

THE LIE

**THAT CHANGED
THE MODERN**

WORLD

A REFUTATION OF THE
MODERNIST CRY:

“POLY-SCRIPTURAE”

H. D. Williams, M.D.

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**We Use and Defend
the King James Bible**

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Publisher's Note

July 1, 2004

It is with great pleasure that the Bible For Today has been able to publish *THE LIE THAT CHANGED THE MODERN WORLD*. I have worked with Dr. Williams for some time now, as we have sought to get all the details of his book in readiness for publication.

At first, Dr. Williams published this in an 8.5 by 11" format. We have changed it into a 5" by 8.5" format to be more easily read and used throughout the world.

Due to various computer failures, this work has been delayed for many months. The time has now come to put this in print as it now stands. Granted, more work of editing and arranging could be done, but this will be left for a second edition. Time is of the essence.

The author is a medical doctor, now retired, who has researched this important topic thoroughly. Though he has not had the benefit of formal theological or seminary training, he has proved to one and all that so-called "lay" people who have a desire to understand this important subject can do so by diligent study, as Dr. Williams has done.

May the Lord Jesus Christ use and honor this study in the days, weeks, months, and years ahead until our Lord Jesus Christ returns. It should be in every layman's library, every Pastor's library, every church library, every college library, every university library, and in every theological seminary library.

Sincerely for God's Preserved Words,

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DAW/w

Pastor D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D.

Director, The Bible For Today, Incorporated

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Dedication

I dedicate this work to the Lord Jesus Christ, my Saviour, who is The I Am That I Am, The Alpha and Omega, The Bright and Morning Star, The El-Shaddai, The Son of God, Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince Of Peace, The Saviour, The Yahweh, The Bread Of Life, The Offspring Of David, The Bridegroom, The Adonai, The Jehovah-Jireh, The Son Of Man, The Jehovah-Elohim, The King of Glory, The Resurrection, The Jehovah-Shammah, The Surety, The Life, The Jehovah-Rohi, The Our Passover, The Key Of David, The Cornerstone, The Refiner, The Rock, The Jehovah-M'Kaddesh, The Firstborn, The Shiloh, The Rose of Sharon, The Emmanuel, The Door, The Jehovah-Tsidkenu, The Lord Of Lords, The Author And Finisher Of Our Faith, The Bishop, The Advocate, The Lion Of The Tribe Of Judah, The Anointed, The Righteousness Of God, The Baptizer, The Door, The Straight Gate, The Life, The Good Shepherd, The King Of The Jews, The Narrow Way, The True Vine, The Head, The King Of Kings, The Prophet, The Priest, The Seed Of David, The Way, The Truth, The Light, The Friend, The Lord Of The Vineyard, The Jehovah Rophe, The Love, The Holy One Of Israel, The Lord Thy God, The Horn Of Salvation, The Everlasting Covenant, The Lamb Of God, The King Of Israel, The Just, The Passover, The Heir Of All Things, The Holy One, The Apostle Of Our Faith, The Friend Of God, The Author of Eternal Salvation, The Forerunner, The Star, The Scepter, The Jehovah-Nissi, The Master, The Rabboni, The Branch, The Apostle And High Priest Of Our Profession, The Rod, The Root Of Jesse, The Ensign, The Covenant Of God, The Rod And Staff: The Holy One of God, The Desire Of All Nations, The Morning Star, The Messenger of the Covenant, The Covenant, The Nazarene, The Friend of Publicans And Sinners, The Prince of Life, The Lord of Lords, and

The Word

"Whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose" (Luke 3: 16b)

H. D. Williams, M.D.

Some of the Names Explained

Elohim = The omnipotent, sovereign God

Jehovah = The Being who is absolutely self-existent

El-Shaddai = God Almighty

Adonai = Master

Jehovah-Jireh = The God who foresees and provides

Jehovah-Rophe = The God who heals

Jehovah-Nissi = The God who is my banner

Jehovah-M'Kaddesh = The God who sanctifies

Jehovah-Shalom = The God who is peace

Jehovah-Tsidkenu = The God who is our righteousness

Jehovah-Rohi = The God who is my shepherd

Jehovah-Shammah¹ = The God who is there

Yahweh = tetragrammaton (YHWH) usually translated Jehovah or LORD

¹ Stone, Nathan; Names of God; Moody Press, Chicago; 1944; ISBN: 0-8024-5854-8

Acknowledgments

The author of this work cannot put in words the appreciation for the following people:

1. My wife, Pat, who demonstrated the patience of Job, who spent hours reading the manuscripts, and who showed her continuing love and faithfulness by being the helpmeet she has always been.
2. My friend and confidant, **Thomas Eller**, Senior Deacon, Old German Baptist Brethren, who has contributed immensely to this work by sitting hours on end in our basement reading, editing, and encouraging this author.
3. **Danny Lynch**, Elder, Old German Baptist Brethren, encouraged this author more than he knows to finish the work.

The following authors who have "gone before" are due the biggest thanks and congratulations for the mammoth labor performed in the subject matter of this work. This author has used and quoted their works throughout this work. This work would not have been possible without them. Many of them are graduates of the best (or formerly best) postgraduate schools in the nation. In alphabetical order they are:

4. **David Cloud**, Director, Way of Life Literature, Port Huron, MI., whose writings, books, and other materials were used extensively. His electronic disc produced for defense of the Word of God is recommended to anyone who is interested in the subject matter of this work. His web site is: www.wayoflife.org/

5. **William P. Grady**, Ph.D., Th.M., M.Ed., D.D., whose works, *What Hath God Wrought* and *Final Authority*, are incredible. Dr. Grady, who came out of Catholicism into the "Light" and who demonstrated research capabilities that are irrefutable, deserves the highest praise and congratulations. Grady Publications, Inc. maybe reached at P.O. Box 5217, Knoxville, TN, 37928.

6. **Edward F. Hills**, Th.D., whose classic work, *The King James Version Defended*, helped get me started on the road to understanding the issue of preservation of God's Words.

7. **Rev. Jack A. Moorman**, a missionary and Bible college professor, who wrote many detailed manuals for his students, needs to be honored for the many long hours he spent preparing his works. They were immensely helpful to this author. His books may be obtained from www.biblefortoday.org

8. **James Sightler**, M.D., has authored a number of excellently documented works that support the KJB. They were enormously helpful and appreciated. Dr. Sightler's works may be obtained from Sightler Publications, 25 Sweetbriar Road, Suite 1-A, Greenville, SC 29615.

9. **Pastor D. A. Waite**, Th.D., Ph.D., who is director of "**The Bible For Today**", 900 Park Ave., Collingswood, NJ, 08108, and who helped organize, and still serves the Dean Burgon Society as President, will never know how helpful his book, *Defending the King James Bible* and B.F.T. materials have been. His web site is www.BibleForToday.org/ Praise God for men like Dr. Waite who are willing to stand on the front line for THE TRUTH!

