



# WHY CAN'T I UNDERSTAND MY KING JAMES BIBLE?



**The Thinker**

**Dr. Bobby J. Adams**

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WHY CAN'T  
I  
UNDERSTAND MY  
KING JAMES BIBLE?

DR. BOBBY ADAMS, TH.D., PH.D.

Why Can't I Understand My King James Bible?

June, 2017

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All Scripture quotes are from the King James Bible. Scripture quotes are in italics for emphasis.

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# DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my wife, Lea, who has unwaveringly stood with me for some 38 years now. She has unselfishly set aside her life and ministry in order to promote mine both in public and in our home.

I would also like to thank those quoted in this book who have unknowingly taught me the importance of the King James Bible. Also, were it not for the many hours and knowledge of computers of Dr. Kirk DiVietro, this book would never have been completed. Finally, James Stanley, who was my mentor for so many years, and taught me the love for the Bible, and how to study it.

Bobby J. Adams

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# INTRODUCTION

You would think that of the over five million books in the world, that the Bible should be the easiest one to understand. After all, it is the word of God. And God gave it to mankind to reveal Himself to us. You would think that He would allow you to figure it out. Right?

You read your Bible like a good Christian. But something is amiss. You don't seem to receive as much from it as do other people. You have done what you were taught. You pray beforehand, asking God to reveal His word to you but nothing changes. You read the passage. You sit and stare at the words on the page and wonder, "What am I reading? What does it mean? What is going on in this chapter? Why am I still reading this Book?" Finally, in utter frustration, you close the Holy Scriptures and say, "There is no point in reading the King James Bible. No matter how hard I try I just cannot get anything out of it."

Is the Bible a closed book that only a select, elect group get to read with understanding and the rest are blinded to its truths and blessings? Did God set up His word in such a way that only the educated people can mine its treasures? Do the people who can translate the Scriptures into the English language from Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek get to follow with ease the reading of the Bible while the rest of Christendom is left wondering when and if God will ever speak to them?

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Or do you need some mystical key that only the "initiated" possess before its truths materialize? Does God give some mystery power to some and not others? Do the clergy have a spiritual leg up that lets them understand it?

That's the way many experience the Bible but is this the way that God intends it to be? If it is, then how will God hold those of us who do not understand, those of us who cannot understand the Bible accountable because we do not know what it says? That is not the God that the Bible describes. Either the Bible is an unsolvable mystery and God will not hold us accountable, OR, are there some clues that will help us to understand the Bible?

We believe that every child of God should be able to read the Bible and be touched by its truth. This book will attempt to explain why the Bible truth does not spontaneously jump from its pages to the hearts of people. It will attempt to aid its readers in hearing, obeying and enjoying things God has placed in the Bible for them.

Do the above words describe you? If they do, rest assured that you are not alone with your feelings. Did you know that before He went to the cross the Lord had already told His disciples everything that the Father had given Him to reveal? Yet they still did not understand His words. They even forgot some of them?

In John 15:15 Jesus said these words,

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*All things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*

His promise to the disciples is a promise to you and me.

This should give us hope that God has done the same for us in our King James Bible (KJB).

The Bible is the perfectly preserved word of God without any proven errors. It is therefore, THE Book that is alive and can mature you as a child of God. It is His word that will save you, sanctify you, and preserve you in this world. It will give you an inheritance in the kingdom of God to come. What a treasure that He has given us! But it will be an unused hidden treasure unless we read, and live by it on a daily basis for the rest of our lives!

Education, though at times can be a good thing, will not help you or better equip you in understanding God's word. You can know all the vocabulary and grammar and still miss what God has to say. A knowledge of original languages will not help you to be a better student of the Scriptures. The truth of God that feeds the spirit is found even in a cold formal reading of the Scriptures.

Even if you were a Bible writer, who lived when the Lord Jesus lived and taught, and could speak Greek and Hebrew, you still would not necessarily be guaranteed understanding of its pages. Peter said that some of the things that Paul wrote were "*hard to be understood.*" Wise old Christians used to say, "The

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best commentary on the Bible is the Bible. We will find the answer to our quandary in the Bible.”

