The Jehovah Witness Revised New World Translation of 2013

The Jehovah Witnesses have their own bible version and their own peculiar beliefs - such as denying the eternal deity of the Lord Jesus Christ and the reality of hell - but their ever changing “bible” version has a lot in common with the new Vatican Versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB. All of them are based on the same UBS (United Bible Society) / Nestle-Aland critical Greek text that omits literally about 3000 words from the New Testament Reformation Bibles like the King James Bible.

All of these “bibles” are continually being “revised”. The NASB has been revised some 10 times from 1960 to 1995. The ESV has come out with 3 different versions in just 10 years (2001, 2007 and 2012) and the NIV has had 4 different versions printed (1973, 78, 84 and 2011) and in each of them these versions continue to change both their English translation and even the underlying Greek and Hebrew texts.


One Jehovah Witness blogger enthusiastically writes in favor of this new revision - “Because so many unnecessary words have been chopped from the text, this has resulted in a reduced total word count from approximately 907,000 words to 786,000 – a 13% reduction!”


This constantly changing United Bible Society/Nestle-Aland critical Greek text is directly influenced by the Vatican in order to create an “inter confessional” text to unite “the separated brethren” with a common New Testament text.

Here is what the JWs say about the Greek text used in their Revised New World Translation.


**Greek Text:** In the late 19th century, scholars B. F. Westcott and F.J.A. Hort compared existing Bible manuscripts and fragments as they prepared the Greek master text that they felt most closely reflected the original writings. In the mid-20th century, the New World Bible Translation Committee used that master text as the basis for its translation. Other early papyri, thought to date back to the second and third centuries C.E., were also used. Since then, more papyri have become available. In addition, master texts such as those by Nestle and Aland and by the United Bible Societies reflect recent scholarly studies. Some of the findings of this research were incorporated into this present revision.

Based on those master texts, it is evident that some verses of the Christian Greek Scriptures found in older translations, such as the King James Version, were actually additions made by
later copyists and were never part of the inspired Scriptures. However, because the verse division generally accepted in Bible translations was already established in the 16th century, the omission of these verses now creates gaps in the verse numbering in most Bibles. The verses are Matthew 17:21; 18:11; 23:14; Mark 7:16; 9:44, 46; 11:26; 15:28; Luke 17:36; 23:17; John 5:4; Acts 8:37; 15:34; 24:7; 28:29; and Romans 16:24. In this revised edition, those omitted verses are indicated by a footnote at the location of the omission.

Regarding the long conclusion for Mark 16 (verses 9-20), the short conclusion for Mark 16, and the wording found at John 7:53–8:11, it is evident that none of these verses were included in the original manuscripts. Therefore, those spurious texts have not been included in this revision.  

(End of notes from the JW website)

As a result, the Jehovah Witness Revised New World Translation omits the same 17 entire verses from the New Testament, plus it omits some 25 more (Mark 16:9-20; John 7:53-8:11) just like the RSV did and as the Sinaiticus and Vaticanus manuscripts do, and it omits hundreds of other words and phrases, just like the ESV, NIV, NASB and the modern Catholic versions like St. Joseph NAB and the New Jerusalem bible 1985.

ALL these verses are omitted by the Catholic New Jerusalem bible 1985 AND by the RSV, ESV, NIV, NASB, NET, the Jehovah Witness New World Translation etc. The Holman Standard puts them all in brackets, indicating doubt as to their authenticity.

Matthew 17:21- “Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.” (All omit)

Matthew 18:11 - “For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.” (All omit)

Matthew 23:14- “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows’ houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.” (All omit)

Mark 7:16 - “If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.” (All omit)

Mark 9:44 - “Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.” (All omit)

Mark 9:46 - “Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.” (All omit)

Mark 11:26 - “But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.” (All omit)

Mark 15:28 - “And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors.” (All omit)

Luke 17:36 - “Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.” (All
Luke 23:17 - “For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast.” (All omit)

John 5:4 - “For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.” (All omit)

Acts 8:37 - “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” (All omit)

Acts 15:34 - “Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still.” (All omit)

Acts 24:6b to 8a - “and would have judged according to our law. But the chief captain Lysias came upon us, and with great violence took him away out of our hands, Commanding his accusers to come unto thee” (All omit)

Acts 28:29 - “And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.” (All omit)

Romans - 16:24 “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.” (All omit)

I John 5:7-8 - omits the words: “in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth” (All omit)

