



CHRISTOLOGY:  
THE PERSON & WORK  
OF JESUS CHRIST

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Compass Bible Church • October 14, 2010 • Christology week 5 • CD 10-55

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

**1. The “Word”?**

**A.**

**B.**

**C.**

**1)**

**2)**

**3)**

**D.**

**1)**

**2)**

**3)**

**4)**

**5)**

**2. Is the “Word” Really “God”?**

**A.**

(2. continued)

**B.**

**C. A Closer Look at John 1:1**

ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος

καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν

καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος

**D.**

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

\* Book of the Week...



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# ***John 1:1***

***In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God."***



# **1. The "Word"?**

**A. "Word" Translates lo,goj (logos)**

**Not lw,gwj (lōgōs)**

**B. John 1:14-18**

**The "Word" = Jesus Christ**

**C. Greek Idea of the lo,goj**

**1) Stoic Philosophy ?**

**lo,goj = The Ultimate Creative**

**Rational Principle**



# 1. The "Word"?

C. Greek Idea of the *logos*

2) Gnostic Religion ?

*logos* = The Cosmic Expression of  
God's Secret Knowledge

3) Philo the Jew (+ a lot of Gk) ?

*logos* = God's idealized Reality from  
which we are derived



# 1. The "Word"?

## D. The Hebrew Bible!

"Word" = **rb'D'** (*debar*) = **lo,goj**

(LXX)

### 1) When God Creates

- Psalm 33:6

### 2) When God Reveals Himself

- Jeremiah 1:4

### 3) When God Saves



# **1. The "Word"?**

## **D. The Hebrew Bible !**

### **4) When God Judges**

- Psalm 29:7-8**

### **5) When God Accomplishes His Will**

- Isaiah 55:10-11**



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

### A. The Jehovah Witness Claim

- "The New World Translation" (1961)

*John 1:1*

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

5 And the light is shining in the darkness, but the darkness has not overpowered it.

Col 1:16  
Heb 1:2  
h Joh 5:26  
Ac 3:15  
1Jo 1:2

13 and they were born, not from blood or from a fleshly will or from man's will, but



## **2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?**

### **A. The Jehovah Witness Claim**

- Watchtower Bible & Tract Society**

*(According to John, 1951 [p.52])  
"how are we to understand John  
1:1-2 of which there are differing  
translations? ..."*



## **2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?**

### **A. The Jehovah Witness Claim**

- Watchtower Bible & Tract Society**

**"Since we have examined so much of what John wrote about Jesus who was the Word made flesh we are now in a position to determine which of those several translations is correct."**



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

### B. Greek Grammar: The Article

- (English) **Definite Article: "the"**
- (English) **Indefinite Article: "a" or "an"**

***Definite:***

***I want to go to the restaurant.***

***Indefinite:***

***I want to go to a restaurant.***



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

### B. Greek Grammar: The Article

- **Definite Article: "the"** (various inflections)
- **Indefinite Article: (none)**

***Definite:***

***I want to go to the restaurant.***

***Indefinite:***

***I want to go to <sup>★</sup>restaurant.***



## **2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?**

### **B. Greek Grammar: The Article**

- If a noun has an article it is ALWAYS definite.**
- If a noun does not have an article it may be definite OR indefinite.**



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

### B. Greek Grammar: The Article

- e.g., Proper Nouns

John 21:20

ο` Pe,troj ble,pei to.n

the Peter.n saw the disciple



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

### B. Greek Grammar: The Article

- e.g., Proper Nouns

Luke 9:20

Pe,troj de. avpokpriqei.j

eiPeter but answering said



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

### B. Greek Grammar: The Article

- e.g., In Certain Prepositional Phrases

John 1:1a

**evn** avrch/| h=n o` lo,goj

in beginning was the word  
the



## **2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?**

### **B. Greek Grammar: The Article**

- e.g., As a Predicate Nominative**

**English example:**

**"It is me" → incorrect**

**"It is I" → correct**

**\*This is important in Greek because:**



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

### B. Greek Grammar: The Article

- Greek word order is fluid!
  - Greek inflections avoid confusion

*"Great was the Sermon."*

*"Smashed John the bike."*

*"Eat we should the sandwiches."*

*"Tacos eat we should."*



## **2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?**

### **B. Greek Grammar: The Article**

- There are 7 other grammatical rules why a noun would not take an article but would still be DEFINITE.**



