

NIV VERSUS KJV

A CRITIQUE OF THE NIV BIBLE AND A DEFENSE OF THE KJV BIBLE

NIV

**Why did Jesus
come to earth?**

**Luke 9:56
and they went to
another village.**

**Matthew 18:11
(MISSING)**

KJV

**Why did Jesus
come to earth?**

**Luke 9:56
For the Son of man is
not come to destroy
men's lives, but to save
them. And they went to
another village.**

**Matthew 18:11
For the Son of man
is come to save
that which was lost.**

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

Dennis H. Helton

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A DEFENSE OF THE KJV BIBLE**

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Address All Inquiries To:
THE OLD PATHS PUBLICATIONS, Inc.
142 Gold Flume Way
Cleveland, Georgia, U.S.A.

Web: www.theoldpathspublications.com
E-mail: TOP@theoldpathspublications.com

DEDICATION

I DEDICATE THIS BOOK TO ALL WHO BELIEVE IN THE PRESERVED WORDS OF GOD.

Psalm 12:7 *Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.* **8** *The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.*

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QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN THIS BOOK

- **How Many Bible Texts Did God Write?**
- **What Are The Underlying Texts Of The NIV And KJV Bibles?**
- **Does The NIV Text Differ From The KJV Text?**
- **What Do NIV Editors And Apologists Say?**
- **Is The Divinity Of Christ Both Proven And Discredited By The NIV?**
- **Is ‘Word Translation’ The Same As ‘Thought Translation?’**
- **What Advantage Is The ‘Ye’ And ‘Thee’ In The KJV?**
- **Is The NIV Version Easier To Read Than The KJV Translation?**
- **Why Do Most People Buy The NIV?**
- **Did God Preserve Copies Of The Original Manuscripts?**
- **Where Is God’s Preserved Word Today?**
- **Are The Original Bible Manuscripts The Only Ones Inerrant?**
- **Why Are ‘King James Only’ Advocates Labeled ‘Ruckmanites?’**
- **Do Some Bible Fundamentalists Hold Similar Views To Liberals?**
- **Who Is The “Morning Star,” Jesus Or Lucifer?**

- **What Was Common About A Shrine Prostitute And A Sodomite?**
- **What Do Critics Of The King James Bible Mutually Claim Against It?**
- **Was Mary, The Mother Of Jesus, Without Sin?**
- **Who Are The Promoters Of New Age Bibles And What Are Their Motives?**
- **Is Scholarship Essential For Selecting The Right Bible?**
- **Can A Bible With 17 Missing Verses Be Trusted?**
- **Who Are The True Traditional Bible Fundamentalists?**

INTRODUCTION

Why this writing?

The purpose of this writing is not to judge the hearts or the motives of NIV Bible users; however, this paper is presented to those who are opened minded to facts. If the reader has a closed mind or biased in favor of New Age bibles, do not waste your time reading this material. If the reader is a seeker of truth, continue reading. Someone has well said, There is none so blind as those who refuse to see.

The Scriptures teach the following principles of seeking truth:

Proverbs 18:13: He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.

Galatians 4:16: Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?

CHAPTER 1

THE NEW AGE BIBLE TEXTS

In 1881, Brook F. Westcott (bishop of the Anglican church) and Fenton A. Hort (Anglican professor at Cambridge University) changed the traditional Greek text in 8,413 places using the corrupt Vaticanus and Sinaiticus manuscripts as the basis (*Which Bible Is God's Word?* p.70).

- The Vaticanus and the Sinaiticus disagreed with each other over 3,000 times in the four Gospels alone (*Which Bible Is God's Word*, p.102). Westcott and Hort completely ignored the fact that Christian scholars of centuries past had consistently rejected the corrupt Vaticanus and Sinaiticus documents.
- Westcott, in a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury March 4, 1890, said, "No one now, I suppose, holds that the first three chapters of Genesis, for example, give a literal history" (*Let's Weigh the Evidence*, p. 77).
- Westcott and Hort were instrumental in pioneering textual criticism. Their eclectic text (selected from various sources or variant readings) was promoted by Eberhard Nestle and Kurt Aland and is used in most fundamental Bible colleges and universities today. The text most commonly used at the time of this writing is the Nestle-Aland Greek New Testament - 26th Edition. (There is now a 27th edition of the Nestle-Aland Greek New Testament.)

