

## A Simple Response to Jehovah's Witnesses about John 1:1

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### INTRODUCTION

#### WHAT JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES THINK

John 1:1 in the *New World Translation*:

In [the] beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was a god.

The *New World Translation* is inconsistent:

It translates god/God without the Greek article ("the") as *God* fifteen times in John's Gospel:

1:6, 12-13, 18a; 3:2a, 21; 6:45; 8:54; 9:16, 33; 13:3a; 16:30; 19:7; 20:17ab

It only translates this as *god* in three verses in John: 1:1b, 18b; 10:33

What Jehovah's Witnesses think we mean in John 1:1

That the Word \_\_\_\_\_ almighty God

That almighty God \_\_\_\_\_ Himself

We are vulnerable, if we think that John 1:1 means what they think we mean

#### EXPLAINING THE REAL MEANING OF JOHN 1:1

The difference between names and titles

An illustration that will help with John 1:1

A difference between presidents and kings

Only one person is president at one time

Sometimes kings appoint one of their sons as a co-regent (sharing kingship)

David appointed Solomon as co-regent during his last three years. Why?

### Illustration from the co-regency of David and Solomon

During the last three years of King David's life, he made Solomon his co-regent. Thus, David and Solomon at that time shared the office of Israel's king.

David could say \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Solomon could say \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### Application of the illustration to John 1:1

The Father can say \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The Son can say \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The Spirit can say \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### We do not mean what Jehovah's Witnesses think we mean

**John 1:14: The word *dwelt* could be translated *shekinah-ed***

### Answering a quick-witted Jehovah's Witness

We could say \_\_\_\_\_.

We can say more:   1 Chronicles 23–29

1 Kings 1

1 Kings 2

### Conclusion