Our final authority in all matters pertaining to this book shall ever be the King James Bible. Our goal will be to understand what HE meant by what He wrote and how to apply it. To understand the Bible, it is of primary importance to know its Author. Then be humble, pray, run your references, and wait upon Him for truth.

Studying the Bible is like neurosurgery. When you have a medical condition, it is often good to have a second opinion. When you are dealing with neurology the more doctors you consult the more confused you will become. You find a doctor you trust and listen to him. Understanding the Bible is similar. The more versions you consult the more confused you will become. Another version cannot shed any light on God's true word, the perfectly preserved King James Bible.

This book will not give the person justification for laziness. The Bible tells us to seek out the word, read it, study it, meditate and memorize it, and then live by it. The Scriptures give us examples of those who have successfully complied with the above guidelines.

It is the author's purpose to list hindrances to understanding the Bible, and then give helps and guidelines to doing so. It will not be critiquing or correcting the Scriptures in the name of helping to

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make it reader friendly. The Bible must be respected and revered as Holy and separate from all other literary works known to man. No other book stands on the same level. Before this book is completed, it will contain helpful hints for those interested parties.

[30] *And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? [31] And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. Acts 8:30-31*

[20] *But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. [27] But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. 1 John 2:20, 27*

Though this verse is speaking of the anointing which teaches us to abide in Christ, it is what it partially addressed herein. It is true that we need one another, but the main Teacher is the divine author of Holy Scripture, God the Holy Ghost.

Bobby Adams Th.D., Ph.D.  
December 2014

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**BIBLICAL EXAMPLES**

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# **Biblical Examples**

## **The Saviour Speaks**

The first key to understanding the Bible is to read it and hear the voice of the Master Teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He told us WHY we don't understand it. Let us list a few passages which shed some light on why you do not automatically understand the Bible.

In John 10:6 we read,

*This parable spake Jesus unto them: BUT THEY UNDERSTOOD NOT WHAT THINGS THEY WERE WHICH HE SPAKE UNTO THEM.*

The people who heard Jesus tell the parable spoke the same languages he spoke. They spoke Hebrew, Aramaic, and/or Greek so why did they not understand Jesus?

It wasn't just the general crowd that did not understand Jesus. Note that when the Lord was doing the teaching, his intimate disciples, the early church, often did not understand what He was talking about. We have proof of this phenomena in Matthew 15:15-17:

*Then answered Peter and said unto him, Declare unto us this parable. And Jesus said, ARE YE ALSO YET WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING? DO NOT YE YET UNDERSTAND,....*

## Scriptures Hidden

Why didn't they understand what He was saying to them? The first thing that the Bible tells us is that some truths were purposely hidden. Certain truths were withheld until the listener was repentant and willing to obey them. Others were hidden because the hearers' ears were blocked by their sin.

Luke 9:45

*But THEY UNDERSTOOD NOT this saying, AND IT WAS HID FROM THEM, that THEY PERCEIVED IT NOT: and they feared to ask him of that saying.*

John 12:16

*THESE THINGS UNDERSTOOD NOT HIS DISCIPLES at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him.*

Some passages are time sensitive. They may not be understood at the present time but perhaps later they become clear. We follow this principle in school. We do not teach students how to multiply until they can add. We do not tell students how to use grammar until they understand the parts of speech. In the same way, there are spiritual truths that we more easily understand when we have grown in the Lord and become a little more perceptive.

This principle also answers those who say that if they had been present when the Lord Jesus taught

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God's words that they would understand the Scriptures better. The Bible says otherwise on several occasions as we are presently showing. In Matthew 13:10 the disciples came to Jesus and asked Him, "*Why speakest thou unto them in parables?*" Good question; for many still read the pages of Holy Writ and cannot understand the parables either.

### **Speaks In Parables**

The Lord gave the answer in the next verse,

*Because it is given UNTO YOU to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, BUT UNTO THEM IT IS NOT GIVEN.*  
(v.11, emphasis mine)

It seems like Jesus often spoke to a targeted audience. If you are not part of that targeted audience you will not understand what he says.

