

**COMMON SENSE  
AND THE  
KING JAMES BIBLE**

**(14 Sermons)**

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## CHAPTER 1 GOD'S IDENTITY PROBLEM

*(Isa. 1:3) - "The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider."*

Today's newspaper carried a short but strange story about a fifty-two year old man from Michigan claiming to be the long lost son of a man in East Meadows, NY. He had approached the FBI a couple of months ago and told them that he might be a "missing person." In other words, he was not sure who his parents were—he was not sure where he came from—which all means that he was not even sure who he was! And for some reason, he now believes that he is the son of this man in New York, whose two year old son was left outside of his bakery fifty years ago by his wife who stepped inside for a few minutes. When she went back out, he was gone! They later received a ransom note, but then everything went silent, and they spent the next fifty years wondering whatever happened to their son. So could there be a happy ending to this problem? Yes—it is called DNA! By comparing the DNA of the Michigan man, they can be sure whether or not he is the long lost son.

While this father and son question is being worked out and will finally be resolved after fifty years, there is a much more difficult problem that God has been dealing with, and unfortunately, it is getting worse and not better! Just like the two year old boy who was stolen fifty years ago, the Bible has been facing an identity crisis! And just like the now full grown man, there are things that we can look at to determine the truth, IF a person is willing to accept it!

### **GOD HAS HAD A PROBLEM WITH DARKNESS**

*(Gen. 1:2-4) - "And the earth was without form, and void; and **darkness** was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God **divided** the light from the darkness."*

It is interesting to see that before man was ever created, God was already forced to deal with this issue of darkness. The earth is here mentioned as already existing without any form of beauty and was nothing but emptiness. Many Bible scholars believe that this pictured an earth that had already been ruined and devastated by a war that was far worse than could be waged with nuclear bombs.

It had felt the fury of Lucifer and billions of angels who had unleashed their wrath upon God's creation. The devastation was so complete, that it took God six days to make it suitable for life. The first thing that God was forced to deal with was darkness.

You would think that with the advances that we have enjoyed in the computer age, that educational darkness would be a thing of the past, and yet, most people in the world are still living in spiritual darkness. While there is but one God, one Bible, and one way to get to heaven, there are 4,300 different kinds of religion around the world. Islam is the largest religion outside of Christianity, with more than 1,500,000,000 followers! That represents about one out of four people in the world as being Muslims! Another one billion of the world's population claims to be non-religious or atheistic! Out of a world of six billion people and with perhaps ten percent of them being saved—over 200,000 people are dying and going to hell every day—or 160 people every minute!

Why are two people dying every second and going to hell? The reason is tragically simple. Most of the world is still existing in spiritual darkness. But, if that be true, why has God not done something about it? He did—but He ran into another problem!

## **GOD HAS HAD A PROBLEM WITH HIS WORD**

*(Gen. 3:1-5) - "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."*

You would think that if God’s Word was powerful enough to bring all of creation into existence, and powerful enough to save a person’s soul, that it would be powerful enough to overcome anything. But that is when a problem with the Word of God was encountered. When God spoke His word to Adam, Adam then shared God’s Word with Eve. And when Eve was forced to defend God’s spoken Word, she messed up. She was challenged by the serpent as to what God had said, and eventually came to the place of misquoting it. And because she did not have a sufficient grasp on what God had said, she gave in to a temptation and helped bring about the spiritual darkness that is now sending 160 people to hell every minute!

That is why God chose to bring about the Bible, because it would then become irrefutable! Have you ever looked at buying something like a used car, and the salesman was trying hard to get you to buy it? He starts telling you all kinds of things about the car. This car is great on gas and should easily get forty miles per gallon. This car used to be driven by a little old lady who only drove it to church on Sunday—and she was backslidden half of those Sundays and stayed home. This car is so strong mechanically that I guarantee that if it breaks down, just bring it back and we will fix it for free—for as long as you own the car. Now all of those things sound really good, but if you do not have them in writing, they are not any good. It is called “your word against their word.” And if they are not willing to put it in writing, then do not believe what they are telling you.

Have you ever bought anything that has a lifetime guarantee? As long as you own the battery, they will replace it free of charge? If you have, you know that when you take it back to the store, they are going to ask for one thing—the receipt! If you cannot prove it in writing, you are out of luck. They can search their records and see that you bought it. They can check the battery and see that they sold it. They can review their policies over the years and can know what they promised. But if you do not have a receipt, you are not getting a free battery.

For hundreds of years, God gave His Word to His people, first through Adam, and then through the prophets. But because of this spiritual darkness, His spoken Word was found to be limited, though it was perfect. And that is why God chose to put His spoken Word into written words. If His people could see His exact words, it would help to

dispel that darkness. So what happened when God's Word became known?

## **GOD HAS HAD A PROBLEM WITH OPINIONS**

*(Gen. 3:6) - "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, **she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.**"*

Whether Eve was confused as to what God had said or had perfect recall is not really the issue as to what took place. Because her biggest mistake was making an opinion about what God had said! At some point, Eve developed an opinion about what God had said. Her opinion was that there was nothing wrong with eating the fruit! Was it forbidden? Did God warn her? Did Adam tell her exactly what God had said? To Eve, none of those things really mattered because she had developed the opinion that she had the right to do what she wanted to do!

And that is the same problem that God is dealing with, up to this very moment. Our problem is not that we do not know what the Bible says. Our problem is not that God wrote it originally in the Greek and Hebrew, and we speak neither. Our problem is that we have developed opinions about things that we do not fully know or understand, and instead of living by faith, we live by opinions. We have created our own system of beliefs, some of them are biblical, and some of them are products of our fleshly desires and wants.

Have you ever seen a two year old when they have been told not to touch something? They look at you, make sure that you are watching, and then touch it! They do not have rebellious look on their face, but rather one that says, "You really don't mean that!" So they touch it, get their hand slapped, and guess what they do next? They look at you, they look at what they touched, they look at you again, and then they reach out their hand to touch it, because you obviously made a big mistake!

That is how most Christians are with the Bible! God tells us no, but we do not believe Him! We can read it with our own eyes! We can understand every word of it! But God is up there, I am down here—He does not understand how things work down here and therefore, we are of

the opinion that it is really okay, even though He told us no! And then we do it!

How hard is it to go to heaven? (*Rom. 10:13*) - “*For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*” *Whosoever* means “anybody can do this”! *Call* means “to ask”! And therefore, if anybody is willing to ask Christ to save him because the Holy Spirit has done a work in his heart, God will save him! But if that is what God has said, then where do all of these religions come from? That verse did not say anything about being baptized, and yet the Methodists, Lutherans, Presbyterians, and Catholics all sprinkle infants because they believe in baptismal regeneration! Those people are all lumped together as part of Christianity and the ten percent of the people who will go to heaven, and yet they are operating under the opinion that baptism will get them there! These are not bad people who are deliberately trying to disobey God! But the end result is that they are disobeying Him because they have their own opinions about the Bible and what it says!

## **GOD HAS HAD A PROBLEM WITH TIME**

(*Heb. 1:1-2*) - “*God, who at **sundry times** and in divers manners **spake in time past** unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;*”

Beginning with Moses, God began using a man to record His words for mankind. Even though Moses had been raised in Egypt and had been groomed to be its next Pharaoh, he was a Hebrew and spoke their language. As God began revealing His word so that Moses could write it down for God’s people, God spoke to him in Hebrew, and God continued to do so with every other Old Testament prophet that He used. As Moses wrote every word that God gave to him, he finally ended with a book that was inspired. Not a single word of Genesis belongs to Moses, because EVERY word is God’s! That is the meaning of inspiration! That was great for those Jews living in Moses’ day, but what about hundreds of years later? God was faced with a decision! He could either give His inspired words to Moses and then, over a period of time, allow those parchments to be lost and have people try to remember what He wrote and

put it in their words...or He could choose to protect His Words from generation to generation by having them faithfully copied so that His Words could still be read hundreds of years later!

That is the entire issue about the preservation of the Bible! Nearly everyone is willing to admit that those original scrolls were inspired by God and contained one hundred percent His words! But most Christians refuse to believe that God would go to all of the trouble of using forty men over 1,700 years to write it and then want to preserve it! They have developed the opinion that every Bible in the world has some mistakes in it! If God was loving enough to give it to us in the first place, and if He was powerful enough to deliver His people out of Egypt and protect them to this day, is He not powerful enough to preserve His words so that we can have an “every word” Bible? That brings us to something else to consider. He promised to preserve it! (*Psa. 12:6-7*) - “*The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, **thou shalt preserve them** from this generation for ever.*” We know that He was loving enough to give His word. We also know that He is powerful enough to preserve them throughout time! So the question is, did He keep His word? And if He did, then where is it?

That is the most important question in the world, because if a person cannot find where God’s Word is, then they cannot know for sure what He has said about being saved!

### **GOD HAS HAD A PROBLEM WITH COUNTERFEITING**

(*Exod. 7:10-12*) - “*And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments. For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.*”

Any time that God has revealed His power, Satan has always tried to duplicate it in hopes of bringing about confusion! When Aaron and Moses stood before Pharaoh and demonstrated God’s power by having

Aaron's rod turn into a serpent, the magicians were able to duplicate the feat by using satanic powers! As God revealed Himself as one God, Satan did his best to introduce thousands of gods throughout the world! As God introduced Jesus Christ as His Son, so Satan will one day offer to the world his Anti-Christ! As the Lord introduced Christianity to the world as the only way to heaven, so Satan has successfully started more than 4,000 false religions! As God only wrote one Bible, Satan has been extremely busy and successful creating version after version that are all different from the Bible and from each other! But if God only wrote one Bible, then where did these come from? Alpha House Gospels (1992); American Standard Version (1901); American Translation (1923); Amplified Bible (1964); Contemporary English Version (1991); Douay-Rheims (1609) - Catholic; Emphasized Bible (1878); English Standard Version (2001); English Version for the Deaf (1986) - words arranged to fit the thought patterns of the deaf. We do not have the time for me to give the entire list, as this only goes up to the letter *E*, but you get the idea that there are a lot of different versions out there, and they all have two things in common! They all claim to be easier to read in today's changing language! And they are all copyrighted and make money!

In trying to come up with something for everyone, they even have an Ebonics Bible that puts the Bible in rapper language! Here are the Ten Commandments! (1) "I am the Almighty, your God, who brought you outta Egypt when things were tough." And then He told them: "Don't put anyone else before Me. (2) Don't make any carved objects or things that look like what is in heaven or below. And don't bow down to these things like they are anything heavy. Not ever! (3) You shouldn't diss the Almighty's name, using it in cuss words or rapping with one another. It ain't cool and payback's a monster. (4) Remember the day of the Almighty which is the seventh day. After you've worked six days, give the seventh to the Almighty. (Remember that the Almighty made the heavens and the earth in six days. He rested on the seventh day and blessed it as right-on.) (5) You shouldn't be takin' nothin' from your homeboys. (6) Give honor to your mom and dad, and you'll live a long time. (7) Don't waste nobody. (8) Don't mess around with someone else's ol' man or ol' lady. (9) Don't go 'round telling lies on your homebuddies (10) Don't want what you can't have, or what your homebuddy has. It ain't cool."

Do you know what I think? I think that God is more interested in

getting His Word out to the world, than the world is concerned about it! And I also believe that people should have to raise themselves up to the Bible, instead of dragging the Bible down to where the people are! God's Word is fixed—settled—finished—unchanging! Human languages are always in a state of change! And if the Lord does not come back for several hundred more years, then He might choose to translate the Bible into another language! But until then, we have no business abandoning this idea that God not only gave us an every word Bible, but also that He has also promised to preserve it as well!

Wouldn't you think that Christians around the world would be thrilled to know that God thought enough about them to give them a Bible that is perfect? And yet, most people will become angry at the thought that their version is different from every other version!

My favorite basketball team of all time is the Boston Celtics! I can remember watching Larry Bird doing his thing while Magic Johnson was doing his! Why were the Celtics my favorite team? Because Larry Bird was from Indiana, and that was good enough for me! My favorite football team of all time is the Dallas Cowboys with Roger Staubach and company. Some people have a favorite team because they like their colors! Some have a favorite team because of a certain player or coach! Some have a favorite team because they used to live in that city or they knew someone who did! You do not have to have a good reason to like a team, you can just like them for no reason!

But picking a Bible version is not like picking a favorite team! It does not matter if you like someone who uses a different version! It does not matter if you think it is cool to have words in everyday language! It does not matter if the church that you grew up in, got baptized in, and got married in used a particular version! God only wrote one Bible! And He promised to preserve that Bible in every generation! And tonight, you need to know where His Bible is! And once you find it—be prepared for a battle, because the devil is going to do everything that he can to take it away from you!

## CHAPTER 2 THE BATTLES OVER THE KJV

*(Mark 13:7) - “And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet.”*

When President Obama passed his Stimulus Bill, banks and states were expected to take millions of dollars of tax-payer money and— spend it. They could spend it on roads or just about anything that they wanted to, so long as they—spent it. There were some politicians and some bank CEO’s who did not want the money because they did not want the regulation that went along with it, nor did they think that it was smart to spend money that you really did not have! When they refused to take the money, the government went nuts! One governor was taken to court by the his state’s supreme court and was ordered to take the money! Bank CEO’s were threatened to take the money or else!

The idea was that they had to “play ball” with the government or get squashed in the process. That is how politics is played! It does not matter if ideas are wrong or illogical: everyone has to stick together as part of the group. So what does that have to do with the Bible?

There are some of us who are not willing to go along with the crowd when it comes to the Bible! Most have accepted this idea that the Bible is God’s Word, but that it contains some mistakes that were made along the way. And the best way to correct the mistakes is to keep translating it, with the idea that the more we translate it, the better it will become! And so they point to the NIV as being a very “trustworthy” Bible, but—none of them are perfect. As long as you agree that none of them are perfect, then you can get along with them on any version. The problem, however, comes about if you belong to a small group of people who look upon the KJV as perfect and not in need of any change! And what does the “Group” do when someone dares to disagree with them? They label you as a member of a cult! They portray you as being dangerous! They try to depict you as being uneducated and mentally challenged because you do not understand that there is no perfect Bible available due to the many mistakes.

In order to help you appreciate your Bible even more, I want to

help you to understand the fact that there is not just one battle over the KJV—but over the years, there have been many battles!

When the Pilgrims arrived in America in 1620, they carried with them their favorite Bible, the Geneva Bible. It was written fifty-one years before the KJV and was translated by the Reformers. It was the Bible used by Shakespeare, John Knox the Scottish reformer, and by John Bunyan who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*. But when the KJV was published, it replaced the Geneva Bible by 1776 and was the Bible upon which our nation was founded! There was no one who was pushing it! There was no one who was advertising it! It was being read by the common people around the world and became accepted as the Word of God!

Look inside the cover of your Bible—and notice that it is called the “Authorized” version. What does that mean? Most people think that it means that King James forced the Church of England to use it instead of what they had been using, called the Bishop’s Bible! But the KJV was never authorized by the King of England to be the official Bible! There was no decree from Parliament or any other group! And the Church of England does not use the KJV right now! When it says *Authorized*, it means that it was chosen by the common people to be their Bible, meaning that it was the Holy Spirit Who spoke to their hearts and told them that what they had was finally the inspired Words of God!

For over two hundred years, the KJV had been viewed as THE Bible in our country and in England. And during those two hundred years, England became the most powerful nation in the world and America won its freedom! And then, the KJV faced its first of many battles.

## **THERE WAS A BATTLE OVER TRUTH**

*(Isa. 59:13-14) - “In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for **truth is fallen** in the street, and equity cannot enter.”*

Believe it or not, truth has to be helped along! It is here mentioned as having *fallen*. Wicked people had succeeded in spreading lies, and unspiritual people will always swallow a lie before they have to choke on the truth. All you have to do is look at what happened when Jezebel lied

about Naboth so that she could have him killed and steal his vineyard! Or look at the lies that were spoken about Christ that were so successful that they resulted in His death! In heaven, truth is eternal and will win out, but down here, it is ill-treated and usually despised.

In the late 1800s, our country was infected with two “theories” that rocked Christianity and the Bible! The first was Darwin’s theory of evolution! By claiming that nature chose the survival of the fittest of each species, evolutionists were able to prove in their own minds, that life on earth came about without God. From that day, the choice has only been either creationism as taught in the Bible—or evolution which has received government backing and funding! The amazing thing is that after almost 150 years, they still have not found any proof! The second theory that came out of this country belonged to two men who claimed to be Bible scholars—Westcott and Hort. These two men claimed to have made an amazing discovery, that being that the text that was used for the KJV was actually a corrupted text that had been written in the fourth century. However, they were more than willing to write a new Greek text using two ancient manuscripts: one had been found in a wastebasket in a Catholic monastery, and the second had been found in the Vatican library! By undermining the origins of the KJV, Westcott and Hort were able to write their own Greek text that was based on Catholic manuscripts! And both men just happened to be— pro-Catholic in their theology!

So what is the truth concerning the origins of the KJV? It is called the Majority Text! Of the five thousand manuscripts that exist, ninety-five percent of them are all in agreement! That is almost 4,800 of them! The translators of the KJV used these as their basis for their translation work! And what about the other five percent of the manuscripts? They were a joke! They contained obvious mistakes and discrepancies and do not even agree with each other! And it was from this batch of rejects that Westcott and Hort chose to do their translation—sometimes from one, sometimes from another, and they were the only ones who were choosing which texts to use!

## **THERE WAS A BATTLE OVER A NATION!**

*(Rev. 17:1-6) - “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew*

*unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the **kings** of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of **blasphemy**, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH**. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.”*

During this past Presidential election, there was a lot of concern in our country about whether or not Mitt Romney should be our next President. He had the experience of a former governor! His strength was his business experience! And his family values were incomparable to the rest of the candidates! So what was the concern? He was a Mormon! And in this country, that is synonymous with a cult—which it is! And probably because of his ties to Mormonism, he did not win his party’s election.

During his Mormon problems, some of the commentators mentioned another former politician who also ran into the same concerns—John F. Kennedy! He was a war hero! He was young and talented! He had a lot of political connections and a charming personality! But he was a Catholic; and back in the early 1960s, that was a big problem! The reason was that for hundreds of years, preachers believed and preached that the great Whore of Revelation was none other than the Catholic church! Spurgeon believed it! The Reformers like John Knox, Calvin, Luther and others believed it! And most Baptist preachers who do not wear lace on their underwear still believe it today!

When King Henry VIII was in power, England was a Catholic nation, which meant that King Henry tried his best to please the Pope! He married Catherine of Aragon, but their only surviving child out of six was a girl called Mary. Wanting to have a son caused him to want to have his marriage annulled—after six kids! The Pope told him “no way” and out

of revenge, King Henry VIII decided to create a new church called the Church of England! It was exactly the same as the Catholic Church except for the Pope! The King would now be in charge instead of the Pope! To make matters worse, King Henry seized all of the monasteries and Catholic properties which really infuriated the Pope! Henry VIII then divorced his wife and remarried to Anne Boleyn who gave him a daughter, Elizabeth, but no son. He got rid of her and then married Jane Seymour who gave him a son, Edward. Edward became king and pulled England further away from Rome, but he only ruled for six years! Then his half-sister Mary took over, and she began killing Protestants and trying to convert England back to Catholicism— being called Bloody Mary in the process! Then it was her half-sister’s turn, and Queen Elisabeth got rid of the Catholics and returned England to the Protestants! And because of her reign, England passed a law that required all future monarchs to be Protestant. So what does all of this political tug of war have to do with the Bible? The Popes never did get over losing England, and they have done their best to undermine the country and the KJV Bible that was produced!

What most Christians do not understand is that every modern version of the Bible is based on the same manuscripts that the Catholic Bible was translated from! The NIV is a Catholic Bible because it came from Catholic texts and manuscripts! The RSV is now used by the Church of England, and it also came from the same Catholic manuscripts! The American Standard Version, NASV —almost every modern version was translated from the same texts that were used to translate the Catholic Bible which means that they are just as Catholic!

### **THERE WAS A BATTLE OVER GOD’S ABILITY**

*(Jer. 32:27) - “Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?”*

If I were to ask any of our kids in kindergarten or elementary school if God can do anything, there would not a moment’s hesitation because they have been taught and they believe that, yes, God can do anything! There are probably plenty of kids in the nursery who already know that! But if our smallest kids know that God can do anything, why do we have so many adults who become angry when we also mention that

God was able to provide a perfect translation of the Bible in the KJV? If God can do anything, then why would He give us a perfect Bible and then lose it? If God can do anything, then why would He not perfectly preserve it like He promised to do in Psalm 12:7?

The NIV people do not believe that He did! The NASV people do not believe it either! The only choices that we have concerning the Bible tonight are these: God promised to preserve it but really did not mean it, which means that He lied! God preserved it only for as long as He needed it and then allowed it to disappear! Or, God preserved it—and we just need to find out where it is!

There are some who do not see what the fuss is all about, as to which Bible a person uses! The “big deal” is that God’s reputation is at stake! He is not a liar! He is not so dumb that He wrote it and then lost it! He promised to preserve it; it has to be somewhere on earth; and a lot of us believe that we have found it in the KJV!

