

**HISTORY OF
THE
KING JAMES
BIBLE**

GOD'S PERFECT WORD

DR. PHILLIP GADDES

This book is published by:
Cornerstone Baptist Church
NSW, Australia

© Copyright Notice

Any unauthorised reprint or use of this material is prohibited.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system without express written permission from the author.

Website:

www.cornerstonebaptistchurch.com.au

Publisher's Note:

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture is taken from the King James Bible.

The article about the resurrection incorporates text from a publication by R.A. Torrey, which is in public domain (<http://ratorrey.webs.com/torrey-resurrection.html>).

Photo Credit:

Credit for the photo on the front cover goes to
Sias Van Schalkwyk

Date last modified: 28/04/21

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	i
CHAPTER 1 God Communicates.....	6
CHAPTER 2 Developing the Canon.....	21
CHAPTER 3 Making Copies.....	31
CHAPTER 4 Putting The Copies Into “The Book”	39
CHAPTER 5 Specific Questions Answered	51
Appendix	83
Non-biblical accounts of New Testament events and people.....	84
The dating of the New Testament events.....	89
The infallible proofs of the resurrection	92
How to be saved.....	111
Additional Notes	116
Reference List	117
Answer Key	119
Notes	132

INTRODUCTION

The Bible is a book which tells you the future from the very beginning. It tells you how to be a better spouse; how to raise your children; how to lengthen your life; how to live a victorious life; how to have a happy life; how to be healthy; how to keep your health; how to take care of your finances; how to become successful; and many other relative things.

The Bible is, without a doubt, one of the most unique books in the world. It is loved and yet hated. It is preached and yet mocked. It is believed by many and yet denied by many. The Bible has the ability to encourage or enrage you; to confuse or convert you; to cut or cure you, which all depends on your heart.

The Bible is a collection of 66 books put into one volume. This one volume is made up of two testaments: The Old Testament (containing 39 books) and the New Testament (containing 27 books). These 66 books were written in a time span of over 1,500 years.

In that time span, it was written from several different locations by more than 40 authors from every walk of life; including kings, philosophers, fishermen, poets, statesmen, scholars, farmers, shepherds, builders, a doctor, a general, etc.

This Book of books, this bread come down from heaven, this Holy Book called the Holy Bible, is a well of pure and powerful truth which has affected some of the most influential people in all of history. For example:

Franklin D. Roosevelt (former US president) when referring to the Bible said: *“It is a fountain of strength.... I feel that a comprehensive study of the Bible is a liberal education for anyone.”* (Willmington 796)

William Gladstone (prime minister of Great Britain for four terms) said the following about the Bible: *“If asked what is the remedy for the deeper sorrows of the human heart—what a man should chiefly look to in his progress through life as the power that is to sustain him under trials and enable him manfully to confront his afflictions—I must point him to something which, in a well-known hymn is called ‘the old, old story,’ told in an old, old book, and taught with an old, old teaching, which is the greatest and best gift ever given to mankind.”* (Willmington 796)

Theodore Roosevelt (former US president) had this to say about the Bible: *“No educated man can afford to be ignorant of the Bible.”* (Willmington 796)

Woodrow Wilson (former US president) had the following to say about the blessed Bible: *“The Bible is the one supreme source of revelation of the meaning of life.”* (Willmington 796)

J. Edgar Hoover (Former Director FBI) said the following: *“The Bible is the unfailing guide which points the way for men to the perfect life.”* (Willmington 797)

Helen Keller (Deaf/dumb author) said the following: *“In the Bible I find a confidence mightier than the utmost evil...”* (Willmington 797)

King George V said the following: *“The English Bible is...the most valuable thing that this world affords.”* (Willmington 797)

Sir Isaac Newton (British physicist/astronomer) said the following: *“We account the Scriptures of God to be the most sublime philosophy. I find more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any profane history whatsoever.”* (Willmington 797)

Benjamin Franklin (Founding father of US) said the following: *“Young men, my advice to you is that you cultivate an acquaintance with, and a firm belief in, the Holy Scriptures”* (Willmington 797)

Patrick Henry (Founding father of US) when referring to the Bible said: *“This is a Book worth more than all the others that were ever printed.”* (Willmington 797)

Immanuel Kant (German philosopher) said the following: *“The existence of the Bible as a book for the people is the greatest benefit which a human race has ever experienced.”* (Willmington 797)

Charles Dickens (British author) when referring to the Bible said: *“It is the best Book that ever was or ever will be in the world.”* (Willmington 797)

The Bible is the Creator’s book to His creation and what you think about it will depend on your heart:

Acts 28:23-24 “And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening. And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.”

Luke 24:25-27 “Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.”

Hebrews 4:11-13 “Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”

The Bible is the very voice of God (Deuteronomy 30:10-15; 1 Samuel 15:1; Psalm 103:20). The Bible is “*thus saith the Lord*”.

The Bible is the Holy Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:15) and the very words of God, which He wrote, using holy men as His instruments (Isaiah 34:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

Thus, the Bible is the voice of God written in a book (Matthew 22:29-32). And that fact alone means the Bible is to be paramount in our lives.

Now since the Bible is so important, we thought it wise to write this book in order to help God’s people be ready to give an answer to the following questions: “Do we have the words of God?” if so, “Where are they?”; “What are some evidences the Bible is the words of God?” and “What about all those other so called Christian Bibles?”

Our desire for our readers is that you might see that the Christian faith is not wishful thinking based upon fables, but rather a faith built on the solid rock of the Lord Jesus Christ and His words which are substantiated by the facts.

As a matter of fact, without His words there can be no assurance of facts at all; for man, without a revelation from God, is like a ship without a rudder on the raging sea or a house built upon the sand.

May God use this book to help you find faith in the only wise God and Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord.

***📖* Romans 10:17** “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

***📖* Isaiah 40:8** “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”

CHAPTER 1

GOD COMMUNICATES

When God created the first man (Adam), He created Adam in His image. This meant (among many other things) that God created man as a personal being with a personal identity. This means man was created with emotions, the capacity to think logically, and thus the ability to communicate with language.