10. **Dean John Burgon** who lived in the late 1800's, wrote, and defended the manuscripts received from the local independent churches in the New Testament era; whose name graces the Dean Burgon Society, can only be praised with the highest accolades. His works helped Dr. Waite, and many of us to see the truth concerning the issues presented in this work. Those who would try to dishonour him by negative comments should be ashamed.

11. Many others have contributed in many ways. They are too numerous to list and some I am sure I have forgotten to acknowledge them on these pages. I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of them. You know who you are; may God bless you mightily. This work was not written to glorify any man, but the Lord Jesus Christ. So, if I have forgotten to mention you, don't be upset and purpose with me to pray that this work may influence at least one person to see THE TRUTH. [Jn. 14:6]

Foreword

THE SPIRIT SPEAKS: "SOLA-SCRIPTURA"

I. Dr. Williams requested our review of his work from an editorial point of view early on. Thoughts in print expose purpose and conviction of the heart. It is one thing to "say something" and yet another to bare one's spirit with the "written" word. Time and memory fades the "spoken" while pen and parchment "extends" the written.

The "written" Word of God is the Spirit speaking by the prompting of "holy men of old". The preservation of the Word has taken astounding historical twists and turns. This work emphasizes the historical line of the *priesthood of believers* who protected the Truth transmitted in the *Textus Receptus* and translated into the *King James Version*.

Historically, the *priesthood*, first called Christians at Antioch, *always* has been energized by the Spirit prompting the refrain: "Sola Scriptura", "Sola Scriptura". The anti-type cry in response to "Sola Scriptura" is the post-modern declaration "Poly-Scripturae" position. The post-modern assertion "whatever, whatever", meaning "whatever" is right for you, gave birth to the affirmation of "Poly-Scripturae". And by all means the postmodernist asserts: "Be true to **yourself!** He adheres to the modern textual critics pronouncement: "Bring on the 'politically correct' translations". The *priesthood* declares as a result of the "whatever" and "politically correct" thinking modes of the post-modernist: "Bring on confusion. Bring on the mixing of Church and State. Bring on the One World 'Bible'. Bring on the One World "WHATEVER", the One World "_____". So, as believers "fill in the blank" they essentially validate "The Lie" of the cry: "Poly-Scripturae".

THE PRIESTHOOD OF BELIEVERS SPEAKS: "SOLA-SCRIPTURA"

11. In addition, Dr. Williams asked us to trace our Old German Baptist Brethren (OGBB) background. Through study and research in this work he has come to the conclusion that we (OGBB) have roots that go back to the

priesthood of believers. Of course, this was no surprise to us.

Our "beginning" at Schwarzenau, Germany with Alexander Mack in 1708 was actually a regrouping of our part of the *priesthood*. With strong Waldensian influence, and a blending of pietism and Anabaptist principles, the "Brethren" cry was "Sola Scriptura, Sola Scriptura". Let the Word, and only (sola) the Word, be our creed! Let the simple sanctified life be the manifestation of this cry!

The regrouping led back to the Spirit Church; the Spirit, rather than the State, speaking regarding worship of God. And as the "Spirit speaking" through the written Word-with the "old brethren" it was simply *never* a question regarding the validity of the *King James Bible* (KJB). The "old brethren" used it; we use it today. It is the Word of God preserved in English. The SOAP work-up of "THE LIE" that came from modernists versus "THE TRUTH" of this work supports our stand regarding the KJB. Enough said!

Now, this stand (on the Word alone) has, through history, led to persecution, even to bloodshed. The *priesthood* pathway is bloody, but is it any wonder! Our path traces back to the foot of the Cross-and there was THE BLOOD, the sacrificial BLOOD of ultimate persecution, the BLOOD of Christ our High Priest, the first in the *priesthood* "blood line"! Indeed, our OGBB background traces back to the cross; but only so as we find ourselves trusting in the BLOOD that brings us to the saving faith in the Work of the Cross. And may our life in Him, then, "show forth His praise"!

Thomas Eller, R. Ph.

Biographical Sketch

Thomas Eller was born in Modesto, California and was saved at an early age in the Church that is the offspring of the United Brethren who are descendants of the Cathari (sufferers) and who are called the Old German Baptist Brethren (OGBB). He was active in his Church as a young person, and continued to serve in that capacity as an adult. After his formal education, he obtained a degree in pharmacy. He became the Director of Pharmacy at a large California hospital. His expertise allowed him to continue to be involved with youth through his Church by helping his community's drug treatment programs. He lectured and wrote on the subject of drug addiction. He moved to North Georgia about 19 years ago and continued working as a research pharmacist at a large national company. First elected to the position of Deacon in a large district of the OGBB Church in 1977 in California, he served in this capacity until 1985, when he moved his family to Cleveland, Georgia. He has functioned as Senior Deacon and as one of the initial organizers of the OGBB Blue Ridge District. The district continues to grow and "serve the Lord with gladness". He is married, and his wife has faithfully served next to her husband in his official duties. They have two daughters who are successful wives and mothers, and who also belong to the OGBB along with their husbands. They have four grandchildren.

H. D. Williams, M.D.

SAMPLE PAGES

Preface

PRESERVED WORDS OR PRESERVED THOUGHT?

Do we have the actual words of God? God inspired the Holy Writings so long ago that *perhaps* the actual words have been lost? Perhaps all we have left of His inspired Words are inspired "thoughts," phrases, corrupted copies of His Words, or perhaps something close to what He said. But, since God is so great, perhaps anything written that is close to His words or thoughts would be satisfactory for man to understand "what He meant"? Could this really be satisfactory since man is a fallen creature? Can man adequately restate what God said in the original writings and make them perfectly true, or even useful? What does God indicate is His desire for His Words and His thoughts?

Jesus said in John 10:35b, "the scripture cannot be broken." Of course He meant the thoughts or Words cannot be undone, restated, unfulfilled or lost. He also meant that the Scripture is true to the smallest detail [Mat 5:17-18]. This is a clear reference to the infallibility of Scripture. Paul made it clear in his letter to the Galatians that even singular and plural nouns were important. Galatians 3:16 says, "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ." Jesus said in Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Notice He did not say "parts." This demonstrates that even letters are important. Jesus said they were. Paul said they were. Peter said they were. [1Pe 1:21-23] Who is qualified to counter these men?

Another term used to exemplify infallibility to the smallest detail is to say the Scripture is inerrant. To make sure we understand this thought, Jesus Christ said, "not one jot or tittle shall disappear until all be fulfilled." [Mat. 5:18] This does not mean a word, but even the smallest part of a word shall not disappear until everything stated or prophesied comes to pass. In another place Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Please notice the plural, words) So, the Word will be preserved "until all be fulfilled" because it is true and "cannot be broken". The concept of the preservation of every word, syllable, letter, jot, or tittle should be important to us! Why? Because Jesus said every word would judge us in John 12:47-48 "And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I

came not to judge the world, but to save the world. [48] He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."

