

John 4:24

God is a spirit:

The article “a” does not appear in the Greek. Dr. Wescott, coeditor of a well-known edition of the Greek NT, renders the original literally: “God is Spirit”, as do Moffatt, TCNT, the margin of RV, Weymouth, Goodspeed, and other authorities. Similarly Lamsa, in his rendering of the Aramaic, has: “God is Spirit.”

In the Greek text this statement reverses the normal word order, indicating emphasis on “Spirit.” Its form (stripped of the words added by translators) has been likened to an equation: “Spirit [is what]God [is].”

Here the Greek phrase makes “Spirit” almost the equivalent of a name for God. .