Man was made with the ability to not only communicate to other individuals but also to communicate with the personal God and this communication between God and men was done through language.

Throughout the ages, God spoke to men in many different ways. He spoke to men through dreams, visions, words written by His finger, etc.

However, no matter how God has communicated to men, it has always been a communication that could be expressed by words in a language. When God speaks, He does not speak in some mystical, uncommunicable way; but rather the personal God speaks to mankind through a real language that is subject to grammars and lexicons—language to be understood (e.g. God spoke to Paul in the Hebrew language on the Damascus road in Acts 9; 22; and 26).

Question 1. What was the means God used, to communicate to man?

When God first made man, He spoke directly to man in an audible voice (Genesis 3:8-9). However, the first man sinned and thus caused a communication gap between himself and God (Isaiah 59:1-2). Thankfully, God did not quit on man but rather continued to speak to men through diverse manners. As time went on and the world's population increased, God chose holy men whom He would move to speak His words unto the masses. These holy men became known as prophets.

2 Peter 1:21 “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Question 2. According to 2 Peter 1:21, who moved the prophets to speak? _____

God moved the prophets to speak His words and then authenticated their message to the masses by:

1. Giving some of His prophets special signs.

For instance; God assured Israel that Moses' message (the first five books of the Old Testament) was from Him by giving Moses the ability to perform special miracles. Some of those miracles were the powers to take up serpents, heal sickness, turn water to blood, etc. (Exodus 4).

In like manner, God also assured the people of the first century that the apostles (the ones who God used to give us the majority of the New Testament books) were His true messengers by giving them special signs to confirm the words that they spoke were truly from the God of heaven (Hebrews 2:1-4 and Mark 16:14-20).

Thus, God sent out His messengers with a message they could prove was from Him through God given signs. This is why the special signs Jesus gave the apostles were called the signs of an apostle (2 Corinthians 12:12).

Question 3. According to 2 Corinthians 12:12, what were the signs called which God used to confirm His words in the New Testament called? _____

2. Giving His prophets the ability to predict the future accurately.

Deuteronomy 18:21-22 “And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.”

In the previous passage, God told His people they could test to see if a person was from God or not by testing to see if that person prophesied and got it right.

If a person did not get the prophecy correct, then the so-called prophet was not from God. This test alone would automatically get rid of Joseph Smith, Charles Taze Russell, Ellen G. White, Gandhi, Buddha, Mohammed, Hare Krishna, etc.

Prophecy is a vital evidence to the fact the prophets of the Bible were from God and thus proving the Bible is the written words of God. He, who knows the end from the beginning has committed hundreds of prophecies to writing for all to read and see that the Bible is in fact the Holy words of the Holy God (see Isaiah 46:9-10; 48:3-5)!

The prophets of the Bible make more than 800 prophecies. All of these prophecies are separated far enough in time from their fulfilment so there could be no chance of this happening by accident.

Fulfilled prophecy reinforces the faith of the believer in the inspiration of scripture and further validates that the Bible is not just an assortment

of books by various authors, but is in fact, one book with one author-God.

This separates the Bible from other so-called sacred scriptures. The Shasta, Vedas, Tripitaka, Puranas, Koran, Apocryphal books, etc. do not even come close to the accuracy of the Bible.

Some examples of the prophecies given by the prophets of the Bible are as follows:

- In Micah 5:1-2; Isaiah 53; Psalm 22; Psalm 16:10; Zechariah 12-14 etc. (written hundreds to thousands of years beforehand) the prophets of the Bible prophesy in exact detail the birth, life, death, resurrection, and return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- In 1 Kings 13:1-3, one of the writers of the Bible named King Josiah and foretold what he would accomplish 300 years before he was born.
- In Ezekiel 29:1-2, 15 (written around 588 B.C.), Ezekiel prophesied Egypt would be diminished as a world leader never to exalt itself to world dominance again. This is as true today as it has been for more than 2,000 years!
- In Matthew 24:1-2, God prophesied the buildings of the Temple would be completely destroyed with every stone being thrown down. This was prophesied by Christ in about 33 A.D., and was fulfilled to exact detail in 70 A.D.
- In Deuteronomy 4:25-31; 31:19-20; and Leviticus 26:33, God prophesied through Moses that Israel would be persecuted and driven into the nations of the world. That happened just as the scriptures predicted.

- In Isaiah 11:11-12; Jeremiah 30:1-3; Ezekiel 36:21-24; 37:1-14, 21; and many other passages that were written by God over 2,000 years ago, the Bible prophesied Israel would be gathered into their nation again.

That happened in 1948, it was a miracle of God.

- In Zechariah 14:1-2 and many other passages, God prophesied the world would become more anti-Semitic and eventually attack Israel in order to take away her land and divide Jerusalem in half.

This is coming true! All one needs to do is open his eyes and ears, and he can see the world's growing hatred for Israel as their desire to divide Israel "for peace" increases.

- In Isaiah 14:24-32, Isaiah prophesies that Palestine will be dissolved. And so it will in the future! Bye-bye PLO!
- In Joel 3; Isaiah 49; Zechariah 12-14; and many other passages, God prophesied He would one day arise and fight for Israel, giving them the victory over their enemies. Thus, no matter how much the world persecutes those Jews the world will never destroy them.

Israelites have been some of the most persecuted people in the world and the worse is yet to come—yet, they will endure forever. Why?! The answer could only be, because God said so (Isaiah 43)!

- In Matthew 24:3-12; Luke 17:17-30; 2 Timothy 3:1-5; 1 Timothy 4:1-2; 2 Timothy 4:1-4; and many other passages, God prophesied through the writers of the Bible the exact description of the last days' society as we find it today.
- In Amos 4:11 and many other passages, God prophesied through the prophets that there would be a famine of hearing the words of God.

This is exactly what you find today. In most modern churches you have a lot of singing and sharing going on by a bunch of preacherettes and performers, but you have little true preaching by preachers. The church has become humanistic in its outreach. It is trying to make everything seeker friendly whilst forgetting about the Saviour! The church is becoming more and more focused on pleasing the masses instead of pleasing its Master! It is becoming weak, worldly, and worthless just like the Bible said it would! Again, the Bible is right on the money!