John 17:17b says, "Thy word is truth." If preservation has failed then the Scripture is not "truth."

DOCTRINE OF PRESERVATION CAST ASIDE

Most denominations, most churches, most colleges, most seminaries, and most institutions have cast the Doctrine of Preservation of the Scripture aside. This is a grievous and growing evil that is contrary to Scripture and that has placed "Christendom" on a *broad road* leading to destruction. This road, called "The Rejection of Inerrancy, Inspiration, Infallibility, and Preservation of Scripture," carries one to the doorstep of a house called, "Apostasy." Inside the house many seats are waiting. One of the seats is called, "The Rejection of Moses' Writings called the Pentateuch." As one progresses around the room, another seat is called, "The Naturalist's Neutral Seat." Another seat has the name above it called, "The Denial of the Miracles," or "Denial of the Virgin Birth," or "Denial of Prophecy." Finally, the seat is reached that belongs to the owner of the house, and on top of his throne are the words, "The Denial of the Divinity of Jesus Christ." As one looks back through history and examines the lives and beliefs of those who have moved from one seat to another or who have stretched out across them, the root problem (disease) starts with that slippery road called, "The Rejection of Inerrancy, Inspiration, Infallibility, and Preservation of Scripture."

Close by stands another house, an opulent one obtained by the very lives of the saints. It is built on a road called "Tradition." This new house is called "The Philosophy of Men." Inside this new house are more seats. The first seat is called, "The Seat of Logic." The next seat has a name above it called, "The Seat of Despisers." Further around the room is found, "The Seat of the Inquisitor" or "The Seat of Authority." Last but not least is a large throne that tries to imitate the throne found only in the north regions, which is the one belonging to **The Ancient of Days**. Above the throne in this house, however, is the title, "The Angel of Light." The seat is occupied.

One should be asking by now, is it possible that these are the roads being followed in the last of the "latter" days? Have we really cast aside the Doctrine of Preservation, Inerrancy, and Infallibility of Scripture? The answer is a loud, "YES!" The roads above have become wider and wider. More and more people have jumped on the buses heading to the houses described above. This is not the

opinion of someone who is "untrained," or someone who is not a textual critic, or someone who is not a linguist. This is a loud shout from some of the best scholars in history and from the faithful ones down through the last 20 centuries. The shout is coming from their pulpits, from their writings, from the fires, from the boiling pots, from the lion's dens, from the crosses, from the hangman's nooses, from the racks of torture, and from the graves of the faithful. The martyrs of the ages are crying out from their graves, "How long O Lord?" And a voice like many waters says, "Just a little while longer."

THE PURPOSE OF THIS WORK

The purpose of this work is to bring to "life" this "allegory of the houses." The thoughts recorded in this work are not original. The gratitude to those who have gone before cannot be expressed with words. Most importantly, thousands of men and women have given their lives to protect and pass on to their progeny the preserved Words.

They have understood the "Doctrine of Simplicity." "You must become as a little child to enter the Kingdom of Heaven." You do not have to be a great scholar, or highly educated, or a linguist to "get it." You do have to have "ears." But just in case you don't get it, we will quote and use the thoughts of some of the greatest scholars, linguists, and teachers of all time who became "as a child" and did "get it." Many of them are very respected in the field of textual criticism. Some individuals, who have been opposed to the idea of Divine Preservation, are starting to see a "glimmer" of light. Other individuals are men who have "seen the light" and have spent *years* studying the issue. They are graduates of Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Oxford, Cambridge, Dallas Theological Seminary and many other institutions of higher learning.

In spite of what you may be thinking, however, the Living Word was not preserved by the professors and administrators of the institutions of higher learning, but by the lesser known and often discredited *priesthood of believers*. It is *the priesthood of believers* guided by the Holy Ghost that keeps the local church, which is the pillar and ground of truth [ITim 3:15], on solid ground, and that protects, guards, and keeps the only sure foundation for the church, the Words of God. It is *not* the institutions of scribes, Pharisees, or scholars that guard, protect, and keep the Holy Words. Hopefully, this concept will be established in your mind and heart by the testimonies in this work. It is the local, independent churches of God that have maintained, guarded, protected, preserved, and kept the pure Word.

The Scriptures have not been lost and we do not need "editors" to

"reconstruct" or "correct" the Bible.

1. It is not hidden. It is not secret. 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.

2. It will never fail. Matthew 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

3. It is true. John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

4. It contains no fables. 2 Peter 1:16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

5. It is "more sure" than if God were to speak directly from heaven to us. 2 Peter 1:18-19 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts

6. It is not mystifying. Isaiah 45:18-19 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else. I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.

7. However, it may be veiled to unbelievers. 2 Cor. 4:3-4 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.¹

last but not least is Psalm 12:6-7, which underwrites all the above: Psalm 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 and Psalm 138:2c which seals all the above: Psalm 138:2c thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name. Wow!!

¹Cloud, David, Way of Life, The preceding 7 items in this work were used from www.wavoflife.org but the precise reference was lost.

CONCEPTS TO KNOW

In the course of reading this work there will be certain concepts and definitions which the reader needs to know and understand from the beginning. Many concepts overlap and are integrated. For this reason, some initial definitions and concepts are necessary. You may not understand everything in a section of this work, but keep reading. Don't give up. The topics covered in this work are critical for a believer, particularly in these final days of the last generation.

A manuscript may be a hand written document on 1) papyrus, a sheet something like paper made from a reed found primarily in Egypt, or 2) vellum, a specially made animal hide for writing. Vellum is more durable and was frequently made into codices, a book-like binding of layers.

The Bible was initially handwritten in large letters called uncials or later on in small letters called minuscules on these materials when the original autographs (writings) were recorded and the copies of those autographs were made. The 44 authors of the 66 books of the Bible wrote in the languages of Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. Their writings have not been lost, in spite of what you may have been told. Those authentic copies of the original writings in the languages of the Bible were passed down to us through the "plain" people or **the priesthood of believers**. The preserved copies of the original language manuscripts go by a number of different names but the most common are: the traditional text (TT), the received text (RT), the Textus Receptus (TR), the universal text, the Byzantine text, the majority text, the common text, the Antiochian text, the Ecclesiastical text, and the Constantinopolitan text. The corrupted copies of the original language manuscripts are often called the Alexandrian text, the Egyptian text, the Westcott/Hort text, the UBS (United Bible Society) text, the Nestle text, the Nestle-Aland text, the *critical text* (CT), and the Roman text.

This work will be structured like an epidemiological study. Everyone is probably familiar with the recent terrorist attacks on post offices and the capital buildings in Washington, D.C. using anthrax. The CDC (Communicable Disease Center) of the United States in Atlanta, Ga. and public health officials had a major epidemiological problem. Specifically, they had to do detailed contact studies to try to determine the origin and transmission of the anthrax spores and disease. In like manner, this report will list men and circumstances without lengthy particulars much like an epidemiological study. Charts and diagrams to assist you have been prepared to link individuals and their beliefs may assist

you. They can be found in the rear of the work.