- Eberhard Nestle's son, Erwin, said, "My father knew quite well that a certain one sidedness adhered to his text" (*New Age Bible Versions*, p. 496).

The Corrupted Westcott-Hort Text is the leaven that has leavened the whole lump of Christianity.

- The NIV (New International Version) is an interpretation of these revised Greek manuscripts.

Greek text of the NIV

Of the about 5,300 Greek texts existing in papyrus fragments, uncials, cursive and lectionaries, only 1 percent or less agree with the Greek text of the NIV.

- **Papyri:** Small pieces of papyrus; fragments made from papyrus plant. It is brittle. Most do not have many verses on them. Of 88 now, 13 (15%) agree with the Westcott-Hort text.
- **Uncial:** Greek manuscripts written in large inch-long (twelfth part) capital letters that run together. They are without accent, punctuation, and verse/chapter division. There are 267 uncials of which 9 (3%) agree with the Westcott-Hort text.
- **Cursive** (minuscule): Greek manuscripts written in longhand or cursive. Their letters flow together. There are 2,764 preserved today of which 23 (1%) agree with Westcott-Hort.
- **Lectionaries:** Portions of Scripture in Greek and Latin Bibles that were read in the churches on certain days. All 2,143 agree with the Received Text of our King James Bible.

2 Corinthians 2:17: For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

God has preserved His Words in the ben Chayyim OT Masoretic Hebrew and the NT Byzantine Greek. The King James Bible is a trustworthy translation of these manuscripts for English speaking people.

D.A. Waite says, “Of 5,255 manuscripts, 99.15% agree with the Received Text. Only 0.85% agrees with Westcott-Hort” - (*Four Reasons for Defending the King James Bible*, p.15). This is why our King James Bible has been referred to as the Majority Text Bible.

Westcott and Hort referred to the Majority Text of the King James Bible as a *Vile Text*. They also admired Charles Darwin, agreeing wholeheartedly with his atheistic theory of evolution - (Dick Cimino, *The Book*, and p.1 of the foreword).

The writer is thankful to God for Tabernacle Baptist College of Greenville, S.C. and a few other Christian schools for using the KJV (King James Version) which is a translation from the Masoretic Hebrew and the Byzantine Greek texts (Textus Receptus). Most Christian colleges use a Bible text based on the 1881 Westcott-Hort revision. Some schools are ambivalent in their Greek text preference. A fundamentalist Christian university in Greenville, S. C. uses only the King James Bible for preaching but uses the Westcott-Hort text in its Greek department (*Defending The King James Bible*, p. 218).

One faculty professor of this school staunchly defends the Westcott-Hort Greek Text in his booklet, *The Truth About The King James Version Controversy*. Instead of pointing out numerous errors of the Westcott-Hort Text, the professor devotes over half of his booklet to attacking the faults of Peter Ruckman and discrediting the King James Greek Text.

Dr. Stewart Custer says, “The Alexandrian text (presumably Vaticanus and Sinaiticus and perhaps Alexandrinus) is older and better attested than the others” (*The Truth About The King James Version*, p. 9: emphasis by the writer}. The writer does not agree. The Alexandrian texts may be older because they survived in time due to rejection and non-use by established orthodox Churches. It certainly is not better attested than the Byzantine text.

Dr. Custer also thinks that only the teaching is preserved (*The Truth About The King James Version*, pp. 12, 13). Try to fit *teaching* in Psalms 12:6; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35; Luke 4:4; I Peter 1:25.

Dr. Custer also prefers to disclaim the authority of I John 5:7 in the King James Bible. He gives his reason against the validity of I John 5:7 by saying, “In this context it distracts from the direction of thought that John manifested” (*The Truth About The King James Version*, p. 14). Dr. Custer also uses Scofield’s note to support his argument (the Scofield Bible uses the King James translation). The absence of I John 5:7 matches quite well with the Bibles of Roman Catholicism and Jehovah Witness which are translations from the corrupted Alexandrian Greek manuscripts that were used by Westcott

and Hort. Neither will you find I John 5:7 in most of the other New Age Bible versions that are translations (or *thought* interpretations) of the Westcott-Hort revision.