- In Revelation 6:1-2; 12:9; and Daniel 8:23-25, the prophets of the Bible tell us a world leader will arise, which will take over the world by offering a false peace and prosperity.
- In Daniel 9:24-27, Daniel prophesies the future one-world leader will sign a seven year covenant with Israel.
- In Revelation 13:16-18, John prophesies the one-world leader will create a global monetary system.
- In Revelation 6; 19; and 20, John prophesies there will be at least three more world wars.
- In Revelation 11:1-2; Matthew 24:15; Daniel 9:27; and 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, God prophesies through the writers of the Bible that the Temple in Jerusalem will be rebuilt, and the future one-world leader will sit in that Temple claiming to be god.

The prophecies mentioned earlier are only a foretaste of all the prophecies given by the writers of the Bible. If you are an honest person, you must admit there is something special about the Bible. The Bible is the Monarch of all books for it is God's Book!

The Bible is a prophetic Book. It is in a league of its own. It proves itself over and over again by its prophetic accuracy. The Bible specialises in prophecies from the first book (Genesis) to the last (Revelation). So, when we say the Bible is the words of God we say this with total assurance.

There are literally hundreds of prophecies we could show you. The odds of these prophecies coming true are so astronomical that it is hard to fathom. In a book entitled “Science Speaks”, Peter Stoner, who was both a mathematician and scientist, applied the rules of probability to 48 of these prophecies. Telling us that the chances of 48 prophecies being fulfilled are “*1 in 10 to the 157th power;*” that's 1 in 10 with 157 zeros! (109-111)

Professor Stoner went on to tell us the chances of any man fulfilling just eight prophecies regarding Christ, is 1 in 10 to the 17th power.

Let us give you an example of this. If you take 10 to the 17th fifty-cent pieces and lay them all over the face of NSW, they will cover all of NSW about a metre high. Mark one with a red dot and stir the mass thoroughly; blind-fold a man and let him travel as far as he wants and give him one chance to pick the fifty-cent piece that is marked with the red dot. ¹

What is the chance he would pick up the correct fifty-cent piece? Just the same chance the prophets would have had of writing those eight prophecies and having them all come true in any one man! The odds are astronomical. Yet, the Bible prophesies so many details about so many subjects and gets them right every single time; proving from mathematical assurance the Bible is the very words of God!

So, when we speak about the Bible being the words of God we are speaking with mathematical and scientific certainty.

If someone rejects the Bible as the words of God, they are making the most foolish bet they can make with the most precious thing they have, their soul! Yet, this is not the only way God has validated His messengers. God also validated His prophets by:

3. Making sure that what His prophets wrote in His name was perfect.

Since God is a perfect God, who knows science, history, mankind, and the future perfectly, then any words spoken by Him must be perfect. Therefore, if a prophet was speaking God's words then those words had to be perfect and could not contradict already revealed truth.

📖 Psalm 19:7 “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.”

📖 Isaiah 8:20 “...if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”

Question 4. If a person claims to be giving us God's words and yet speaks something which doesn't agree with already revealed truth, is that person lying? _____

There have been many people who have claimed to be giving us God's words whilst at the same time contradicting God's already revealed truths or by saying something that was obviously false (e.g. Mohammed, Joseph Smith, popes, priests, preachers, etc.). Thus, we must conclude they were deceivers who were deceived themselves, or just plain liars.

The only prophets to ever produce a “holy” book which speaks on countless controversial subjects and yet does not contain mistakes or contradictions in it are the prophets of the Bible.

God used approximately forty different writers from different times, cultures, and backgrounds to write down His words about countless controversial subjects.

Most of the writers God used as His messengers did not share anything in common: They lived at different times and in different countries; had different backgrounds and occupations; and wrote in different styles. Yet, when you read the Bible, it is as though it is one author writing a continual unfolding story that never contradicts itself but rather builds into a great climax. That is truly amazing!

If you were to ask several political experts to write a book about the cause of wars in Iraq, you would get several different answers; yet the Bible agrees entirely and without error. The only way this could be true is by the fact the Bible is the words of God that He spoke through His prophets.

The Bible is and always will be right on any subject it speaks on; whether you are talking scientifically, historically, prophetically, etc. It is perfect! It does not matter how close you examine its content, you will not find one mistake.

Question 5. Despite each writer's differences, does the Bible ever contradict itself? _____

Thank God that He sent His prophets to speak His words and then have them recorded and preserved for us to read today in the Holy Bible!

So God validated His prophets by giving them special signs, the power to prophesy the future and get it right every single time, and protection from error. Yet, that is not the only ways our Lord validated His prophets, for He also validated them by:

4. Giving the prophets good fruit.

Matthew 7:15-20 “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”

Question 6. According to Matthew 7:15-20, what is a way you can know if something/someone is from God or not? _____

One of the ways you can easily tell which prophets are from God is by looking at the fruits they produce.

Compare the people's or prophets' lives who really believe and practice what they preach; and that will tell you which is right. When someone truly believes and practices the words of God as spoken by the prophets of the Bible, do they turn into a suicide bomber or a peace maker? Do they turn into a terrorist or will they turn the other cheek?

If someone truly believes the words of God as recorded by the prophets of the Bible, will they abandon their family to seek enlightenment or will they provide for their own household like Paul said to do (1 Timothy 5:8)?

If someone truly believes the words of God as recorded by the prophets of the Bible, will they starve to death whilst a cow is walking right beside them or will they rise and eat?

The Bible will produce a productive, passionate, powerful, peace loving people! Any nation, company, family, or individual that reads, believes, practices, and proclaims the true words of God are blessed.

Any man that truly believes and practices the words of God is transformed into a better man. This is, no doubt, one of the greatest pieces of evidence that the Bible is true. The Bible is a wonderful book that proves itself over and over again for ***“the proof is in the pudding.”***

The Bible can produce results which Alcoholics Anonymous, the government, a psychiatrist, a marriage counsellor, a priest, a church, or a preacher cannot. The Bible can change people’s lives and has done so, over and over again. There are countless accounts of ex-drunks, prostitutes, whoremongers, atheists, liars, murderers, thieves, etc. getting saved and changing dramatically; there have been countless families reunited, etc.