See Undeniable Proof the ESV, NIV, NASB, Holman Standard, NET etc. are the new "Vatican Versions"

http://brandplucked.webs.com/realcatholicbibles.htm

For a verse and word comparison study where you will see many of the literally thousands of words that have been omitted in these recent Vatican Versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB and in the modern Catholic versions and in the Jehovah Witness Revised New World Translation see the charts here in Part Two of Undeniable Proof the ESV, NIV, NASB are the new Vatican Versions.

http://brandplucked.webs.com/esvcatholicpart2.htm

The Name Jehovah

One of the things the JWs are known for is their emphasis on the name Jehovah. The King James Bible itself does use the name Jehovah some seven times, but usually translates it as either GOD or LORD in capital letters, to distinguish it from the Hebrew El or Adonai, which are
translated as God or Lord, with only the first letter being capitalized.

I agree with them that one of the divine names is Jehovah and not Yahweh or Yave, Yahawah, Yahovah or some other variation that is being tossed around in today’s Bible Babble Buffet versions that are on the market. But there are very good reasons for not always translating the name as Jehovah and one of the main ones is that the Bible itself interchanges the name Jehovah with Adonai or El.

See my study on this called The significance of the name JEHOVAH

http://brandplucked.webs.com/jehovah.htm

This is what the Jehovah witness’s own site says regarding the Name of Jehovah -

The Divine Name in the Christian Greek Scriptures


“Bible scholars acknowledge that God’s personal name, as represented by the Tetragrammaton (יהוה), appears almost 7,000 times in the original text of the Hebrew Scriptures. However, many feel that it did not appear in the original text of the Christian Greek Scriptures. For this reason, most modern English Bibles do not use the name Jehovah when translating the so-called New Testament. Even when translating quotations from the Hebrew Scriptures in which the Tetragrammaton appears, most translators use “Lord” rather than God’s personal name.

The New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures does not follow this common practice. It uses the name Jehovah a total of 237 times in the Christian Greek Scriptures. In deciding to do this, the translators took into consideration two important factors: (1) The Greek manuscripts we possess today are not the originals. Of the thousands of copies in existence today, most were made at least two centuries after the originals were composed. (2) By that time, those copying the manuscripts either replaced the Tetragrammaton with Ky’ri-os, the Greek word for “Lord,” or they copied from manuscripts where this had already been done.” (End of quotes)

What the J.W.s have done is to put the name Jehovah some 237 times into the New Testament, but never when it refers to Christ, when in fact it does not occur in any Greek texts available. They basically speculate that it may have originally appeared and later was removed. With this sort of mentality, you can virtually make the bible say anything you want it to say.

Since the JWs do not believe in the Trinity they deliberately mistranslate several passages that deal with the deity of Christ (John 1:1; 8:58; Hebrews 1:8); they use the Nestle-Aland
critical text, which omits the strongest verse on the Trinity in 1 John 5:7 "the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one" (as do the ESV, NIV, NASB); and like the ESV, NIV, NASB replace "GOD was manifest in the flesh" in 1 Timothy 3:16 to "He was made manifest in flesh" (Everybody has been manifest in the flesh; so what?), and they downgrade the Spirit of God in places like Genesis 1:2 "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" to "and God’s active force was moving about over the surface of the waters."

Jehovah Witnesses do not believe in the reality of hell and so this word has been completely removed from their "bible" version, but many modern versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB are not far behind in removing this word from both the Old and New Testaments either. HELL (whole Bible) KJB - 53 times; NKJV - 32; NASB -13; ESV - 14; NIV - 13

The previous New World Translation used the words Sheol and Hades a lot (as do several modern versions) but have changed these words to now read "the grave".

Here is an example. In Psalms 9:17 in the King James Bible we read: "The wicked shall be turned into HELL, and all nations that forget God."

The previous NWT 1961 read: "Wicked people will turn back to SHEOL, Even all the nations that forget God."

But the 2013 Revision now reads: "The wicked will retreat toward the GRAVE, All the nations who forget God."

Psalm 9:17

King James Bible - "The wicked shall be turned into HELL, and all nations that forget God."

NIV - "The wicked RETURN TO THE GRAVE, all the nations that forget God."

There are two big problems with the NIV rendering here. First, you can only RETURN TO someplace you have already been before. Does the NIV teach reincarnation? You can teach it using the NIV, but you cannot get the doctrine of reincarnation from the King James Bible.

Second, most everyone, the wicked and the righteous, go to the grave. So what else is new? The context is the fate of the wicked, and it is not the same as that of the righteous. The NIV rendering is silly at best, and diabolical at worst.