### **THERE WAS A BATTLE OVER PHILOSOPHY**

*(Col. 2:8) - “Beware lest any man spoil you through **philosophy** and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”*

The word *philosophy* means—primarily—“speculation”! In other words, people are making educated guesses! And I appreciate that! If my car will not start, I appreciate it when someone tells me what they think is the problem! When I was planning a flight and the weather was iffy, I would talk to a weather expert and get their “best guess” on what was going to happen. That is what philosophy is! It is a person’s “guess” as to what has taken place or is taking place! What Paul is warning about is that there can be a danger when you accept philosophy or opinions as if they were the truth!

One of the biggest reasons people are switching to the NIV or other versions is that they are being modernized to go along with the changes in our language. The idea is to get rid of all of those outdated, old fashioned, “archaic” words in the KJV and switch them to how people are really talking today. Does that sound reasonable? Yes, it does, but that is only an opinion and a philosophy! The more important question is: “What is

God's solution for dealing with archaic words?" If He does have a preference of how we should handle them, then we should be willing to handle them the same way. (1 Sam. 9:5-11) - *"And when they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that was with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father leave caring for the asses, and take thought for us. And he said unto him, Behold now, there is in this city a **man of God**, and he is an honourable man; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can shew us our way that we should go. Then said Saul to his servant, But, behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the **man of God**: what have we? And the servant answered Saul again, and said, Behold, I have here at hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver: that will I give to the **man of God**, to tell us our way. (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the **seer**: for he that is now called a **Prophet** was beforetime called a **Seer**.) Then said Saul to his servant, Well said; come, let us go. So they went unto the city where the **man of God** was. And as they went up the hill to the city, they found young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them, Is the **seer** here?"* When Saul was looking for his father's donkeys, it was suggested that he go to the man of God, who was also called a "seer" by those in Saul's generation. But there was a problem. There were a number of years between these events, and when they were finally recorded in the Bible! By the time that the events were written, people did not refer to a prophet as a seer, but only as a prophet. So what did God choose to do when He wrote the Bible? He chose to use the old archaic word that was used by Saul, and He told future generations what the word meant! In other words, instead of getting rid of the archaic word, God chose to keep it and educate His people as to what it meant!

When God chose to translate the Bible into words that could easily be understood, this is what He did! He wrote the Old Testament in Hebrew, because it was written primarily to the Jews with the ceremonial laws and things that directly pertained to them. He then wrote the New Testament in Greek, because it was written primarily to the Gentiles, and the most common language of the world at that time was Greek. And when it came time to combine the Old Testament and New Testament, God chose to translate them both into the most prevalent language of all

time, English! A professor at the University of Paris once asked his students to write a paper on why they believed that the French language was dying. Out of fifty-two students, fifty of them wrote their paper in English! But not only did God choose to write the Bible in the world's most prevalent language, He also chose to do so when it was at its peak and in its purest form! When the KJV was written, it used the language of Shakespeare. And what I have never understood is why the world has fallen in love with Shakespeare and the beauty of his writings, but then they want to discard the KJV because it is too difficult to read! Shakespeare is still being read, quoted, and used in acting while being adored around the world. But when you take the same words, and arrange them in such a way that you end up with the Word of God, then we can not understand it!

So what are we to do with all of those quaint, old-fashioned words that we no longer use in everyday language? We should do the same thing that God did with them! We keep them, find out what they mean, and pass them along to future generations! We need to bring the people up to the level of the Bible instead of lowering the Bible to the standards of the people!

In any and every professional group, there exists a certain kind of language that you either master, or you will not understand what they are talking about. If you were to listen to two doctors talking to one another about a patient's condition, you would not understand what they were saying, but you would be very impressed! If you were to listen to two pilots, they could be mentioning wind shears, coefficient of drag, or weight and balance charts, and walk away clueless and bored. If you were talking to a couple of car enthusiasts, you would hear about valves, cams, and nitro bottles and would wonder if something is getting ready to explode. Every specialized group is going to develop their own vocabulary and jargon that helps them to communicate exactly what they are talking about. Christians are no different! We need to study the Bible and its language so that we can understand exactly what God said, and then enlist the help of the Holy Spirit to convey those truths to people who do not know the language but desperately need what we have to offer.

## CHAPTER 3 THE SOURCE OF THE SCRIPTURES

*(Rom. 11:16) - "For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches."*

Paul is here teaching a very basic but important biblical principle. While the branches are what is visible on a tree, it is the root that determines the kind of fruit that will be produced! While that might not seem to be all that earth-shattering in itself, when applied to the Bible, it can be quite an eye opening truth! *(Rev. 22:16) - "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**"* The Lord used this same principle to explain His relationship to King David. He stated that He was the root of David, meaning—God, his Creator! Then He further stated that He was also the offspring of David, meaning—the Messiah that was born out of lineage of David.

So what was the Lord saying? He was saying that He was qualified to be the Messiah, because He came from the genealogy of David, which was prophesied! But He was also saying that He was God in the flesh, because David was nothing but a branch, and Jesus was His own root, meaning He did not come from David, but from Himself! The root determines everything about the tree!

What we are going to do is to take this same biblical principle and apply it to the many versions of the Bible that we now have, because every version comes from one of two sources: the Alexandrian text or the Byzantine text which is also called the Syrian text. And because of this biblical principle, all a person has to do is to determine the source or the root of a version, and you can then determine whether it is good or bad!

### STATEMENT #1 - IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WERE ONLY TWO KINDS OF PEOPLE!

There were Jews. *(Deut. 14:2) - "For **thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.**"* The

Jewish people were handpicked by God out of the mass of humanity and have since been called “God’s chosen people.” They were shaped as a nation during the four hundred years of enslavement in Egypt where God used hardship to fashion them into His “peculiar treasure.”

There were Gentiles. (*Acts 17:16-18*) - “Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him. Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.” The Gentiles, in opposition to the Jews, were everybody else! While the Jews worshiped Jehovah God, the Gentiles worshiped everything but God! They worshiped nature, objects, people, demons, anything and everything except God. When Paul began speaking with the Gentiles in Athens, Greece, they revealed who and what they were by admitting the fact that they were clueless as to Jehovah God.

## **STATEMENT #2 - EACH GROUP OF PEOPLE HAD THEIR OWN CENTER OF RELIGION!**

The Jews location was chosen by God. (*1 Kings 9:3*) - “And the LORD said unto him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication, that thou hast made before me: **I have hallowed this house**, which thou hast built, **to put my name there** for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.” God has always been the Determiner of where and how He would be worshiped! The first “official” place was the Tabernacle in the wilderness. He allowed His presence to be visible to the people so that they could see that He had chosen to dwell with them at the Tabernacle. The next “official” place was the Temple in Jerusalem. For this reason, Jerusalem came to be viewed as the Jewish headquarters throughout the world. The next “official” place was the local church! (*Matt. 18:20*) - “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Originally, the church was located in Jerusalem, but due to persecution, another more influential church was begun in Antioch, Syria!

The Gentiles' place of religion was chosen by Satan! (*Rev. 2:13*) - *"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where **Satan's seat** is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth."* Since Satan is the prince of this world, it only makes sense that he will also have a headquarters! Nimrod built Babel into a world headquarters, later being known as Babylon. Alexander the Great built Alexandria into a world headquarters. (*Dan. 8:7-8*) - *"And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, (**Nebuchadnezzar**) and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. Therefore the he goat (**Alexander the Great**) waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven."* Alexandria became the largest city in the world, with over four million people and contained the largest library in the world! It became the educational and cultural center of the world and remained as the capital of Egypt for one thousand years. Constantine chose to convert Rome into a world religious headquarters by legalizing Christianity and establishing himself as the first Pope

Therefore, God has established His choice of location, which is now in the local church! And Satan has chosen His place where He is to rule and reign, and at one time, that location was in Alexandria, Egypt!

### **STATEMENT #3 - GOD HAS VOICED HIS FEELINGS ABOUT EACH!**

How does God feel about Egypt or Alexandria? Just look at the "Law of first mention." (*Gen. 12:10-12*) - *And there was a famine in the land: and **Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there**; for the famine was grievous in the land. And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon: Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive."* The first time that Egypt is

mentioned in the Bible, Abraham is back-slidden and wanting to live there! That is why Egypt is usually used in the Bible to portray the world! In other words, God has nothing good to say about Egypt! It is mentioned as a place of slavery! (*Gen. 37:36*) - “*And the Midianites **sold him into Egypt** unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh’s, and captain of the guard.*” It is mentioned as a place of persecution! (*Exod. 1:11*) - “*Therefore they did set over them **taskmasters to afflict them** with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.*” It is mentioned as a place of future compromise! (*Deut. 17:16*) - “*But he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, to the end that he should multiply horses: forasmuch as the LORD hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth return no more that way. Neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.*”

This warning helps us to understand how Solomon got into such a mess! He went to Egypt to get his horses and his wife, while he was forbidden from doing both! So why is this so important? If he wasn’t even supposed to get a horse from there, then we have no business getting our Bible from there! It is also mentioned as a place of idolatry; (*Ezek. 20:7*) - “*Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.*” If God feels this way about Egypt, then you can imagine that He does not have anything good to say about Alexandria, which was its capital! What does the Law of First Mention tell us about Alexandria? The first time it is mentioned was when Alexandrians were arguing with Stephen just before they helped kill him! (*Acts 6:9*) - “*Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and **Alexandrians**, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.*” The next time it is mentioned was to inform us that before Apollos got saved, he was preaching that the only way to get saved was through John the Baptist’s baptism—which was wrong! (*Acts 18:24-25*) - “*And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.*”

While God did not pull any punches in telling us how he feels about Egypt and Alexandria, notice His feelings toward Syria and Antioch. Using the Law of First Mention, Syria is mentioned as being the place where a bride was found for Isaac! (*Gen. 25:20*) - “*And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padan-aram, the sister to Laban the Syrian.*” The first time that Antioch is mentioned is when we are told that one of the first deacons was from there! (*Acts 6:5*) - “*And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:*” Antioch was a place of refuge for Christians fleeing persecution! (*Acts 11:19*) - “*Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and **Antioch**, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.*” It was a place where doctrine was defended! (*Gal. 2:11*) - “*But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.*” It was a place where God was relocating His people; (*Acts 11:22*) - “*Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.*” It was a place where Christians were first called Christians! (*Acts 11:26b*) - “*... And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.*” It was a place where Paul was first sent out on a missionary journey! (*Acts 13:1-2*) - “*Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.*”

Again, God has made His feelings about Antioch and Syria pretty plain, but why is it important to determine what kind of cities these were? Because each group ended up having their own set of Bible manuscripts, which were different from the other set! Alexandria was viewed as the intellectual capital of the world, because they had the largest library in all the world! And over time, they attracted religious intellectuals who created their own library of manuscripts, which became known as the Alexandrian texts! While these intellectuals were gathering their texts,

there were already a huge number of other manuscripts that had been kept in Syria, which is where Paul just happened to be when he wrote many of them! Because they were located in Syria, they were called the Syrian or Byzantine texts. These were the ones used by the Reformers when they were doing their translations.

#### **STATEMENT #4 - EACH TEXT PRODUCED ITS OWN KIND OF FRUIT**

*(Matt. 7:18) - "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit."*

The "source" will determine the kind of fruit that it produces! The Alexandrian text has always been used by those who have done the persecuting! It was used to translate the Bible into Latin for the Catholic church! It produced the Bible of the Popes and was the official Bible of the Spanish Inquisition where over fifty million people were put to death because they dared to disagree with the Catholic Church! The Alexandrian text produced the Bible of Bloody Mary, who used it to burn anabaptists at the stake! And here is a shocker! It is also the text that was used by the translators of the New International Version and every other modern version of the Bible, including the New KJV!

The Byzantine text, also known as the Syrian text or the Textus Receptus and the Majority Text, was used to produce those versions that were used by the martyrs. John Wycliffe was the first to produce a handwritten Bible in English. The Pope was so infuriated that the Bible had been translated from Latin into English that forty-four years after Wycliffe's death, he ordered his bones to be dug up and burned! Jon Huss was one of Wycliffe's followers who carried on his work of trying to put the Bible into a common language. He was condemned by the Pope and burned at the stake, using Wycliffe's manuscripts as kindling! His influence was such that in 1517, seven adults were burned at the stake because they had used a Wycliffe Bible to teach their children the Lord's prayer in English instead of Latin! William Tyndale was the first person credited with printing the New Testament in English, but he was forced to translate his work from these texts while in hiding and on the run. Hundreds of copies were printed and the Pope was so angry that anyone

caught with a Tyndale New Testament would be burned at the stake! John Rogers continued the translation of the Bible in the Hebrew while using Tyndale's New Testament. He was burned at the stake by Bloody Mary as payment for his services!

By their fruit, ye shall know them. Those who did the persecuting had their text from Alexandria—and they hated anyone who dared to resist them. Their texts were used to produce the Catholic Bible, the ASV, the NASV, the NIV and the NKJV. Those who were hunted as criminals because they had either translated the Bible into a common language or had been caught reading one, were the ones whose blood was shed to give us the same Bible that we use tonight. The choice is not to be made by which is easier to read, but by looking at their source and where they came from.

## CHAPTER 4 THE FOOTPRINTS OF THE BIBLE

*(Jer. 6:16) - "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein."*

The title of best tracking dog in the world, belongs to a Doberman pincher named Sauer. Sauer was born in South Africa in 1917 and trained by Detective-Sgt. Herbert Kruger. On one case, a thief had broken into a home in the country and had left a knife. Sauer picked up his scent from the knife and followed the scent along several miles of railroad tracks. He then came to a shop and started barking by a set of steps. The owner of the shop said that a man had set his bag there during the night and left the next day. Sauer then followed the scent eight miles into the country where a camp fire had been made. From there, Sauer led Det. Kruger to a train station, twenty-eight miles from where they had started. Kruger asked around and found that a stranger had purchased a ticket to a particular town. The detective and the dog took the train to that town, and the dog then tracked down the thief and they arrested the thief. History was made, however, when Sauer was taken to where a place where a thief had left a scent, and he tracked him through the open country for one hundred miles before catching him!

Now, if a thief can leave a scent that can be tracked by a dog for more than one hundred miles, does it not make sense that God could also leave a trail to show where the real Bible has been traveling for all of these years? There ought to be a way of tracking the real Bible so that we can trace it all the way back to its point of origin, which is God Himself!

### **FOOTPRINT #1 - THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS WERE COPIED AND THEN DESTROYED!**

*(Jer. 36:22-28) - "Now the king sat in the winterhouse in the ninth month: and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him. And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth. Yet they were not afraid,*

*nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words. Nevertheless Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made intercession to the king that he would not burn the roll: but he would not hear them. But the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of Hammelech, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet: but the LORD hid them. Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying, **Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned.**"*

If you talk to any of these people who like to argue about the King James Bible not being perfect because it is only a version, they will almost all follow up their attack by telling you that ONLY the ORIGINALS were inspired by God, and all that we now have are copies. In this passage, Jeremiah had written the book of Jeremiah up to this point and had shown it to some men. These men in turn were horrified by what they read, and therefore brought it before the king. When the king read it, he was so infuriated by it that he took out a knife—cut it in pieces—and threw it in the fire!

So how did God handle the destruction of His Word? He told Jeremiah to make a copy of what he had originally written - and Jeremiah wrote down every word again, just like he did the first time! The original had been destroyed in the fire, so God chose to preserve His Word by having it written again!

Is God allowed to do that? Why didn't God just throw up His hands in frustration and whine about a king who destroyed His original? Because God is as much in the copying business as He is in writing the originals to begin with!

When God originally had certain men write a portion of the Scriptures, He knew that those originals were not going to last! They were written on a material that would eventually wear out! As His people continued to handle those parchments or scrolls, after a while, they were going to become old and worn! That is why before they became unusable, they were copied and copied and copied some more! And when the scribes translated a scroll for the last time and decided that it was too hard to

accurately copy, they burned the scrolls so that no one would make a mistake copying them anymore! Every so often, someone will ask me what they should do with a Bible that is so old and worn that it can not be used anymore. My answer is always the same—burn it! That is what they do when our flag is too old and tattered to use, and that is what they did when the original manuscripts had become too worn to read.

## **FOOTPRINT #2 - THE BIBLE WAS TRANSLATED INTO OTHER COMMON LANGUAGES, CALLED VERSIONS!**

*(Acts 2:1-11) - “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, **we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.**”*

We usually read this passage in order to put speaking in tongues in its proper perspective, that being that tongues was always an earthly language. But I want you to consider the fact that this passage also reveals how God feels about translating His Words into other languages! When He did that verbally, it is called Pentecost. When He does it in writing, it is called—a version of the Bible! They are both a miracle—the one is a miracle of tongues, while the other is a miracle of preservation.

But can a version be perfect? *(Zeph. 3:8-9) - “Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my*

*determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy. For then will I turn to the people a **pure language**, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.*” Here we are told that when the Millennial kingdom is begun, the entire world will revert back to the original language, used both in heaven and in the garden of Eden. Whatever that language is, it is also the language of the original Word of God in heaven. So when God gave to Moses the first five books in Hebrew, that really was not the “original” Word of God, but only the Hebrew version of it! And when God later gave part of the New Testament in Greek, the “originals” really were not the original because they were only the Greek version of it! That sounds to me like God does not have a problem with a version as long as it is faithful to the original; and nobody has ever seen it, not even the men who were used by God to write it!

So what happened when the Bible was finally completed by the Apostle John on the island of Patmos? Copies were being made as fast as they could be accurately copied! And if there was a mistake, the copy was destroyed! It was during this time that the Bible was also translated into other languages. Most of Europe spoke Latin, and therefore what was called the “Old Latin Vulgate” was written about 150 A.D. It was called the Vulgate because it was in the vulgar (common) language of the people. The next major translation was done seven years later in the Syrian language and was called the “Syrian Peshitta.” And the further that Christianity spread, the more the Bible was translated - and God was pleased with what was taking place!

### **FOOTPRINT #3 - THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS QUOTED THE BIBLE IN THEIR WRITINGS!**

*(Rev. 2:13) - “I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein **Antipas** was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.”*

Who in the world was Antipas? He was a contemporary of the Apostle John and one of many who were killed for their faith. When John passed off the scene, the church was placed in the hands of good men, but these men were not apostles! Instead, they are referred to as the “early church fathers.” Polycarp was a student of the Apostle John and became a well known defender of the faith! These men were used by God to defend the faith and to preach the newly completed Bible, and they fought with a vengeance all forms of heresy. The interesting thing is that many of their writings still exist! And the reason that their writings are of great interest is that, they quoted Scripture in their letters against heresy, and by reading their letters, we are also able to read the same verses that they read!

The Catholic Church has been claiming for hundreds of years to possess the true Bible and yet, their Bible omits much of (1 John 5:7) - but one of the early church fathers by the name of Tatian the Syrian, quoted it! If you were to read Tatian’s harmony of the Gospels that he wrote in 150 A.D., he quotes (1 John 5:7) as being the same as the KJV: *“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”* But the Catholic text— the one that is supposed to be the real Bible—only says this: (“For there are three that testify:”) Why would the Catholic Church choose to omit the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost? Maybe so that they can be the only authority that is recognized on earth!

Not only did the early church fathers use Scripture in their defense of heresy, but they also used them in what is called a lectionary! Instead of trying to make copies of the entire Bible, these pastors would only copy portions of Scripture that dealt with the major doctrines, like the deity of Christ, blood atonement, resurrection, etc. But is it okay to just write down certain verses and not the whole Bible? (*Deut. 6:6-9*) - *“And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt **write them** upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.”*

Back in the days of Moses, God was already giving His people hints as to how to preserve His Word, especially pertaining to the major doctrines of the Bible!

So how many pieces of evidence would we have if we combined all of the copies of the Bible that still exist, plus the letters written by the early church fathers, plus all of the versions in other languages that still exist, plus these lectionaries that were made? There are over 5,000 footprints that God left behind which line up with each other and the King James Bible!

#### **FOOTPRINT #4 -THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS DECIDED ON THE CANON OF SCRIPTURE!**

*(Jer. 5:5a) - "I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God ..."*

You can imagine how frustrated Satan must have been when the Bible was completed and being copied and circulated. He immediately began using wicked men to write letters that they claimed to have been written by Peter, Barnabas, and others, but were fake. Just as recent as a year ago, we were told that somebody found the lost Gospel of Judas, in which we were told that Judas was really a good guy, but was on a secret mission by Christ to make it look like he was a traitor!

How in the world can we ever know which book is inspired and which one is a lie? That was yet another purpose that was served by the early church fathers, because many of them had seen some of the original manuscripts—and they met together to agree which letters were genuine and inspired—and which ones were not inspired. Their agreement came to be known as the canon of Scripture, and their list of sixty-six books does not match the Catholic books!