The fruit the Bible produces shows that the tree the Bible came from must have been God (John 7:14-17; 1 John 5:9-13). And so God has validated the prophets of the Bible by giving them peculiar signs, power to prophesy the future accurately, perfection when they spoke for God, and power to produce good fruit. Just these evidences are convincing enough, yet there are two more we want to look at.

5. Making sure His prophets spoke about the true Jesus of history.

📖 **John 5:39-47** “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. I receive not honour from men. But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that *cometh* from God only? Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father:

there is *one* that accuseth you, *even* Moses, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"

6. Testifying to His people through His Holy Spirit that the words spoken by the prophets are indeed His holy words.

📖 John 10:1-5 “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.”

📖 John 16:12-13 “I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”

Jesus promised that His sheep would hear and follow His voice and that He would send the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, leading us into whatsoever the Lord hath said. And He does! The Holy Spirit is the One who reveals to us that the words of the prophets as found in the Holy Bible are truly God’s words. The Holy Spirit is the one who leads us into all Light and shows us the truth!

When a person picks up the Bible and begins to read it with an open heart, the Holy Spirit begins to magnify to them the beauty of the scriptures and they are automatically struck with the Bible’s peculiarity,

powerful statements, pricking words, prophetic nature, etc. The Holy Spirit bears witness to our conscience that the Book we are reading is indeed God's Holy Book!

Yes, God has communicated to us through His prophets of old! God moved His prophets to give us His exact words. God spoke through men using their personalities, experiences, and talents, with the Holy Ghost miraculously being present, overshadowing the prophets of the scriptures; keeping them from error, as they spoke things known or unknown to them.

Then God used men as His instruments to record His spoken words in writing. The God of heaven superintended the speaking and writing of His words, giving us His exact words on the parchments.

📖 Jeremiah 30:2 “Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book.”

📖 Jeremiah 36:1-4 “And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day. It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin. Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.”

John 14:26 “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17 “All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

When God put His words in writing, it was one of the greatest gifts He could ever give us. As a matter of fact, His written words are more sure and more secure than His audible voice.

2 Peter 1:16-21 “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. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 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: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

Question 7. According to 2 Peter 1:16-21, what is more sure and more secure than God’s audible voice? _____

The reasons His written words are more sure are because:

- a. If you forget them, you can go back and re-read them.
- b. You can be sure it is God speaking to you and not just yourself, or another spirit, or anything else for that matter.
- c. You can test them to make sure they are from God.

CONCLUSION:

The one and only personal God took upon Himself to communicate to us. He spoke to His people through His prophets of old, and had those words written for us in a book so all could read and glean true wisdom to guide us to heaven, holiness, and happiness.

God authenticated His prophets by giving them the gift of peculiar signs, prophecy, perfection whilst speaking, profitable fruit, and His own personal testimony.

God had published His precious words! Praises be unto Him for this wonderful gift that came down from heaven, the HOLY BIBLE!

The Bible is a Book that only God could or would have possibly produced; a Book that is most peculiar and unique; a Book that is perfect in all its contents; a Book that has been preserved through several millenniums and is still just as prevalent today as it was when it was first written; a Book that still produces power enough to change nations, lives, marriages, etc. for the better; a Book that predicts the future thousands of years in advance and gets it right every single time; a Book that has been personally revealed to us to be God's words by the Holy Spirit!

CHAPTER 2

DEVELOPING THE CANON

After God had His words written down on scrolls, parchments, etc., He did not leave His words to be lost through weather, bad scholarship, people burning them, etc. Instead, He continued to have His hands on His words and keep them preserved for every generation to be able to read and know the truth!

Psalms 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.”

Question 8. According to Psalms 12:7, who is going to preserve the words of the LORD? _____

God took it upon Himself to protect His perfect words from corruption; preserving them for every generation to read. The way God started this process was by having His people make faithful copies of His original writings and compile them into the canon of scripture (the canon is the collection of sacred writings that are God’s holy words).

The gathering of the books of the Bible into one list of canonical scriptures took time. But God, who was great enough to move the prophets to give us His words, was also great enough to make sure the people of God gathered His words into an authoritative list which we now call the canon.

When it came to the Old Testament (the first 39 books of the Bible), God used priests, prophets, scribes, and kings as His instruments to preserve, protect, and propagate His perfect words (Deuteronomy 17:14-20; 31:9-13).

In 2 Kings 22:8-20 we find an example of God's preserving power in action through the work of a scribe, priest, and king.

In Daniel 9:1-2, we see the results of God preserving His words during the Babylonian exile, where we find Daniel the prophet coming to understanding due to the fact he was able to read the words God gave Jeremiah many years before him.

In Nehemiah 8:1-8, we see the results of God preserving His words after the Babylonian exile when Ezra the scribe opens up the book of the law and preaches to the people.

By the advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Old Testament text was so firmly established that Jesus Christ rebuked people for never having read the Scriptures (Matthew 12:1-3, 5; 19:3-6; 21:16, 42-46; 22:29-32; etc.).

After the last book of the Old Testament was completed there was four-hundred years of silence before the Lord sent another messenger.

Once the four-hundred years of silence were over, God sent John the Baptist to introduce Jesus Christ to the world.

From that time until around 100 A.D. the New Testament was proclaimed and penned down in books. And once each book of the New Testament was given, God chose His church (the collective body of Christ, not a certain denomination) to be His instruments to protect, preserve, and preach the true words of God and reject the counterfeits. He did this through the Holy Spirit bringing into remembrance the exact words of Christ (John 14:26; 16:3-15).