The doctrine of inspiration as defined in this work is: the entire text of Scripture, including *the very words*, is a product of the mind of God expressed in human terms and conditions. This may be theologically stated as the verbal and plenary inspiration of the Bible. In addition, the Bible is true in all it teaches or affirms. This extends to both the areas of history and science. It does not hold that the Bible has a primary purpose to present detailed information concerning history and science, but contains the information God wants man to know. Therefore the use of idiomatic expressions, approximations, and phenomenal language is acknowledged to fulfill the requirement of truthfulness. Apparent discrepancies, therefore, can and must be harmonized. ¹ In light of the above, the Scriptures are infallible as to the very words, parts of words, and thoughts.

The very words, letters, and thoughts contained in the Received Text have been providentially preserved by an omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent triune God who is the one and only God I call the 0 0 0 God. The accepted doctrine is that this God was able to create and is able to maintain the universe consisting of billions of galaxies with billions of stars and that He may at His will operate outside the laws of nature and time by miracles or providentially within the laws of nature and time as man knows them.

Jesus Christ through His Words, the Scripture, has asked us as believers to **persevere** by **proclaiming**, **preserving** and **practicing** his words and doctrine until he returns by **proving** we are His servants through obedience to His Words. We will as a **result of repentance** be **refreshed** at the "times of **restitution**," which is His second coming, the restitution of all things, and the literal presence of the Prince of Life.

Acts 3:19-21 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Please be aware that one cannot read this material like a popular magazine or a modern book. Some quotes from ancient writings are difficult to understand. Many comments to assist in the interpretation are made in the middle of quotes to aid the reader, but are bracketed. Hopefully, this will not cause too much confusion.

¹House, H Wayne; *Charts of Christian Theology and Doctrine*; Zondervan Publishing House, Grand rapids, Michigan, 1992, p.24

LONG QUOTES ON PURPOSE

Lastly, there are many long quotes. There are many reasons for this: 1) To let the reader sense the complete meaning of the author of the quote 2) To get personal interpretation out of the way 3) To let the author of the quote present the information far better than the author of this work could 4) To save this author time and energy at the bench reconstructing the same information 5) To let the reader truly understand there are some very outstanding scholars who have studied these concepts diligently and 6) To show the reader there are some who have "missed the boat." Even though you may not understand everything in a quote, push ahead. As you learn definitions and concepts, you will begin to appreciate what a few faithful men have been crying: "Sola Scriptura" (Scripture Alone).

HOLD FAST TO SOUND DOCTRINE

The importance of the battle for the Words of God cannot be taken lightly. The rapid changes occurring in the thinking of modern man with the explosion of knowledge in the last one hundred plus (100+) years has caused spiritual insecurity for some, denial of truth for others, and false security for many people. The *rise* of immorality, relativism, lying, and even murder is probably linked to the turning away from the absolute preserved truth of God. Foundations are being built on the sinking sand of man who is rewriting the Words of God and claiming, "This is what God said." My prayer is that the sharing of this work with the help of the Spirit will assist some to develop a foundation so firm that turning back, giving up, or becoming apostate will be averted in the soon to come persecution and Antichrist era. Can you claim that you are so certain that you have the actual Words of God that you can cry out like the venerable old pastor of the church at Smyrna when threatened with wild beasts,

"Call them. For repentance from the better to the worse is not permitted us; but it is noble to change from what is evil to what is righteous"? And when he was threatened with fire, he said, "The fire you threaten burns but an hour and is quenched after a little; for you do not know the fire of the coming judgment and

everlasting punishment that is laid up for the impious. But why do you delay? Come do what you will." And finally, Polycarp said, "Eighty-six years I have served Him, and he never did me wrong. How can I blaspheme my King who saved me?"¹

Polycarp was discipled by the Apostle John.

Could you respond like this member of the **priesthood of believers**, Polycarp? I ask this question because I truly believe we are in the 'last' of the latter days. A pastor, Dr. Robert Massey, recently stated from the pulpit that there are three classic stages in a nation's history of Christianity. The 1st stage is establishment; the 2nd is repudiation; and the 3rd extermination. He said, "We are well into the repudiation stage in this nation." And this author believes it is because of the 'changes' in Scripture that are now accepted as the "true" Word of God and the confusion wrought by these changes. We are drawing close to the time of extermination, and the need for a firm foundation, not sinking sand, is near. Again I state: My prayer is that the information supplied in this work will also encourage the faithful to "hold fast" to that which is good; to that which are the **Words** of God; and not to the "thoughts", or "opinions" as to what man thinks are God's Words. Paul says in 1 Thes. 5:21 "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." God says in Isaiah 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." The only perfect and good thing currently on the face of this earth is God's Words, which are **God's** thoughts. We have His Preserved Words, they do not need to be dug up from the sands of Egypt, or discovered in a cave or monastery, or a garbage dump.

While reading this work, notice how the subtle forces of Satan have turned from 1) trying to exterminate "men" who were members of the **priesthood of believers**, to 2) trying to exterminate the Word of God. He was not completely successful with the first method but remember he was not successful at the Cross of Jesus Christ either. Jesus is alive. Will Satan be successful with the second method, trying to exterminate God's Word? We know he will not be successful, but he will lead many to believe the liberal modernist textual critics who have severely weakened God's message in many corrupted Bible versions. Which side will you be on in this struggle? Again I pray the information in this work will help you decide.

I have tried honoring **all** those that have addressed the issue of the preservation of God's Words on **all** sides. It is not easy, because when issues that determine salvation, sanctification, and eternity are involved, emotions run

¹Richardson, Cyril C.; *The Early Christian Fathers*; Collier Books, MacMillan Publishing Co.; New York, NY; ISBN 0-02-088980-1; 1970; pp. 152-153

high. Those on both sides of the problem who are not patient, or who cast disparaging remarks towards others troubles me. Hopefully, this work will honour our Saviour and reflect His personality.

THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE

Finally, this thought has consumed me with sadness as this work was being prepared: Our generation has forgotten those who have gone before us; who have entered "the strait gate"; who have suffered immensely; who have given their lives for "the King Eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God" and His Words. I was so surprised to find the following quote by the author of a book written in 1660 who had the same thoughts and who, I now know, had this same profound sadness.