#### **FOOTPRINT #5 - PERSECUTION OPENED THE DOOR FOR FAKE BIBLES!**

*(Matt. 4:17) - "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, **Repent:** for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

As the Scriptures were being circulated in the Greek and Hebrew, they were translated into Latin so that all of Europe could have it. The translation was called the Latin Vulgate. When it was finished in 157 A.D., it spread throughout Europe like wild fire and became the accepted Bible there. It was used by the Waldenses, Albigenses, and the other Anabaptists throughout the continent. But in 380 A.D., the Catholic Church commissioned Jerome to translate a new Latin Bible, using the Alexandrian text instead of the one from Antioch. In hopes of switching Bibles, Jerome's Bible was also called the Latin Vulgate— same name, different words! The Old Latin Vulgate would have translated Matthew 4:17 as “From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, **Repent**: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Jerome's version of Matthew 4:17 was - “**Do penance**, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” It is not coincidental that the first person to ever come up with the doctrine of purgatory was Jerome! The changes and differences in all of these Bibles is not accidental at all, but were carefully changed so as to safeguard and teach Catholic doctrine! And once they had their Bible in place, nothing was stopping the Catholic Church from starting a purging of every Bible they could find, while arresting, torturing and killing any and everybody who dared to possess or distribute the Bible!

### **FOOTPRINT #6 - GOD ALWAYS HAS A REMNANT!**

*(Isa. 1:7-9) - “Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers. And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city. Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us **a very small remnant**, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.”*

In relation to the world, God's remnant might be small - but as long as there is a remnant, God will always have a witness! Erasmus was born in 1466 as an illegitimate child whose father was a Catholic priest. Both of his parents died from the plague that was sweeping through Europe and Erasmus was dumped on his uncle who, in turn, got rid of him by taking him to a monastery. He was later forced to become a priest, but

while he did not have much say so about it, he refused to go along with a lot of their priestly duties. He refused to deprive himself of sleep while other priests were keeping vigils; he continued to eat meat on Fridays; and he refused to function as a priest! He began writing and speaking out against the excesses of the priesthood and said that it was hypocrisy to take a vow of poverty, while getting drunk and being immoral with women! He was so opposed to how the Catholic Church was operating that he is credited with saving a man from being tortured to death during the Inquisition. The Pope became so infuriated by Erasmus that he tried to shut him up by bribing him with the promotion to be a bishop! Erasmus refused because that was an office that was used to exert enormous power over the common people, and he was opposed to the system that was corrupted! Erasmus chose to set the common person free by translating the corrupted Catholic version of the Bible known as Jerome's Latin Vulgate, into a Greek text that could then be used to translate the Bible into a variety of languages! He dedicated his life to studying as many manuscripts as he could find, and discovered that the Catholic Church had created their own Bible that had been changed to grant them the power and authority that they craved, but that did not line up with majority of the other texts! When Erasmus was finished, his text came to be known as the Textus Receptus or Received Text, because it was received by the common people as the Word of God! Martin Luther used it to translate the Bible into German! It was also used by William Tyndale to translate the New Testament into English! And it was Erasmus who was used by God to not only start the Reformation, but to lay the foundation for the King James Bible as well!

The next time that you feel outnumbered by those who want to criticize the King James Bible, just remember that God does not need a majority—just a remnant!

## CHAPTER 5

### COLLATERAL DAMAGE

*(2 Kings 20:14-19) - "Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country, even from Babylon. And he said, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, All the things that are in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them. And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD. Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD. And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon. Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth be in my days?"*

When Hezekiah allowed himself to be tricked into opening up the vaults of his nation's wealth and weapons, he adopted a very cavalier attitude of "so what?" When Isaiah shared with him that judgment would follow, but not in his lifetime, he then revealed the fact that, as long as it happened to a future generation and not to his own, then he could live with that. So while Hezekiah had the goal of making himself "look good" to his enemy, a future generation had just become casualties. So what do we call innocent bystanders who get hurt? Collateral damage!

The first time that the term was used, was during WW II, when Gen. Curtis Lemay used it to describe the firebombing of Japanese cities. He believed that it was necessary to bomb civilians in order to shorten the war. In all, it was estimated that one million Japanese civilians died as a result of these bombings. How could these bombings be justified? Pres. Roosevelt was given estimates that seven million American soldiers would be killed if they were forced to invade Japan. Therefore, in order to shorten the war and save American lives, there had to be "collateral damage." So there are two examples of people who get hurt accidentally, while pursuing a larger, more important goal.

In trying to understand the battles that have been fought over the

Bible, we need to keep in mind that the Bible is often an “innocent bystander” who just happens to get in the way of a person or group who have a goal that they are trying to accomplish. While pursuing that goal, the Bible gets trampled and minimized. How? By using very effective tactics!

### **TACTIC #1 - OMISSION!**

*(Luke 23:42) - “And he said unto Jesus, **Lord**, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.”*

Very rarely do I ever refer to the Lord by His first name! Lord—Christ—Messiah—but not Jesus. I do not believe it is appropriate for children to call adults by their first name, and I do not feel comfortable calling my Savior by His. When the King James was translated, they included the title “Lord” to be placed alongside His name.

What is the big deal? (NAS) - (Luke 23:42) - “And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" (NIV) - (Luke 23:42) - “Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’” Whatever happened to His title? What is the problem of stripping Him of Lord? The problem is that it reveals an attitude of disrespect, that is revealed by a refusal to translate the title that was found in the Textus Receptus manuscripts!

But why would anybody want to do that? In 1303, Pope Boniface VIII made this statement: “It is necessary to salvation that every man should submit to the Pope.” KJV: *(Acts 4:12) - “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”* The Pope claimed that mankind must come to him for salvation, while the Bible claimed that they must come to Christ instead. The Pope’s goal was NOT to destroy or change the Word of God! His goal was to have authority over the world! But if he was not able to do so because of what the Bible says, then he has no choice but to either change it, or get rid of it!

So how can the Pope or the Catholic Church change the Bible? By attacking the doctrines that it teaches! *(1 John 5:7) - “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”* NIV: *(1 John 5:7) - “For there are three that testify:”*

It is not a coincidence that the Trinity has been omitted from this verse because there is a deliberate attempt by Bible translators to attack the doctrines of the Bible! They refuse to call Jesus Lord—and they refuse to acknowledge the Trinity—and to them, doctrine is something that just gets in their way! Why? Because they want to be their own source of authority in their lives!

## **TACTIC #2 - SUBSTITUTION!**

*(Gen. 3:1,4) - “Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:”*

When Eve was confronted by the serpent, she allowed him to do something that was so slick that she did not even realize it. He took away what God’s version (“Ye shall not eat of every tree...”) - and in its place, he put Satan’s version (“Ye shall not surely die”). Now both of them are close because they both include the words *thou shall not*. But just because they are close does not mean that they are the same!

When the Old Latin Vulgate began sweeping throughout Europe, the Pope was getting nervous because the Catholic Church has NEVER wanted the Bible in the hands of the people! That is why their services were being conducted in Latin, long after the language had died! When the Pope saw how popular the Old Latin Vulgate was, and that the people could now read it for themselves, a faithful Catholic named Jerome was hired to take the erroneous Alexandrian texts, and translate them into Latin! And then, the Catholic Church tried to substitute their own version - for God’s version, by calling it the same name: The Latin Vulgate! And that is still one of the devil’s best tactics to this day, because nearly every Christian Bookstore will have sales people who have been trained to tell an unsuspecting Christian that their newest version is easier to read and understand than the KJV!

Do they really believe that? Some do, but the people who are actually producing these newest translations DO NOT! In 1870, Americans were invited to help translate the Bible in a joint effort with the British to produce the English Revised Version. They were encouraged

to give recommended changes to the British. But in order to be part of the work, they had to agree to NOT publish their own Bible for fourteen years after the English Revised Version was published. In 1901, the fourteen year gag order was over, and the American committee published their own version—the American Standard Version! But IF their version was more of God’s Word, why wait fourteen years before giving it to the world?

The bottom line is that with every new version, there is always the “advertising” that it is a better version and the encouragement to substitute it for whatever you happen to have. The reason for the substitution is not for the sake of truth—but for money! So what happened in Europe when the Catholic Church tried to switch everyone to their own Latin Vulgate? There were a group of stubborn Christians who refused for as long as they had a Bible to cling to—the Donatists, the Irish, the British, and the Albigenses, all of whom were also called—anabaptists! How were these people treated who refused to surrender their version of the Bible? They were labeled as cults, trouble makers, and marked for persecution as opportunity arose!

### **TACTIC #3 - PERSECUTION!**

*(Rev. 17:4-6) - “And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman **drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.**”*

Perhaps no group of Christians have been targeted so violently and systematically in history as were the Waldenses of Italy. These Christians were a peaceful people who lived in the mountains of Italy and did not even have an army with which to defend themselves. Pope Gregory I set out to not only destroy these people, but then to alter their history! For two hundred years, their towns were attacked, and their records, books, and letters were all destroyed so effectively that to this day, it is impossible for anyone to trace their roots to these people prior to 1700! Jesuits went

so far as to try to re-write history by inserting the names of Waldensian Christians into local records as criminals. The Waldensians were descendants of the apostolic church, and yet Catholic historians have lied, saying that they were followers of Peter Waldo. Their name means “dwellers of the valleys.” In 1655, the Waldenses of the Piedmont region were given twenty days to evacuate their homes. They were forced to leave and went higher up in the mountains to live with other Waldensian people. Old men and women, young children were forced to flee for their lives in rain and snow. Once they arrived with their fellow Christians, they were all attacked and massacred. Ten years later, all Waldensians in the valleys were given fifteen days to admit the errors of their religion and leave the valley. Then, hundreds of soldiers descended upon the people, and murdering people house to house.

Why did the Catholic Church hate these people so much? The reason was that they refused to surrender their Bible or accept the authority of the Pope—and once again, as Satan was trying to destroy God’s people, the Bible became collateral damage.

#### **TACTIC #4 - INTIMIDATION!**

*(1 Pet. 5:8-9) - “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a **roaring** lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

A “roaring” lion is a very accurate symbol for the devil, because—since he is not able to be everywhere at the same time—he likes to roar, hoping to strike fear in those that he cannot reach! When the Pope was unable to shut down the Old Latin Vulgate, something unexpected took place from within the Catholic Church.

A former monk by the name of Martin Luther became so disgusted with the errors and abuses of the Catholic Church, that he made a list of his grievances and posted them on the church doors at Wittenburg, Germany! How did he even know what was right or wrong? He had a copy of the Old Latin Vulgate, and that is what he used to translate the Bible into German, for the common person! And what did the Pope do? He roared! He intimidated! He struck fear into the people and yet, the

Reformation continued to spread throughout all of Europe—and all he could do was roar!

But why didn't Satan choose to stop Luther and Zwingli and Calvin? The answer is because he can not be in two places at the same time! And he was busy shedding the blood of the Waldensians in northern Italy and southern France—and these people were linked to the earliest Christians, tracing themselves back to the church at Antioch and Jerusalem. Without Waldensian blood being shed in the Alps, there might not have been a Reformation sweeping throughout Europe! Do you know why that is so important to realize? Because when you are intimidated, that is when it is critical for you to do as much right as you can because someone might be bleeding from a beating, while you are only facing a roar from the devil!

#### **TACTIC #5 - DECEPTION!**

*(I Kings 13:11-18) - "Now there dwelt an old prophet in Bethel; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Bethel: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father. And their father said unto them, What way went he? For his sons had seen what way the man of God went, which came from Judah. And he said unto his sons, Saddle me the ass. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon, And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak: and he said unto him, Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah? And he said, I am. Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread. And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place: For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest. He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him."*

In 1534, a secret society was created by Ignatius Loyola called the Society of Jesus. It sounds quaint and innocent, but they later came to be called the Jesuits. They were a group of men who were sworn to be loyal

to the Pope, and were willing to do whatever it took to fulfill his goals and desires. The head of the Jesuits is called the Black Pope, and he insists on such loyalty to the Church and to the Pope, that Loyola himself wrote these words: “Let us be convinced that all is well and right when the superior commands it. Even if God gave you an animal without sense for a master, you will not hesitate to obey him. We must see black as white - if the Church says so.”

So how have these Jesuits practiced their deception throughout their history? Rather than dressing like other Catholic priests, they were encouraged to dress in ordinary clothing so as to infiltrate schools as teachers. In 1574, Father Nicolai and other Jesuits became teachers in a school, pretending to be Lutherans, while trying to convert the students to Catholicism. The Jesuits have tried their best to bring the Church of England back into the Catholic Church, which is why there are more Jesuit priests in England than in all of Italy! They have become members of Parliament, priests in the Anglican Church, and hold high positions of authority and influence. In 1572, the Jesuits were responsible for the St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre. A wedding was to take place between the French Princess Margaret, and her fiancé who was a Huguenot. As the Huguenot leaders attended the wedding as guests, they were then murdered by order of Catholic officials. Their deaths then sparked city-wide killings of the Huguenots where their blood flowed in the streets with as many as 25,000 being killed.

In 1603, King James had come to power as England’s new king, and after only one year as king, he chose to commission a group of fifty-four men to translate the Scriptures into the common language of his people. While they were translating the Old Latin Vulgate and the Textus Receptus into English, it was discovered that a man named Guy Fawkes had planned on killing the king by blowing up Parliament. He was found in a tunnel under the Parliament with thirty-six barrels of gunpowder. It was discovered that he had been encouraged and supported by Henry Garnet, the head of the Jesuits in England! Just as wrong as it was for the Jesuits to try to bring England back into the Catholic Church by hook or by crook or by getting rid of the king, so it is also wrong to try and sneak a church away from the King James Bible, back into a different version! Yet that is exactly what some pastors are trying to accomplish! One of the

biggest reasons is that they know that if they can get them away from the KJV, they will be easier to lead in other directions they want to take them!

### **TACTIC #6 - EDUCATION!**

*(Acts 7:22-29) - “And Moses was **learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians**, and was mighty in words and in deeds. And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel. And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not. And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another? But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us? Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday? **Then fled Moses** at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat two sons.”*

Notice here that Moses had received one of the best educations in the world, and yet, when he tried to do something that required spirituality, he failed miserably! The last thing that Satan has succeeded in doing, in hopes of bringing about the destruction of the Bible, has been to use education as a means of destruction! When I was ordained, I was given a Ryrie Study Bible that was KJV, with all of the deacons' signatures in it. I read it every day for my devotions, and it had a ton of notes on the bottom of each page. But I started noticing something in the notes that I did not like. It kept saying - “a better rendering of this verse is ...” What did they mean? They meant that Ryrie did not agree with what the KJV said! I realize that Ryrie must have been a pretty smart man and probably had a lot more degrees than I would ever have! He could probably read Greek and Hebrew both and had taught the Bible for more years than I had been alive. But what gave him the right to tell me that God was wrong?

We have come to the place where preachers think that because they know a little Greek or Hebrew, they have the right to go to a Greek book that was written by a man, and change what the Bible says when it was written by God! There is a current mess going on right now between

churches because of a change in how their pastors view the Bible. They maintain that they are simply returning to the historic position that was held by some preachers back in the 1960s, 1970s and most of the 1980s. During that time, they had a bad habit of correcting the KJV! But that did not make it right! When a preacher goes down that road, he elevates himself above his people because he is telling them “You don’t know what I know, and if you knew what I knew, then you would know that the Bible is wrong in that one place! But since you don’t know what I know, you need me to tell you in what places your Bible isn’t very good!” That is a lie! It is not true! Any church member who ever has a pastor who tells them that needs to get up and walk out because you are listening to a pompous, educated liar!

I did not start carrying a KJV because other preachers carried one! I did not start believing it was THE Word of God that was divinely preserved because they thought it was! I had already spent a six month cruise reading an NIV that did nothing for my soul and I was just as lost at the end of that six months as I was at the beginning! But when I came across a KJV, I read it; and I got saved without a preacher, without a soul winner—just me and my Bible in a motel room! THAT is why I know it is a different kind of book! And everything that I have learned about the KJV since that day has just been icing on the cake!

## CHAPTER 6

### THE DEVIL'S "CHOP SHOP"

*(1 Pet. 1:22-25) - "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."*

The FBI estimates that 25,000 carjackings take place every year. The average carjacking takes only fifteen seconds. Ninety percent of all carjackings take place in a city and between 8:00 P.M. and 11:00 P.M. Half of all carjackings take place on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Ninety percent of all carjackings take place in only fifteen major cities! Parking lots are the favorite place for carjackings to take place. A favorite carjacking technique on a city street is to have the thief bump into the back of your car when you are stopped. When you get out to look at the damage, they jump out and steal your car.

Most cars that are stolen are older, not newer vehicles! Why older? Because many of these stolen cars are taken to "chop shops" where they are stripped of their parts and sold to unethical body shops. A stolen car will produce up to four times the value of the entire car! Stolen parts are sometimes shipped to other countries. A study in 1994 estimated that sixteen percent of all cars in the Czech Republic were either stolen or contained stolen parts! So what does a Chop Shop in the U.S. have to do with our Bible?

Just as thieves have devised very clever ways of stealing a car, and then making a lot of money by taking it apart and selling it piece by piece, so the devil has created some very clever ways of taking the Bible and dismantling its credibility! Why would they do this? Because if the devil can steal the Bible and discredit it, the value of other Bibles goes up, and our confidence in the real Bible hits rock bottom! If the devil can separate a Christian from the Bible, then he can do with them what he wants!

## SCIENCE IS USED TO DISCREDIT THE BIBLE!

(1 Tim. 6:20) - “O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and **oppositions of science** falsely so called:”

The word *science* does not have a thing to do with test tubes and chemicals, but rather to a pursuit of knowing things that are factual. This is the reason why the verse ends with the words *falsely so called*. Paul is here warning about any pursuit that labels itself as a science and pursues truth, when in reality it is not interested in facts, but in promoting its own agenda.

There are currently two of these “sciences” floating around that are both aimed at trying to discredit the Bible. The first is evolution! Charles Darwin is the father of this so-called science, and was interestingly raised in a religion called Universalism. He grew up attending church every Sunday with his mother, and was taught basically two things that helped shape his religious thoughts. The first religious “truth” that he accepted was that God did not exist in a Trinity, but as only one Person. Therefore, Jesus Christ was not really God, but only a prophet and a holy person. The second religious “truth” was that religion was big enough to make room for science and that they could both co-exist. With those two ideas firmly planted in his mind, he came up with a so-called science that was nothing more than observations tied together by theories—and no facts! The only result that has come about from evolution is an undermining of the Bible and a lessening of the faith among God’s people! The second lesser-known science that was created about the same time is called “textual criticism.” Textual criticism assumes that every Bible in existence has some degree of error in it. Because it assumes that every Bible contains some degree of error, its job is seen as being the “correcter” of the Bible. This “science” views the original manuscripts as being inspired, but rejects the idea that God would be able to preserve His inspired words. Instead, only the thoughts are inspired, but not the words! Textual criticism is what empowers a Bible professor or a scholar or a priest or a preacher to change what the Bible says in order to bring it back to its inspired form in the original manuscripts. How will we know when a word in our Bible is wrong? They will tell us! How will we know which different word is better? They will tell us that too! Dr. R.A. Torrey was D.L. Moody’s

assistant for many years and was always asked by Moody to preach on the Bible and the Holy Spirit. He was a tremendous evangelist, but he says that his faith was almost ruined as a young man because he made the mistake of going to Germany to study the Bible, and that Bible college specialized in Textual Criticism! He came to the place while studying there, that he did not even know if the Bible was true anymore!

There is nothing wrong with true science, because science deals with truth, not speculation! But it is not science if it rejects truth and tries to create its own! And that is what textual criticism does! It gives people the power to change what God wrote in the Bible with what they think that He should have said! That is not truth, but a forgery!

Let me give you an example of how this works. In 1753, a French physician who had a hobby of studying the Bible, came up with a “discovery” about Genesis! He discovered that Moses did not really write it, but he only compiled it from two other writings that he found! How did he know this? Because in the book of Genesis, God is referred to by two different names! If God is called two different names, then there must have been two different authors! Since we now know that there were two different men who wrote parts of Genesis, now we know that Moses did not even write any of it! That is not science! It is called lying!

## **LANGUAGE IS USED TO DISCREDIT THE BIBLE!**

*Prov. 30:5 - “Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.”*

There are two things that I want to get established before we take a look at how the devil is using language to downgrade the King James Bible. The first thing is found in the two words—*every word*. I truly believe that not just the Bible story, not just the narration - but every word of the Bible has been written by God and preserved for us. That is what we mean when we say that we have an “every word” Bible!

The second thing that I want to establish is that God is wanting His people to understand what *every word* really means! *Matt. 27:46 - “And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken*

me?” When the KJV translators translated this verse, they left this statement by Christ in Aramaic. But what do these words mean? Here is a powerful truth that you need to grab hold of! In order to find out what they mean, all you have to do is read the Bible, and God will tell you what they mean! You do not need a Bible scholar, a priest, or a preacher to tell you their meaning, because God told you Himself.

We have Bible colleges and seminaries that teach Greek and Hebrew to their students, but for what reason? Are they studying these languages so that they can have greater confidence in their Bible? No! They are being taught Greek and Hebrew because you do not know Greek and Hebrew! Because the common Christian does not know these languages, it puts these students at an advantage when it comes to interpreting the Bible! Because they know Greek and Hebrew, they are then in a position to change the meaning of the Bible to suit their own ideas, and the common person can no longer challenge them!