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

C. A Closer Look at John 1:1

evn avrch | / h=n o` lo,goj

en arche en ho logos

kai. o` lo,goj h=n pro.j to.n

kai ho logos en pros ton theon

kai. qeo.j h=n o` lo,goj

kai theos en ho logos



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

C. A Closer Look at John 1:1

evn avrch | / h=n o` lo,goj

in beginning was the word

kai. o` lo,goj h=n pro.j to.n

and the word was with the God

kai. qeo.j h=n o` lo,goj

and God was the word



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

C. A Closer Look at John 1:1

evn avrch | / h=n o` lo,goj

in beginning was the word

kai. o` lo,goj h=n pro.j to.n

and the word was with the God

kai.

and

qeo.j  
God ?

was

o  
the

lo,goj  
word ?



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

C. A Closer Look at John 1:1

evn avrch | / h=n o` lo,goj

in beginning was the word

kai. o` lo,goj h=n pro.j to.n

and the word was with the God

kai.

and

qeo.j

God

h=n

was

o

the

lo,goj

word

!



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

D. E.g.s: "The God" without an Article

**1** Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος  
In beginning was the Word, and the Word  
ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.  
was toward the God, and god was the Word.  
**2** Οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν.  
This (one) was in beginning toward the God.  
**3** πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ  
All (things) through him came to be, and  
χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν.  
apart from him came to be not-but one (thing).

**1** In [the] beginning  
the Word was,  
and the Word was  
with God, and the  
Word was a god.  
**2** This one was in  
[the] beginning with  
God. **3** All things came  
into existence through  
him, and apart from  
him not even one  
thing came into ex-



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

D. E.g.s: "The God" without an Article

|   |             |               |                        |                                 |
|---|-------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 6 | Ἐγένετο     | ἄνθρωπος      | ἀπεσταλμένος           | the darkness, but               |
|   | Came to be  | man           | having been sent forth | the darkness has not            |
|   | παρὰ        | θεοῦ,         | αὐτῷ                   | overpowered it.                 |
|   | beside      | God,          | to him                 | 6 There arose a man             |
| 7 | οὗτος       | ὄνομα         | Ἰωάννης                | that was sent forth             |
|   | this (one)  | name          | John;                  | as a representative of          |
|   | μαρτυρίαν,  | ἦλθεν         | εἰς                    | God: his name was               |
|   | witness,    | came          | into                   | John. <sup>b</sup> 7 This [man] |
|   | περὶ τοῦ    | ἵνα           | μαρτυρήσῃ              | came for a witness,             |
|   | about the   | in order that | he might witness       | in order to bear wit-           |
|   | πιστεύσωσιν | φωτός,        | ἵνα                    | ness about the light,           |
|   | through     | light,        | in order that          | that people of all sorts        |
|   | δι'         | δι'           | πάντες                 |                                 |
|   | αὐτοῦ.      | αὐτοῦ.        | all                    |                                 |
| 8 | οὐκ         | 8             | οὐκ                    |                                 |
|   | Not         | Not           | Not                    |                                 |
|   | ἦν          | ἦν            | ἦν                     |                                 |
|   | was         | was           | was                    |                                 |



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

D. E.g.s: "The God" without an Article

the own (ones) him not took alongside.  
12 ὅσοι δὲ ἔλαβον αὐτόν, ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς  
As many as but took him, he gave to them  
ἐξουσίαν τέκνα θεοῦ γενέσθαι, τοῖς  
authority children of God to become, to the (ones)  
πιστεύουσιν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, 13 οἳ οὐκ  
believing into the name of him, who not  
ἐξ αἱμάτων οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος σαρκὸς  
out of bloods nor out of will of flesh  
οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος ἀνδρὸς ἀλλ' ἐκ  
nor out of will of male person but out of  
θεοῦ ἐγεννήθησαν.  
God were generated.

him in. 12 However,  
as many as did re-  
ceive him, to them he  
gave authority to be-  
come God's children,  
because they were ex-  
ercising faith in his  
name; 13 and they  
were born, not from  
blood or from a flesh-  
ly will or from man's  
will, but from God.  
14 So the Word be-



