5a

I am Jehovah, and there is only one other; apart from me, there is only one other god.

### THE CHRIST

**BIBLE:** Luke 2:11

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. HE IS CHRIST THE LORD.”

**WTBS amplified:** Luke 2:11

Because there was born to you today in David's city a Savior, who WILL BECOME THE CHRIST AT HIS BAPTISM.

### THE HOLY SPIRIT

**BIBLE:** Acts 5:3 & 4

“Then Peter said, ‘Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have LIED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT and have kept for yourself some of the money... What made you think you could do such a thing? You have not lied to men but TO GOD.’”

**WTBS amplified:** Acts 5:3 & 4

But Peter said: ‘Ananias, why has Satan emboldened you to play false TO THE HOLY SPIRIT and to hold back secretly some of the price... You have played false, not to men, but to GOD'S ACTIVE FORCE.’ hmmm...Peter had a perfect opportunity to proclaim to the world that the Holy Spirit was only a force. Why didn't he call him that? Why did he call him “God”? Can a “force” be lied to?

### THE HEAVENLY CITY

**BIBLE:** Hebrews 11:10 & 16

“For he [Abraham] was looking forward to a city with foundations, whose architect and BUILDER IS GOD...Instead, they [Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Sarah] were longing for a better country — a HEAVENLY ONE. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”

**WTBS amplified:** Hebrews 11:10 & 16

For Abraham was looking forward to a city that the GREAT CROWD WOULD BUILD, the new earth. The other saints will be





xeroxed one by one to live on THE EARTH with the great crowd. What a wonderful day that will be.

## THE SECOND COMING

**BIBLE: Matthew 24:26 & 27**

"So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' DO NOT GO OUT; or 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. For as lightening that comes from the east is VISIBLE even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man."

**WTBTS amplified: Matthew 24:26 & 27**

So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' MAKE SURE YOU CHECK IT OUT; or 'Here he is in the inner rooms,' HAVE FAITH, FOR ONLY THOSE WITH EYES OF UNDERSTANDING WILL REALIZE THIS. For as lightening that comes from the east shines even to the west, so the PRESENCE of the Son of man will NOT be. No one will actually see the Son when he comes. His PRESENCE will be INVISIBLE, seen only by those with eyes of understanding.

## THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

**BIBLE: Luke 24:37- 39**

"They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. IT IS I MYSELF! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.'"

**WTBTS amplified: Luke 24:37-39**

...they were imagining they beheld a spirit. [They were quite correct in "imagining" that Jesus was only a spirit creature, for such he WAS, but Jesus knew that they were not really ready to understand this yet] So, in order to assure them that it really WAS THE SAME JESUS who had died and been buried, even though he knew that he was REALLY a DIFFERENT "SPIRIT" JESUS who had only materialized a similar body to the one he had been crucified in, he said, 'why are you troubled, why do doubts arise in your mind?' He told them to behold the hands and feet of the phony materialized "Jesus body" standing before them so that they would be convinced that "Jesus" was alive (although in time they would understand that it's OK if it is not the same Jesus, as long as Jehovah made this new one too.) hmmm...we have no Biblical record to show when (or IF!!!) the disciples "got it" concerning the spirit body of Jesus, but we do know that CT Russell "got it" in 1874 when Jesus did not show up in physical form as he was then expected by the Bible Students. It became "clear" to Russell and his associates that Jesus MUST BE an invisible spirit creature, OR Russell's date setting chronology concerning 1874 was in error...

**BIBLE: 1 Corinthians 15: 3 & 4**

"For what I received I passed on to you as of FIRST IMPORTANCE that Christ DIED FOR OUR SINS according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that HE WAS RAISED on the third day according to the Scriptures."

**WTBTS amplified: 1 Corinthians 15: 3 & 4**

For what I received I passed on to you as of MINIMAL IMPORTANCE, that Christ PASSED INTO NON-EXISTENCE, FOREVER DEAD, FOR THE ANOINTED, FOR THE SIN OF ADAM, and that another Jesus was RECREATED from the memory of Jehovah on the third day.

## THE DOCTRINE OF SALVATION

**BIBLE: Psalm 49:6-9**

"NO MAN can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for him—the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough—that he should live on forever and not see decay."

**WTBTS amplified: Psalm 49:6-9**

Not one of them can by any means redeem even a brother, nor give to God a ransom for him. Not one, that is, EXCEPT THE ONE THAT I CREATED. Of course, he must be merely man in order to redeem his brother. Remember the law of a corresponding ransom!