Let me show you how this game is played. *Isa. 7:14* - “*Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*” If you were to read this verse in the RSV, it would say “young woman” instead of “virgin.” By doing so, they are placing a question mark on the Deity of Christ! Why is there a difference? Because Bible scholars, some of whom were Catholic, wrote books called lexicons which are like dictionaries, that changed the meaning of the Hebrew word for virgin to mean young woman. When anyone used their lexicon, they would come up with the same meaning, which was wrong! That is as dishonest as a person rewriting the dictionary so that the word hate means—love! A husband, wanting to express his love to his wife, looks in this dictionary—and says, “Honey, I hate you!”

Years ago, I was approached by a college professor who asked me to consider using a Greek course that he had developed, in the college. I knew this man and knew that he was biblically sound and had put together a very good course on Greek, and that it would have been doctrinally straight. I looked at it, handed it back to him, and told him I would not be interested in it. He looked at me with surprise and asked “Why?” I told him that it was basically because I believed that the King James Bible was God’s divinely preserved Word of God in the English language; and because it is in English, I do not have to know Greek in order to understand it! That hurt his pride, because he had spent years studying

Greek and would sometimes read his Greek New Testament for devotions! But when he did so, he was not reading any more of the Word of God than I was when I was reading my King James Bible!

Over the past few years, there have been arguments going on about the original manuscripts being inspired, and what we have is a lesser Bible because it is only a translation. To make matters worse, Peter Ruckman came up with the idea that the KJV is SO good, that it is even better than the originals! I appreciate his zeal to defend the King James Bible, but a copy can not be more original than the original! By the same token, you can not say that God has preserved His Word; and then turn around and say that what has been preserved is not inspired like the originals were! It all boils down to this! The King James Bible is EQUAL to the Hebrew and Greek original manuscripts! It can not be any better, or else God improved on what was already perfect, which means that He became involved in “progressive revelation”—and that is what the Charismatics claim, that God is still revealing Himself! By the same token, the King James Bible can not be any less accurate or less perfect than the original manuscripts, or else it is no longer the Word of God, because it would then be less than perfect! It is either EQUAL, or it has not been divinely preserved as God has promised—which means “every word”!

### **PREJUDICE IS USED TO DISCREDIT THE BIBLE!**

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

If you were to read this verse in the New World Translation, it would read “In the beginning the Word was, and the Word was with God, and the Word was **a god**.” Why does that verse refer to Jesus as “a god” instead of God? Because that is the version that was written by the Jehovah’s Witnesses! They think that our Bible is wrong and that we perverted it to prove that Jesus really is God! In other words, because we hold to the standard or the orthodox view of Christ, we are not supposed to be trusted to translate the Bible!

J.J. Griesbach was a German Bible scholar of the early 1800s who created a method of translating the Bible that has been used ever since by the liberals. His method is this—if several manuscripts all point to a very

conservative position, then you should assume that the text has been changed by some conservatives in order to prove their conservative point of view! Here are his exact words: “When there are many variant readings in one place, that reading which more than the others manifestly favors the dogmas of the orthodox is deservedly regarded as suspicious.” Again, what he is saying is that heretics do not ever tamper with the Bible: only born again Christians do! Therefore, if several manuscripts refer to the mother of Jesus as a virgin, while this one manuscript over here calls her a young woman, then throw out the hundreds of manuscripts that call her a virgin, because obviously, those Fundamentalists have changed the words to try to prove their doctrine of the deity of Christ!

So what, if some German guy who lived over two hundred years ago came up with a goofy idea like that? The problem is that Westcott and Hort were both influenced by this man, and that is the same philosophy that they used when they did their translation work! And their work—and that philosophy—is what was used to bring about all of the modern translations!

## **SUBVERSION IS USED TO DISCREDIT THE BIBLE**

*Ezek. 8:7-12 - “And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall. Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door. And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, pourtrayed upon the wall round about. And there stood before them seventy men of the **ancients** of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, with every man his censer in his hand; and a thick cloud of incense went up. Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do **in the dark**, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.”*

Ezekiel, while he was still a captive in Babylon, received a vision one day in which he was spiritually transported back to Jerusalem, to be shown something that was totally disgusting to God. He was taken to a

building that had a hole in the wall and was told to start digging through it. As Ezekiel began digging, he could hear sounds of men inside. He kept digging until he could see what was taking place. In verse 11, a group of men called the “ancients of the house of Israel,” meaning their religious leaders, were involved in a pagan ritual of sun worship! In broad daylight and when seen by their fellow Jews, these men were upstanding citizens and religious rulers! They said the right things—they did the right things—until they were in the dark, and then they began secretly worshipping Tammuz, the sun god.

So let me ask a really good question. Why would God choose to record what these men were doing? The answer is to help us understand better what we would one day be facing in our own times! In the late 1833, a group of men from England went to Rome to visit Cardinal Wiseman who had been raised in England himself. One of these men was John Henry Newman who was an ordained priest in the Church of England and a leader of Oxford University. And the reason for their visit was to find out what was needed for the Catholic Church to receive England back into the Church. They were told that England would have to adopt the Council of Trent, which basically meant two things: they would have to agree to all Catholic doctrine, and they would have to adopt the Catholic Bible. This group of men then returned to England with the express purpose of fulfilling those two requirements. In order to fulfill the matter of accepting Catholic doctrine, they concocted a plan to take over academic control of Oxford University by secretly teaching Catholic doctrine to those they could trust. In public they were teaching according to the Church of England, but in private, they practiced what was called, “the Doctrine of Reserve.” What it meant was that it was acceptable to practice deception, as long as it furthered the cause of the Catholic Church, which is similar to the Muslim practice of lying to non-Muslims, in order to protect themselves or Islam. The secret society was discovered and disbanded in 1845, but not until it had already created other secret societies such as “The Secret Order of the Holy Redeemer” and “The Order of St. John the Divine” whose only purpose was to return England to the Catholic Church.

Since these men failed in their first goal, that of bringing about a conversion of English people to Catholic teachings, they then turned their attention to switching England from the King James Bible to the Catholic

Bible. Did they succeed? We have come to the place where a current website features eighteen different Bible translations, and an article on why you should use more than one!

## CHAPTER 7

### GOD'S ALLOWANCE OF HERESY

*(1 Cor. 11:19) - For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.*

This verse is one of those verses in the Bible that has to be accepted by faith, because it certainly does not make any sense from a logical point of view. God is in the Truth Business! One of the Lord's descriptions is "I am the way, the truth, and the life...." God spent 1,500 years having His Words recorded so that we can have a complete Bible, all of which is true. If God has gone to such great lengths to give us truth, then why would He tolerate heresy? God is not only a God of truth, but He is also a God of separation! *1 John 2:19 - "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us."* God knows that anybody can "talk a good ball game." Anybody can say the right thing to give the impression that they are one of us. So how can God keep His church pure? By allowing heresy to exist, and by giving people the choice as to what they want to believe! It would be easy for someone to ask, "Why has God allowed all of these other versions to exist if they were really as bad as you say?" For the same reason that God has chosen Satan to exist! And for the same reason that God has allowed heresy to exist! They are simply a part of the winnowing process to filter out people who are willing to believe a lie, from those who are jealous for the truth. One of the most destructive acts against the Bible began with nothing more than a "questioning" of the Bible and a willingness to entertain the possibility that, maybe, it had a few mistakes. Their reasoning was—if the KJV was the best translation that could be made in the seventeenth century, then how much better could it be in the nineteenth century? With that idea in mind, the Church of England called for a revision of the KJV, to update the Bible into the more modern language of the day. It was begun in 1871 and took ten years to finish the New Testament and another three years to finish the Old Testament. The KJV was known as the "Authorized Version" and this was called the "Revised Version." When the revisers were called together, they were told to do two things: #1 - They were told to make as few

changes as possible, and ONLY to correct what errors they thought existed. #2 - They were told to use the Textus Receptus which was used to translate the KJV, and they were to use no other Greek text. There were two men on the revision committee who deliberately went against both of these conditions—Westcott and Hort. They had spent twenty years putting writing their own Greek text that was based on Catholic manuscripts. As the committee began translating the KJV, these two men began using their own Greek text, which had not even been published yet, instead of the Textus Receptus. This is important to know, because every modern version is based on their text, and not the one that was used to translate the KJV. Instead of looking at their Greek version, I want to approach what has taken place by looking at what these two men believed. *Matt. 7:18-20* - “*A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, **neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.** Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.*” This passage teaches the fact that a bad tree can not produce good fruit! Therefore, if you are not sure whether or not the fruit is good, then you need to find out more about the tree! What I am going to share with you tonight about these two men is going to come from books that were written about them, by their own sons! These books are still available! They contain quotes and first-hand statements as to what their fathers told their sons personally. So what kind of men were they? They were men with some very strange beliefs! They despised America and democracy and rooted for the South because they thought that their victory would bring about America’s ultimate destruction. They believed that black slaves were barely human, and had the likable attributes of a dog. They studied Communism and tried to bring about a society of living in communes and sharing wealth. Hort once attended a conference in England where Moody was preaching, and while he complimented him on his American humor, he also made the comment - “...I should never care to go again.” Hort believed in the occult and started a group called the “Ghostly Guild.” While those things are not very flattering, the real question in relation to the KJV is, “What did they believe in relation to the doctrines of the Bible?”

### **THEY DID NOT BELIEVE IN CREATION!**

*Gen. 1:1* - “*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*”

You really have big problems when you trip over the very first verse of the Bible! Neither of them believed that you could take Genesis 1-3 literally. Hort stated: “I am inclined to think that no such state as Eden ever existed, and that Adam’s fall in no degree differed from the fall of each of his descendants...” Now if a man does not even believe that there was a garden of Eden, is it really a good idea to let him translate what the Bible says about Eden? As if things were not bad enough, Hort thought that Charles Darwin, and his new theory called evolution, was the greatest thing since sliced bread! When Darwin first published his book *On the Origin of Species*, it was being met by all kinds of opposition from pulpits around the country! So what did Hort, the guy who laid the foundation for all of these modern versions, think of Darwin? Hort wrote of his excitement to Westcott concerning Darwin’s book on evolution. “Have you read Darwin? ... I am inclined to think it unanswerable. In any case it is a treat to read such a book.” So, one of the men who helped bring about the NIV believed in evolution, which would make me a little bit suspicious about reading what they felt about any verse of Scripture!

### **THEY DID NOT BELIEVE THE BIBLE WAS INFALLIBLE!**

*Psa. 50:1 - “The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.”*

*Infallible* means “to be free from error.” If you believe that the Bible is infallible, then you also believe that it has zero mistakes, zero errors, and that God was powerful enough to make sure that it was copied correctly and divinely preserved! Hort had been sharing his feelings about the Bible with a friend, when he learned that Westcott had heard something very disturbing about him. Rumor was that Hort believed that the Bible was free of any errors! Hort immediately wrote to a friend that he had never said that he believed that it was infallible, but rather that he recognized “providence” in biblical writings, “But I am not prepared to say that it necessarily involves absolute infallibility....” Neither of these men, as they were translating it, believed that what they were handling was perfect, which meant—they were free to correct any part that they believed was wrong!

## THEY DID NOT BELIEVE IN SATAN!

*Matt. 4:1, 10 - "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."*

That is a pretty plain passage of Scripture that makes it sound as if there is a real devil running around out there. But, not according to Hort. His view of Satan is this: "Now if there be a devil ... he must be wholly evil, his name evil, his every energy and act evil. Would it not be a violation of the divine attributes for the Word to ... be the support of such a nature as that?" His entire reason for rejecting what the Bible says about Satan, is that God is not like that! God would never approve of a being existing who could hurt and injure people.

So the guy who helped give us the NASV and the NIV - does not even believe that there is a devil!

## THEY DID NOT BELIEVE IN A LITERAL HELL!

*Matt. 10:28 - "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in **hell**."*

How hard is it to believe in hell? For Billy Graham, the longer he preached, the more difficult it became! For Hort, the same thing! The older that he became, the less he believed what he did when he was younger! When it came time to take on the KJV, he made this statement: "We have no knowledge respecting the duration of future punishment." What he means by that is, yes, there might be a future punishment, but nobody knows how long we will be punished before being allowed to go to heaven. *Matt. 25:46 - "And these shall go away into **everlasting** punishment: but the righteous into life eternal."* How long is "everlasting"? If we know that it is forever, then why does Hort say that nobody knows how long? The answer is—he did not like what the Bible had to say, and so he changed it!

## **THEY DID NOT BELIEVE IN A LITERAL HEAVEN!**

*Matt. 18:10 - "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in **heaven**."*

I can understand why some people would want to get rid of the teaching of hell, but why would anybody oppose heaven? The reason is that if you accept the fact that there is a heaven, you also have to go along with the requirements to get there—being saved! For this reason, Westcott believed that heaven was a state of mind and not a real place.

## **THEY DID BELIEVE IN PURGATORY!**

*John 14:2 - "In my Father's house are many **mansions**: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."*

(R.V.) - "In my Father's house are many abiding places."

In the late 1800s, there was a heresy floating around called the "larger hope." It was basically a belief in purgatory, meaning that when a person died, they would still be given the chance AFTER death, to repent and be saved! In one of his letters, Hort wrote that "the power of repentance is not limited to this life ...." When asked about offering prayers for the dead, Westcott told the man that in the Church of England, it was forbidden to pray for the dead in public services. Then added that "no restriction is placed upon private devotions." So is it right or wrong to pray for the dead? Those in heaven do not need our prayers because they are already living in paradise; and those in hell are beyond all hope, and our prayers would be useless!

So why would anybody want to read the NIV, knowing that the men who made their Bible possible believed in the Catholic doctrine of purgatory? If they did believe in purgatory, wouldn't their fruit be Catholic fruit?

## **THEY DID NOT BELIEVE IN THE ATONEMENT!**

*1 John 2:2 - "And he is the **propitiation for our sins**: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."*

Propitiation simply means payment. When Jesus died, He paid what we owed; and His payment is what enables us to go to heaven.

What about the founding fathers of every modern version? Hort wrote - "I do not see how God's justice can be satisfied without every man's suffering in his own person the full penalty for his sins." What he said was that it can not be as easy as Jesus paying for our sins! It has to include our doing something, like suffering for our own sins!

## **THEY DID NOT BELIEVE SALVATION BY GRACE!**

*(Eph. 2:8-9) - "For by **grace** are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."*

This simply teaches that salvation is one hundred percent achieved by God, and the only input we are allowed is whether or not we will accept it.

Hort, on the other hand, wrote that "Baptism assures us that we are the children of God..." Trying to help his son with his assurance, he writes "You were not only born into the world of men. You were also born of Christian parents in a Christian land. While yet an infant, you were claimed for God by being made in Baptism an unconscious member of His Church." Can you imagine how his son must feel right now? He came to his father, expressed his concerns about being saved, and his father convinced him that because he was born into a Christian home and nation, and that because he had been baptized as a baby, he was saved!

## **WESTCOTT DID NOT BELIEVE IN BIBLICAL MIRACLES!**

*John 2:11 - "This **beginning of miracles** did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him."*

How could anybody read this and other verses about the miracles of Christ, and not believe them?

Leave it to Westcott, who wrote, “I never read an account of a miracle but I seem instinctively to feel its improbability....” In other words, “it did not happen.” Then why does the Bible say it? Because somebody got a little bit excited when they were writing this stuff down, and they got carried away with the truth!

## **WESTCOTT DID NOT BELIEVE IN A LITERAL SECOND COMING!**

*John 14:3 - “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”*

One of the greatest beliefs that we have, is the fact that Jesus is coming back for us! It might be at the Rapture that could take place at any moment! It might be after we are in heaven, and Jesus returns with us on horses, to put down the bad guys at the Battle of Armageddon! But He is coming back! Right?

It depends on who you ask! Westcott said, “I hold very strongly that the Fall of Jerusalem was the coming which first fulfilled the Lord’s words; and, as there have been other comings, I cannot doubt that He is coming to us now.”

Both were postmillennialists! Premillennialists believe that Jesus comes before (*pre-*) the millennium. (Jesus comes first, then sets up His one thousand year reign.) Postmillennialists believe that Jesus comes after (*post-*) the millennium (Jesus comes after we have started our own one thousand years of peace on earth—obtaining peace without Him.) How is this accomplished—social gospel (Methodists).

## **WESTCOTT WAS SYMPATHETIC WITH CATHOLIC CHURCH!**

*Isa. 53:3 - “He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.”*

Hort agreed with the views of a pro-Catholic liberal that this verse describes the present condition of the Catholic Church—as “despised,

rejected, persecuted in public opinion.” In other words, he felt sorry for the poor Catholic church!

He lived in England, was ordained in the Church of England, lived where the martyrs were burned at the stake and where much of Christian history was made, and admitted that he had never read any of Foxe’s Book of Martyrs! Why not? The reason was that the book describes what the Catholic Church did to people who dared to disagree with them!

## **CONCLUSION:**

So what does all of this add up to? Suppose that a church was without a pastor, and they invited a man to candidate for their church. He preaches a sermon that was enjoyable, and afterwards, they have a question and answer session—kind of like a “Town Hall meeting” where people are allowed to ask him questions.

Q - Do you believe that God created the world or do you believe in evolution?

A - I do not know anyone personally who takes the Bible literally, and believe that Charles Darwin was a great man with a good idea as to how things came about.

Q - Do you believe the Bible to be perfect and infallible?

A - Of course not! There had to have been a lot of mistakes made in all of the years that it was being copied. The originals were free from error, but people are going to make mistakes.

Q - Do you believe in the devil, in heaven and hell?

A - No, when I was little and did not know better, I did. But as an adult, I have come to realize that God is too good to allow a devil to exist; He is too good to create a place of eternal suffering, and heaven is nothing more than a state of mind.

Q - How does a person get saved?

A - By getting baptized, preferably by being sprinkled as a baby.

Q - How do you explain the miracles of the Bible?

A - I think that people who were copying the Bible were trying to make God look pretty good, and so they made some things up to cause us to think highly of God.

Q - What do you think about the Pope?

A - I think that he is one of the godliest men in the world and that, if I had my way, we would vote as a church to ask the Pope to let us join the Catholic Church!

If Westcott or Hort had come to this church, gone through the process, and answered these questions honestly, that is how they would have answered, and they probably would not have even been allowed to finish! Why? Because we do not believe anything like them, and we are quite satisfied with a perfect Bible and our doctrine! But here is where you need to be careful! There are false teachers out there, right now, who believe things that are just as heretical! However, they are not honest enough to tell people what they really believe! Why? They know that if you know what they believe, then you will not follow them! But if they can convince you that they believe the same thing, then they can try to change our beliefs, little by little! About a month ago, I heard something very disturbing about a church in another state. They have one of the most exciting ministries around! Their people are excited about what God is doing! They have a world full of potential and if you lived close enough to drive, you would join that church! But there is one problem that is unfolding behind the scenes that is tragic. The pastor, with all of his success, is no longer sure what he believes about the Bible. He is no longer “sold” on the King James Bible and has hired a man who has already transformed one Baptist church into a non-denominational church who no longer uses the KJV. This pastor is turning over the reigns of his church to this other man, so that he can do nothing but preach. This church has money! They have growth! They have outward success! However, they do not have standards nor do they want standards, because they do not want to stop their growth. The people do not know what is going on yet, nor do most of them care. Their church is friendly; it is fun; and it has just cut itself loose from the Bible.

## CHAPTER 8

### TOSSED “TO AND FRO”

*Eph. 4:14 - “That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;”*

In 1998, NFL teams were looking at two quarterbacks that they were expecting to change the game. One was Peyton Manning - the other was Ryan Leaf. The pro scouts felt that Peyton Manning was closer to being ready to step into the NFL the quickest, and so he was the #1 ranked draft pick. However, most people in the business looked at Ryan Leaf as actually being better than Peyton, and in the long run, they expected him to actually do better! Having perhaps more talent and ability, Ryan Leaf was the #2 draft pick. It has been eleven years since the experts made their views known, and both quarterbacks have definitely made their mark! Peyton Manning has become one of the greatest quarterbacks in the league and will end up in the Hall of Fame. And Ryan Leaf has since become known as the worst #1 draft pick in the history of the NFL! One of the men who was responsible for bringing Leaf to the Chargers was giving an interview about that year’s draft. Manning and Leaf were both asked the question: “What will you do if you are drafted #1?” He said that Peyton Manning gave one of his “Peyton Manning answers” like - “I will work harder, study longer, and do whatever it takes to prove myself and to become the best that I can be.” When Ryan Leaf answered the question, he smiled and said, “If I’m picked #1, I’m going to Vegas for a week!” The Chargers coach who heard him say that then laughed, and said “We should have seen that as a red flag!” Ryan Leaf had the talent! He had the ability! He had the arm! But he had a lousy attitude that only got worse, which is why he continued to get worse! So how could so many professional football experts be so wrong about Ryan Leaf? They did not dig deep enough! It is never the amount of talent that a person has that counts, but something far more important—the heart, the attitude! One of the biggest problems that people have when it comes to the Bible is that, they are content to see things only superficially, and to believe what they are told instead of investing some hard work and studying an issue! If their favorite preacher thinks something, then they are ready to piggyback that preacher and

accept untruth as truth without investigating things for themselves! If somebody tells them that the King James ONLY position is a cult, then they back away from the King James Bible and start considering other versions. Whichever way the wind blows, that is their new direction. If Ryan Leaf has a better arm, then he will obviously be the better quarterback! Right? Not necessarily! And if every other version claims to be better than the KJV, then they must be! Right? Not necessarily! So how can we know what the truth is about the KJV and these other modern versions? The answer is to do our homework! In order to get us started, we are going to take a look at four questions that all of us need to be able to answer!