(**Note:** The Scofield Bible is a good reference Bible, but its notes are not without faults and errors. For example, on page 1,325, the center references “o” and “q” denies the validity of I John 5:7 and the “in earth” of I John 5:8. Other faulty notes are also found: page 1,353, center reference “e;” page 1,272, center reference “a;” page 1,175, footnote “1;” page 1,069, footnote “1.”)

Other New Age Bibles:

The Revised Standard Version (**RSV**), The New American Version, The New American Standard Bible (**NASB**), The New English Bible (**NEB**), The New International Version (**NIV**), Contemporary English Version (**CEV**), Living Bible (**LB**), Today's English Version (**TEV**, or Good News For Modern Man), The New Testament in Modern English by J.B. Phillips, New King James, etc.

Kurt Aland believes that the Byzantine Text (of the King James) is a revision of a third century text. Other textual critics insist that the Majority Text repeatedly offers us variations with little or no claim to being original (*Which Bible?* pp. 33-35). These beliefs were propagated by the Tractarians of the Oxford Movement (higher critics) and are emulated by our modern-day Westcott-Hort fundamentalist brethren.

Our Westcott-Hort Fundamentalist brethren prefer to follow after Bible textual critics, such as Westcott, Hort,

Aland, Simon, Astruc, Geddes, Eichhorn, Semler, DeWette, Hollander, Kuenen, Ewald, Wellhausen, Griesbach, Mohler, Lachmann, Tregelles, Wiseman, Coleridge, Schleiermacher, Smith, Tischendorf, Souter, Newman, Schaff, Jerome, Ellicott, Lightfoot, Moulton, Stanley, Moffatt, Weymouth, Goodspeed, and others.

The Westcott-Hort Fundamentalist brethren do not choose to stand with those men who have defended the Traditional Text such as Tyndale, Beza, Geerlings, Colwell, Clark, Hoskier, Fuller, Sightler, Scrivener, Hills, Doughty, Wilson, Brown, Hodges, Coray, Willoughby, Martin, Wilkinson, Cook, Cartwright, Melancthon, Beckett, Hemphill, Stringer, Waite, and many other reliable scholars. Also include all of the reformers, many thousands of unknown dedicated Christians, and unimportant Bible students such as this writer.

Also include all of the Reformers, many thousands of unknown dedicated Christians and unimportant Bible students such as the writer.

Psalms 11:3: If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

The writer believes that an old axiom speaks volumes here; it says, *Birds of a feather flock together*. Obviously, we gravitate toward those with whom we agree with the most.

Which Bible text has the reader chosen? Has the reader investigated or just following the side that they believe more knowledgeable and spiritual? Which Bible has the reader chosen?

- Did God fail to preserve His Word in an accurate text for the common people?
- Should Christians wait around a few decades for a “better attested” text while the professors sort it all out?

Apparently, Dr. Custer and his associates believe that they have the superior text: his defense of the corrupt Westcott-Hort Text is well supported by his school’s staff.

Questions arise:

- Why does the Dr. Custer's school use the Westcott-Hort Text instead of the King James Greek Text in their Greek department?
- Does this school lack confidence in the traditional Byzantine Greek Text?
- Does this school believe that there are no significant differences between the Greek text of Westcott-Hort/Nestle’-Aland and that of the King James?
- Does the staff of this school believe that the Westcott-Hort Text is more accurate than the Byzantine Greek Text?
- If this school believes that the Westcott-Hort Text is more accurate, why don’t they preach from an English translation of this revision such as the ASB, NASB or the RSV?

Many Westcott-Hort fundamentalists love to lump King James advocates together with Peter Ruckman. Apparently, this makes them feel comfortable in using the Westcott-Hort text. Strangely, they appear to be shy about openly defending the Westcott-Hort Text by name. Perhaps they are afraid of losing support from good people who do

not know that they favor the corrupt Westcott-Hort Greek Text over the traditional King James Greek Text.