NASB, ESV 2001 - "The wicked will RETURN TO SHEOL, even all the nations who forget God."

The NASB, ESV have two similar problems. How do people return to someplace if they have not been there before? Also what in the world is Sheol? Many criticize the KJB for being hard to understand, but how many of them know what Sheol is? And again there is no distinction
between the wicked and the righteous in the NASB rendering. The liberal RSV has: "The wicked shall depart to Sheol", the ESV 2011 is similar with "the wicked shall RETURN to Sheol" and the Catholic New Jerusalem bible of 1985 has: "May the wicked turn away to Sheol."

For a more in depth study of the word "hell" in the Bible please see 'Hell and Damnation in the King James Bible' -

http://brandplucked.webs.com/helldamnation.htm

Thankfully, you do not need to help support the JWs by buying one of their new Revised versions. You can actually see it online here -


Here are a few of the places where the Jehovah Witness Revised New World Translation rejects the Hebrew readings and replaces them with either the so called Greek Septuagint, the Syriac or mere speculation.

Compare also the modern Catholic versions and the new Vatican Versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB. The Jehovah Witness Revised New World Translation will be indicated by the letters JWRNWT.

1 Samuel 13:1 Here we read: “Saul reigned ONE year; and when he had reigned TWO years over Israel, Saul chose him three thousand men of Israel.” reading - ONE/TWO years (NKJV, KJB, Geneva, Judaica Press Tanach, Orthodox Jewish Bible), or 40/32 (NASB 1972-77) or 30/42 (NASB 1995, NIV), OR 30 years/ 40 years (NET) or _____years and______and two years (RSV, NRSV, ESV 2001 edition, St. Joseph New American Bible 1970, Catholic New Jerusalem 1985), or "was 40 years old...and when he had reigned 2 years" (Amplified bible 1987) or "_____years old and reigned 2 years" (Complete Jewish bible, Knox bible) or "was 30 years old...ruled for 42 years" (ISV, Common English Bible) or “32 years old...reigned for 22 years” in the 1989 Revised English Bible, or as the Jehovah Witness New World Translation has it - I Samuel 13:1 - “Saul was . . .* years old when he became king, and for two years he reigned over Israel. “ Footnote: The number is missing in the Hebrew text." or even "was 50 years old and reigned 22 years." in the New English Bible of 1970!

But wait. There's even more. The ESV 2001 edition had "Saul was_______years old when he began to reign, and he reigned____and two years over Israel." But now the 2011 edition of the ESV has come out (I have a hard copy right here in front of me) and it now has the perhaps even more ridiculous reading of "Saul LIVED FOR ONE YEAR AND THEN BECAME KING, and when he had reigned FOR TWO YEARS over Israel, Saul chose 3000 men of Israel...". Think
The truth of the matter is that there is no missing number in the Hebrew text and the King James Bible is right. Here is why -

http://brandplucked.webs.com/1samuel131wordslost.htm

or in Matthew 18:22 does the Lord say to forgive your brother not “until 7 times, but unto 70 times 7 times” (= 490 times) - KJB, RV, ASV, NASB, NKJV, RSV, ESV, ISV, Douay-Rheims, St. Joseph NAB, ALL Greek texts) or 77 times (NRSV, NIV, Catholic New Jerusalem)

JWNWT - “Jesus said to him: “I say to you, not up to seven times, but up to 77 times.”

or the 7th day in Judges 14:15 (Hebrew text, KJB, NKJV, RV, ASV, Douay-Rheims) or the 4th day (LXX, RSV, ESV, NASB, NIV, NET, St. Joseph NAB, Catholic New Jerusalem) or "the NEXT day" ISV (they just made this up!)

JWRNWT - “On THE FOURTH DAY, they said to Samson’s wife: “Trick your husband+ so that he will tell us the answer to the riddle. Otherwise, we will burn you and your father’s house with fire. Did you invite us here to take our possessions?”

Or Hannah taking young Samuel to the house of the LORD with THREE bullocks in 1 Samuel 1:24 (KJB, Hebrew texts, RV, ASV, JPS 1917, NKJV, Youngs, NET, Douay-Rheims) or “A THREE YEAR OLD BULL: (LXX, Syriac RSV, ESV, NIV, NASB, ISV, Holman, St. Joseph NAB, Catholic New Jerusalem) JWRNWT - “As soon as she had weaned him, she took him up to Shi’loh, along with A THREE-YEAR OLD BULL, one e’phah of flour...”