### WHO ARE THE BAD GUYS?

*2 Pet. 2:1-3 - "But there were **false prophets** also among the people, even as there shall be **false teachers** among you, who privily shall bring in **damnable heresies**, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their **pernicious ways**; by reason of whom **the way of truth shall be evil spoken of**. And through covetousness shall they with **feigned words** make **merchandise of you ...**"*

Have you ever considered the possibilities that exist, in relation to the King James Bible? What if we are wrong, and it is not THE Word of God because it has some mistakes in it? If that were the case, then we would be guilty of taking God at His word and taking the Bible literally where we perhaps should have applied a spiritual meaning instead. I do not believe that for a second, but if we pretend that we are wrong, then our worst mistake is believing God too much. But what if we are right? What if the King James Bible really is one hundred percent divinely preserved? Then that means that all of these other people are really in trouble with God for rejecting His Word and for refusing to believe that He could preserve it like He said!

Peter is here trying to help us to determine who these people are who appear in every generation with the chosen purpose of opposing the Word of God! In verse 2, they are described as having "pernicious ways." The word *pernicious* means "highly injurious or destructive!" As far as

God is concerned, it is not a light matter to take a position against the Bible! And if the KJV is truly preserved, that is exactly what these people are doing! (vs.2) - “*And many shall follow their **pernicious** ways; by reason of whom **the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.**”* The *way of truth* here is referring to the Bible, and when a person chooses to use another version, they are taking a position against the truth! That is bad! But it is even worse if they dare to criticize it! And you can not be for another version without giving a reason for it, and when you do, you are then speaking evil of it!

Every person who has chosen to take a position against the King James Bible will fall into one of two groups. First group - Parrots! These are the people who do not have a clue about the Bible, manuscripts, textual criticism, or the King James issue! They are only repeating what they have heard! They heard that Ryan Leaf is a great quarterback, so they want him on their team! They do not know anything about his work ethic, his desire to party, his bad attitude, or his gross immaturity! They have heard his name, and that he has talent, and that is all they need to know! They have never read a book in favor of the King James Bible! They have never heard a complete sermon on it and do not want to! They love to live superficially, and whatever a friend is doing, is good enough for them. Second group - Perverts! These are the people who have an agenda and are working a plan at trying to get rid of the KJV! Their position is not one of laziness or indifference. They despise the King James Bible and are bent on perverting the minds of anyone who will listen to them about it! If you ever happen upon one of these people who begin to rant and rave against the King James Bible, you might as well walk away from them because you are not going to change their minds!

## **WHAT IS THEIR BIGGEST LIE?**

*Psa. 12:6-7 - “The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, **purified seven times.** Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt **preserve** them from this generation for ever.”*

We have looked at this passage on several occasions, usually at the word *preserve*. But in addition to it being preserved from one generation to the next, notice the condition of these words in verse 6—*purified seven*

*times*. The number 7 in the Bible is one that stands for completion! When God chose to purify His Words, He wrapped them in the number 7 to indicate that the purification process is total and complete meaning—it can't get any better than what it is!

So what is the favorite complaint against the KJB? It is only a translation, and all translations have mistakes! Why? Because the translators were sinful men and could make mistakes! Since they are not perfect, their translation could not be perfect either! Actually, that sounds logical! But God does not operate by logic! If that scenario were true, then how did God write a perfect Bible to begin with, when he only had sinful people to use?

Most critics are willing to admit that they believe that the original manuscripts were inspired and perfect, but how did they get that way? God had to use sinful men like Moses, David, Jeremiah, and Peter to write these books! And while the KJV was written from 1604-1611, it took God over 1,500 years to get over forty men to write the complete Bible! A lot of things could happen in 1,500 years! Yet, they ended up with a perfect Bible at that time. If God could do it once over 1,500 years, why do people think that it was impossible for Him to translate it perfectly in 1611?

There is currently an argument going on around the country about the difference between the Bible being inspired or preserved. Some are saying that the King James Bible has been divinely preserved, in keeping with Psalm 12, but then they reject the idea that it is inspired! They say that it is a faithful translation—that it is true to the originals—but they refuse to view it as an inspired Bible because only the prophets who originally wrote it were inspired and not the King James translators. The other group claims both: it is preserved and that it is inspired as well! So we have both groups claiming to have THE Word of God; both, for the moment, are using the King James Bible! A lot of this mess is more politically motivated than it is doctrinal! Why is it they have a problem now, and not when other doctrines were being abused? The reason is that most of them do not know how to study the Bible and only wake up when somebody says, “KJV!”

So let me give you the bottom line on what a person really believes about the Bible! The ONLY thing that matters is the answer to this question. Do you believe that the KJV is a perfect translation? The

answer is either yes or no. If it is not perfect, but only a faithful translation, then God did not preserve His Word, because His Word is perfect! If it is perfect, then it really does not matter whether you believe that the King James translators were inspired or anything else, because when they were finished, they had been used by God to produce a perfect Bible!

Every year, we send out an annual missionary survey to find out what a missionary believes. Guess what new question is going to be on the survey? Is the KJV a perfect translation, containing no errors or mistakes? Yes / No

### **WHO IS THEIR FAVORITE TARGET?**

*I Kings 22:29-32 - “So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead. And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle; but put thou on thy robes. And the king of Israel disguised himself, and went into the battle. But the king of Syria commanded his thirty and two captains that had rule over his chariots, saying, Fight neither with small nor great, save only with the king of Israel. And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, Surely it is the king of Israel. And they turned aside to fight against him: and Jehoshaphat cried out.”*

This is a classic example of mistaken identity, because Jehoshaphat almost got killed, because the enemy thought that he was Ahab! Ahab was the bad guy! Ahab was the man that everyone hated and wanted to get rid of! And when they saw a king in robes riding in a chariot, they automatically assumed that he was king Ahab, and they started shooting at him!

Everyone here knows that magicians can not really perform magic, but instead they use what is called “misdirection.” They do something fancy with one hand or a cane to get you looking there, and while you are looking over there, they are busy doing something in another place. That is what Ahab tried to do! He tried to get the enemy to think that he was just a common soldier riding in a chariot while the real king—and therefore the primary target—was Jehoshaphat! And it almost worked, until God decided to direct an arrow into the chest of the wicked king.

When an enemy of the King James Bible wants to sidetrack the real issues of the KJV, they will many times make false claims about us that are not true! And one of the most common one is that we are Ruckmanites - or followers of Peter Ruckman!

Who is Peter Ruckman? He has been a longtime defender of the King James Bible for many years, but in doing so, he developed an extremist position in some areas! He believes in advanced revelation! He feels so good about the King James Bible, that He thinks that any discrepancies that it might have from other manuscripts are deliberate on God's part and were placed there as God's additional inspiration to what He originally wrote! In other words, the King James Bible is better than the originals that they were translated from, and that cannot be! A copy machine might be able to make excellent copies of the original, and they might be so good that somebody can not tell a difference! But the original will always be the original, and a copy cannot be better than the original! He does not believe that a fetus becomes a living soul until it draws its first breath of air! He believes in UFO's and aliens. He believes that the CIA has implanted brain transmitters in children, old people, and blacks. He believes that a preacher has the right to divorce his wife and remarry, if his first wife is not willing to be in the ministry. He is now married to his third wife, with two divorces.

So guess what the NIV-ers call anyone who believes that the King James Bible is perfect and divinely preserved? Ruckmanite! And then they will throw in for free their belief that anyone who believes that the King James Bible is the only Word of God in English is part of a cult!

### **WHY IS THE KING JAMES BIBLE IN THE MINORITY?**

*Isa. 59:14 - "And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for **truth is fallen in the street**, and equity cannot enter."*

For over two hundred years, the King James Bible went unchallenged as God's Masterpiece. In 1881, Westcott and Hort were able to switch Greek texts without telling the rest of the revision committee about what they had done. Little by little, they gained ground in casting more shadows of doubt upon the King James Bible. The result of all of

these “modern versions” is even more confusion among Christians, and even more hostility toward the Bible!

Why are so many people opposed to the King James Bible? The reason is that many of the one-time enemies around the world have found a common enemy that they all hate! God has always managed to have enemies, and hating the King James Bible is one thing that they can all agree on! The Catholic church has their own Bible and would love to see the KJV replaced! Apostates such as those in cults like the Jehovah’s Witnesses, resent any Bible that claims to be the sole source of authority in our lives. Protestants do not have a problem getting rid of the King James Bible, because of their ties to the Catholic Church! They came out of the Catholic Church during the Reformation, but they are still related to her! Fundamental Baptists are now beginning to expose their once-secret issues that they have with the King James Bible. Churches are dropping their standards, dropping their Sunday night services, dropping their conservative music, and dropping their King James Bible! Why? To be more appealing to lost people!

So which Bible are they trying to switch to? It does not matter which version, as long as it is any version except the King James Bible! Ever notice who these modern versions always compare themselves to when trying to convince people of how good the newest version is? They never say that they are better than the newest version that just came out or any other modern version. They always try to state that they are more readable and easier to understand than the KJV! Why do none of them claim to be better than the NIV or the Jerusalem Bible? Why do they not claim to be better than the NASV or the RSV? The reason is that they are all on the same team! It is the King James Bible, against every other Bible!

## CHAPTER 9 THE MEN BEHIND THE MESSAGE

*Matt. 7:17 - "Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit."*

Following the fall of Richmond, VA, to the Union Army, General Grant wrote one of the most important letters of his life and to our country. The letter was addressed to Confederate General Robert E. Lee. In the letter, Grant expressed the hopelessness of the Confederates and encouraged Lee to surrender. Lee read the letter, and wrote a response where he refused to acknowledge the hopelessness of the situation, but did raise the possibility of preventing anymore bloodshed. Each letter produced a response, with Grant having written four letters that finally brought about Lee's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse. Within a short amount of time, the bloodiest war ever fought in North America was over, because two men who had written letters to one another came to the place where they felt that they could trust each other. How did they know this? Because both had learned how to read between the lines, and by knowing each other, they knew that they could trust what the other had written. The same truth applies tonight, to our confidence in the Bible. In order to fully understand the battle that is being fought between the KJ Bible and all of these other modern versions, it is important that we look at the men who helped produce them!

### TRANSLATORS OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE

*Jer. 5:5 - "I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, and burst the bonds."*

What kind of men were the translators of the KJV? Listen to the words of their dedicatory page that was attached to the King James Bible as it was presented to King James. "So that if, on the one side, we shall be traduced by **Popish persons** at home or abroad, who therefore will malign us, because we are poor instruments to make God's Holy Truth to be yet more and more known unto the people, whom they desire still to

keep in ignorance and darkness; or if, on the other side, we shall be maligned by **self-conceited brethren**, who run their own ways, and give liking unto nothing, but what is framed by themselves, and hammered on their anvil ....”

They possessed a godly attitude! In the dedication of the KJV that was given to King James, this committee of men wrote these words to describe themselves: “... we are **poor instruments** to make God’s Holy Truth to be yet more and more known unto the people....” One of the best ways that a person can tell who are the good guys and who are the bad guys in a given situation is to look at how they are conducting themselves toward each other. If they are mean-spirited and hate with a passion or if they seem to be fixated on making money, then I would be careful about having anything to do with them. Knowing that they would become the object of hatred by their enemies, these men referred to themselves as “poor instruments” of God. From their own description of themselves, it can be seen that these men were humble enough to view themselves as nothing more than “poor instruments” for God to use.

They were men of discernment! *1 Chron. 12:32* - “*And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had **understanding of the times**, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment.*” In the same dedication of the Bible to King James, this same committee mentioned two groups of people that they knew would try to create as much opposition to both them and their work. One group was called “popish persons.” The second group was called “self-conceited brethren.” When these men first began their work of translating the Bible which would take them seven years to complete, they already knew that they were going to be attacked by the Catholic Church and by liberal Christians! They were right on both counts!

They had impressive credentials! Lancelot Andrews was such a renowned linguist that he was the first person to be named to the committee that was to be chosen to translate the Bible. For many years as an adult, he would take a vacation around Easter time and go back home to be with his parents for an entire month. During that time, he would hire a teacher who was an expert in a language that he was unfamiliar with. During that month, he would spend the entire month not only learning a new language, but mastering it as well. By the time that he was the first

to be selected to translate the Bible, he could speak fifteen languages! John Reynolds was the man who more than any other, was responsible for influencing King James to call for a new translation which brought about the KJV! Reynolds had been brought up in the Catholic Church but had gotten saved and turned his back on Catholicism. While translating the KJV, a rumor began circulating that Reynolds had died and had made a death bed adoption of the Catholic Church! Since he was still alive, he tried to expose the rumor as nothing more than a vicious lie that was concocted by the Catholic Church to discredit the King James Bible! Henry Saville was such a widely respected man of character and academic ability that he was chosen to personally tutor the young Queen Elizabeth when she was a child, being groomed to one day rule the nation of England! William Branthwaite was not part of the original men who had been chosen to translate the Bible. He in fact was an alternate who was called upon to replace a man who was determined to have been a Catholic spy on the committee! As you can tell, the Catholic Church was not every excited about these men translating the Bible!

They were men of transparency! *Matt. 5:16* - "*Let your light so shine before men, **that they may see your good works**, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*" Does it not make sense that, if you are going to do something as good and noble as translating the Bible, that your methods and reasoning would be as transparent as possible? When this committee began their work, they were broken down into six groups of men, each assigned with a portion of the Bible to translate. When one group was done with their section, their finished work was reviewed by the entire group as a whole. They then sent their completed work to each of the other five groups so that they could review the finished work. Any changes were then brought before the entire group to be reviewed again. Then every major Bible scholar in the country was invited by personal letter to review their work, so that men who had not been included in the committee to translate the Bible, were allowed to review it and give their input! Finally, the work was reviewed one final time by six of the original translators before being released to be printed! And to keep everyone aware of what words had been added in order to make the translation readable, those words were italicized in the Bible! The idea was that the Bible was given to God's people! It was their book, and therefore, this

translation was done as public as possible, with as much transparency as possible!

## **TRANSLATORS OF MODERN VERSIONS!**

*Psa. 44:20-21 - "If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god; Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart."*

Probably the most popular modern version of all time is the NIV. Would you like to hear about the men who translated it, like their names and their qualifications? Would you like to know what kind of church they were associated with so that once you know their religious background, you would also know where they were coming from doctrinally? I would love to tell you about these men, but I can't! Their names are secret! The NIV was translated by a group of men whose identities has been hidden, and the only thing that we know about the NIV's translation was that it was conducted by a group called the Lockman Foundation!

What about transparency? What about letting your light shine so that others can see your good works? Why would anybody want to perform such an important work as translating the Bible, and then keep the identities of these people a secret?

Who or what is this Lockman Foundation? The Lockman Foundation has a nice website where they take credit for translating the NASV and the Amplified Bible and that it is an interdenominational organization! It mentions Dewey and his wife Minna Lockman, and their desire to have Bibles translated and how they got started. But it never reveals who all of these people were who did the translation work? This couple financed it, but who did they hire to translate the NASV and why will they not give their names and their credentials?

Since we can not look at these men specifically to know what they were like, the only thing that we can do is to look at an earlier version, called the Revised Standard Version, and the men who were dumb enough to be publicly associated with it! And by looking at them, we can get a pretty good idea why the Lockman Foundation is keeping their translators a secret! Edgar Goodspeed was on the RSV committee, and one little

problem that he had was that he did not believe in the deity of Christ! He viewed Christ, not as the Son of God, but as a social reformer who was always looking for ways to improve the lives of people through social change. One other slight problem that Goodspeed had was that he had a bad habit of trying to explain away the miracles of Christ. In relation to the Lord's feeding of the five thousand, Goodspeed stated that Jesus provided an example of sharing, and when He passed out the bread and fish, the people were so moved by His example, that they chose to just take a small pinch of the food, and passed it along to the next person, showing that they too could share like Him! In other words, Jesus did not perform a miracle! The people just learned how to share! Julius Brewer was also on the RSV committee, and his contribution was that he did not believe that some of the dates given in the first five books of the Bible were reliable! Henry Cadbury was on the same committee and saw Christ as nothing but a man who liked to tell stories! Walter Bowie viewed the Old Testament as containing legends that really did not happen. He did not believe that Abraham was a real man; he was not sure that Jacob really wrestled with an angel; and he did not believe that Moses saw a burning bush, because it just looked that way because of the heat in the desert! Clarence Craig was on the RSV committee and he did not believe in the bodily resurrection of Christ nor did he believe that Jesus was REALLY coming back like He said! And just to make sure that you get an understanding of what kind of work he did as a translator, please be aware that he did not believe that God is able to preserve His Word! In his words, "If God once wrote His revelation in an inerrant book, He certainly failed to provide any means by which this could be passed on without contamination through human fallibility....The true Christian position is that the Bible contains the record of revelations." Frederick Grant helped translate the RSV, and he believed in prayers for the dead, which is a Catholic doctrine! William Irwin believed that the Jewish prophets made the mistake of elevating the position of the Bible based on changing times. He said that the Assyrians and Babylonians forced them to revise their ideas about God to the place where they finally made Him God of the universe! Fleming James was an RSV translator who doubted the miracle of the Red Sea. He said, "What really happened at the Red Sea we can no longer know...." He also stated that Elijah's calling down fire from heaven on Mt. Carmel "is plainly legendary" meaning, it did not happen!

After learning that many of the RSV committee members were actually false prophets and infidels, it makes sense why the Lockman Foundation does not want the names revealed as to who their translators were. However, with all of their secrecy, there is one name that became public—Frank Logsdon. Frank Logsdon was a well-known pastor. In fact, he pastored the Moody Bible Church in Chicago for a couple of years. In the 1950s, he was approached by a businessman, Dewey Lockman, who asked his advice about buying the copyright to the American Standard Version. Nobody was buying that Bible anymore, and so he was thinking about revising it, and selling it as a business venture. Frank Logsdon accepted his invitation to help form a committee of men who would do the translation work. He helped put the entire project together and is viewed as the co-founder of the NASV! When the NASV was released, he was given the first fifty copies of it, and then things began to unravel. He had preacher friends from across the country start asking him questions about how certain verses were translated. He was not even aware of the many changes that had been made. That is when he started reading the NASV for himself, and was shocked with what he read. As he began reading the changes, he began to see things from a different perspective and made the decision to break away from his association with the NASV. Before he died in 1987, Frank Logsdon began speaking publicly about the mess that he had helped create! In relation to his being the co-founder of the NASV, he said, “I must under God renounce every attachment to the NASV. I’m afraid I’m in trouble with the Lord because I helped to encourage him to go ahead with it....” As more and more preachers were asking him about the changes, he said these words to his wife: “Ann, I’m in trouble; I can’t refute these arguments; it’s wrong; it’s terribly wrong; it’s frightfully wrong; and what am I going to do about it?” His solution was to write a letter to Dewey Lockman, and inform him that he was renouncing all ties to the NASV. So what did Frank Logsdon do after he made such a mess? He spent what little time he had left, trying to convince people of the dangers of modern versions, and of the divine preservation of the King James Bible. He admitted that his friend, Dewey Lockman was nothing more than a businessman who had the NASV translated for one reason—to sell and make money!

In closing, let me tell you what he said were the four biggest dangers of the NASV and every other modern version. They cause

widespread confusion! They discourage memorization! They do away with the use of a concordance because every version would need its own! They provide opportunity for perverting the truth! Each new version MUST be different from any other, or else who will buy them? They complicate studying the Bible, because all the versions are different! They create strife because each person will want to believe that they have the better translation!

In one of his meetings before his death, Frank Logsdon made this statement: "How can we know that we have the whole truth? Well, just simply by believing God. And what do I mean by that? *John 16:13 When he the Spirit of Truth is come he will guide you into...—how much? Tell me. Tell me, now.—All truth.* And if we do not have all truth, the Holy Spirit is not doing His work. We have to have all truth for Him to lead us into all truth. Let's be people of the Book. It took my mother to heaven; and my dad, my grandfather, my grandmother. It was Moody's Book; it was Livingstone's Book. J.C. Studd gave up his fortune to take this Book to Africa. And I don't feel ashamed to carry it the rest of my journey. It's God's Book."

The NASV was completed in 1971. Frank Logsdon died in 1987. That means that for sixteen years, he had to live with the reality that he had helped create a perversion of the Bible that helped to confuse Christians and blind people who were lost and looking for the truth.

He could have killed himself—or kept quiet—or given up in despair. But instead, he chose to try to undo as much of the damage as possible which is commendable. But I wouldn't want to be in his shoes at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Why not? *Rev. 22:19 - "And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."*

## CHAPTER 10

### THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS

*(Isa. 28:10) - "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:"*

Gustave Flaubert is a man who lived during the 1800s, and he is usually the most recognized person who coined the phrase: "God is in the details." His reasoning was that details are important to God and therefore, in order to please Him, we must pay attention to the details of what we are doing. Over the years, the phrase was turned around and twisted somewhat, into the current favorite statement: "The devil is in the details." What this has come to mean is that there are almost always "strings attached." Most people do not realize how much trouble they are in until they start looking into the details of an arrangement. And when they do so, they usually find TROUBLE! While I agree that "God is in the details" and I like the phrase, when it comes to determining the good or bad of these modern versions, the devil is definitely in the details! And by looking at some of the itchy-bitsy details in these versions, you can definitely see that they have a lot of problems!