"Yet that which more than all else caused my tears to flow was the remembrance of the sufferings and the death of Thy martyrs, who altogether innocent, as defenseless lambs, were led to the water, the fire, the sword, or to the wild beasts in the arena, thereto suffer and to die for Thy name's sake. However, I experienced no small degree of joy as I contemplated the living confidence they had in thy grace, and how valiantly they fought their way through the **strait gate.**"¹

H. D. Williams, M.D.

¹Braght, Thieleman J. van; *Martyrs Mirror, The Story of Seventeen Centuries of Christian Martyrdom, From the Time of Christ to A.D. 1660*; Herald Press, Scottsdale, Pa, Waterloo, Ontario, 1660, Reprinted 1949, Mennonite Publishing House from the Dutch edition 1660; p. 5

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Matthew 7:13-14

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

The Lie That Changed The Modern World

INTRODUCTION

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN HISTORY

There have been momentous, heaven and earth shattering events in history that have forever changed the future. The birth of Jesus Christ, Immanuel, "God with us", was undoubtedly the most far-reaching event in history. That one solitary life changed people, nations, cultures, and even the spiritual realms. On a lesser scale there are other examples. The development of the theory of evolution is one. The debates over this issue have raged for the last several centuries. A new religion, called Humanism, has sprung up because of belief in evolution's principles. Another example of an event that has significantly affected civilization is the development of the atomic bomb. The possibility of atomic warfare is producing a soaring anxiety among world leaders, alert citizens, and scientists, eclipsing concerns about any other public danger. This anxiety is driving the search for terrorists who have or may have weapons of mass destruction. This same anxiety drives the desire to control despots such as Saddam Hussein in Iraq and rogue nations like Iran and Libya. The necessity for control of atomic power is driving nations like Russia and the United States to openly cooperate with one another. Another example of an historic event, which is more recent and which has changed America and the world forever, is the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. All of these incidents have changed the future.

DISTURBING LIES

A most disturbing recent incident is the action taken by a politician, which has helped mold and solidify the moral relativism among the people of America, particularly our children. Can anyone forget the evening newscast when President William Jefferson Clinton stood before a television camera and pronounced, "I did not have sex with that woman, Monica Lewinski." The subsequent spin placed on the President's lie has encouraged teenagers and adults to believe that it is all right to lie about sex, because "everybody does" and that is normal. The ultimate consequences of his actions on the moral fabric of the nation and world are yet to be determined.

LIES THAT HAVE CHANGED THE WORLD

There have been other lies in history that have affected the world. These have led to wars, murders, mayhem and social corruption. Examples of these types of lies are 1. the fabrication of the Piltdown man discovery at Piltdown Common in Sussex by Charles Dawson, an amateur geologist, 2. the construction of a genetic basis for homosexuality by the liberal left to justify homosexuality, 3. the falsification of the truth that Islam is a violent religion, and 4. the persistent acceptance of the theory of evolution without any evidence of support. But the tenet of this work is the belief that the lie about to be revealed has changed the world adversely, forever. The change started slowly, but is now like a snowball rolling downhill toward a one-world religion, one-world "Bible", and one-world government and economy. The power that is pushing and pulling this snowball is not gravity, but rather the plan of enemy spiritual forces toward ecumenism.

The lie is not well known. There is no doubt it has changed our modern world and will continue to change it in the foreseeable future. It is built on *argumentum ad hominem* reasoning. This type of argument is built on a series of *surmises*. Those who use these kinds of arguments forget the difference between a conclusion based on facts compared to a conclusion based on theory, probability, and/or presumption. The strongest conclusions based on these types

of arguments can never rise above a *probability*.¹ But to promote the conclusions as truth, which is not based on *prima facie* evidence known to the persons or individuals, becomes a **lie**. Two men participated in THE LIE, which this work proposes has been overlooked by most, and sadly pressed as truth into modern and postmodern higher and lower theological criticism. One of the men participating in this fraud was a bishop of the Anglican Church and the other was a professor at Cambridge near the turn of the 19th century.

PREREQUISITES BEFORE EXAMINING THE LIE

Before discussing this world changing deceit, I would like to consider some very important prerequisites and a lot of historical information. One's view of God is critical to the understanding of the consequence of this deceit. The Judeo-Christian God of the Bible has been considered to be omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. There are those throughout history who have not accepted an Almighty God with these attributes. They have believed that He is limited in time and space. They have not believed that He is eternal outside of time, but eternal in longevity or age only. They have not considered God to be all-knowing, but that He is learning as time marches on.² They do not believe He is the creator of the universe and presuppose the universe to have existed eternally without a creator. Some of the recent discoveries of astrophysics have refuted the eternal existence of the universe and have pointed to a sudden creation.³ The tenet of this work is that God has existed eternally outside of time, is not limited by time, and is the triune God of the Holy Bible who is all-knowing, all-seeing, and all-powerful. He is the Creator of the universe from "nothing."

God cannot lie. By His very nature He is holy and righteous. He is truth. Many Scriptures refer to this character of God, for example, Numbers 23:19, *God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not*

¹ Thompson, J.P.; *Barnes' Notes*; Baker Book House Company; Grand Rapids, MI; ISBN: 0-8010-0835-2; Reprinted from 1873 edition of *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Genesis with a New Translation*; p.VIII

² Murphree, Jon Tal; *Divine Paradoxes*; Christian Publications, Camp Hill, Pa.; ISBN:0-87509-771-5, 1998, p. 8

³ Ross, Hugh; *The Fingerprint of God*; Promise Publishing Co.; Orange, Ca. ISBN 0-939497-18-2; 2nd edition, 1991; p. 39-50. The sudden creation was **not** the Big Bang, however.

make it good? And in this verse, Deut. 32:4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he. And finally, Titus 1:2 *In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.*

Here are some examples that demonstrate God did not, cannot, and will not lie. He is truth, and He will fulfill His promises.

There are 330 prophecies concerning the first coming of Jesus Christ. He fulfilled them all to the letter. A case in point is the prediction in Micah 5:2 that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem. "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." The chances of one man having fulfilled 330 prophecies are one to the billions and billions according to mathematicians.

Although many doubted the following would ever occur, Israel was established as a nation again in one day on May 15, 1948 after being a nation without borders for nearly 2000 years. Isaiah 66:8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

If you do not believe in this Almighty God, then you don't have to read any more. As harsh as it may seem, you are considered an enemy of God and part of a growing tumult. (Psa 74: 22-23) **If** you are willing to learn about the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, before reading further, turn to appendix one (1). **If** you are not sure whether you believe in God (an agnostic), or if you are sure (a believer), read on and listen to what this God described above says about His Words. I would caution you to remember I Cor. 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

The following verse is pivotal to understand the following discussion, although there are many other verses and we will present them later. Psalm 12:6-7 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. [7] Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, **thou shalt preserve them** from this generation for ever. (Please see the comments below concerning this verse)¹ **Pure** in this context means God will keep His Words uncontaminated, unpolluted, clean, and untainted. He also says He will keep, guard, **protect**, and **preserve** them **forever**. This clearly does not

¹ White, James R.; *The King James Only Controversy*; Bethany House Publishers; Minneapolis, MN; ISBN 1-55661-575-2, 1998; p. 243 The attacks on this verse by people who want to destroy this reference are appalling. The comments on this verse by White are typical of "Alexandrians", which will be explained in this work.

mean He will keep or preserve words someone else chooses, or decides to change, or decides to subtract from His Words! He, the Almighty Jehovah, will keep and preserve them If you don't understand anything else in this document, please understand PSA 12: 6-7. Some will say, "Well, how did he preserve them?", or "Why can't other words be used if they "mean" the same thing?", or "Why couldn't there be several different paths God used to preserve His Words", or "Aren't there many different wordings in the manuscripts; so, how do you know which one is right?" It is the purpose of this work to answer these and other questions.

