

CHRISTOLOGY: DEITY OF JC

- A. The Six Witnesses to Christ's Deity in John 5:31-47.
 - 1. The Holy Spirit, John 5:31-47.
 - 2. John the Baptist, 5:33, 35.
 - 3. His Works, 5:36.
 - 4. The Father, 5:37, 38.
 - 5. The Scriptures, 5:39-44. The Pentateuch speaks of the coming of Christ.
 - 6. Moses, 5:45-47. The Pentateuch.

- A. Peter's Confession, Matt. 16:16; Mark 8:27-29; Luke 9:19, 20; John 6:68, 69.

- B. Testimony of the centurion at the crucifixion, Mark 15:39.

- C. Testimony of Martha, John 11:25-27.

- D. The Jews understood Christ's claim to deity, John 10:33; 8:59.

- E. Christ called Himself God, Mark 14:61, 62.

- F. The Scriptures attribute the essence of deity to Jesus Christ.
 - 1. Total Essence, Col. 2:19.
 - 2. Absolute righteousness, 1 Pet. 2:22.
 - 3. Justice, John 5:22.
 - 4. Eternal, John 17:5; Isa. 9:6; Heb. 13:8; Col. 1:17.
 - 5. Omniscient, John 2:24.
 - 6. Omnipresent, Matt. 28:20.
 - 7. Immutable, Heb. 13:8.
 - 8. Creator, Col. 1:16-18; John 1:3, 10.

- G. Scriptures address Christ as deity, Hebrews 1:8; John 1:1; 17:5; 1:14.

- H. Responding to Jehovah Witnesses' (JW) translation of John 1:1 as ". . . the Word was **a god**." They translated *theos* as "a god" because there is no definite article. However, the Greek absence of the article points to the quality of the noun, not to its indefiniteness.
 - 1. The Greek construction is θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος – *theos/God en/was ho/the logos/Word*.
 - 2. In this construction the predicate *theos* is anarthrous (no article) and precedes the linking verb (*en*).

3. There are only four places in the New Testament where we have this construction where *theos* is without the article and precedes the linking verb. In each case the JW's "Bible" translates it "God" instead of "a god." Why the exception in John 1:1?
 - a. Luke 20:38 in the JW translation: "He is a God (Θεὸς δὲ οὐκ ἔστιν), not of the dead, but of the living, for they are all living to him."
 - b. John 8:54 in the JW translation: "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father that glorifies me, he who YOU say is YOUR God (θεὸς ἡμῶν ἔστιν).
 - c. Philippians 2:13 in the JW translation: "for God is (θεὸς γὰρ ἔστιν) the one that, for the sake of [his] good pleasure, is acting within YOU in order for YOU both to will and to act.
 - d. In each case God (*theos*) does not have the definite article and precedes the linking verb (*estin/is*) and is always translated God. The only exception for the JW's is John 1:1. This is a case where their heresy drives their "translation."

In Him,

Pastor Don