#### **FALSE VERSIONS ARE GUILTY OF ERROR!**

*Mark 1:2-3 - "As it is written in the **prophets**, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."*

(NASV - Mark 1:2-3) - "As it is written in **Isaiah the prophet**, "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare your way; The voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'make ready the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.'

Prophets (KJV) is NOT the same as Isaiah the prophet (NASV). So which one is correct? All you have to do is to read the book of Isaiah - and you will not find verse 2 in it, but only verse 3. So where does verse 2 come from? (Mal. 3:1a) - "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he

shall prepare the way before me:...” Therefore, if you add what Malachi wrote to what Isaiah wrote, you will come up with what the prophets wrote, and not just Isaiah!

Does that mean that the NASV is an evil book because of this one mistake? No, it does not! It means that the KJV is correct; and the NASV is wrong! If it is wrong, then it can not be the Bible!

I have mentioned before that when Zodhiates first came out with his Greek-Hebrew study Bible, I bought one because it had a lot of helpful notes in it. It was a “first edition.” It was a KJV Bible, and I was reading it everyday. After about a month, I came across a verse that did not quite sound right. I looked it up in my other KJV Bible—and noticed that it had a misspelled word in it! I knew that they did not change the word, but simply made a mistake. Then I found another one! I came to the place where I was no longer reading this Bible to get something from God, but to see if it had more mistakes in it! After the fourth mistake, I sent it back and asked for my money back! Why? Because a Bible should not have errors in it! And if it does, then something is wrong!

We are not talking about a printer’s mistake, where they accidentally printed a wrong letter. It is no mistake that the NASV inserted “Isaiah the prophet” in place of the KJV “prophets.” They found an old manuscript somewhere that had this change in it. And they deliberately chose to use a faulty manuscript to repeat a bad translation! And if a Bible contains a single error - it is not a Bible and should be discarded forever!

### **FALSE VERSIONS ARE GUILTY OF DOCTRINAL OMISSIONS!**

*Luke 24:51) - “And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and **carried up into heaven.**”*

(NASV - Luke 24:51) - “And it came about that while He was blessing them, He parted from them.”

While these two verses might sound close, the King James mentions that Jesus was “carried up into heaven” while the NASV does not. What is the problem? There is a Bible doctrine called “the ascension of Christ.” The idea is that Jesus is returning visibly, just like He ascended

visibly! *Acts 1:9-11* - “*And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come **in like manner** as ye have seen him go into heaven.*”

There are a certain group of people who don't like the idea of a personal Jesus coming back to earth, visibly, because when He does, He will return in anger like the Bible says! If they can erase His visible departure from this world, then they can equally erase His visible return! They are like the little kid who is lying in bed, afraid of the dark! He thinks that as long as he stays underneath his covers, the monster in the bedroom can not get him! As long as we did not see Him leave this earth, we can not see Him returning either!

Let us look at another doctrine that modern versions are guilty of tampering with! *Luke 24:52* - “*And **they worshipped him**, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.*” (NASV - Lk. 24:52) - “*And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy,*” Why omit the part about the Lord's disciples “worshipping Him”? The reason is that those words underline the fact that Jesus Christ is God—and worthy of being worshiped. Every Christian believes that He is—and that He is worthy! But for some unknown reason, the translators of modern versions are bent on stripping Him of His deity! They are not foolish enough to attack Him! So they very slyly omit places that refer to His being God.

*John 9:35* - “*Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the **Son of God?**”* (NASV - John 9:35) - “*Jesus heard that they had put him out; and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the **Son of Man?**"*” The Apostle John never referred to Jesus Christ as the Son of Man when used in conjunction with a major Bible doctrine. The context is believing on Christ. The King James translates Christ as the “Son of God” while the NASV wants to refer to Him in more human terms. Again, the change looks so minor, and yet, if this sort of thing continues in version after version, it will not be long until the major doctrines of the Bible will become so blurred that you will not be able to find them! If you can not find them, then you can not prove what you believe!

## **FALSE VERSIONS ARE GUILTY OF INVENTING THEIR OWN WORDS!**

*2 Tim. 2:15 - “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing** the word of truth.”*

(NASV - 2 Tim. 2:15) - “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, **handling accurately** the word of truth.”

Here is what these translators claim. They claim to have manuscripts that are older and more reliable than the ones that were used to translate the KJV. Because of their antiquity, these manuscripts are chosen to translate. But in this verse, they reject “rightly dividing” the word of God and use “handling accurately” instead, but they have NO manuscripts that contain those words! I can understand how a person could look at two manuscripts that were different, and have a hard time deciding which one was correct! But they do not have any manuscripts to base their choice of words on—so they just made up their own words because, they could!

That is okay, if you are translating somebody’s story into your own words so that other people of a different language can then understand them, but that is not how the Bible is to be handled! These are not just the words of a man, but of God Himself! As such, no one has the right to change His words for their own words! The fact that the NASV has chosen to do so is dishonest!

## **FALSE VERSIONS ARE GUILTY OF INCOMPETENCE!**

They have a problem with numbers! *1 Sam. 13:1 - “Saul reigned **one year**; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,”* (NASV - 1 Sam. 13:1) - “Saul was {forty} years old when he began to reign, and he reigned {thirty}- two years over Israel.” They tell us he was forty—reigned for thirty-two years, but they never get around to the fact that this verse is only talking about his first year as king! And while it might seem like the NASV is better because it gives more information, an

additional problem is they are wrong! *Acts 13:21* - “*And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of **forty years.***” (NASV - Acts 13:21) - “*And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of **forty years.***” The NASV contradicted itself and messed up by agreeing with the KJV, while earlier saying that Saul only reigned for thirty-two years! If it has a mistake, then it can not be the Bible!

They have a problem with animals! *(Luke 14:5)* - “*And answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an **ass** or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day?*” (NASV - Luke 14:5) - “*And He said to them, "Which one of you shall have a **son** or an ox fall into a well, and will not immediately pull him out on a Sabbath day?"* There is a slight difference between an donkey and a son!

They have a problem with Calvary! *Luke 23:33*) - “*And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.*” This is the **ONLY** place in the entire Bible where we are told the name of the place where Christ was crucified. And every other modern version omits it completely, referring to it instead as a place called “the Skull.”

They have a problem with Jesus Christ! *Isa. 14:12* - “*How art thou fallen from heaven, **O Lucifer**, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!*” You would think that it is pretty easy to translate a name like Lucifer! But for some reason, the NASV changed his name to “the star of the morning.” The NIV calls Lucifer - the “morning star.” If that sounds familiar, it should! It is a name that belongs exclusively to Jesus Christ! *Rev. 22:16* - “*I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and **the bright and morning star.***” Why would all of these supposed “bible scholars” choose to refer to the devil with the same name as given to Christ? Attitude!

They have a problem with morality! *2 Tim. 3:3* - “***Without natural affection**, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,*” Instead of this phrase referring to homosexuality, the modern versions have all chosen to make it say something far different! NASV - unloving. NIV - without love. Both of

these versions have chosen to take a very neutral position and remove any possibility that it could point to a sin that is gaining in popularity. But why? Because homosexuals can feel comfortable with their false Bibles because they do not condemn their sin! MONEY!

## **FALSE VERSIONS ARE GUILTY OF DECEPTION!**

*Acts 8:12 - "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, **they were baptized**, both men and women."*

One of the slickest things that these people have done is to take a King James Bible with Scofield notes - and add their own notes to it so that they can change the minds of those reading a King James Bible! In a note on this verse, the New Scofield tells its readers that in the early church, there were three modes of baptism: sprinkling, pouring, and immersion. I used a Scofield Bible for many years, and I enjoyed reading his notes. He had a lot of credibility and while he was not right on everything, he was pretty straight. The big problem with this note is that Scofield never believed it, nor did his notes mention it! The owners of the Scofield Bible who now own the copyright added their own views and inserted them as if Scofield wrote them!

*(1 Chron. 11:11 - "And this is the number of the mighty men whom David had; Jashobeam, an Hachmonite, the chief of the captains: he lifted up his spear against **three hundred slain** by him at one time."* In the New Scofield notes, the notes mention a problem that they have with some of the King James numbers, and in trying to explain them, they wrote that God actually has permitted some "scribal mistakes" to be made in the Bible! These words are attributed to Scofield. but he did not say that!

These people have an audience who believes everything they are told! For years, they have attacked the King James Bible by saying that the NIV is more popular, but that is not what a recent survey has concluded! Barna survey results: eighty percent - Bible was most influential book in human history, fifty-eight percent - Bible is totally accurate in its teachings, ninety-one percent of all households have at least one Bible, The typical household owns three Bibles, Average Bible readers read Bible fifty-two minutes per week, twenty-two percent of Bible readers

have read Bible completely, The King James Bible is more likely to be read over the NIV by 5:1 ratio!

### **FALSE VERSIONS ARE GUILTY OF MAKING FALSE CLAIMS!**

*Prov. 4:24 - "Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee."*

One of the biggest claims of all is modern versions are easier to understand! Is that true? *Gen. 35:4 - "And they gave unto Jacob all the strange gods which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak (NKJV - terrebinth tree) which was by Shechem." (Jud. 8:13) - "And Gideon the son of Joash returned from battle before the sun was up, (NKJV-Ascent of Heres)"*

While they criticize the KJV for being hard to understand, they are guilty of substituting multi-syllable words for one syllable words: house - habitation; more - increasingly; did - performed; worse - inferior

Tests have been conducted on the major Bible versions to determine the reading level of each! NIV - 8.4 grade level (highest and hardest) TEV (Good News) - 7.2 grade level NKJV - 6.9 NASV - 6.1 KJV - 5.8

### **FALSE VERSIONS ARE GUILTY OF CREATING CONFUSION!**

*1 Cor. 14:33 - "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints."*

NKJV - confuses people with their inconsistent rules of capitalization! (Their rule: capitalize all personal pronouns referring to Deity.) *(2 Sam. 2:47) - "The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock (NKJV-Rock); and exalted be the God of the rock (NKJV-Rock) of my salvation."* Here, they chose to capitalize rock because they said that it referred to Christ—nice idea? *2 Sam. 2:22 - "And he said, The LORD is my rock (NKJV-same), and my fortress, and my deliverer;"* So—is this rock not Christ? *(Matt. 16:18) - "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock (NKJV-rock) I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."* The rock here is either Jesus or

Peter. According to the Catholics, it is Peter. According to the NKJV, it is Peter or else another place that they made a mistake on!

When I used to fly in the Navy, I was flying off the carrier off of the Florida coast. I was working with another aircraft when my instruments started spinning! I had no compass, no computer, no navigation system. My lead aircraft was trying to locate me and could not get an ID from my aircraft. Vectors were not working and I had no way to get back to the ship. My fuel was getting low, and I went from high tech to low tech in a matter of minutes. Do you know what I chose to do? I looked at the sun, figured out which way was west, and flew toward land. Once I saw the coast, I was able to head for our field, got gas, reset the computer system, and went back to the ship! Simple—is usually better!

When God wrote the Bible, He wrote it for college professors and children! One book—for every person. In order to help the educated as well as the uneducated, God chose to keep things simple by using as many one syllable words as He could. In doing so, He wrote a Bible that continues to be the easiest to understand book of all time, regardless of the advertising campaigns and lies of other versions!

## CHAPTER 11 THE ATTACKS AGAINST THE KJB

*(Jer. 23:29-40) - “Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour. Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith. Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD. And when this people, or the prophet, or a priest, shall ask thee, saying, What is the burden of the LORD? thou shalt then say unto them, What burden? I will even forsake you, saith the LORD. And as for the prophet, and the priest, and the people, that shall say, The burden of the LORD, I will even punish that man and his house. Thus shall ye say every one to his neighbour, and every one to his brother, What hath the LORD answered? and, What hath the LORD spoken? And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more: for every man's word shall be his burden; for ye have perverted the words of the living God, of the LORD of hosts our God. Thus shalt thou say to the prophet, What hath the LORD answered thee? and, What hath the LORD spoken? But since ye say, The burden of the LORD; therefore thus saith the LORD; Because ye say this word, The burden of the LORD, and I have sent unto you, saying, Ye shall not say, The burden of the LORD; Therefore, behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you, and I will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence: And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten.”*

The *burden* mentioned in this passage means “an utterance.” It is not just a message from God, but a repetition of His exact words! In this passage, the Lord is identifying a problem that He was taking personally. Somebody had been tampering with His words! Somebody had made changes to His burden, to the point that it was now their burden, meaning—they had changed what He had said, so as to fit what they were wanting to say! While this incident took place hundreds of years ago, it is an incident that is continuing to take place over and over again, in

generation after generation—in church after church. And the script continues to be followed: people continue to try change God’s Words! Are these people stronger than God? If so, then they will have successfully corrupted His Words to the point where we must all admit that we no longer have the Word of God. But if God is indeed stronger than they, then He will bring about His promises against them, and He will preserve His Words as He has promised. Tonight, there are a lot of attacks against the King James Bible. But for the sake of time, we are only going to look at five of the most prevalent ones.

### **ATTACK #1 - THE KJV CONTAINS MISTRANSLATIONS!**

*Acts 12:4 - “And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after **Easter** to bring him forth to the people.”*

If you were to read any other version, you will always read the word *Passover* in place of the word *Easter*. The KJV is the only version that uses the word *Easter*. What this means is that this is a showdown between the KJV and every other version, and whichever version has this wrong, then it cannot be the real Bible, because the Bible is perfect and free from error!

In order to present why the King James translators used the word *Easter*, we need to understand about a language problem that existed. When William Tyndale translated the Bible prior to when the KJV was finished in 1611, there was no English word for *Passover*. He is the one who invented the word! When the King James translators were doing their work, they chose to use that same fairly new word to refer to the celebration that was begun by Moses just prior to their departure from Egypt. As a result, you will find the word *Passover* used everywhere except in one place—Acts 12:4. When the King James translators came to that one place, they rejected using *Passover* there because they were able to recognize that this was not referring to the religious feast of the Jews, but to something entirely different!

Why did the King James translators reject using the *Passover* that all modern versions use? The reason is that the Bible itself tells us that the *Passover* was already past! *Acts 12:3 - “And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the **days of***

*unleavened bread.)”* In order to understand the significance of what the Bible is here saying, we need to understand the order in which things took place in regards to the Passover. (*Exod. 12:13-15*) - *“And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will **pass over** you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt. And **this day** shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever. **Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread**; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.”* This passage tells us that the Passover day would be followed by seven other days of eating unleavened bread. (*Num. 28:16-18*) - *“And in the **fourteenth day** of the first month is the passover of the LORD. And in the **fifteenth day** of this month is the feast: seven days shall unleavened bread be eaten. In the first day shall be an holy convocation; ye shall do no manner of servile work therein:”* Here we are told that the Passover was on the fourteenth of the month - and the days of unleavened bread was from the fifteenth for seven days! Why is that important? Because the Bible tells us in Acts 12:3-4 that Peter had been arrested during these seven days of unleavened bread, which means that the Passover was already past!

Why would king Herod want to hold him until the Passover, if it was already past? The answer is—he did not intend to hold him in jail and then kill him on the Passover! He was a Roman, and he was wanting to hold him so that he could have him executed on the pagan holiday of Easter! Pagan rulers would often commit atrocities and shed blood on holidays! Keep in mind that John the Baptist was beheaded on Herod’s birthday! Easter, the pagan holiday, was already being observed by the Romans and was to occur in just a few days! When the King James translators translated this verse, they knew their Bibles well enough to know that the Jewish Passover had already taken place, and that the pagan holiday of Easter was at hand! Therefore, when they chose the word Easter instead of Passover, they were correct in their translation, which proves all modern versions are wrong! If a Bible has but one mistake in it, it cannot be the Bible!

## ATTACK #2 - KING JAMES WAS A HOMOSEXUAL!

*Luke 6:44-45 - "For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. **A good man** out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and **an evil man** out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."*

Jesus Christ is here presenting a principle that maintains that a good man will produce good works, and an evil man will produce evil works.

Based on this principle, those who attack the King James Bible are quick to point out the accusations that have been made for years, that King James was a homosexual! Is it right to be concerned about it? Yes, it is! The principle is true that an evil man will produce evil deeds! That is the reason why many people have a problem with the NIV—a lesbian was on the translation committee! Virginia Mollenkott was a literary critic for the NIV and in a 1991 interview, she made this statement about her sexuality: "My homosexuality has always been a part of me...." Does her being a lesbian create any problems with the NIV? The word *sodomite* is mentioned one time in the KJV (Deut. 23:17) - but is never mentioned in the NIV! It changes the sodomite to a "shrine prostitute." In 1 Corinthians 6:9, the King James Bible mentions "*Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? ... nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,*" The NIV changes these unrighteous people as "homosexual offenders" meaning only bad homosexuals will be forbidden entrance to heaven!

A good person will produce good works, and an evil person will promote and produce evil works! The NIV has some major problems because they knowingly allowed a lesbian to be part of their translating committee, and she did her best to water down the sins of homosexuality! If King James was a homosexual, then there could be some serious concerns about the King James Bible!

So who was King James? King James was considered to be one of the greatest rulers of England, if not the greatest! He was no ordinary man, for his life produced not just one great accomplishment, but seven! #1 - He successfully united England with Scotland and laid the foundation for Great Britain, and was the first to use that term! #2 - He commissioned

the translation of the King James Bible, which still continues to be the best selling and most read book of all time! He was fluent in Latin, Greek, and French, and had been taught Italian and Spanish! Even though he was highly educated, his desire was to have the Bible translated into the common language of the people so that every person in his kingdom could read the Bible for themselves! #3 - He established the first Christian colony in America, that being Virginia! In its charter, he stated his purpose “to make habitation ... and to deduce a colony of sundry of our people into that part of America, commonly called Virginia ... in propagating of Christian religion to such people as yet live in darkness....” #4 - He insisted on jury trials, with men and women being tried by twelve of their peers! This was not limited to England, but was encouraged in Virginia and America as well! #5 - He exalted the importance of marriage, and spent fifteen days in prayer before marrying his one and only wife! #6 - He was so concerned about his people and their well-being that he wrote a tract against the use of tobacco in England! #7 - He was so well-versed with the Bible and tried to use it as he governed, that he was known by the people of his day as being “the British Solomon.” During his funeral, the preacher made eleven different comparisons between the King James and Solomon!

But if King James was viewed by his own people as being such a godly king, where did the rumors of his being a homosexual come from? His enemies! The Jesuits of the Catholic Church tried to assassinate him in 1605, in what has come to be known as the “Gun Powder Plot.” The Spanish Ambassador wrote this description of King James just two years later: “He is a Protestant... The king tries to extend his Protestant religion to the whole island. The King is a bitter enemy of our religion. He frequently speaks of it in terms of contempt. He is all the harsher because of this last conspiracy against his life....” He understood that the Jesuits had a hand in it. James was from Scotland, and was sitting on the throne of England! Back then, those two countries did not get along, and there were many who resented his joining these two countries together! The English, especially, resented allowing Scots to be a part of their kingdom. One such Englishman was Anthony Weldon. He hated Scots with a passion. Because of his prejudice, he was fired by King James. And it was Weldon who later wrote a paper accusing King James of being a homosexual, but it was not released until twenty-five years after the death

of the king! And when it was published, it was ignored by nearly everyone because they knew the king! It was only years later that it was used to attack the King—and the King James Bible!

### **ATTACK #3 - THE KJV HAS BEEN REVISED SEVERAL TIMES!**

*Mal. 3:6 - "For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."*

Those who want to pull the King James Bible down from being a perfect Bible will usually try to do so by pointing out that the 1611 KJV has gone through a number of revisions where it has been changed! If was truly perfect—just like God, it can not change! I can recall one preacher trying to make his point by indicating the fact that - if you were to read from the REAL 1611 KJV, you would not be able to read it because it is so different! So the real question is this. Is our King James Bible exactly the same as the one that was completed in 1611? The answer is—yes and no!

There are three kinds of changes that were made to the 1611 KJV that need to be understood! The first change was from Gothic print to Roman print! In 1611, it was decided to print the KJV in Gothic print because it looked prettier! It had the big, fancy letters and it looked fancier; so they printed it in Gothic letters. The natural problem with that is that if you are not used to reading Gothic letters, they can be very confusing. A small *s* is printed to look like a small *f*. That is why it is very hard to read an original 1611, because of the Gothic style of print! In order to make it easier to read, the 1611 was changed from the Gothic print to the Roman print that we are reading now. While it is a change, it is dishonest for anyone to say that they changed the Bible, when in reality they only changed the style of print! The second change made to the King James Bible was in its spelling of words. The English language had become standardized in sentence structure by 1611, but spelling was left up to the individual. It was common in 1611 for many words to end with an *e*—so the words fear, dark, and bear would all end in *e*. By the mid-1700s, spelling became standardized and so the King James Bible was changed—in order to standardize how its words were spelled! The words were not changed—only how they were spelled! The third kind of change

that was made were the changes to correct the mistakes made by the printer! Nearly every first edition or first printing of a book is going to have mistakes in it! A word is omitted accidentally and later reinserted! A word is made plural when it was supposed to be singular! And therefore, in order to correct these mistakes, changes had to be made to the text so that what was being printed was the same as what had been translated in 1611!