This issue was stirred in my heart about 10 years ago when a sister-in-law called me at home and said, "I saw a lady, Gail Riplinger, on Action Sixties (a Christian T.V. program in Tampa, FL anchored by Herman and Sharon Bailey) this afternoon who said the new versions were corrupted and the King James Version was the real WORDS OF GOD." What a shock to me! I had been teaching a Sunday school class to middle aged men at the First Baptist Church in New Port Richey, FL, and had been using the New American Standard Version (NASV) of the Bible. My reaction was like so many others I have encountered since that time who have been shocked by similar statements. Their first reaction after the shock is to say one of two things. 1. "I'm not going to change the version I have been using." 2. "My pastor uses 'this new version' or 'that new version' so why should I change?" Obviously I was incredulous, also. I did not want to change versions. I had heard and thought the King James Bible (KJB) was "difficult to read".

I set out to investigate why someone would say that the KJB is the Words of God. After 10 years of study and reading as time would allow, I have come to some definite conclusions. Read on!

THE METHOD USED TO INVESTIGATE

The place to start in order to research a problem, question, or difficulty is with the Words of God. So many of us get this backwards. We start with a problem, jump to a conclusion, formulate a plan, and then turn to the Scriptures. What so often happens as a result is to look for verses that confirm our position. This is similar to a faulty scientific method, or reminds me of what happens in a doctor's office all too often. Let me explain an acronym, SOAP, that we often use to record patient's visits to a doctors office. When a patient comes to a doctors office with complaints we record those as subjective, the "S" in SOAP. After hearing the complaints, or symptoms, and taking a patient's present and past medical history, the next step is to collect objective information, the "O"

in SOAP. This information is primarily a physical exam. This is the part where we listen with a stethoscope, push and pull the patient, and look very carefully. The next step is to form an assessment or a preliminary diagnosis, the "A" in SOAP. Based on these steps a physician orders a laboratory or x-ray examination called the plan, the "P" in SOAP. That's where SOAP comes from. If any of these steps are skipped, a physician risks making a wrong final diagnosis. Young doctors in training have a tendency to jump to the assessment or diagnosis before taking a careful history and examining the patient. The years that doctors dedicate to training help them to stay focused without skipping steps.

Another point I consider crucial to an investigation of the Words of God is to let the Holy Ghost act as an X-Ray. He penetrates to the deep things of God, revealing the truth, just as an X-ray penetrates deep within the flesh of a patient revealing hidden disease. Those of you reading this work, who are saved, will remember something astonishing. Before you were saved and received the Holy Ghost, understanding or discerning the Words of God was impossible. Paul said in 1 Cor. 2:14 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." I plead with you to discern with the Spirit.

THE PATIENT

The patient in this work is the Bible. The subjective complaint is: "That the words of the Holy Bible have been corrupted or spoiled or changed, or added to, or removed or 'infected' in many commentaries, versions, or works. We know that infection spreads rapidly unless it is checked. Paul said in Galatians 5:9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. and in 1 Cor. 5:6-7 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? **Purge out** therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: A physician knows that infection must be purged; that is it must be drained, cut out or destroyed by antibiotics. Similarly, leaven or sin influencing the Words of the Bible must be "drained," "cut out," "removed," "destroyed," "purged" or avoided to keep it from spreading, or influencing our lives, or the lives of others.

Returning to our patient, the Bible, we must determine if it has been corrupted or infected. We must take a history and do a physical. We must examine the Words carefully and see if they are sick. We must take a very careful history and vigilantly examine the Words just like you would want a

doctor to scrutinize you in a matter of life or death because objective or physical signs are sometimes subtle. However, this exam is even more important than a doctor's examination of a patient, because if we get this wrong, someone may be effected for eternity. This is one reason I have such great respect for pastors. The seriousness of the subject matter they are handling would scare any reasonably thoughtful person.

CAREFUL EXAM

Gail Riplinger noted in the introduction to her book, *New Age Bible Versions*, the following quote by "Herman Hoskier, the world's pre-eminent manuscript scholar who observed:

Rough comparison can seldom, if ever, be of any real use, the exact collation of documents, ancient or modern with the Received Text, is the necessary foundation *of all scientific criticism.*"

Why would he state that one must compare all documents with the Received Text for proper "scientific" textual criticism? Obviously, there must be a standard to compare, but he must believe the **Received Greek Text² (RT) of Scripture** is the gold standard. It's not surprising Hoskier trusts and believes the Received Text. Listen to some of the verses from the Bible version based on the RT text, which is accepted by many as preserving the text of the original autographs (writings). Psalm 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. If the Words are not being changed in heaven, then Jesus Christ did not change the Words when He gave them to us to be used on earth. As a matter of fact when Jesus Christ was here, this is what He said, Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. Sounds to me like His Words will be around forever. He also said in another passage, Matthew 5: 17-18 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. [18] For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Please understand that Jesus did fulfill all that He was prophesied to fulfill, but there are other prophecies to be fulfilled that are still pending. There

¹ Riplinger, Gail A; *New Age Bible Versions*; AV. Publications, Munroe Falls, Ohio; ISBN 0-9635845-0-2; 4th printing, 1994; p. 4

The Received Text is the original language text handed down from independent Baptist church to independent Baptist church

are "things to come".¹ He said not one jot or tittle shall be lost from His Words until **all** is fulfilled. A jot and tittle are the smallest marks in the Hebrew written language. He was affirming the preservation of the Bible to the smallest detail until "**all be fulfilled**". Jesus was also affirming the **Hebrew** Old Testament by the Words in this passage. (Mat 5: 17) "The Law and Prophets" was *a phrase or idiom* used by the Hebrews to refer to the Scripture *received* by them. The "Law and the Prophets" was arranged as the Law, the Prophets, and The Writings. (We will discuss the Received Text passed along by the Priesthood of Believers and how it has been preserved in detail later in this work.)

Since God in Christ Jesus said these things and much much more about His Words, is it any small wonder Herman Hoskier said the above? Many others have also affirmed the preservation of God's Words by the churches throughout history, as we shall see.

Now, let's return to an evaluation of our patient and obtain a history.

¹ Pentecost, J. Dwight; *Things to Come*; Dunham Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, Mich.; ISBN 0-310-30890-9; 1958

HISTORY

THE SUBJECTIVE

The definition of the subjective when gathering information about a patient is broken down into the complaints (symptoms) or statement of the problem, and the history of the complaint. The duration of the complaint and the intensity of the symptoms are all important.

