

The KJV is Right to Translate YHWH as LORD Instead of Jehovah

- I. The Jehovah's Witnesses make much of the fact that the KJV *does not* translate the Hebrew word YHWH (the Tetragrammaton), one of the names of God, as Jehovah every time it appears in the OT.
- II. The KJV *does* translate YHWH as *Jehovah* seven times in the OT:
 1. Gen 22:14 - And Abraham called the name of that place **Jehovahjireh**: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.
 2. Exo 6:3 - And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name **JEHOVAH** was I not known to them.
 3. Exo 17:15 - And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it **Jehovahnissi**:
 4. Jdg 6:24 - Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it **Jehovahshalom**: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.
 5. Psa 83:18 - That men may know that thou, whose name alone is **JEHOVAH**, art the most high over all the earth.
 6. Isa 12:2 - Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the **LORD JEHOVAH** is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.
 7. Isa 26:4 - Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the **LORD JEHOVAH** is everlasting strength:
- III. But why didn't the KJV translators *always* translate YHWH as *Jehovah* instead of using *LORD* over 6000 times?
 1. The reason is because *God* translated YHWH as *Lord* in the NT.
 2. Jesus Christ Himself when quoting from the Law translated YHWH as *Lord*.
 - A. Mat 22:37 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the **Lord** (Kurios - G2962) thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.
 - B. Deu 6:5 - And thou shalt love the **LORD** (YHWH - Jehovah - H3068) thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
 3. The Greek word *Kurios* which Jesus used to translate the Hebrew name of God, YHWH is elsewhere translated as *lord* in many places in the NT; for example: (Mat 10:24; Luk 16:3; Act 25:26; 1Pe 3:6).
 4. The apostles, under the inspiration of God, likewise translated the Hebrew YHWH as *Lord* in the NT.
 - A. Act 4:26 - The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the **Lord** (Kurios - G2962), and against his Christ.
 - B. Psa 2:2 - The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the **LORD** (YHWH - Jehovah - H3068), and against his anointed, saying,
- IV. Since the Holy Spirit inspired the apostles (2Pe 1:21) to translate the Hebrew name of God YHWH (Jehovah) as the Greek word *Kurios* (*Lord*) every time it was quoted from the OT, then the KJV translators were not wrong to translate YHWH as *LORD* nearly every time it appears in the OT.
- V. In fact, the KJV translators were *right* to translate YHWH as *LORD* in the OT the majority of the time because they were following the example of the apostles and Jesus Christ Himself.
- VI. The KJV translators did translate YHWH as *Jehovah* on special occasions such as: when God is specifying what His name is (Exo 6:3; Psa 83:18), repeating His name twice for emphasis (Isa 12:2; Isa 26:4), or when His name is associated with the name of a place or thing (Gen 22:14; Exo 17:15; Jdg 6:24).