**BIBLE: Romans 10:11-13**

"As the Scripture says, 'ANYONE WHO TRUSTS IN HIM will never be put to shame.' For there is no difference between the Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses ALL WHO CALL ON HIM."

**WTBTS amplified: Romans 10:11-13**

ONLY THOSE who come to Jehovah through his Organization and are sure to make it through that final test will never be put to shame. For there is no difference between the Jew and Gentile (don't mistake this for meaning that there is no difference between the anointed class and the great crowd). There is the same Lord over all, who is rich toward ALL THOSE WHO FOLLOW the narrow way, not the way of Christendom, THE WAY OF THE ORGANIZATION.

## THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

**BIBLE: Luke 24:45-48**

"Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, 'This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and RISE FROM THE DEAD on the third day, and REPENTANCE AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS \*\*\*WILL BE PREACHED IN HIS NAME TO ALL NATIONS,\*\*\* beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'"

**WTBTS amplified: Luke 24:45-48**

Then he opened their minds fully to grasp the meaning of the Scriptures, and he said to them: In this way it is written that the Christ would suffer and be RECREATED from the memory of Jehovah on the third day. He will appear to be risen, but you will eventually understand the true meaning of his appearances.

## ANOTHER GOSPEL?

If you, as a Jehovah's Witness, can see that the Watchtower Bible & Tract Society has not been honest in their interpretation of Bible truths, and would like more information, please contact me.

*Untangling this issue's Spider's Web is Joy Westervelt. Joy is a consultant/researcher for "Those Other Gospels", a counter cult ministry, based in Harrison, NJ. She works directly with Jehovah's Witnesses at Kingdom Halls in New Jersey, and is involved in ministry with them on America-on-Line. She is available for counseling services where needed. Joy's husband, Jim is a pastor who travels from church to church. They have three children and three grandchildren.*

You can reach Joy at:  
"Those Other Gospels"  
Box 633  
Totowa, NJ 07512.



Joy Westervelt



## ■ Cyberspace *continued from page 2*

is God and uncreated.

Regarding Michael I would say:

- A) Everything except God is created.
- B) YHWH is God
- C) Michael the archangel is not YHWH
- D) Therefore, Michael the archangel is a created being.

To refute my position, it is not enough to say, "Na, na, na, na, na, na." You must show that YHWH is absolutely and only applicable to the Father and never the Son. That the term angel means "created being" and that "The Angel of the Lord" was either lying or mistaken when He claimed to be YHWH.

The JW, with hands over his ears and gnashing his teeth says: You are incapable of proving that the Tetragrammaton is NOT applicable only and absolutely to the Father. Do you think to sneak a little advantage for yourself in support of your Trinitarian doctrine because of only one reference in the OT (Is. 63:16) to God the Father as YHWH? One such reference is quite enough for the honest hearted and doctrinally unbiased. What an utterly absurd and impotent attempt from which to build support for your doctrine.

Your attempt to manipulate near "silence" into a doctrinal proof won't work - because not ONE incident in the Hebrew texts containing the Tetragrammaton is applied to anyone OTHER than God the Father — NEVER — !!! I do challenge you to produce a single text from the Hebrew Scriptures, wherein the Tetragrammaton is specifically attached to anyone other than the Father!!!

(The JWs ASSUME that the name Jehovah or YHWH ALWAYS refers to the Father, though there is only one scripture reference that specifically calls the Father by that name. The JW defender contends that we are making our case from "silence"...ie,

that we are saying that Jesus must be Jehovah also, just because the OT specifically says that the Father is Jehovah only once. He argues that the JWs at least have ONE SCRIPTURE, whereas there are NO scriptures backing up our claim that anyone OTHER than the Father is Jehovah. His claim is invalid, as we shall show.)

We answer: Ok. First, as I have demonstrated from Zechariah 2:8, YHWH was quoted as speaking and He said He was sent. In v:9 He said that YHWH sent Him. In Genesis 19:24 we see that YHWH made it rain sulphur and fire from YHWH in the heavens. So, again, we have at least two who are referred to as YHWH. In Jeremiah 50:40 the prophet quotes YHWH as saying, "'Just as with God's overthrow of Sodom and of Gomorrah and of her neighbor [towns],' is the utterance of Jehovah, 'no man will dwell there, nor will the son of mankind reside in her as an alien.'" (NWT) Similarly, in Amos 4:9-12, the prophet Amos records the words of YHWH as He recites the various ways which He used to try to bring His people back to Himself. In v:11 YHWH said, "I caused as overthrow among you people, LIKE God's overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah." (NWT) In Genesis Jacob wrestled with "The Angel of the Lord" and afterward stated, "I have seen GOD face to face, yet my life has been preserved." (Gen. 33:16). In Exodus 3:1-15, "The Angel of the Lord" appeared in the midst of the burning bush and when questioned about who He was, identified Himself as YHWH.