2 Samuel 15:7 “forty years” (KJB, Hebrew, Geneva, NKJV, NASB, RV, Douay-Rheims) OR “four years” (Greek, Syriac, NIV, RSV, ESV, NET, St. Joseph NAB, Catholic New Jerusalem). The ISV ADDS words to the Hebrew text to make it say what they think it means, saying: "And so it was that forty years after Israel had demanded a king, Absalom asked the king..."

JWRNWT - “At the end of FOUR years, Ab’sa·lom said to the king: “Let me go, please, to Heb’ron to pay my vow that I made to Jehovah.” Footnote - Or possibly, 40 years.”

or whether 1 Kings 4:26 reads 40,000 stalls of horses (Hebrew, KJB, RV, ASV, RSV, NRSV, NASB, ESV, NKJV, ISV, Douay-Rheims, Jehovah Witness NWT 1961 edition) or 4,000 stalls (SOME LXX copies, NIV, NET, St. Joseph NAB, Catholic New Jerusalem, NWT 2013 edition)

JWRMWT 2013 edition - “And Sol’o·mon had 4,000 stalls of horses for his chariots and 12,000 horses.” This is one of the places where the new Revised NWT changes the Hebrew reading of
40,000 found in the previous New World Translations for the reading of 4,000 that is found in SOME copies of the LXX.

or where 2 Chronicles 36:9 reads that Jehoiachin was 8 years old when he began to reign (Hebrew texts, KJB, NASB, NKJV, RV, ASV, KJB, RSV, NRSV, ESV 2001 edition, ISV, Douay-Rheims) or he was 18 years old (LXX, NIV, Holman, NET, ESV 2007 edition!!! and once again the Catholic St. Joseph NAB and the New Jerusalem)

JWRNWT - “Je·hoi′a·chin was 18 years old when he became king”

or that when God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead it is stated in Acts 13:33 “this day have I begotten thee” (KJB, NASB, NKJV, RV, RSV, NRSV, ESV, Douay-Rheims, St. Joseph NAB) or “today I have become your Father” (NIV, Holman, NET, ISV, Catholic New Jerusalem).

JWRNWT - God has completely fulfilled it to us, their children, by resurrecting Jesus; just as it is written in the second psalm: ‘You are my son; today I HAVE BECOME YOUR FATHER.”

In this verse God is talking about the Resurrection of Christ and it was on that day that God begat Him from the dead and He became “the first-begotten from the dead” (Rev. 1:5) and “the first born from the dead” (Col. 1:18)

Since the JWs deny the full deity of the Son of God, they have completely paraphrased the Greek wording found in Acts 13:33 in ALL texts. There is NO Greek text anywhere on this earth that says “Today I HAVE BECOME YOUR FATHER.”

They all say “Today I HAVE BEGOTTEN THEE.” and the verse itself and the context as found in the true Bible tells us that God is speaking about the Resurrection of Christ from the dead. “God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children IN THAT HE HATH RAISED UP JESUS AGAIN; as it is written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to see corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.” Acts 13:33-34.

For a much more developed article on this verse see -

http://brandplucked.webs.com/acts1333thisdaybegotte.htm

Another change that has been made in the recent JW revision is the omission of the perfectly good and accurate English word “fornication”, which means sexual intercourse among unmarried people, and replacing it with the vague and “you fill in the definition” phrase of “sexual immorality”.

This has also happened in many of today’s modern versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB and the modern Catholic versions. See Fornication or Immorality?
We all know that the JWs deny the Godhead of our Lord Jesus Christ and we still see the weakening of this doctrine in such passages as John 1:1, John 8:58 and Hebrews 1:6-8.

John 1:1 KJB - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 1:1 JWRNWT - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god.”

John 8:58 KJB - “Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM.” Thus tying the Lord Jesus Christ to Jehovah God in Exodus 3:14 “And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM.”

John 8:58 JWRNWT - “Jesus said to them: “Most truly I say to you, before Abraham came into existence, I HAVE BEEN.” (There is no possible way the Greek words "ἐγὼ εἰμί - ego eimi" can remotely be translated as “I have been”.

Hebrews 1:6-8 KJB - “And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God WORSHIP him. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But UNTO the Son he saith, Thy throne, O GOD, is for ever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom.”

Hebrews 1:6-8 JWRNWT - “But when he again brings his Firstborn into the inhabited earth, he says: “And let all of God’s angels DO OBEISANCE TO him.”