The Spirit guided and directed the true church of God to the complete and correct words of God, assuring the church of the correct text. He assured them by:

- Making sure the writing was perfect in all matters and content. The writing did not have any contradictions or mistakes in it (Psalm 19:7).
- Making sure the writing had accurate prophetic content in it (Deuteronomy 18:18-22).
- Blessing the writing, giving it the ability to produce good fruit according to the Spirit's standards of good (Matthew 12:33; 2 Corinthians 3:1-3; 1 Corinthians 9:1-2).
- Making sure the writing did not contradict already revealed truth (Deuteronomy 13:1-5; Isaiah 8:19-20; Galatians 1:8-9).
- Making sure the writing testified of the true Christ (John 5:39-47; 15:26).

Thus, God led the church as a whole into using, copying, and compiling the true words of God into the list of canonical scriptures.

The canonical scriptures were kept pure through the years by God and then they eventually made their way into the King James Bible for this generation; just as God promised (Psalm 12:6-7).

Now, we just covered a lot of material by briefly skimming the surface and so you may be wondering, "When were the individual books of the Old Testament and New Testament recognised as scripture?"

When it comes to the first 39 books of the Bible (the Old Testament), we know these books were accepted as scripture no later than over 2,000 years ago. We know these books were already in use and referred to by

the Jews and others as the words of God before the time of Christ. Thus, during the time of Christ and the early church, all 39 books of the Old Testament (and only those) had already been well established as the true words of God. We know this because of the following reasons:

1. Every book of the Old Testament is either quoted or referred to in the New Testament (which was complete by no later than 100 A.D.) with authority.

Much of the New Testament is nothing more than the Old Testament quoted or applied (a few examples are found in Acts 2:16-21, 25-31; 8:27-28, 35; Romans 10:16).

2. Christ's enemies who lived during His time, referred to them in order to try to discredit Him (Matthew 19:7).
3. Jesus rebuked people for not reading the Old Testament scriptures (Matthew 12:1-3, 5, 19:3-6; 21:16, 42-46; 22:29-32; etc.).
4. Jesus read the Old Testament scriptures (Luke 4:16) and referred to them as authoritative many times (Matthew 4:4-7, 10).

Therefore, we must conclude by common sense and Christ's authority that the 39 books of the Old Testament were revered, read, and referred to as the scriptures over 2,000 years ago.

From here, let us turn our attention to the next 27 books, which are referred to as the New Testament and see when these books, as a whole, were accepted as scripture.

When we do that the first thing we must point out is the fact that every book of the New Testament was completed no later than 100 A.D. However, they were not all collected into one book until a little later in history.

Thus, before 100 A.D., God's words were completely written, but they were not compiled in one book until a later date. This process took time. However, all 27 books of the New Testament were recognised as part of the canon by the church as a whole, no later than 150 A.D.

Question 9. Approximately, when was the New Testament recognised by the church collectively as a part of the Bible? _____

Even though this truth is undeniable to a sincere and honest person, there are people who say we would not know which books were supposed to be in the New Testament if it were not for the Catholic Church, which met at the Council of Carthage in 397 A.D. to decide these issues. Rubbish!

The Holy Spirit had already made clear to the true church of God, which books were supposed to be in the Bible long before 397 A.D.

Question 10. Who has made clear to us what books were to be compiled into the Bible? _____

We know this because of the following facts²:

- Peter told us in 2 Peter 3:1-3, 15-16, that Paul's writings were scripture (Paul's writings are the books of Romans through Philemon and maybe Hebrews). Peter wrote 2 Peter 3 well before 100 A.D.
- In 170 A.D., a church leader, by the name of Tatian, wrote a harmony of the Gospels, which included only Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Thus, it is obvious that in 170 A.D., the early church already knew which gospels were of God and which were not.

- Ignatius (30-107 A.D.) quoted from 25 out of 27 New Testament books on 245 occasions giving the same readings as the King James Bible.
- Clement of Rome (30-100 A.D.), who was a companion of Paul (Philippians 4:3) quoted from 15 out of 27 New Testament books 49 times.
- Polycarp (65-155 A.D.), in writing to the Philippian church in 115 A.D., quoted from 19 out of 27 books 70 times.
- Athanasius (296-372 A.D.) listed all 27 books in a pastoral letter.
- Gregory of Nazianzen (330-390 A.D.) listed 26 of them, omitting the book of Revelation.
- Tertullian (born around 150 A.D.) listed all 27 books.
- We find early translations of the Bible like the Peshitta 145-150 A.D. (Syrian), the Gothic Version 330 A.D., and the Latin translations 180-200 A.D. that have these New Testament books in them.

Therefore, the council in 397 A.D. was nothing but “scholars” getting together and agreeing with God’s people on the canon so they could look spiritual.

With all of the above information, you should now understand that all 66 books of the Bible were completed and considered by God’s people to be the complete words of God no later than 150 A.D. and probably even before this.

Some will wonder why we do not recognise the Apocrypha as scripture. Well we know the Apocrypha books are not from God because of the following reasons:

1. Jesus showed us clearly which books were to be a part of the Old Testament, and thus showing us which books were not to be a part of the Old Testament.

📖 Matthew 23:34-35 “Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.”

- Notice He said, “all the righteous blood... from... Abel unto the blood of Zacharias....”
- In this passage Jesus defines the proper Old Testament canon.
- Abel is slain in Genesis (Genesis 4), but Zacharias is slain in 2 Chronicles 24:20-22.
- The beginning and end of an Old Testament for Jesus was from Genesis to 2 Chronicles.
- When we pick up the Hebrew Bible we find the books laid out in this order, without the Apocrypha books: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zachariah, Malachi, Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah,

1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles. So, it has every book you will find in a King James Bible without the Apocrypha.

Thus, the Lord showed us clearly, the Apocrypha books should not be a part of the Holy Bible.

2. No Apocrypha books can be found in any catalogue list of canonical books composed during the first four centuries A.D. In fact, it was not until 1596, at the Council of Trent, that the Roman Catholic Church officially recognised these books in an attempt to strengthen their position.
3. The Apocrypha was never accepted by the Jews as Scripture.
4. None of the books claim to be from God (unlike all 39 books of the Old Testament).
5. None of the Apocrypha books were ever quoted or referred to by any of the New Testament writers (unlike the 39 books of the Old Testament which are referred to and quoted over and over again in the New Testament).
6. None of the Apocrypha books pass any of the God given tests that we listed earlier in this book.

