

countries: dress for battle, and be shattered! Dress for battle, and be shattered! 10 Take counsel together, and it will be brought to nothing; speak the word, and it will not stand: for God is with us.” 11 For Jehovah spoke thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me not to walk in the way of this people, saying, 12 “Don’t say, ‘A conspiracy!’ concerning all about which this people say, ‘A conspiracy!’ neither fear their threats, nor be terrorized. 13 Jehovah of Armies is who you must respect as holy. He is the one you must fear. He is the one you must dread. 14 He will be a sanctuary, but for both houses of Israel, he will be a trap and a snare for the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 15 Many will stumble over it, fall, be broken, be snared, and be captured.” 16 Wrap up the testimony. Seal the law among my disciples. 17 I will wait for Jehovah, who hides his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him. 18 Behold, I and the children whom Jehovah has given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from Jehovah of Armies, who dwells in Mount Zion.

19 When they tell you, “Consult with those who have familiar spirits and with the wizards, who chirp and who mutter:” shouldn’t a people consult with their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living? 20 Turn to the law and to the testimony! If they don’t speak according to this word, surely there is no morning for them. 21 They will pass through it, very distressed and hungry; and it will happen that when they are hungry, they will worry, and curse by their king and by their God. They will turn their faces upward, 22 and look to the earth, and see distress, darkness, and the gloom of anguish. They will be driven into thick darkness.

CHAPTER NINE

1 But there shall be no more gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time, he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in the latter time he has made it glorious, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.*

* 9:1 MORMONS are generally aware that several chapters of the Book of Mormon are the same as several chapters of the Bible. But the use of the King James Version’s exact wording—including words added by the translators—calls into question the truthfulness of Joseph Smith’s claim to have translated the Book of Mormon from “reformed Egyptian” on gold plates supplied by an angel.

2 Nephi 19 in the Book of Mormon appears to have been copied from the King James Version of Isaiah 9.

In the case of Isaiah 9:1, Joseph Smith apparently elaborated, when he changed “by the way of the sea” to “by the way of the Red Sea”—which was an error on his part, because the “sea” referenced here is not the Red Sea, but the Sea of Galilee where Jesus

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in the land of the shadow of death, on them the light has shined.

3 You have multiplied the nation.

You have increased their joy.

They rejoice before you according to the joy in harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the plunder. 4 For the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as in the day of Midian. 5 For all the armor of the armed man in the noisy battle, and the garments rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire. 6 For to us a child is born. To us a son is given; and the government will be on his shoulders. His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,[†] Everlasting Father, Prince of

preached, hundreds of miles away from the Red Sea. Compare Matthew 4:14-15.

See more information on this matter of copying from the KJV in the notes on Isaiah 2:1, Isaiah 3:1 and Malachi 3:10.

[†] 9:6 JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES admit that “Mighty God” here refers to Jesus (even though they consider Jesus to be the first angel God created). But they say that Jesus is not “Almighty God”—a term they reserve for the Father alone.

However, the Bible does not make this distinction. In fact, the Scriptures show that the Father is also called “mighty,” and that Jesus is also almighty.

Hebrews 1:3 says that Jesus is “upholding all things by the word of his power.” Some translations render this as “he upholds the universe by the word of his power.” (ESV) Wouldn’t he have to be almighty to do that?

Matthew 28:18 says Jesus has “all power . . . in heaven and earth.” (KJV) Having “all power” is what *Almighty* means.

But is the Almighty God, the One JWs call *Jehovah*, also called “mighty”?

Yes, and JWs can be shown it in their own Bible at Jeremiah 32:18, where the New World Translation speaks of “the true God, the great One, the *mighty* One, Jehovah of armies being his name.” (emphasis added)

Now ask the JW you are speaking with to turn over a page or two from Isaiah 9:6 in his trusted New World Translation, and read Isaiah 10:20-21: “. . . those remaining over of Israel . . . will certainly support themselves upon Jehovah, the Holy One of Israel, in trueness. A mere remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the Mighty God.”

So, even the JWs’ own Bible uses the same title—“Mighty God”—of the Son in Isaiah