

Christian Witnesses

Christian Witnesses is about sharing the Gospel in various venues.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6 (ESV)

September 2011\October 2011

Columbo asks Sam, a Jehovah's Witnesses (JW), about Johannes Greber and John 1:1.

Columbo: I noticed over the last 21 years or so that Johannes Greber has not been quoted in support of an "a god" translation of John 1:1. Sam, why did the Watchtower (WT) stop quoting him?

Sam: A similar question was asked in the section Questions from the Readers of the WT 4/1/83 on Page 31. The WT response is as follows. "But as indicated in a foreword to the 1980 edition of The New Testament by Johannes Greber, this translator relied on 'God's Spirit World' to clarify for him how he should translate difficult passages."

Columbo: UHM, I am curious. The WT 10/1/55 on Page 603 says, "It comes as no surprise that one Johannes Greber, a former Catholic clergyman, has become a spiritualist and has published the book entitled "Communication with the Spirit World, Its laws and Its Purpose. (1932, Macoy Publishing Company, New York)"

Also, the WT 2/15/56 on page 111 says, "In the Foreword of his aforementioned book ex-priest Greber says: 'The most significant spiritualistic book is the Bible.' Under this impression Greber endeavors to make his New Testament translation read very spiritualistic."

It seems to me the WT knew that Greber was spiritualist in 1955 and 1956.

Sam: It seems that way. I need to do some research.

Columbo: The Watchtower made use of Greber's Bible translation in the following Watchtower's publications: The Word, Who is He, According to John, 1962, Page 5; Aid to Bible Understanding, 1971, Pages 1134,1669; Make Sure of Things, 1965, Page 489; Watchtower 9/15/62, Page 554; WT. 10/15/75, Page 640; WT. 4/15/76, Page 231. So, why did the Watchtower deem it proper to make use of Greber's Bible between 1962 and 1976?

Sam: I will include that in my research. Do you have anything more to share?

Columbo: Yes. In the WT's 1985 Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures section 2A, it cites an "a god" translation by John S. Thompson.

Sam: So!

Columbo: Did you know The American Quarterly Review mentioned that "he had intercourse with the spirit world"? ¹

Sam: No. I will ask some elders about Mr. Thompson.

Columbo: Okay. Oh, there is just one more thing. In the Spanish edition of "Aid to Bible Understanding", it cites Johannes Greber regarding his "a god" translation. ²

I thought your church said in 1983 they deemed it improper to use his translation. They used it again four years later.

Sam: I need to go now. Since you have so much information, you should ask the Society about these things.

Upcoming Websites

Please keep us in prayer. We are planning on launching two new websites, lovejehovah.org and ldsbeliefs.org. The purposes of these websites are to inform believers and reach out to the Jehovah's Witnesses and LDS\Mormons.

Strip Mall

Also, pray for a strip mall where a lot of Jehovah's Witnesses hang out. Over the years, there have been believers in a store front. These believers have allowed us to put a table with gospel tracts in front of the store. There is a new worker at this store. I am unclear where this worker is spiritually. She says she goes to a Korean Christian church but she does not know the affiliation of this church.

1. The American Quarterly Review, Vol. VIII, 1830, Page 235. He had intercourse with the spirit world.

Our next quotation will suffice to show, that Mr. Thompson was completely in the situation described by Dr. Good, being at once an exemplification of what he terms “false inspiration,” and “intercourse with the world of spirits.”

2. Ayuda .para entender la Biblia, 1987 page 1258

“Una Traducción hecha por un ex sacerdote católico romano, Joahnnes Greber (ed. 1937), traduce el Segundo ‘dios’ como ‘un dios’.”

Tract of the Month

Click [here](#) to read the tract.

Article

[Support for the John 1: 1 Translation "the word was a god"](#)

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If you would like to volunteer at an event, please visit the calendar section of the website and let us know.

Christian Witnesses

Box 729

La Habra, CA 90633

cw@christianwitnesses.net

<http://www.christianwitnesses.net/>

In Christ Jeff

Jeff Coons