Thus, you can see very clearly that the Apocrypha books are not God's words.

Something we want to confirm over and over again is that you can determine which books are the correct books by applying the God-given tests put forth in the Bible. Let us remind you of those tests:

1. If a writing or prophet is from God, the writing or prophet must predict the future accurately.
2. If a writing or prophet is from God, the writing or words spoken for "God" by the prophet must be perfect.

3. If a writing or prophet is from God, the writing or prophet must not contradict already revealed truth.
4. If a writing or prophet is from God, the writing or prophet will produce good fruit.
5. If a writing or prophet is from God, the writing or prophet must testify of the Jesus of the Bible.

Question 11. Name one of the tests found in the Bible, on how we can know what the words of God are. _____

Question 12. If a religious book, like the Apocrypha, does not pass these tests, should they be considered frauds? _____

The Apocrypha or any other books outside the 66 books of the King James Bible do not pass all these tests. Therefore, we conclude that any other books which claim to be from God, outside of the 66 books of the King James Bible, are actually frauds.

Note: The early printings of the King James Bible had the Apocrypha books printed with the Bible. However, the Apocrypha books were never in the Bible. Let me explain. The early printings of the King James Bible had the following title on them “The Holy Bible containing the Old Testament and the New”. Notice that when the King James Bible tells us what the Holy Bible contains it tells us that the Holy Bible is the Old and New Testaments and nothing more. Thus, the books of the Apocrypha were not considered part of the Holy Bible by the King James translators. As a matter of fact, if you looked inside an early printed edition of the King James Bible, at the end of the book of Malachi, you would find the words “The end of the Prophets”. Then on the next page you would find the words “The Apocrypha” (which means “spurious” or “dubious writings or statements”) and then at the end of the books of the Apocrypha you would find the words “The end of the Apocrypha” (which means the end of the spurious writings). And then on the next

page you would find the words “The New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ”. Now this shows very clearly that the King James translators did not consider the Apocrypha as being genuine writings that belonged to the Canon of scripture but rather as dubious writings. And they made that clear by printing them with the Bible, between the Testaments of the Holy Bible, keeping the books of the Apocrypha separate from the Holy Bible. So yes the Apocrypha books were printed with the Holy Bible but the Apocrypha books were not in the Holy Bible. This is very much the same way as the dedication that was printed with the Bible. There was a dedication and a section where the translators addressed the reader. These were printed with the King James Bible but they were not in the Bible; and everyone knew that. Just like they knew the Apocrypha books were not in the Bible but rather printed with the Bible.

Now you may be wondering why they printed the books of the Apocrypha with the Bible at all if they knew they were not a part of the Bible. The answer is fairly simple. At the time of the printing of the King James Bible there was a lot of debate being had between Bible believers and Catholics, and so the printers had the books of the Apocrypha printed with the Bible so that the Bible believers would have access to those books for the purpose of being able to show the Catholics the foolishness of equating the books of the Apocrypha with the other inspired writings.

CONCLUSION:

God moved holy men of God to speak and write down His words for the masses.

The Lord directed His people to receive, read, reverence, preach, practice, and compile His words into a list of canonical scriptures; rejecting the fraudulent writings of false apostles and receiving the true words of the living God. Then over time the books of canonical scriptures were put together into one book: The Holy Bible!

CHAPTER 3

MAKING COPIES

Whilst God was leading His people to compile the different books of the Bible into a list of canonical scriptures, God was also leading His people to make thousands of reliable copies of the original text. It is because of that truth that today we have an enormous amount of evidence to look at when contemplating the trustworthiness of the scriptures we hold in our hands.

According to scholars, there are over 35,000 ancient pieces of evidences available to us today to look at in regards to the original text. These pieces of evidences are normally called manuscripts.

A manuscript is anything that has a portion of scripture written on it. Therefore manuscripts do not necessarily consist exclusively of books of the Bible. Manuscripts also include portions of sermons with scripture references in them, portions of scripture from the back of hymnals, early Bible commentaries, or any other written source that reproduced some part of a Biblical passage.

When it comes to the Old Testament text, the majority text which is also called the received text or traditional text of the Old Testament had been preserved down through what is now called the Masoretic text. It is this text that the King James Bible translators based most of their translating from.

When it comes to the New Testament, the original texts were copied thousands of times and sent throughout the known world. Copies of the scriptures were spread far and wide very quickly. This made it impossible for a centralised power to destroy the original text and make

an edition that supported their stand without the people of God being privy to it. Today we have thousands of these manuscripts that come from many different areas and time frames; which in turn come in many different writing styles.

The manuscripts we have today can be broken up into three groups; copies, versions, and quotes from the early church leaders. So let us take a brief look at each of these.

- The Copies

Copies are produced in Greek and are further divided into four groups:

a. Minuscules

Minuscules in Greek are like the lower-case letters of the English alphabet and are hand-printed.

The oldest copies of this type are papyrus manuscripts. Papyrus is a reference to the material they were written on. Papyrus was a paper made from the stalks of reeds. Sometimes these sheets were sewn together into a scroll or bound like a book form called a codex.

Question 13. On what kind of material were minuscules mostly written? _____

When archaeologists find a portion of a papyrus manuscript, they identify them by giving them a number preceded by the letter “p”. Thus papyrus manuscripts would be referred to by titles, such as: p5, p4, p72, p67, etc.

Question 14. How are papyrus manuscripts identified? _____

The Greek language used to write most of these manuscripts is known as the Koine Greek. This Greek was the common language used on the streets in daily life.

Question 15. What kind of Greek was commonly used in these papyrus manuscripts? _____

b. **Majuscules**

Majuscules are capital letters and tend to be very square in form. This type of writing was not normally used by the man on the street in writing but rather by the scholars of the day.

Most of these manuscripts were written on vellum. Vellum was normally made from young calf skins. Although it was more expensive than papyrus, it was used because of its durability. The vellum of some of the earliest manuscripts is noted for being the thinnest and whitest in quality, whilst later manuscripts are recognised by the thicker and coarser vellum used at the time of their writing. These vellum sheets could also be sewn together into a scroll or bound into codices.