So, has the 1611 KJV been changed? Yes! In appearance, in spelling, and in getting rid of the mistakes! But no, not in content! Every word now is exactly the same word as translated in 1611!

#### **ATTACK #4 - IF THE KJV IS THE PERFECT WORD OF GOD, THEN WHERE WAS THE BIBLE BEFORE 1611?**

*Titus 3:9 - "But **avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.**"*

The reason why a person might ask this question is based on their lack of understanding concerning the "King James Only" position. The "King James Only" position is NOT saying that the only Bible in the world is the King James Bible! If a person truly believed that it was, then they would really have a problem with the question, because there was no King James Bible before 1611! So where was the Bible before 1611? It was scattered around the world in the Hebrew and Greek manuscripts that came out of Antioch! The Bible was in existence in the same languages that God had originally given it! The Old Testament was in Hebrew; the New Testament was in Greek; and God was biding His time to bring about His translation into a third language, that being English! Therefore, the Bible was already in existence, just as God has promised that it would be! The only difference was, it had not yet been translated into English.

## **THE “KING JAMES ONLY” POSITION IS NOT THE HISTORIC POSITION OF CHRISTIANITY!**

*Col. 2:8 - “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”*

Tradition can be a good or bad thing, depending upon what it is referring to. The Catholic Church has developed a belief system based on the idea that “Church tradition” is equal to the Scriptures. Tradition says that Peter was the first Pope. There is no Bible that supports this claim, so they hide behind the belief that they have always had—Peter was the first Pope! Tradition says that Mary was a perpetual virgin and never had any other children. Again, there is no Scripture to support this position; in fact, the Bible clearly states that Mary did have other children. But since it contradicts their tradition, they accept their tradition in place of Scripture, and put their own spin on those “difficult verses.” So what is the historic position of God’s people? It has always been to accept the Bible as the inspired, inerrant, Word of God that is perfect! That is what Jesus Christ taught and believed as well as His disciples! And that is what we believe about the King James Bible! The irony of the entire controversy of the KJV is that our opponents are trying to get us to agree with them, that there is NO perfect Bible! And THAT is not what our spiritual forefathers believed!

What they are getting at is some of our current heroes of the faith did not take the same position as we do on the King James Bible. John R. Rice was the editor of the *Sword of the Lord* for many years. He was a great soul winner and an effective evangelist; he preached from the King James Bible, but he did not believe it to be inspired—and he corrected it when he felt like it! Dr. R.A. Torrey was D.L. Moody’s right hand man and assistant of many years who was viewed as a great and knowledgeable Bible scholar, but he was not of the opinion that the King James Bible was perfect, and he too had developed the bad habit of correcting it. Dr. Jack Hyles, for many years, adopted the same philosophy towards the King James Bible as did John R. Rice. He corrected it when he wanted it to say something else, and he did so up until 1988 when he changed his position and adopted the idea that God did not need his help correcting a perfect Bible!

So what does this show? It shows that pride is a cruel trap that can blind the best of people! And it reveals that the best of men, are only men! If a person wants to believe that the King James Bible is not perfect, that is their choice. But in order to honor the Bible, they owe it to themselves to spend the rest of their lives searching for the real Bible, because if God has promised to preserve it - it MUST be somewhere! And if it is not the KJ Bible, then they have to answer the most obvious question: “Where is it?” Just as good of a question is this—once you find it, how will you know? The King James Bible is the only Bible that I know of with followers who believe it to be perfect! Therefore, if you did find some other Bible that is perfect, you might be the only one who thinks so!

## CHAPTER 12

### WILL THE REAL BIBLE PLEASE STAND UP!

*(2 John 1:1-2) - The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth; For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever.*

In 1956, a game show began airing called “To Tell the Truth.” Three people were brought out before a live audience, each of them claiming to be the same person. A biography was then read about this person, and then four celebrities were allowed to ask questions of each of the contestants in hopes of guessing who was telling the truth. The rules for the contestants was very simple! If you were the person in question, then you had to answer every question honestly. If you were only pretending to be that person, then you were expected to lie when questioned, and to try your best to make people think that you were the person that you were impersonating. The more people that you fooled—the more money that you made! After a certain number of questions, the host would then say, “Will the real ?? please stand up?” All of the contestants would then go through some pretending to stand up, just to build the suspense, and then the real person would stand! “To Tell the Truth” became a huge success and ran for twenty-five years which is more than any other game show in the history of television! People loved it because they enjoyed trying to figure out who was telling the truth, and who was lying!

Since the late 1800s, we have been having the same kind of contest being played out in our churches, with people trying to figure out which Bible, if any, is really the word of God! The NIV has been dressed up to look the part and taught how to answer our questions in such a way that it can fool a lot of people! The NASV can do the same thing, claiming to be a faithful translation and also called the Bible. The NKJV is the new kid on the block, and it too claims to be the same old KJV with just a few changes, and it too is the Bible. And then there is the KJB! It sits there wearing the same old language that it has had for four hundred years! It talks kind of funny and seems a bit eccentric, as it is not trying to deceive anyone—it really believes that it is the word of God! Therein

lies the problem! All of the other Bible contestants resent the KJB because, the more people that they deceive, the more money that they make! The more that people ask questions about the KJB, the more convinced they are of where the real Bible in English can be found! So why would anyone choose the KJB over any of the modern versions?

### **REASON #1 - BECAUSE IT IS ALIVE!**

*(1 Pet. 1:23) - "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by **the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever."*

In order to understand exactly what is being said in this verse, we must first determine what it is referring to. It tells us, when it says by "the word of God." I think that just about every saved person who has been in church any time at all, would agree that this is referring to the Bible

What does the Bible say about itself? It is "incorruptible." That word means "immortal"! It is also described by the word *liveth*. This word not only means that it was alive when these words were written! It also means that it is still alive, because the word *liveth* is present tense!

So, if the Bible is alive, the million dollar question has always been, "Where is it?" Those who live to criticize and downplay the value of the KJB will tell us that it is in heaven! When God gave it to us in the "originals," then it was down here on earth for awhile! But since it has been copied so many times and had mistakes inserted into it, then there is no longer a living Bible on earth, but now only exists in heaven! But there is a huge problem with that kind of thinking! If there is no living Bible on earth, then how are people still being saved by being brought into contact with it? Peter tells us in that same verse that the Bible is not only still alive, but that it is still producing results with people being "born again"! If a person has to come into contact with the word of God to get saved, then how can they get saved if the only living Bible is in heaven? The answer is—they can't!

But if it is still possible for people to be born again, then WHERE is God's living Word? *(1 Cor. 14:21) - "In the law it is written, With men of **other tongues** and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord."* The answer is that God chose to put His words in other languages and not limit them to just Greek

and Hebrew! Notice that the word *tongues* is plural! This verse is not just referring to the KJB in English, but to other languages as well! (*Acts 2:4-11*) - “*And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.*” We usually only study this passage in relation to the miracle of tongues, but it also reinforces God’s plan to spread His Word in a variety of different languages! Here we find that God did NOT limit His Word to just Greek or Hebrew, but had it divinely translated—word for word—into the languages that are represented by each of the countries that are mentioned! Why would God want to translate His word into a different language? He wanted to translate it because it is alive! When it is brought into contact with a lost person who wants to be saved, they are born again by His living word!

So how can the words from the Bible be alive? (*John 6:63*) - “*It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, **they are spirit, and they are life.***” This verse tells us two important things about how a person gets saved. First, it is the Holy Spirit Who actually saves a person! “It is the spirit that quickeneth....” The person or the flesh can add nothing to God’s salvation, because salvation is one hundred percent God’s work—done through His Holy Spirit! Secondly, the Word of God (Bible) is alive because God’s words are also the Holy Spirit! John did NOT say that the word of God was spiritual—but spirit! An apple seed is the reproductive part of an apple that contains within itself the life of the apple tree itself! It does not look like an apple! It might not taste like an apple! But it contains the tree, the leaves, the roots, and the fruit of an apple tree, and without it, there will not be any future apples! The KJB is God’s divine seed, because it is the

word of God! It is not a tool of the Holy Spirit; it is the Holy Spirit in printed form! It does not educate a person and teach them how to be saved! It produces salvation, because it is Spirit; and only the Holy Spirit can bring about spiritual reproduction! The Holy Spirit IS God's Word, and when brought into contact with a lost person who is willing to be saved, the Word of God then reproduces itself and forms the indwelling Holy Spirit inside of us!

The Bible is not simply a book that is full of words! (*1 Pet. 1:23b*) - "... *the word of God, which **liveth and abideth** for ever.*" (*John 6:63b*) - "...*the words that I speak unto you, **they are spirit, and they are life.***" (*Acts 7:38b*) - "... *who received **the lively oracles** to give unto us:*" (*Heb. 4:12*) - "*For the word of God is **quick**, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword ...*"

Only that which is alive can reproduce that which is living! And when a Christian reads the Bible, they are not just reading what God said! They are allowing God Himself to speak directly to them through the Holy Spirit! The Bible has the ability to not only convict us, but can also change us, because "they are spirit, and they are life!"

## **REASON #2 - BECAUSE IT IS INSPIRED!**

(*1 Tim. 4:1*) - "*Now **the Spirit speaketh expressly**, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;*"

When this was written by Paul, the wording used was such that the word *speaketh* was the present tense, meaning the Holy Spirit would continue to speak these words of warning that He had given; but how could He continue to speak to future generations, if only the "originals" were inspired? He couldn't! That is a huge problem for anyone who wants to downgrade the KJB to something that was written by man and contains errors! This verse promises that the Holy Spirit would be the One speaking to future generations, not the translators! IF it is the Holy Spirit Who is truly speaking, then His Words are inspired!

The most recent flap that is taking place has to do with a certain preacher's remarks about the KJB being "divinely preserved - but not inspired." What he is saying is that the King James translators preserved

the Bible from the manuscripts that they had, but, since they were not the original manuscripts, they only preserved the current mistakes of the time! In other words, they had old manuscripts that contained errors, and they translated both God's words and man's mistakes into the KJB! The result of this kind of thinking is pretty simple! If that is what a person believes, then the KJB cannot be perfect! Therefore, this man sounds like he is one of us because he believes that the KJB has been divinely preserved, but he is very adamant about the fact that the KJB is NOT inspired and is about five percent full of mistakes!

So is the KJB really inspired? (*2 Tim. 3:16*) - "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*" Notice the words *is given*. These words point to the fact that, whatever it is they are referring to, is still taking place today! (*Job 37:10*) - "*By the breath of God frost is given: and the breadth of the waters is straitened.*" (*Mark 6:2b*) - "... what **wisdom is this which is given** unto him ..." (*Rom. 5:5*) - "... the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the **Holy Ghost which is given** unto us." The idea in all of these and more is that, when something is mentioned as *is given* it means that it is still being given up to this day! Therefore, when the Bible says, "All scripture IS given by inspiration," then that means that God is still willing and capable of translating the Bible into other languages! If God only intended for the original manuscripts to be inspired, then He would have said, "All scripture WAS given." That is not what the Bible says because God did not limit His inspiration to the originals, and then when they became worn out, "too bad" for planet earth!

So how could the King James translators translate an inspired English Bible from Greek and Hebrew manuscripts? (*Eccl. 12:10-11*) - "*The **preacher sought** to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth. The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd.*" The King James translators were able to come up with an inspired text the same way that Solomon was originally able to write it—he "sought to find out acceptable words." He did not fall into a trance or become like a zombie! He sought out the right words to use, and God just happened to help him choose the right words, which were also His words, which makes them inspired words! It was no more difficult for

God to use a committee of godly men who set out to translate the Bible into English in 1611, than it was to use Solomon to originally write those same words in Hebrew one thousand years before the birth of Christ!

So why are so many people wanting to point to the original manuscripts as being inspired while claiming that the KJB is not inspired? They do this because of a Presbyterian theologian named B.B. Warfield! He was an American preacher who lived in the late 1800s and who went to Germany to study the Bible. When he got there, since he did not know his Bible well enough to defend it against the attacks in the classroom, he came up with the novel idea that the Bible in the originals was inspired! That way—no one could dispute his claim because no one had the originals anymore! The good news from his vantage point was that he was able to claim that the Bible was inspired! The bad news from our vantage point is that he redefined the Bible to mean ONLY the original manuscripts and not the Bible that we use! Now here is the point that I am making! Up until B.B. Warfield, everyone knew what you meant when you mentioned the Bible! They also understood that the Bible that they had was inspired! Miles Coverdale was the editor on the Coverdale Bible which was a forerunner of the KJB. When he was criticized for daring to translate the Bible into English and told that it was not a divine work, he said “No, the Holy Ghost is as much the author of it in Hebrew, Greek, French, Dutch, and English, as in Latin.” John Wycliffe was even more forceful in defending his translation of the Bible into English. “You say it is heresy to speak of the Holy Scriptures in English. You call me a heretic because I have translated the Bible into the common language of the people. Do you know whom you blaspheme? Did not the Holy Ghost give the word of God at first in the mother-tongue of the nations to whom it was addressed? Why do you speak against the Holy Ghost?”

The historic Christian position has always been that the Holy Spirit was involved in translating the Bible into other languages so that the common people could read the word of God in their own language, just like people heard it on the day of Pentecost!

### REASON #3 - BECAUSE IT PROVIDES A DIVINE PATTERN FOR SPREADING THE WORD OF GOD!

(2 Tim. 3:16) - “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*”

What exactly do the words *all scripture* mean? There are some who believe that it only refers to the sixty-six books of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. There are others, however, who believe that it not only refers to all of the Bible, but all copies that have been made as well as translations of those copies into other languages!

How can we tell which *scripture* is inspired? These scriptures must include copies of the originals! (2 Tim. 3:15) - “*And that **from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures**, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*” Paul is here mentioning the fact that, as a child, Timothy had learned the Bible, but from where? The originals written by Moses had long disappeared, and the only scriptures he could have read would have been “copies” of copies of the originals! Yet, even though the originals were no longer around to be seen, whatever he had, was considered by Paul to be the scriptures, and were therefore—inspired! God chose to bless copies of the Bible and consider them as His word because He prophesied that King Solomon would make copies of scriptures and they would help him to fear the Lord! (Deut. 17:18-19) - “*And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a **copy of this law** in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: **that he may learn to fear the LORD** his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:*” God seems to have a very high opinion of the “copy” that Solomon would make, so much so that He would bless it and cause it to create godly fear in him.

Are there other “copies” of the Bible that God chose to use and bless and considered to be inspired? The Christians at Berea were commended for studying a copy of the Scriptures, which the Bible called *the word*. (Acts 17:11) - “*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they **received the word** with all readiness of mind, and **searched the scriptures** daily, whether those things were so.*”

Apollos was commended for using a copy of the Scriptures to prove Christ was the Messiah! (*Acts 18:28*) - “*For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the **scriptures** that Jesus was Christ.*” Just prior to His death, the Lord rebuked a crowd of people for their lack of understanding the Bible! (*Matt. 21:42*) - “*Jesus saith unto them, **Did ye never read in the scriptures**, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?*” Moses had been dead for nearly 1,500 years and his original writings were long gone! Why would Jesus refer to the copies that existed as “the Scriptures” and rebuke the people for not studying them, unless He considered them to be just as inspired? Knowing that the people ONLY had copies of the originals, He commanded them in John 5:39: “**Search the scriptures**; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.” Why would God point His people to what He called His word unless they were in fact His words?

But what about when the Bible is translated into other languages? (*Rom. 16:26*) - “*But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, **made known to all nations** for the obedience of faith:*” Not only are the copies of the Hebrew prophets mentioned as being the “scriptures,” but even those translations made into the languages of “all nations.” What this means is that when God says in 2 Timothy 3:16, “**All scripture is given by inspiration of God, ...:**”, He is also saying that a translation can also be inspired scripture!

Here is another example of how the Holy Spirit can bring about an inspired translation of the Bible! (*Acts 8:32*) - “*The place of the scripture which **he** read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:*” This is referring to the Ethiopian eunuch who had been reading the scriptures! What scriptures? The scriptures that had been copied in his own language! When the queen of Sheba returned from her visit with Solomon, it appears that she carried with her a copy of the scriptures which were then translated into the Ethiopian language for the benefit of her own people!

The great thing about the KJB is the fact that it exalts the Lord by revealing His loving concern for the rest of the world! You do not have to know Greek or Hebrew to read the Bible! Thanks to the godly men of previous generations and from different countries, the word of God has

been translated into so many languages that Paul could truthfully say in 2 Timothy 2:9: *“Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.”* If only the originals were inspired, then the real Bible would be in heaven; and in relation to this world, it would be “bound” or limited to its location in heaven! If it could only exist as inspired in the originals, then no copy could be perfect or inspired, and it would bound to only the originals which have perished! If godly translators were incapable of being led by the Holy Spirit to correctly translate the Bible into another language, then the word of God would be bound to only the Greek and Hebrew languages! However, according to Paul, the Bible is not bound which means that it has been given free and easy access by the Holy Spirit, to move from language to language, with the same power and inspiration that it had when it was first written, not by men, but by the Holy Ghost Himself!

## CHAPTER 13 DIVINE FINGERPRINTS

*(Psa. 119:61) - The bands of the wicked have robbed me: but I have not forgotten thy law.*

Before we get started tonight, let me share with you some truths that are absolutely amazing! Did you know that a cockroach can live for several weeks after it has its head cut off? When it dies, it finally dies from starvation! Did you know apples are more efficient than caffeine at keeping people awake in the mornings! The human thigh bone is stronger than concrete! Most lipstick contains fish scales! A baby is born with 300 bones, but an adult only has 206! A duck's quack does not echo, and no one knows why! A lion's roar can be heard up to five miles away! Armored knights would raise their visor as they passed before their king. This custom continued and became the military salute. Babies are born without kneecaps, which do not appear until after they are two years old. Clans who wanted to get rid of unwanted people used to do so by burning their house down. That is where the expression to "get fired" comes from. Earth is the only planet that is not named after a god. It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open! Since this is a Bible study, let me give you one last truth that is amazing. The KJB is the only book in the world to exceed one billion copies in print! Now you can impress a lot of people when you tell them one of these amazing facts, yet when you try to share a truth about the Bible, most of the people do not want to accept it without "proof"! Tonight, we are going to take a look at some things that will be amazing to those who love the KJB—and to those who despise it, it will probably mean nothing!

### **THE KJB HAS GOD'S FINGERPRINTS AT THE BEGINNING AND THE END!**

*(Rev. 21:6) - "And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely."*

Jesus is the beginning and the ending! And He is the same.... Alpha—beginning (*Gen. 1:1*) - “*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*” Omega—ending (*Rev. 22:21*) - “*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*” I want you to notice that the first sentence of the Bible and the last sentence are totally different! They contain different words. They convey different truths. But while they are different, they both have three things in common. Both have the same number of letters in each sentence - 44! Both have the same number of vowels - 27! Both have the same number of consonants - 17! And those three things will only be found in the KJB! NIV - 45 letters (*Gen.*) and 42 letters (*Rev.*); NASV - 45 letters (*Gen.*) / 35 letters (*Rev.*).

## **THE KJB HAS GOD’S FINGERPRINTS IN EVERY BOOK!**

Isaiah has 66 chapters; Bible has 66 books

Isaiah consists of 2 sections; Bible has 2 sections (Old Testament and New Testament)

First section of Isaiah has 39 chapters; Old Testament has 39 books

Second section of Isaiah has 27 chapters; New Testament has 27 books

Each chapter of Isaiah corresponds with each book of the Bible, in chronological order! Isaiah 1 corresponds to Genesis (first book). In Isaiah 1, God calls the heavens and the earth to hear His complaint against Israel, who is charged with rebellion. (*Isa. 1:2*) - “*Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.*” In Genesis, God created the heavens and the earth, and following Adam and Eve’s rebellion against Him, brought forth judgement!

Isaiah 2 corresponds to Exodus (second book). In Isaiah 2, we are told that God would redeem Israel out of all nations where they had been scattered and bring them to the mountain of the Lord where they would be taught about Him. (*Isa. 2:2-3*) - “*And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us*

*go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.”* In Exodus, God redeemed His people out of Egypt and brought them to Mt. Sinai where He gave to them His law.

Isaiah 3 corresponds to Leviticus (third book). Isaiah 3 speaks of judgment and in particular, of women who were decked with worldly ornaments. (*Isa. 3:11*) - *“Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.”* In Leviticus, God encourages obedience to His law to as His way to avoid His judgments.

Isaiah 4 corresponds to Numbers (fourth book). Isaiah 4 speaks of the cloud by day and the fire by night as being Israel’s divine protection and place of refuge. (*Isa. 4:5*) - *“And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence. And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a **place of refuge**, and for a covert from storm and from rain.”* The book of Numbers deals with the wilderness wanderings and God’s protection. His cloud of protection in mentioned chapters 9 and 12, and the cities of refuge in chapter 35.