## 2. Is the "Word" Really "God"?

D. E.g.s: "The God" without an Article

|     |             |     |         |         |                     |
|-----|-------------|-----|---------|---------|---------------------|
| ess | καὶ         | ἡ   | ἀλήθεια | διὰ     | undeserved kindness |
|     | and         | the | truth   | through | and the truth came  |
| û   | ἐγένετο.    | 18  | θεὸν    | οὐδεὶς  | to be through Jesus |
|     | came to be. |     | God     | no one  | Christ. 18 No man   |

...has seen **God** at any time



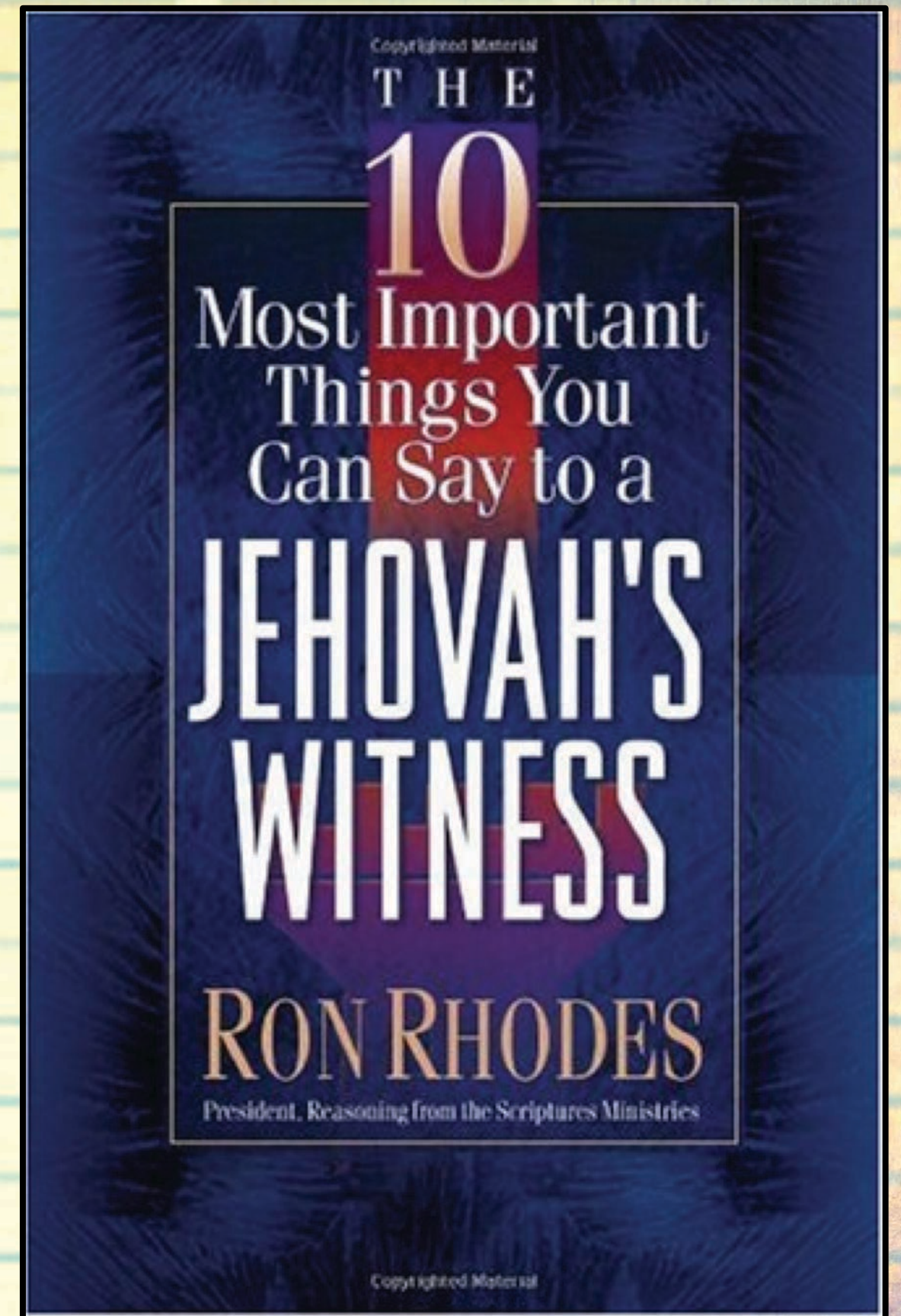
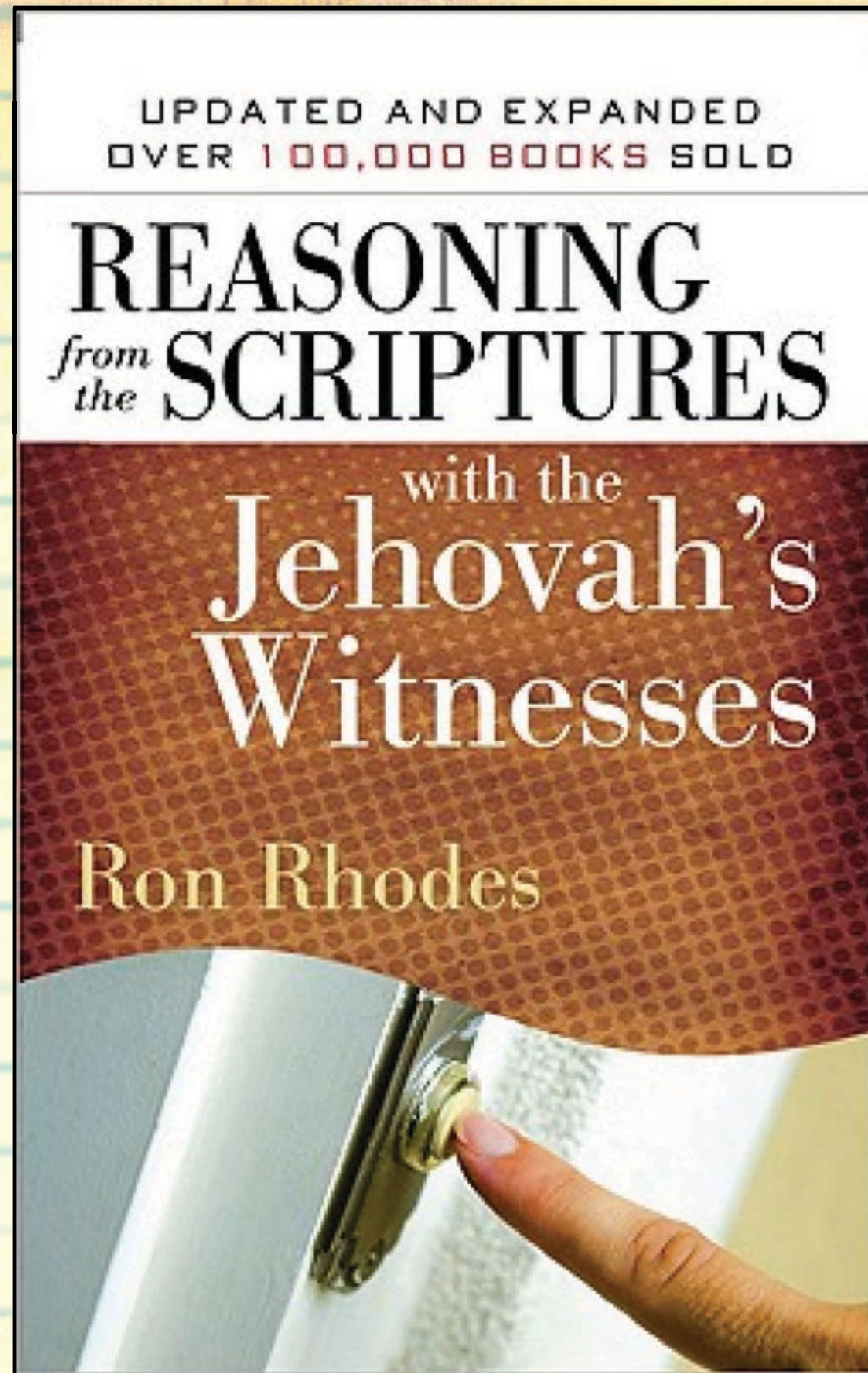
**The Watchtower Refused to give the names of the committed who translated the NWT...**