Question 16. What material were Uncials normally written on? _____

Majuscule manuscripts did not appear until the fourth century and are found in far fewer numbers than the Minuscules.

Scholars catalogue most of these manuscripts by giving them a number preceded by a zero (01, 012, 0227, etc.). However, a few of these type of manuscripts are catalogued by a single

capital letter such as manuscript “A,” “B,” or “C” or possibly a letter from the Hebrew or Greek alphabet.

Question 17. By what are majuscules identified? _____

The Greek language used to write these manuscripts is known as classical. This Greek was not the spoken language used by the common Greek-speaking people in everyday life. Rather it was a formal way of writing that few used in public.

Question 18. What Greek language was used in majuscules? _____

c. Cursives

These are usually later than Minuscules and are written out in long hand rather than printed. Cursives are, like the Majuscules, catalogued by numbers. However, unlike the Majuscules, the number is not preceded by a zero. So you may have a cursive manuscript labelled manuscript 37 or 77 or 71 or etc.

Question 19. What are cursives designated by? _____

d. Lectionaries

These are equivalent to the readings found in the back of today’s hymnals. These readings came into existence due to the shortage of the copies of scriptures that were available.

The early church would take passages of the Bible and put them into a lectionary. In this way the congregation would have access to the most commonly used passages. These witnesses are very important to the authentication of the original text. Often these readings are very early and closer to the originals than some later copies of the Bible.

Each lectionary is catalogued by the letter “l” followed by a number (e.g. they may be labelled manuscript “l 60”, “l 98,” or “l 300”).

Question 20. Why did lectionaries come into existence? _____

Question 21. What are lectionaries designated by? _____

Question 22. What language are “Copies” produced in? _____

Question 23. What four groups are these copies categorised into?

The next group of witnesses we have to the original text are:

- The Versions

God chose to write the New Testament in Greek, but He did not choose to keep it in Greek. Therefore, the early Greek manuscripts were translated into many other languages so the true words of God could be placed into the hands of people in other lands. These translations are known as versions.

An example of one of these versions is the Peshitto, which was translated from the Greek in about 150 A.D. Therefore, the testimony of these ancient versions would be very important in verifying the authenticity of a questioned reading.

Other well-known versions are the Latin, Gothic, Sahidic, Bohairic, and Coptic.

Question 24. Why did God allow the early Greek manuscripts to be translated into other languages? _____

Question 25. Give an example of a version that has been translated from the Greek manuscripts. _____

Versions are mostly identified by a simple abbreviation of the name of the language they were written in.

Therefore, Jerome's "Vulgate" is identified by "vg." whilst the "old Latin" (which is known to scholars as the "Italia") is referred to as "it."

The numerous "Syrian" translations are all identified by the letters "sy" with the addition of a suffix to further identify which Syrian it is. Thus the less reliable Siniatic Syrian would appear as "sy^s"; whilst the reliable Peshitto Syrian would appear as "sy^p."

Question 26. By what are the early versions identified? _____

Our third body of witnesses consists of the writings of the early church leaders.

- The writings of the church Leaders

These writings include the remnants of their sermons, books, and commentaries. These are wonderful witnesses to the original texts because many of these early church leaders saw and handled the original autographs themselves.

Scholars usually identify the writings of the church leaders by an abbreviation of their popular name. Therefore, we will find the writings of John Chrysostom reduced to “Chr”.

Question 27. By what are the early writings of church leaders identified? _____

It is from the aforementioned manuscripts that translators go to in order to determine which words to use when translating the scriptures into different languages. And when they study those manuscripts they find that there are slight disagreements amongst them. These disagreements could have been caused by someone being sloppy with their copying or someone deliberately trying to corrupt the words of God. Of course we know from the scriptures themselves that the arch enemy of all that is good has tried his best to attach God’s character by attacking His words from the very beginning. So this does not take us by surprise. However, we also are not taken by surprise when we find out that most of the manuscripts (over 90% of them) do agree completely, for God said that He Himself would preserve His word for every generation for ever.

The largest group of New Testament manuscripts that agree with each other are called the Majority Text because it is supported by the majority of manuscripts. It is also called the Received Text because it was the text the church received from the Holy Spirit as the true text. It is also called the Traditional Text (just like the Hebrew Masoretic Text) because it is the traditional text of the church.

This text traces its roots back to Antioch, Syria.

It is interesting to note that Antioch is the place where they were first called Christians (Acts 11:26) and it was where the first Christian missionaries to the world came from (Acts 13:1-3).

Since they were first called Christians in Antioch and the church in Antioch sent out gospel preachers to preach the words of God, Antioch would probably be the place we should look to for the correct text.

It is that text (the Received Text) that the King James Bible translators used as their basis for the King James Bible. It is this text that stands in opposition to the corrupt text that all the other English Bibles are translated from—the minority text (called so because it has a minority of support for it).

Question 28. Why is the Traditional Text, called the Majority Text?

Question 29. Why is the Traditional Text, called the Received Text?

Question 30. From where does the Received Text trace its roots to?

CONCLUSION:

God in His mercy not only had the Bible written, but He also had it faithfully copied for us so we could know the truth!

CHAPTER 4

PUTTING THE COPIES INTO “THE BOOK”

Once the original writings were completed and compiled they were copied, translated, and circulated throughout the known world.

As the manuscripts began flowing into one specific place and the ability to make paper and binding improved, the local churches began to take the different books of the Bible and compile them into one book.

The process of putting the different books into one book was tedious and time consuming. It took many years and much labour to get the completed words of God into one book in English.

In this chapter we shall list some of the translations that were a fruit of the church of God labouring to get all of God’s words into one book.

One of the first translations of the scriptures from the true texts was into the Syrian language. This translation is known as:

1. The Peshitta Bible (145 A.D.)

The Peshitta Bible is a Syrian translation of the Bible.

Today there are about three hundred and fifty Peshitta manuscripts available to us, some dating back to the second century AD.

