

Jehovah Witness theology teaches that the Holy Spirit is “God’s active force”. In the NWT verses John 16:7 and John 16:12-15 let’s replace the words ”he” and “him” with the words “God’s active force” when “he” and “him” refer to the Holy Spirit or “the spirit of truth”.

John 16:7 "Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth, it is for your benefit that I am going away. For if I do not go away, the helper (“God’s active force”) will not come to you; but if I do go, I will send “God’s active force” to you. "

John 16:12-15

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you are not able to bear them now.
13 However, when that one comes, the spirit of the truth, “God’s active force” will guide you into all the truth, for “God’s active force” will not speak of “God’s active force’s” own initiative, but what “God’s active force” hears “God’s active force” will speak, and “God’s active force” will declare to you the things to come.
14 That one “God’s active force” will glorify me, because “God’s active force” will receive from what is mine and will declare it to you.
15 All the things that the Father has are mine. That is why I said “God’s active force” receives from what is mine and declares it to you.

- How does “God’s active force” not speak on his own initiative?
- How does “God’s active force” receive things from Jesus, when Jesus received those things from God? Shouldn’t “God’s active force” already have them?
- How can “God’s active force” hear something? Doesn’t “God’s active force” already know everything that God knows will happen?
- How does Jesus control “God’s active force” and send it to the apostles?

Fundamental Christian theology teaches that the Holy Spirit is “the Third Person of the Trinity”. In the NWT verses John 16:7 and John 16:12-15 let’s replace the words ”he” and “him” with the words “the Third Person of the Trinity” when “he” and “him” refer to the Holy Spirit or “the spirit of truth”.

John 16:7 "Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth, it is for your benefit that I am going away. For if I do not go away, the helper (“the Third Person of the Trinity”) will not come to you; but if I do go, I will send “the Third Person of the Trinity” to you. "

John 16:12-15

12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you are not able to bear them now.

13 However, when that one comes, the spirit of the truth, "the Third Person of the Trinity" will guide you into all the truth, for "the Third Person of the Trinity" will not speak of his own initiative, but what "the Third Person of the Trinity" hears "the Third Person of the Trinity" will speak, and "the Third Person of the Trinity" will declare to you the things to come.

14 That one "the Third Person of the Trinity" will glorify me, because "the Third Person of the Trinity" will receive from what is mine and will declare it to you.

15 All the things that the Father has are mine. That is why I said "the Third Person of the Trinity" receives from what is mine and declares it to you.

When you read these verses with "the Third Person of the Trinity" do the verses make more sense than when you read the verses with the words "God's active force"?

Here are the verses John 16:7 and John 16:12-15 from the NWT without edits.

John 16:7 "Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth, it is for your benefit that I am going away. For if I do not go away, the helper will not come to you; but if I do go, I will send him to you."

John 16:12-15

12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you are not able to bear them now.

13 However, when that one comes, the spirit of the truth, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak of his own initiative, but what he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things to come.

14 That one will glorify me, because he will receive from what is mine and will declare it to you.

15 All the things that the Father has are mine. That is why I said he receives from what is mine and declares it to you.

Here are the verses from the NASB:

John 16:7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

John 16:12-15

12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now.

13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

14 "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.

15 "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.