We see a number of things from this. YHWH sent YHWH. YHWH went because YHWH sent Him. YHWH had fire and brimstone sent from YHWH in heaven. YHWH said that it was God who overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. YHWH said that HE caused the people to be overthrown just like

God did at Sodom and Gomorrah. Jacob wrestled with YHWH and "The Angel of the Lord" who sent Moses to deliver His people was YHWH.

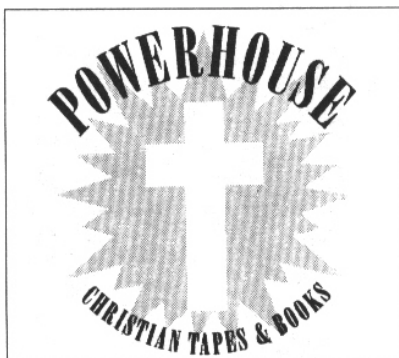
In Malachi 3:1, the NWT reads, "'Look! I am sending my messenger, and he must clear up a way before me. And suddenly there will come to His temple the [true] Lord, whom YOU people are seeking, and the messenger of the covenant in whom YOU are delighting. Look! He will certainly come,' Jehovah of armies has said."

The messenger who was going to clear the way is John the Baptist. The one who is coming to HIS temple is the "[true] Lord." The Society's note is the 1984 NWT with references shows that the "[true] Lord" here is "ha-Adohn" (p. 1174). In the same work, on page 1568 note 1H tells us that "ha-Adohn" is exclusively the title of Jehovah God. So, the "[true] Lord" who is coming to His temple is YHWH HIMSELF! The verse continues, "...whom YOU people are seeking, and the messenger (the note at the bottom of the page points out that this is "angel") of the covenant in whom YOU are delighting. Look! He will certainly come,' Jehovah of armies has said."

YHWH HIMSELF is coming to His temple. YHWH is the "messenger (angel) of the covenant" and His coming was announced by Jehovah of armies in Malachi.

I have shown, not one single verse, but seven distinct examples of someone other than the Father being referred to as YHWH.

Jesus is YHWH! Amen, come quickly Lord Jesus.



Turn your daily commute into "college in the car"! Powerhouse Christian Tapes & Books currently carries the works of Dr. Norman Geisler, Dr. Walter Kaiser and Dr. H. Wayne House, among others. Write or call today for a complete listing of available titles.

**POWERHOUSE Christian Tapes & Books**  
P. O. Box 859; Clayton, CA 94517  
(510) 673-9121 • FAX 672-8230

# APOLOGETICS

## Dr. William Lane Craig

**Presents a Positive Defense for the Christian Faith.**

**Give answers with confidence on issues like:**

<p><b>God's Existence</b></p> <p><b>Atheism</b></p> <p><b>The Big Bang theory</b></p>	<p><b>The Resurrection</b></p> <p><b>Miracles</b></p> <p><b>Authenticity of Scripture</b></p>	<p><b>The Jesus Seminar</b></p> <p><b>Creationism</b></p> <p><b>and more...</b></p>
---	---	---

*Reasonable Faith* will teach you what thousands of Seminary students have learned. Great for individuals, Church Leaders or Bible study groups interested in powerful evangelism.

**10 Full-Length Audio Cassettes**

**SAVE 50%! Normal \$99.95 Retail \$49.95** Now until September 1

**24 HOURS MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!**

**1-800-474-2167**

*Major credit cards accepted*

**MJ895**

**Turner-Welchinski Publishing**



Introducing...

# THE Apologetics TEAM



Front Row (l to r): Gayle "Your Truth" Sauer, Don "I love it when a plan comes together" Veinot, Joy "Terminator" Veinot, Second row: Melvin Russell, Diane "Mrs. G" Gholson, Todd McGehee, Corkey "Books" McGehee, Chuck "What Me Worry?" Plath and Pam "Make It Shorter" Divine

## ■ Fear *continued from page 3*

on my lap, reading about the adventures of other, braver souls, I find myself propelled to the front by that Almighty hand. (More adventures, Lord?? Aw c'mon.) But I think He wants to keep on showing me what He can do with a coward like me.