**-- A defector revealed the names:**

- Nathan Knorr**
- Frederick Franz\***
- Albert Schroeder**
- George Gangas**
- Milton Henschel**

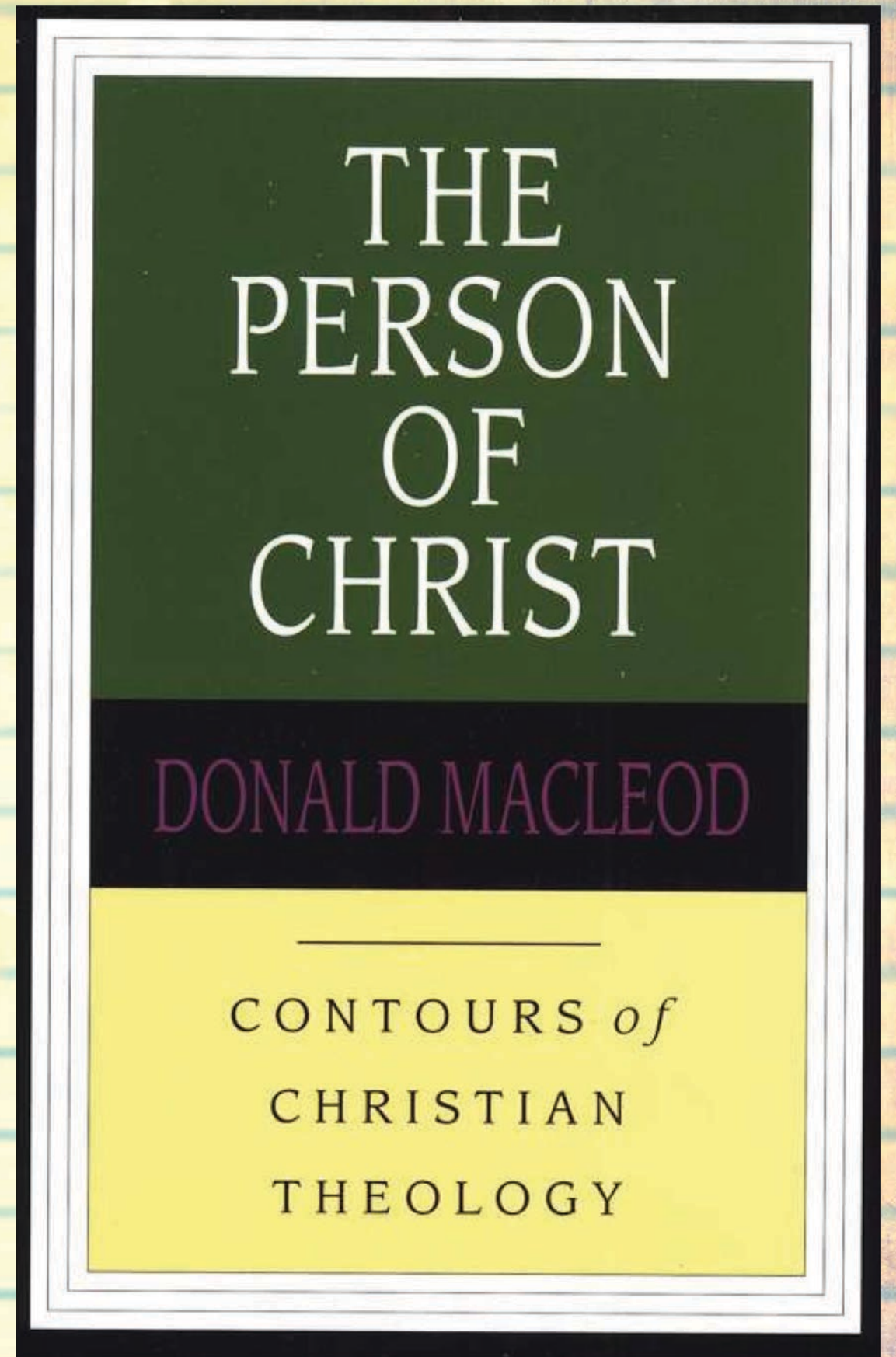
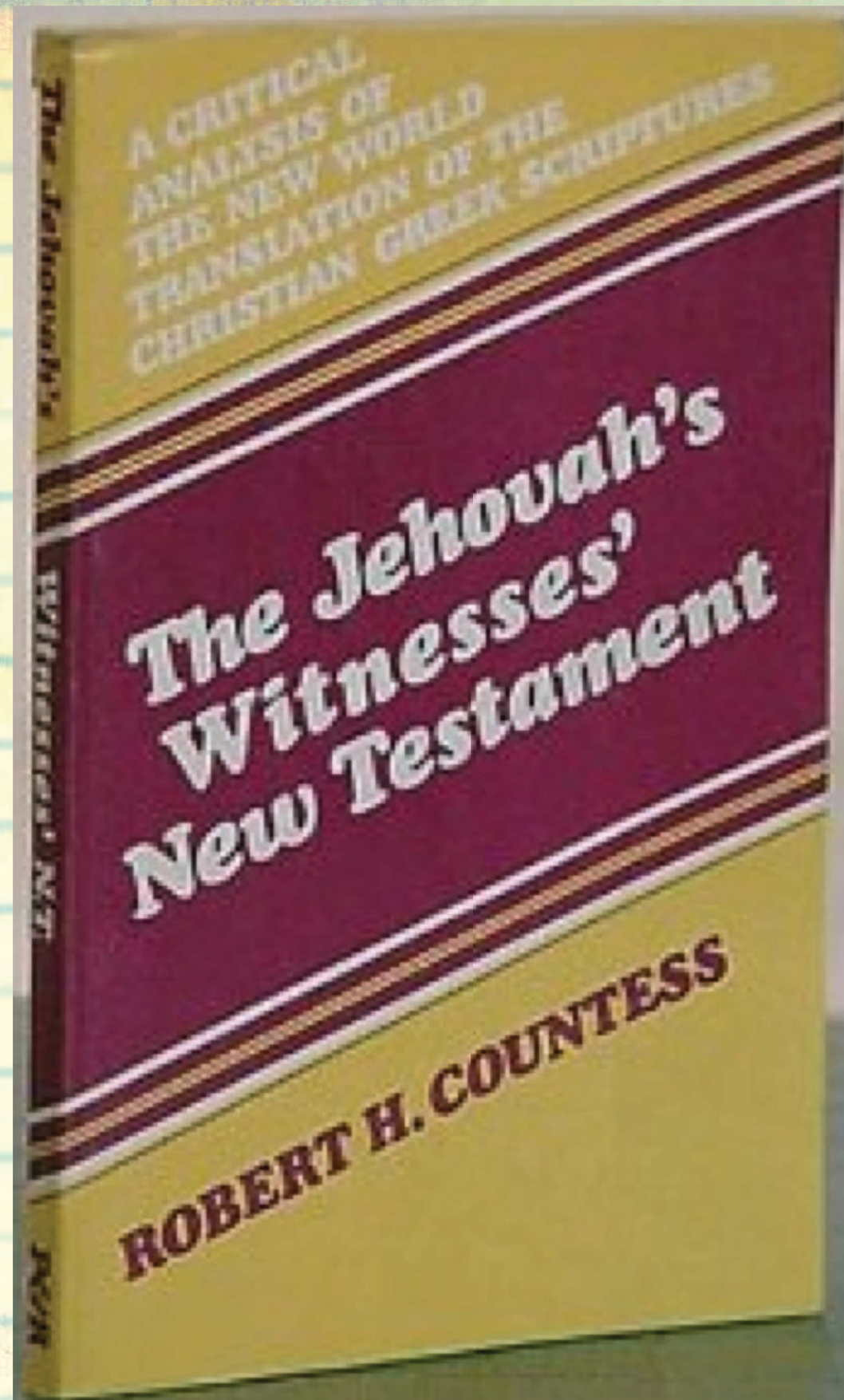


# Book(s) of the Week...





**More  
Books  
of the  
Week...**





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## Options Available

...kai. o` lo,goj h=n o` qeo.j  
= "and the Word was the God" (modalsim)

...kai. o` lo,goj h=n qeo.j  
= "and the Word was a God" (JW)

...kai. qeo.j h=n o` lo,goj  
= "and the Word was God" (divinity)