Statement of the Problems or Complaints

1. The Words of God have been challenged since the Garden of Eden.
2. There are conflicting manuscripts in Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic, the original languages of the Bible.
3. Inspiration and preservation of the Scriptures are a matter of personal interpretation.
4. Unholy hands have been on the Bible.
5. Lies, fabrications, and deception have been involved in the effort to establish the "right" Hebrew and Greek texts based on the recent discovery of older manuscripts.
6. "King James Only" or "Only King James" scholars and supporters are inadequately trained and superficial and cultic.
7. Only unintentional errors are responsible for the manuscript differences.
8. There are no significant doctrinal differences between the new versions (such as NIV, NASB, New Living Bible) and the old ones such as the KJB.
9. Compiling all the changes made in the words of new versions seems to point to a sinister new age philosophy being introduced into the Scriptures.
10. All the new versions are bad.
11. One of the major reasons for the new versions is to make money.
12. People get saved reading the new versions so there is nothing wrong

with them.

13. The Scriptures were providentially preserved.
14. Modern scholarship is better because of better technology.
15. The new versions have caused confusion in the churches.
16. Many theories abound as to the transmission of copies of the original texts.
17. The King James translators did not have enough knowledge or manuscripts to do a good job.

THE HISTORY OF THE PROBLEM

The above list consists of just some of the complaints, also called the statement of the problems, which I have heard or read. However, the list is adequate enough to begin an investigation or history into the questions and declarations concerning the text of the Scripture. The history of a problem is important, is sometimes long, and is sometimes boring, but is imperative to begin to understand "troubles."

Physicians need to know how long a complaint has been present, as well as the location of the "pain", the persistence of the "pain", and the radiation of the "pain". Similarly, if there is infection (corruption), what is the origin of the corruption, where did it spread, and where has it persisted. Family history is, also, very important. We want to know if the problem could have been "passed on" in the family. Did the patient have any surgery? Was some "part" cut out? If the physical "part" such as a gallbladder is gone then that helps answer a lot of questions about whether the complaints are related to that physical "part." The occupation of the patient is important in this situation for two reasons: 1. The patient may have been exposed to a chemical, an infection, or a toxic substance. 2. If the patient was exposed to adverse substances, then keeping others from being exposed becomes very important. The social history tells us a lot about the person. How has he adjusted to life? Does he have any addictions such as alcohol, cigarettes, or drugs? What is the quantity and quality of the exposure? Is he stable mentally?

And lastly, a "review of systems" is performed, whereby the physician asks numerous provocative questions. He literally starts with the head and goes to the feet and lists *positive* and *negative* responses to his questions.

WHERE DID THE PROBLEM BEGIN?

Now, in relation to the transmission and preservation of God's Words we want to know similar things. Were the manuscripts handled with care? Was any surgery done to them? Was there confusion related to their reproduction and transmission? Were they exposed to any toxic influence of evil forces? Were the manuscripts exposed to scribes, philosophers, or teachers who had drug, alcohol, or mental problems? Many problems are caused by addictions and their influence on society. These kinds of problems (addictions) would undoubtedly have an influence on proper handling of the manuscripts themselves as well as their translation. Drunkenness is another form of leaven mentioned in the Bible. What was the occupation and experience of those involved in the history of the manuscripts? Were the manuscripts exposed to the infection of sin (leaven) known as heresy? The history of the problem will examine the ancient men and manuscripts; then proceed to the modern men and manuscripts.

Is there evidence of manipulation or change in Scripture dating from early history? If there is, then a case could be made for this disease or infection of the Scripture (corruption or leaven) continuing into modern times.

SATAN CHANGED GOD'S WORDS

Examining the passages of Scripture related to the seduction of Adam and Eve in the Garden reveals that the "old serpent" removed, added to, and changed the words God had spoken to Adam and Eve. In other words, **Satan corrupted God's Words**. Clearly, this passage in Genesis is the explanation of the fall of man, and is also an example of how **easily** "man" can be led astray by the alteration of God's Words.

Genesis 2:16-17:

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: (17) 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**.

These two verses are very clear. There is no question about what Adam and Eve were commanded to do. The consequence of disobedience was also clear. However, along came the cleverest serpent and he said,

Genesis 3:1:

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?

Satan was **taunting** Eve because she could not eat of **every** tree. He was tempting her to claim she could eat of every tree. He was appealing to her pride. And in addition, Satan **changed** God's Words and said in

Genesis 3:4:

And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die:**

Remember what God said, "thou shalt surely die."

Genesis 2:17:

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.**

One reason God gave us this account was as an example of His enemy corrupting or "infecting" His Words. Remember, this event occurred at the very beginning of Scripture and mankind. He seems to have placed the model in the Scriptures to alert us that this would be a constant problem throughout the existence of man on earth. His Words would be changed at the beckoning of our common enemy, that "old serpent", the Devil.

Man is so gullible. Man believed the "change" in the Words of God by Satan in the Garden of Eden. The changing of God's Words brought about the fall of man with all the consequences. If God's words have continued to be corrupted, what damage might be happening? If Satan lied about God's Words, could he still be "lying" and causing havoc? Who is the father of lies? [Jn. 8:44]

The Devil pulled the same kind of "tricks" again during Jesus' wilderness experience. He manipulated the Words of God. Isn't it interesting that God's Words place this manipulation at the transition into the "Church Age" about 2000 years ago? He was indicating this would continue to be a problem during this phase of man's existence. The phase that began with the appearance of the God-man, the Lord Jesus Christ, His death by the shedding of His blood on the Cross, and His resurrection.

Matthew 4:2-10

And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered. [3] And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. [4] But he answered and said, **It is written**, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. [5] Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, [6] And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. [7] Jesus said unto him, **It is written** again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. [8] Again, the devil taketh him up into

an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; [9] And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. [10] 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.

Satan conveniently left out of his quote in Matthew 4:6 "to keep thee in all thy ways" which is found in Psalm 91: 11. The Psalm correctly stated says, "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways" So we see there is evidence of Scriptural manipulation by Satan. Do you believe Satan could spiritually influence someone to change, add to, or remove God's Words today?

GOD'S WORDS STILL PRESENT

Dr. Waite points out that the verb tense of "It is written" (verse 4) is the perfect tense, meaning the action was begun in the past and is continuing to the present. Jesus was indicating that the Words of God were recorded in the past and those very Words written by Moses about 1500 years previously were still present and preserved when Jesus was in the wilderness.¹

Almost every book of the Bible has been attacked in relation to its origin, author, and words. Some scholars believe that many writings were falsified or recorded at later dates than internal evidence in a book suggests. For example the JEDP theory is a hypothesis that the Pentateuch was written by four (4) different writers instead of Moses being the author. It is also called the Graf-Wellhausin documentary hypothesis of the Pentateuch.²

Any prophecy in the Bible that is recognized as being given before the actual event occurring has always been attacked, and severely, because non-believers cannot accept an omniscient God. Therefore, in order to promote their disbelief and undermine the Words of God, they have proposed pseudo-authors that allegedly wrote after the events occurred. Over time all of these "theories" (or a better term for them would be heresies) have been debunked.