I'd like to offer a few words of encouragement to those of you who are struggling with this issue, and may even now be on the verge of hanging it up. First of all, it DOES get easier in time. The tenth time is easier than the first, and harder than the 50th. Second, as we obey the Lord in the area He has called us into, He will provide the necessary strength, words, and abilities that are needed for the task. The first time we were to be interviewed on a popular Christian radio program, I was petrified rather than eager. All the way to the station, I was fretting and assuring Don that I was not going to be able to speak a word, and that he was going to have to do all the talking. Well...it turned out to be much more difficult even than I had imagined...difficult to shut up and let the man get a word in edgewise. He now refers to me as "radio hog", affectionately

I'm sure... So I've learned over time to accept the jitters I still feel sometimes, and just trust God for the outcome. I know He has been there for me everytime.

Something else. The apostle John says that "perfect love casts out fear". (1John 4:18). Now I know that the context of that verse has to do with our relationship to God, but I believe that the principle holds true for other fears as well. The more love that we have for the lost, the more we shall be able to conquer our fears for their sake. What force is it that can send a man into a burning building to rescue his family? What can make a parent face an intruder in his or her home? Love, of course. I am of the opinion that the church's lack of evangelism reflects a lack of love for those outside. If we find ourselves lacking love, what can we do about it? I ask God to increase my love for the lost, and I believe He does answer that prayer.

As I have said, I know that this piece is not germane to all you cowpokes out there. There are some warriors who never experience the type of traumatic, heartstopping

fear that some of us know. I don't pretend to have the slightest understanding of those fearless ones, and I don't really like them much either. Just a little joke...of course I like fearless people. They are right up there with flawlessly gorgeous models and spotless housekeepers in my book. But to those of you who do know the knee knocking, heart pounding terrors, I offer this piece to you in love and empathy. But I do NOT offer you permission to quit. We need you out here. You are much too valuable to get along without. And if I can't quit, neither can you.

Love to all,  
Joy

We invite those of you from the Chicago area to tune into our new weekly radio program "Defend the Faith" on 106.7 FM, WYLL every Saturday night 6-7 p.m. beginning July 22.

# Calendar of Events

June 29-July 2 ..... Cornerstone Festival  
Bushnell, IL

July 9, 1995 ..... North Suburban E.V. Free Church  
9:A.M  
200 Lake-Cook Rd., Deerfield, IL  
For directions call: 708/945-4630

July 16, 1995 ..... North Suburban E.V. Free Church  
9:00 A.M.  
200 Lake-Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL.  
For directions call:708/945-4630

July 23, 1995 ..... Support group meeting  
2:00 PM-5:00 PM  
Bethel Community Church  
7601 W. Foster Ave., Chicago, IL. 60656  
For directions call Darlene: 312/774-1356

If you would like to arrange a speaking engagement, please feel free to call or write.

**We also have a weekly Monday night  
"Defending the Faith"  
meeting from 7:30-9:00.  
Call 708/627-9028  
for location and directions.**

Midwest Christian Outreach Inc. works with several other ministries which operate help lines. The information on these lines is changed on a weekly basis and individuals can call anonymously and simply listen or they can request additional information. If they desire to speak with someone immediately, they are referred to our live line.

The phone numbers for the pre-recorded message lines are:

**For Jehovah's Witnesses:** .....(708) 556-4551  
.....(312) 774-8187  
.....(815) 498-2114  
.....(502) 927-9374  
.....(817) 520-7617

**For Mormons:** .....(708) 485-5890

**Live Line:**.....(708) 627-9028

*The MCO Journal* is a bi-monthly publication of Midwest Christian Outreach Inc., Lombard, IL

Don Veinot .....Branch Director  
Joy Veinot .....Branch Director  
Pamela Divine ..... Editor  
Charles Archer Plath ..... Artist

Your response to the MCO Journal will be appreciated! Thank you, readers!

Please address correspondence and subscription inquiries to:

*The MCO Journal*

P. O. Box 455; Lombard, IL 60148  
(708) 627-9028 FAX (708) 627-6829

**Midwest  
Christian  
Outreach  
inc.**

*Journal*

*"Have I now become your  
enemy by telling you the  
truth?"*

Galatians 4:16



**Midwest Christian Outreach**

P.O. Box 455; Lombard, IL 60148

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Lombard, IL

Permit No. 1

Forwarding and  
Return Postage Guaranteed,  
Address Correction Requested