Also, he says about the angels: “He makes his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.” But ABOUT the Son, he says: “GOD IS YOUR THRONE forever and ever, and the scepter of your Kingdom is the scepter of uprightness.” (Again, there is NO Greek text that reads this way at all. They all read: "πρὸς δὲ τὸν οὐ̂λόν, ὁ θεόνος σου, ὁ θεός, εἰς τὸν αἰώνα τοῦ αἰώνος" = Thy_ throne, O God, is for ever and ever)

But there are other Scriptures where this truth of the eternal deity of our Lord Jesus Christ is weakened or denied by the modern Vatican Versions as well as in the Jehovah Witness New World Translations. Places like Micah 5:2; John 1:18 and Philippians 2:5-7

Micah 5:2 KJB - ““But thou Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; WHOSE GOINGS FORTH have been of old, FROM EVERLASTING.”

Micah 5:2 New World Translation 1961 Edition - ““And you, O Bethlehem Ephratah, the one too little TO GET TO be among the thousands of Judah, from you there will come out TO me the
one WHO IS TO BECOME ruler in Israel, WHOSE ORIGIN IS FROM EARLY TIMES, FROM THE DAYS OF TIME INDEFINITE."

Micah 5:2 JWRNWT 2013 Edition - “And you, O Beth′le-hem Eph′ra-thah, The one too little to be among the thousands of Judah, From you will come out FOR me the one to be ruler in Israel, Whose origin is from ANCIENT TIMES, from the days of LONG AGO.”

The NIV 1984, 2011 Editions - "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose ORIGINS are from of old, FROM ANCIENT DAYS."

ESV 2001 Edition - “*But you, O Bethlehem Eph'rat'nah, who are little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose ORIGIN is from of old, FROM ANCIENT DAYS.*"

The Lord Jesus Christ does NOT have an “origin” and he is “from everlasting” not merely “from ancient times”.

The King James Bible is right, as always. See much more on this verse here -  
http://brandplucked.webs.com/micah52heb211origin.htm

John 1:18 “*No man hath seen God at any time; THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.*"

John 1:18 JWRNWT - “*No man has seen God at any time; the only-begotten god who is at the Father’s side is the one who has explained Him.*”

Notice that the JW version has “the only begotten god”. This is both a textual and an translational error, but there is massive confusion among the modern Vatican Versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB with some of them giving us three different translations within just a few years.

1. "the only God...has made him known” English Standard Version 2001
2. "The only begotten God...he has explained him". NASB
3. "God the only Son" NIV 1973
4. "God the One and Only" NIV 1984
5. "but the one and only Son, who is himself God" NIV 2011

How many God’s are there? And if there are two Gods, as many modern versions teach, is one inferior to the other? The King James Bible is right, and here is why -
Phillipians 2:5-7 KJB - “"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, THOUGHT IT NOT ROBBERY TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD: but MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."

Phillipians 2:5-7 JWRNWT - “Keep this mental attitude in you that was also in Christ Jesus, who, although he was existing in God’s form, GAVE NO CONSIDERATION TO A SEIZURE, NAMELY, THAT HE SHOULD BE EQUAL TO GOD. No, but he emptied himself and took a slave’s form and became human.”

NIV 1984 edition - "Who being in very nature God, DID NOT CONSIDER EQUALITY WITH GOD A THING TO BE GRASPED, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

ESV 2011 edition - “DID NOT COUNT EQUALITY WITH GOD A THING TO BE GRASPED, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant.”

NASB "DID NOT REGARD EQUALITY WITH GOD A THING TO BE GRASPED"

The King James Bible teaches that Jesus was God; these fake bible versions teach that he did not even try to be God. See why the King James Bible is right here -

http://brandplucked.webs.com/phil2notrobery.htm

The Jehovah Witnesses' ever changing "bible" is just another in a long line of corrupt and inferior versions that have been coming down the line in the last 130 years or so. It is ironic that many Christians who use the modern versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB, Holman, NET and others will immediately condemn the Jehovah Witness New World Translation as "corrupt" and yet their own modern versions are based on the same Nestle-Aland, UBS - Vatican directed, ever changing Critical Greek Text. These new versions share the same translation philosophy (we need to update the language), the same corrupt texts, reject numerous Hebrew readings and translate many passages in the same way. And nobody seriously believes that any of them are the complete, inspired and 100% true and infallible words of the living God.

May I suggest you get the Book God has abundantly born witness to like no other and the only one believed by multiplied thousands of blood bought saints of God to be His inerrant words - the Authorized King James Holy Bible.

"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts." Jeremiah 15:16

All of grace, believing the Book, Will Kinney