Isaiah 5 corresponds to Deuteronomy (fifth book). Isaiah 5 speaks of the trouble that will befall God’s people for their treatment of the word of God. Six woes of judgment are given. Deuteronomy contains a second giving of the law as preparatory for entering the Promised Land and an entire chapter (28) dedicated to the curses that will befall them if they refuse to take heed to the voice of God. (*Deut. 28:15*) - *“But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that **all these curses shall come upon thee**, and overtake thee:”*

Isaiah 6 corresponds to Joshua (sixth book). Isaiah 6 speaks of a vision where the king has died, but God’s glory is seen after his death. The book of Joshua occurs following the death of Moses, and God’s glory is seen as His people possess the Promised Land!

Isaiah 7 corresponds to Judges (seventh book). Isaiah 7 describes a man-made confederacy coming against God’s appointed leader. (*Isa. 7:1*) - *“And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son*

of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it.” The book of Judges describes constant attacks against God’s appointed leaders, each one resulting in an enemy who was defeated!

Isaiah 8 corresponds to Ruth (eighth book). Isaiah 8 prophesies a son who would be born to Isaiah and his wife that would be associated with the swift defeat of God’s enemies! (*Isa. 8:1-4*) - “Moreover the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man’s pen concerning **Maher-shalal-hashbaz**. And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah. And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me, Call his name Maher-shalal-hashbaz. For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, My father, and my mother, the riches of Damascus and **the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away** before the king of Assyria.” The book of Ruth describes a son who would be born to Boaz and Ruth who would bring about the birth of David, and eventually Jesus Christ!

Isaiah 16 corresponds to the book of Nehemiah (sixteenth book). Isaiah 16 mentions the Lord’s encouraging of a Gentile power (Moab) to become a shelter to God’s people. (*Isa. 16:3,4*) - “Take counsel, execute judgment; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; **hide the outcasts**; bewray not him that wandereth. **Let mine outcasts dwell with thee, Moab**; be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler: for the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth, the oppressors are consumed out of the land.” In the book of Nehemiah, Artaxerxes allows Nehemiah to travel to Jerusalem to care for the Jewish remnant and financed the repairs to the city!

Isaiah 17 corresponds to the book of Esther (seventeenth book). Isaiah 17 describes the rushing of many nations to destroy His people, and His divine protection that is provided. (*Isa. 17:13-14*) - “The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind. And behold **at eveningtide trouble**; and **before the morning he is not**. This is the portion of them that spoil us, and the lot of them that rob us.” The book of Esther describes the plot of Haman to destroy all of the Jews in their land; and

before they know it, God has turned the tables and the enemy of the Jews is gone!

Isaiah 18 corresponds to the book of Job. Isaiah 18 describes Israel being cut down and trampled for a time, only to eventually be presented as a gift to God. (*Isa. 18:7*) - “*In that time shall the present be brought unto the LORD of hosts of a people scattered and peeled, and from a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden under foot, whose land the rivers have spoiled, to the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, the mount Zion.*” The book of Job describes God’s allowing Job to be trampled and beaten down by Satan, only to have Job become even godlier!

Isaiah 19 corresponds to the Psalms. Isaiah 19 describes the Lord riding upon a cloud and attacking Egypt in defense of His people. (*Isa. 19:1*) - “*The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and **the heart of Egypt shall melt** in the midst of it.*” The Psalms continually describe God as Israel’s only source of hope and help! (*Psa. 2:1-4*) - “*Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.*”

Isaiah 32 corresponds to the book of Jonah (thirty-second book) Isaiah 32 offers a blessing for God’s people who are willing to carry to the gospel to every place! (*Isa. 32:20*) - “*Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters, that send forth thither the feet of the ox and the ass.*” The book of Jonah describes the reason why God wants the gospel carried to other lands—revival!

Isaiah 40 corresponds to the gospel of Matthew (fortieth book) Isaiah 40 contains a prophecy concerning John the Baptist! (*Isa. 40:3*) - “*The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*” In Matthew, we find the fulfillment of that prophecy! (*Matt. 3:1*) - “*In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.*”

Isaiah 41 corresponds to the gospel of Mark. Isaiah 41 refers to God's longing for Israel to be His servant. (*Isa. 41:8*) - "*But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.*" Mark presents Jesus Christ as God's ultimate and perfect servant! (*Mark 10:45*) - "*For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*"

Isaiah 45 corresponds to the book of Romans (forty-fifth book) Isaiah 45 mentions the foolishness of arguing with God! (*Isa. 45:9*) - "*Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?*" Romans records the same complaint! (*Rom. 9:20-21*) - "*Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?*"

Isaiah 66 corresponds to the book of Revelation (sixty-sixth book) Isaiah 66 mentions the coming of a "man child." (*Isa. 66:7*) - "*Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.*" The Revelation is the unveiling of this same "man child." (*Rev. 12:5*) - "*And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.*"

### **THE KJB HAS GOD'S FINGERPRINTS ON ITS DOCTRINE!**

(*Luke 2:33*) - "*And **Joseph** and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.*"

Anyone who knows the gospel knows that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, born of a virgin, and was conceived by the Holy Spirit. He was raised by Joseph who was a godly man, but was only his step-father. In order to safeguard this very basic and elementary truth, God referred to the Lord's step-father by name, Joseph.

To us, that is truth that we have heard our entire lives. In fact, it can be, to many, boring. For those who appreciate the BEST when it comes to the choice of words to provide accuracy and truth, let us see what

the modern versions have done to this verse. The NIV changes “Joseph” to “the child’s father.” The NAS changes “Joseph” to “His father.” The NWT (J.W.) changes “Joseph” to “its father.”

The reason again is to minimize the deity of Christ and to make the Lord appear as human as possible, even in regards to His Father! That is not a mistake! It is not a coincidence that the KJB is the only version that does not refer to Joseph as the Lord’s father! It is a deliberate attempt to change the truth into a half truth, and to start moving the ancient landmarks in relation to doctrine!

## **THE KJB HAS GOD’S FINGERPRINTS ON THE TRANSLATORS!**

*(1 Cor. 1:25) - “Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.*

One of the most common complaints against the KJB that critics use to prove that it cannot be inspired, is that the King James translators added their own words! These words are all found in italics, and are necessary to complete a word for word translation into English. To our critics, this was a really dumb mistake for the translators to make—to claim that the KJB is inspired and at the same time, to italicize words that have been added! How dumb can we silly KJB people be?

Well, let’s take a look at three of these foolish verses! *(Psa. 16:8) - “I have set the LORD always before me: because **he** is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.”* According to our critics, this verse cannot be inspired by God because the word *he* was added by the translators! To that charge, I have two questions! My first question is, “If the KJB is wrong for adding this word, what did other versions do?” NIV: (Psa. 16:8) - “I have set the LORD always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.” They have changed other words, but the NIV uses the same word as the one they fault the KJB for using! That is hypocrisy on the part of the NIV people and honesty on the part of the King James translators! My second question is, “Were the King James translators correct in adding that word? *(Acts 2:25) - “For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:”* The New Testament quotes this

verse from the Old Testament, and the pronoun *he* is mentioned as being in the verse and it was not italicized because it was not added by the translators!

It almost looks as if the translators knew what they were doing or God was not as foolish as people think! (*Deut. 25:4*) - “*Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out **the corn**.*” (*1 Cor. 9:9*) - “*For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out **the corn**. Doth God take care for oxen?*” Here we find the same thing! In Deuteronomy, the translators had to add the words *the corn* to translate it into an English sentence that made sense; and in 1 Corinthians 9, it was already in the text and could be translated word for word—for a perfect match!

The last “mistake” made by the King James translators has to do with God’s promise to safeguard His scriptures! (*Psa. 12:6-7*) - “*The **words of the LORD** are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt **keep them**, O LORD, thou shalt **preserve them** from this generation for ever.*” The context of this passage has to do with just one thing—“the words of the Lord” which means the Bible! What does every modern version do? They remove *them* in verse 7, and insert a word that changes what God has promised to keep and preserve! NIV - (vs. 7) - “O LORD, you will **keep us** safe and **protect us** from such people forever.” Every modern version has changed this promise of God, away from preserving His words to preserving His people! The reason that they would do this is simple! It opens the door for them to change the words and to maintain the belief that there is no perfect Bible, and then they can continue to make “improvements” for sale!

## CHAPTER 14

### HOW TO HANDLE CONTRADICTIONS

*(1 Cor. 14:33) - “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.”*

One of the most common complaints against the Bible in general, and the KJB in particular, is that it contradicts itself. If you were to ask the average person who makes this statement to show you a contradiction, you will not be given a single example because they are only repeating what they have heard, and it sounds good to them. However, if a critic has done their homework, they do in fact have “examples” that they like to mention, because they have done their homework. While we have covered a lot of ground about the KJB, I want to close this series with more of a Bible study about one of the most disturbing things that a person can encounter about the Bible, that being what appears to be a contradiction. What do you say to a person who tells you that King James was a homosexual and therefore the KJB should be held in suspect? If you were here when we covered that material, then you can tell that person that they do not know what they are talking about and that King James was held in high esteem by his contemporaries and it was not until twenty years after his death that a disgruntled former employee made this accusation—and even then it was not believed for another two hundred years! Or, you could just ignore him because he does not have the slightest idea and is only repeating what he has heard. In other words, “So what?” That is an accusation against the Bible that really does not mean much. It is insignificant and petty.

However, what happens when a person shows you two verses in your Bible that appear to contradict each other? You look at both of them; they are both different; and you do not have an explanation? That is what we are going to take a look at tonight, because there are dozens of apparent contradictions which can strike fear in the heart of a godly person; and if they are not careful, they can also weaken that person’s faith by bringing about confusion! That is exactly what the devil is wanting to do! He is looking for something—anything—that will cause you and me to look at the Bible in a lesser way.

So, what are we to do when faced with a contradiction? #1 - Let's always give God the benefit of the doubt! I think that He has earned that from us! If we believed Him when He saved us, then it is only right for us to keep on believing Him now that we are saved. #2 - Let's remember that the Bible does not need to be defended, but just believed! God has promised to preserve it from generation to generation. Its enemies have tried to burn it, drown it, change it, and criticize it and yet the KJB is still the best selling book of all time! And therefore, I am going to show you the answer to this riddle not because the Bible needs to have an answer given, but so that we can learn how to "rightly divide the word of truth" and have greater confidence in our Bible! #3 - Become a lifelong student of the Bible! (2 Tim. 2:15) - "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" Study means "to labor," and the idea being conveyed in this verse is that we are to work at becoming very familiar with the Bible! What that means is that if we come across something that we do not understand in the Bible, then go to work and try to figure it out! What are we NOT to do? We are not to allow someone with a discrepancy to intimidate us! We are not to think less of the Bible because we do not understand it! It is a supernatural book that is infinite, and therefore no human being is capable of understanding all of it! We are not to switch to a different version because they have changed the verse to remove the discrepancy!

### **CONTRADICTION #1 - THERE ARE CONTRADICTIONS WITH TIMES OF DAY!**

*(Mark 15:24-37) - "And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take. And it was the **third hour**, and they **crucified** him. And the superscription of his accusation was written over, **THE KING OF THE JEWS**. And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, *And he was numbered with the transgressors.* And they that passed by railed on him, wagging their heads, and saying, *Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, Save thyself, and come down from the cross.* Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, *He saved others; himself he cannot save. Let Christ the King of Israel**

*descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe. And they that were crucified with him reviled him. And when the **sixth hour** was come, there was **darkness** over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the **ninth hour** Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, Behold, he calleth Elias. And one ran and filled a sponge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down. And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and **gave up the ghost.**”*

Here is the big question about this passage! Where was Jesus Christ during the sixth hour of His crucifixion day? If you read verse 33, you say, “That’s easy - the Lord was on the cross!” That is a great answer except for one problem. John 19:14 tells us that Jesus was standing alongside Pilate in the judgment hall! (*John 19:14*) - “*And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the **sixth hour**: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!*” So which is it? Why is there a contradiction?

Before we get into the specific time-line of the Lord’s death, we need to keep in mind that the Jews used a different way of keeping time than we do. Their day started at sunrise (6 am) Mark tells us that Jesus was crucified at the third hour (vs.25)—that is 9:00 A.M. for us. Mark then tells us that it turned pitch black at the sixth hour (vs.33)—that is noon for us. Mark then tells us that the Lord asked the question of “Why hast thou forsaken me?” at the ninth hour. They gave Him vinegar, and then He died. That was at 3:00 P.M. for us.

That all seems straight forward and clear UNTIL we go to the gospel of John. (*John 19:14*) - “*And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the **sixth hour**: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!*” John tells us that at the sixth hour, Jesus was not on the cross and the sky turned pitch black like Mark told us, but that He was still in Pilate’s court, where He was hearing the Jews shouting, “Crucify Him.” Unfortunately, there are some Christians whose faith in the Bible is so shallow that when they are shown something like this, their faith crumbles, and they give up on their Bible and assume that God is not as smart or as powerful as they once thought.

Why is there a discrepancy about where the Lord was during the

sixth hour? Is there a logical explanation, or does the Bible really have discrepancies? When I enlisted in the Army back in 1971, one of the first things that they did to get me to start thinking like them was to change how I told time. So they changed our time schedule from a twelve hour cycle to a twenty-four hour cycle! 6:00 AM was now 0600 hours; 2:00 P.M. - 1400 hours. Why did they do that? They wanted to avoid all confusion and be very precise! On this twenty-four hour cycle, there was never any confusion between A.M. or P.M.! When I became a pilot in the Navy five years later, I ran into another problem with time. As a pilot, I needed to be even more precise in relation to time, because sometimes I was flying off the coast of Florida, sometimes off the coast of Italy, and sometimes in the middle of the ocean. So which time zone were we supposed to use when I might be flying across several of them? That is when they taught us about GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) or Zulu time. No matter where we were in the world, Zulu time was the same everywhere for everyone!

Now if we have a hard time just trying to figure out what time it is based on which time zone we are in, or whether we are talking about A.M. or P.M., how in the world could God record times before anybody had ever heard of Eastern Standard Time? This is how He did it in the gospels. The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke all use the Hebrew time table because they were all written before the fall of Jerusalem. When a Jew read one of these gospels, they would know exactly what time was being referred to. The gospel of John, however, was written around 90 A.D., about twenty years AFTER the fall of Jerusalem and the dispersion of the Jews. Therefore, the gospel of John was written at a time when the Roman system of time was used throughout the known world, and the Romans use the same system that we use, with midnight being the beginning of a new day. When John tells us that Jesus was with Pilate at the sixth hour, that was at six o'clock in the morning, on Roman time! When the Christians read the gospel of John for the first time, they knew exactly what time he was referring to because the Jew was no longer in the land and everything was based on the Roman clock!

So, is there a logical explanation for the sixth hour difference? Yes, there is! It all has to do with the difference between the Hebrew and Roman systems of keeping track of time! However, what if you come across a contradiction that you can not explain? Then we are to give God

the benefit of the doubt! What we cannot explain, we are to accept by faith and let the Bible defend itself! And we need to make sure that we are actually a student of the Bible, and not a spectator!

## **CONTRADICTION #2 - THERE ARE CONTRADICTIONS WITH NUMBERS!**

*(Num. 25:1-3) - “And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.”*

While being encamped in this area on the border of Moab, the Hebrews came in contact with the Moabites and made friends with them. They became so friendly that after awhile, the Moabites invited the Hebrews to join them while they offered sacrifices to their false gods. The Hebrews went along with their new friends, and before long, they were seen to be bowing down to those same gods and worshiping them as well. When God saw what was taking place, He sent a plague among His people, which killed thousands!

How many died? *(Num. 25:9) - “And those that died in the plague were **twenty and four thousand**.”* That sounds pretty straight forward, so how can there be a discrepancy with a very clear statement of fact? *(1 Cor. 10:8) - “Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day **three and twenty thousand**.”*

We are told 24,000 died in Numbers 25; and only 23,000 died in 1 Corinthians 10! Why is there a discrepancy between these two places? Believe it or not, there is a good explanation, and God is the One Who is giving us the clue. Notice that these two verses are NOT identical! In Numbers 25, we are told that 24,000 “died in the plague.” In 1 Corinthians 10, we are told that 23,000 died “in one day.” Did you catch it? Twenty-three thousand died in one day, but all together over however long the plague lasted, 24,000 died all together!

Who wrote the Bible? God did! Why would He deliberately make it look like there was a contradiction between these two verses when there is none? Because God is a God of separation, and He is always giving His

people a test to see which ones are willing to trust Him, and which ones are wanting to jump ship and trust their own logic instead! (*Prov. 3:5*) - “*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.*” These “discrepancies” are not being paraded out by the Holy Spirit with the intent of confusing us! Instead, they are brought out by people who are trying to injure our faith in the Bible and who are only wanting to bring about confusion.

### **CONTRADICTION #3 - THERE ARE CONTRADICTIONS WITH OTHER VERSIONS!**

In 2 Kings 24, we are told that Jehoiakim was the king who chose to rebel against Nebuchadnezzar. He was the same wicked king who, in only his fourth year as Israel’s king, burned the scrolls that Jeremiah had written. Jehoiakim had a son, named Jehoiachin. How old was his son when he began to reign? (*2 Kings 24:8*) - “*Jehoiachin was **eighteen** years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.*” That seems pretty simple and therefore, how could be there a discrepancy about his age? (*2 Chron. 36:9*) - “*Jehoiachin was **eight** years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.*”

How are we going to handle this discrepancy? He was eighteen when he took over in 2 Kings 4, but only eight in 2 Chronicles 36! The NIV came up with an easy way of settling the problem. They simply changed his age from eight to eighteen, so that both verses would match! When they did that, then they could point at the KJB as being wrong in yet another place! We have already heard more than enough sermons to know that we can not trust the NIV, so there has to be another solution other than bailing out on the KJB.

Historically, it was common for a kingdom to be ruled by a family. The king would have a male child, and that child would be groomed to one day take over the throne. When would they become the next king? The natural assumption is—when the king dies! But in David’s case, we find that because of the political turmoil and intrigue that was taking place in

the palace, David chose to having Solomon anointed as king BEFORE he died! (*I Kings 1:28-30*) - “*Then king David answered and said, Call me Bathsheba. And she came into the king's presence, and stood before the king. And the king swore, and said, As the LORD liveth, that hath redeemed my soul out of all distress, Even as I swore unto thee by the LORD God of Israel, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my stead; even so will I certainly do **this day.***” On the next day, who was the real king of Israel? David was still alive; and Solomon had just been crowned king! I can promise you that no matter how many orders Solomon tried to pass, everyone wanted to know what David wanted to do! Solomon was technically the king, but as long as David lived, David also ruled as the real king!

Whenever a child becomes king, it is common for someone else to rule on their behalf, until such time that they are old enough to rule by themselves.

So how old was Jehoiachin when he became king—eight or eighteen? A clue as to what might have taken place is found in a footnote of the 1599 Geneva Bible. This was the Bible used in England before the KJV of 1611. When their translators came to this discrepancy, they stated that they believed that Jehoiachin was eight years old when he became king, but it was while his father was still alive. He ruled alongside his father for ten years, being groomed for the day when his father would die. When his father finally passed away, Jehoiachin was then eighteen years old, and he only reigned for three months after his father’s death! Therefore, both verses are correct! He was eight when he was began to rule as king, with his father; and he was also eighteen when he began to rule as king, by himself.

While this logical explanation removes the problem between the two verses, it then puts the KJB at odds with the NIV, because the NIV made the change, assuming that it was a mistake!

#### **CONTRADICTION #4 - THERE ARE CONTRADICTIONS WITH ASSUMPTIONS!**

(*Exod. 7:20-22*) - “*And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in*

*the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood. And the fish that was in the river died; and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt. And the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, neither did he hearken unto them; as the LORD had said.”*

A common question that is raised by people who are ignorant of the Bible is, how could the magicians turn water into blood, if Moses had already turned all of the water in Egypt into blood? The answer is simple. Moses did not turn all of the water into blood! The Bible says that “all the waters that were **in the river** were turned to blood.” The only water that had been transformed into blood was the Nile river! When the magicians used their witchcraft, they simply used water that had been stored, and duplicated the miracle of water being turned into blood.

#### **CONTRADICTION #5 - THERE ARE CONTRADICTIONS WITH STATEMENTS THAT WERE MADE!**

*(Gen. 2:16-17) - “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for **in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.**”*

That seems to be very plain warning, and I think that Adam probably got the idea that this was a very important prohibition by God. So, what happened when Adam sinned? *(Gen. 3:17-19) - “And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”* That does not sound as though Adam died that same day! In fact, we are told that Adam lived to be 930 years old!

So what happened to God's warning? Adam died spiritually that day, and had to be born again just like the rest of us! For you and I, that is a simple explanation that we can understand, because we know about the new birth, and yet, how can you explain it to a lost person who can not understand the Bible because they are lost and all they want to do is try to prove that the Bible is full of lies, mistakes, and myths? The answer is—you can't!

That is why you need to develop these three rules to live by when it comes to the Bible. #1 - Give God the benefit of the doubt - He has earned it! #2 - The Bible does not need to be defended, but believed! #3 -

Do not allow faith to become an excuse for laziness! God commands us to become a student of the Scriptures!