The writer has observed a common pattern of the Westcott-Hort fundamentalist brethren concerning both texts of the King James and Westcott-Hort:

- The Westcott-Hort “fundamentalists” will rarely, if ever, point to any errors of the Westcott-Hort text; instead, they will laud its alleged great qualities.
- The NIV promoters will begin by extolling the great scholarship of Westcott and Hort. (So what, scholarship is not the main prerequisite for handling God’s Word.)
- Next, these Westcott-Hort “fundamentalists” will praise the Christian dedication and spiritual depth of Westcott and Hort. (The writer is convinced that they were no more than liberal apostates.)
- The Westcott-Hort brethren will name other fundamentalists, who have used the Westcott-Hort revision, as if this gave absolute veracity to its text.
- Our Westcott-Hort fundamentalist brethren will conclude their defense of the Westcott-Hort text by discrediting the King James text. They will exaggerate the least trivial fault of the King James and glowingly refer to its alleged errors.

Some of the Westcott-Hort fundamentalists exhibit poor doctrinal exposition as well as demonstrating an intolerant and mean spirit toward King James advocates.

For example:

- One Westcott-Hort professor in a fundamentalist school (Greenville, SC) expounds that Jesus made fermented wine at the marriage in Cana (John 2:1-11).

The cup {grape juice} is the New Testament in Jesus' blood (I Corinthians 11:25). Jesus' pure untainted blood cannot be symbolized with fermented (leavened) grape juice because leaven is a type of evil, hypocrisy, and false doctrine (Matthew 16:6, 11-12; Luke 12:1; I Corinthians 5:7-8).

The LORD'S Passover, which pictured the sacrificial Lamb of God (Exodus 12:1-14), was to be eaten with unleavened bread. Of course, Jesus is our Passover (I Corinthians 5:7; John 1:29). It is highly unlikely that fermented grape juice (leavened wine) would be used in the Lord's Supper since leaven was strictly forbidden in the Jewish household before the Passover and with the Passover itself. Leaven was even forbidden during the days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread that followed immediately after the Passover.

Question # 1: Would Jesus make fermented (leavened) wine, which is a type of evil, to symbolize His pure blood?

Answer: No.

Question # 2: Would Jesus put the bottle to His neighbor thereby making him drunk?

Answer: No.

The putting of the bottle to a man is the only way he can become a drunkard. This could very likely rob a man of

his opportunity for salvation. If Jesus made fermented wine at the marriage supper of Cana, He would be going against the Scriptural teaching of Habakkuk and also the apostle Paul.

Habakkukh 2:15: Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!

I Corinthians 6:10: Nor thieves nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Question # 3: Would Jesus be a stumbling block to the weak in the faith?

Answer: No.

The Scriptures teach against becoming a stumbling block to the weak and it is certain that Jesus, who would have all men to be saved, would not do so (Romans 14:13; I Corinthians 8:9; 2 Peter 3:9).

Question # 4: Would Jesus go against His Word?

Answer: No.

Jesus would not go against His Word that teaches that a man is not wise when he looks upon fermented wine.

“...For thou hast magnified thy Word above all thy name (Psalms 138:2b).

Proverbs 20:1: Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. See also Proverbs 23:31-32.

The writer does not have to wrestle over the answers to these questions. No lost drunkard will be able point a finger at Jesus at the White Throne Judgment and accuse Him of contributing to his demise.

Apparently, the Westcott-Hort “fundamentalist” university professor that believes that Jesus made fermented wine does not believe that Jesus is wise.

- Another Westcott-Hort professor in a fundamentalist school (Greenville, SC) caused a student to be expelled from that school because the student refused to apologize for his belief in the King James Bible as an accurate and trustworthy translation of God’s Word in English.

The student (a candidate for a master’s degree) was also laughed at by some of the classroom students, as well as ridiculed by the professor who caused his expulsion. When the humiliated student appealed to the president of that school (in writing), the president sidestepped the issue and avoided a categorical answer to the student. The school president appeared delighted in reprimanding the student for refusing to buckle-under to the Westcott-Hort professor, implying that the student was rude. The school president sided with the teacher against the King James Bible preference. This story was directly related to the writer by the student who was soon afterwards expelled. The writer also read both letters, the student’s letter to the president and the president’s reply to the student.

So much for the endorsement of some fundamentalists!

The writer heard the president of this same fundamentalist school state over a radio broadcast that he