2 Peter 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.

¹ Waite, To.p., Ph.D., D.A; *Derending the King James Bible*; The Bible For Today Press; Collingswood, NJ; ISBN 1-56848-000-8; 1995; pp. 9-11

² Hills, Th.D., Edward F; *The King James Version Defended*; The Christian Research Press, Des Moines, Iowa; ISBN 0-915923-00-9; Reprint 1993; p. 75

DEAD SEA SCROLL CONCERNS

Another concern for the Christian is the history of the Dead Sea scrolls. The Holman Bible Dictionary reports:

"Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered between 1947 and 1960 in a cave on the western Dead Sea shore near a ruin called *khirbet Qumran*. Eleven caves from the Qumran area have since yielded manuscripts, mostly in small fragments. About sixty percent of the scrolls have so far been published. These were composed or copied between 200 B.C. and A.O. 70, mostly around the lifetime of Jesus, by a small community living at Qumran. The contents comprise three main kinds of literature: (1) copies of Old Testament books, the oldest we now possess; (2) some non-biblical Jewish books known from elsewhere (such as 1 Enoch and Jubilees), probably written by the Essenes; (3) the community's own compositions, including: biblical commentaries (for example, on Habakkuk and Nahum), which interpret biblical prophecies as applying to the community and its times; rules of community conduct; and liturgical writings such as prayers and hymns.

The Qumran community belonged to the Essenes, one of four major Jewish religious movements described by the first century A.D. historian Josephus, but, strangely, unmentioned in the New Testament. The origins of the Essenes are uncertain: one major view is that they descended from the "Pious," who had fought for religious independence with the Maccabees; another view is that they originated in Exile in Babylonia, returning to Palestine sometime in the third or second century B.C. They opposed the cultic laws operating at the Temple, rejecting its priesthood, and following a different calendar. They lived apart from other Jews in strictly-disciplined groups. One such rather special group lived at Qumran. Unlike many Essene groups, they were celibates, and they traced their origin to a "Teacher of Righteousness," a messianic figure of whom little is known except that he was a priest, possibly a high priest. The Qumran biblical commentaries speak of his confrontation with a "Wicked Priest," possibly a Maccabean high priest of about 150 B.C.

The Scrolls show a surprising variety of beliefs, accounted for by two hundred years of community history, beginning with

a belief in an eminent [sic] "end of days" which faded as the fulfillment did not materialize. Like other Essenes, they believed that by observing their own interpretation of the Jewish law and by frequent ritual bathing they preserved a faithful remnant. Thus they were ready for the restoration of the land by God, who would punish the wicked through two messiahs—one priestly, one lay. They had an interest in angels, astrology, and prophetic prediction. Peculiar to Qumran was a dualistic view of the world in which God had appointed an angel of light (one of his names being Melchizedek; see Genesis 14; Hebrews 7) and an angel of darkness to govern the world, all persons being assigned to the realm of one or the other. They also avoided the Temple and developed distinctive liturgical beliefs and practices based on a communion between earthly and angelic worship."¹

Gail Riplinger reports that the Essenes who were responsible for the scrolls were essentially a cult.² They were opposed to the animal sacrificial system of the Old Testament commanded by God and they were opposed to a New Testament Messiah. She reports as a demonstration one passage in Leviticus 24:11 *And the Israelitish woman's son blasphemed the name of the LORD, and cursed. And they brought him unto Moses: (and his mother's name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan:),* where they dropped the "name of the Lord" and substituted just the word, "Name".³ As she rightly reports, the Luciferian movement uses "Name" as a code for their god and those in the future who will not take the "Name" should be killed. The Dead Sea scrolls reflect this same philosophy and some of the scrolls say that if the "Name" is not received over a 7-year period (? the time of Jacob's Trouble) they should be killed. The "Name" could be that deceiver referred to in the New Testament as the Antichrist. However, the Dead Sea scrolls were written before the New Testament. So the Essenes may have been heretics or a cult who were

¹ *Holman Bible Dictionary*; "Dead Sea Scrolls," Holman Bible Publisher database; © Navpress Software; 1997

Some authors are trying to elevate the status of the Essene community to a sect like the Pharisees or Sadducees of Jesus' day instead of being a cult. The reason seems to be to elevate their corrupted Scripture to replace books of the Bible, claiming their materials are closer to the "real" Bible of Jesus day. See *The Canon Debate*; by McDonald and Sanders, Hendrickson Publishers, 2002; chapter 1

³ Riplinger, Gail; *Which Bible Is God's Words*; Hearthstone Publishing, Oklahoma City, OK; ISBN 1-879366-81-9; 1994; p.27 This author is aware of the criticism in the 'literature' concerning Riplinger's work.

corrupting the Scripture. The Revelator, John, explained that those who do not worship the "beast" during the tribulation, which is also called the seventieth week of Daniel, would also be beheaded. It seems the Essenes may have had the same philosophical approach to life as the coming antichrist.

Rev. 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the **souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus**, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

TWO PATHS

Now if there were very many instances of changing, adding to, or subtracting from (corrupting) Words in Scripture as the Essenes did, it would be very troubling. Before examining other passages in Scripture that may have been corrupted, however, let us review important men in history who have had an influence on the patient (the Bible) either directly or indirectly.

Isn't it interesting that there always seems to be two paths, two gates, two doors, two ways to choose? A patient can choose to live a life of debauchery and have significant medical problems or to live a healthy life with much less risk of significant disease. If the manuscripts the Bible is based upon were carried along one route by **the priesthood of believers**, it would be protected and preserved. If the manuscripts took another path and fell into the hands of heretics, it would be severely injured and scarred.

Two choices remind us of the Scripture, Matthew 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

The two choices presented are specific. One way is narrow, but not difficult or hidden; yet, few will find it. The other way is broad and wide; and, there will be many who will find it. And so it seems the men who have had an opportunity to preserve or corrupt the manuscripts the Bible is based upon have chosen either the strait gate or the wide gate.

If one looks at the accounts in the Bible, two paths can generally be identified. Cain chose the broad way before the flood, and after the flood Ham, Noah's son, continued along the same broad path. The descendants of Isaac's son, Esau, also chose the path of idolatry and apostasy. The problems associated

with Esau's route are still being felt in Israel and Jerusalem, which has become known as "the cup of trembling" (ISA 51: 17) by Christians. The Palestinian war with Israel is a direct result of the wrong path Esau took. That path leads through Edom to the Islamic nations of today.

In more recent times the "wide gate" has also caused many problems in America associated with humanism, philosophy, and the wisdom of the world. The Scriptures warn us about these problems. 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. These problems will be explored extensively in this work because they are associated with the transmission of the original language manuscripts or texts and they are associated with dramatic changes in our society, churches, and individuals, particularly teenagers and young adults. These changes will be linked to the problem of "Poly-Scripturae" [many Scriptures]. They will be linked to the "two paths."

The next section examines the history of men associated with the symptoms, complaints, and alterations in the Scriptures.