Here the Lord gives a very interesting answer as to why He not only Speaks in parables but says that "it is not" for them to understand what He was saying. In Mark 4:33-34 we learn further,

*And with many such parables SPAKE HE THE WORD unto them, AS THEY WERE ABLE TO HEAR IT.*

The Lord spoke The Word to them and yet it was in parables, hidden from them, the crowd of people.

The text reminds us that He spoke AS THEY WERE ABLE TO HEAR IT. There are times that we

are not able to hear the word of God whether reading or listening to it. Troubles, or other events of life often dull our spiritual ears. When that happens, we are not able to hear from God.

As a side note perhaps you would do well to ponder further Mark 4:11-12,

*And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.*

Here is another thought to ponder taking the text just as it is. Parables are given so that they will not see, perceive, hear, understand and be converted, and their sins forgiven. This passage will be left up to the reader to figure out depending on your own theological persuasion.

### **Saved Person**

Matthew discussed the same event. Matthew 13:19 adds an interesting point.

*When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.*

The Lord Jesus is saying if you hear the word

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and do not understand it, the wicked one catches or steals that word. Any word of God that you resist can be stolen by the Devil. The most important word God speaks is the word of Salvation. Jesus was not just a good teacher and perfect model for our lives. He came to give salvation. If you have heard the Gospel and not received it, Satan will steal the word of God to keep you from being saved.

One needs to be a saved person in order to understand God's word. The Scriptures are not black words on white pages. They contain the very breath of God. For them to be understood our human spirit must be alive. The Author of Scripture has to indwell you for you to get what God wants you to have from His word. This happens when you hear the word of God and believe it.

Add to this the previous text, Mark 4:11-12. This writer would say that if you see but do not perceive, hear but do not understand, then the devil has taken the word to keep you from being converted and having your sins forgiven. Strange thing about not understanding God's word, it's a dangerous thing too. Salvation may depend on obeying the Scriptures, but how can you if you do not understand it.

### **Stealing the Word**

Luke 8:12, it puts it this way,

*Those by the way side are they that hear;  
receive the with joy; then cometh the devil,  
and taketh away the word out of their*

*hearts, LEST THEY SHOULD BELIEVE AND BE SAVED.*

It just cannot get any plainer than that, friend.

When you go through the rest of these parables just listed you can see the importance of the seed, which is the word of God. That word can be "*choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection*" as verse 14 says. Other things in this life can stop the word of God from becoming fruitful in our lives if we're not careful. You may not understand the Bible because it has been stolen from you by the evil one, cares of this life, or pleasures here in our life or in others. Riches cause many to stumble. Perhaps Asaph in Psalm 73:3 may not be the only one who stumbles in trusting God to take care of them when the wicked prosper instead of the righteous?

### **Secret Things**

Has it ever occurred to you that perhaps some passages in Scripture are not for you to understand? The Bible says in Deuteronomy 29:29:

*The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.*

In other words, there just might be some things in the Bible that are not for us to understand because they are hidden from us. All of us! Things, at

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times, do not make any sense to us. For example, when Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to the disciples on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24 and we read in verse 16, *"But their eyes were holden that they should not know him."* This was certainly deliberate on Jesus' part until He was ready to reveal Himself after opening their eyes. Then when He revealed Himself to them, Jesus vanished from their sight, literally. The Lord deliberately withheld Himself from them. Even so it is in many parables which are given in these parallel passages: Mtt. 13, Mk. 4, and Lk. 8 respectively.

Concerning parables, this author believes, that a parable is an exact, correct, infallible, and perfect teaching of a "doctrine" given in a veiled and mysterious form for a purpose. In Mark 4:2,

*And HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS  
BY PARABLES, and said unto them IN  
HIS DOCTRINE,...*

Once it is known that a parable teaches doctrine in a veiled form, the student of the word can figure out what Jesus is trying to convey to His listeners. Note too that if you do not like doctrine for whatever reason, then you would not have liked listening to the Lord Jesus, for He taught doctrine, He taught with authority.

### **Scriptures Fulfilled**

In Matthew 13 again, in verse 14 we have an interesting thought. Scripture was fulfilled in them.