The Peshitta translation is in strong agreement with the text of the King James Bible. This proves the King James Bible has a direct link between the original manuscripts that the liberals and critics of the Bible always harp about but have never seen.

Question 31. What was the name of one of the first translations of scripture written in the Syrian language? _____

About seven years after the Peshitta Bible was produced, God's words were translated into another language. This translation was called:

2. The Italla Bible (157 A.D.)

This Bible is sometimes called The Old Latin Vulgate (not Jerome's Latin).

This Bible was used in Northern Italy by the Waldenses. They were soul-winning, street-preaching Christians who had collectively memorised the New Testament. They were hunted down like animals and killed by representatives of Rome.

These people would be best described in Hebrews 11:35-38.

Question 32. When did the Italla Bible come about? _____

Then, almost 1,400 years later, we get:

3. The Erasmus' Bible (1522 A.D.)

This is an edited Greek text of the Majority Text compiled into one text. This text later became known as the Textus Receptus.

Erasmus, the man who compiled this text, was the intellectual giant of Europe. He was constantly travelling the world and visiting libraries to gain access to more information in regards to the true text.

Question 33. What was the Erasmus' Bible later known as? _____

Erasmus was very influential in his time and was often used of God to expose the ignorance of the monks and superstitions of the Roman Catholic priesthood.

Erasmus eventually went to England where he taught Greek at Cambridge. There, in Cambridge, he taught a man by the name of William Tyndale, and this brings up our next Bible from the correct texts:

4. Tyndale's Bible (1st known English Bible to have been translated from the correct Greek text, 1525 A.D.)

This Bible was the New Testament in the English language translated by William Tyndale. William Tyndale was a man who was skilled in seven languages: Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Spanish, French, Italian, and English.

Tyndale's life goal was to translate an English Bible from the O.T. Hebrew (Masoretic text) and from the N.T. Majority Greek and place it in the hands of his own fellow countrymen.

He made this statement: *"If God spared [my] life, ere many years, [I] will cause a boy that driveth the plough, to know more of the scriptures than [the Pope] did."*(Foxe 139)

In 1525, he finished translating the N.T. Majority Greek Manuscripts into English. This was the first English N.T. from the correct manuscripts. The printing of this Bible was funded by common English merchantmen, and it was covertly distributed throughout England. However, in 1534, Tyndale was caught. Eighteen months later, in 1536,

he was strangled and burned at the stake. His last words were, “*Lord! Open the King of England’s eyes.*”(Foxe 152)

Question 34. Who was William Tyndale’s teacher? _____

Question 35. What was William Tyndale’s life goal? _____

Question 36. How many languages did William Tyndale know?

Question 37. When did he finish translating the N.T. Majority Greek Manuscripts into English? _____

Two years before the death of Tyndale, we see God working in Germany and it is there we find:

5. Luther’s Bible (German Bible, 1534 A.D.)

The *Luther Bible* is a German language Bible translated by Martin Luther. It is this Bible God used to get the German people out of the dark ages.

Question 38. When was Luther’s Bible written? _____

A year after Luther’s Bible was translated we are brought to:

6. Coverdale’s Bible (1535 A.D.)

This Bible was compiled by Myles Coverdale and published in 1535. It was the second time that the correct text was translated into English and the first time for the English Bible to contain both the O.T. and N.T. This translation relied heavily on the German and Latin Bibles as its basis. However, he was lacking in some points.

After Coverdale's Bible we see God moving again to bring the original texts into one book for the English Bible, and thus we find:

7. Matthew's Bible (1537 A.D.)

The Matthew's Bible was translated by John Rogers who also went by the name of Thomas Matthew. He used a great deal of Tyndale's material and dedicated his work to the King of England, Henry VIII.

Unfortunately, Queen Mary, a devout Catholic, ascended the throne, and John Rogers became the first martyr of this dreadful Jezebel, who later became known as "Bloody Mary".

Question 39. Whose material did Thomas Matthew (John Rogers) mostly use for his translation? _____

Three years after Matthew's Bible was produced, we find God bringing the English Bible slightly closer to the original writings when we look at:

8. The Great Bible (1539 A.D.)

This was a revision by Myles Coverdale of Matthew's Bible. It was often referred to as the "Chain Bible" because it was chained to the altar of churches for "safe keeping". It was this Bible the King of England ordered to be printed and placed in every church in England.

Question 40. Why was the Great Bible also called the "Chain Bible?"

Twelve years after the Great Bible was printed we find ourselves back to the Greek language with:

9. The Stephen's Bible (1551 A.D.)

Robert Stephanus tried to put the Majority Text(s) into *one* Greek text. This Bible was the first Bible to have verse divisions in it.

Question 41. What was unique about Stephanus' Bible? _____

Nine years later we come back to the English language with:

10. The Geneva Bible (5th English Bible, 1560 A.D.)

This was printed in Geneva, Switzerland by English reformers who had fled from Queen Mary of England. This became the most popular Bible for almost 75 years.

It was the first Bible to use italics to signify words that were not found in any manuscripts the translators had.

Question 42. What did the italicised words in the Geneva Bible signify? _____

Eight years after the Geneva Bible was printed we find God bringing the English Bible closer to the original writings with:

11. The Bishop's Bible (1568 A.D.)

The Bishop's Bible never got into the hands of the common people because it was very expensive. However, it was a building block in helping to restore the original text into one book.

Question 43. Why wasn't the Bishop's Bible widely distributed? _____

After the Bishop's Bible, we make our way in history to:

12. The King James Bible (1611 A.D.)

The King James Bible (KJB), commonly known as the Authorized Version (AV) or King James Version (KJV), is a translation of the Hebrew and Greek manuscripts into English which begun in 1604 and was completed in 1611.

This Bible was the first and last Bible in the English language which has every word of God in it. The King James Bible is the monarch of all books.

The following is a list of some of the great truths about the King James Bible:

a. The King James Bible was translated in a time when the English speaking world was ready for the words of God.

- It was translated in the very wake of the great reformation sweeping the world.
- It was in a time of great belief in God and His words.
- It was in a time without so many 'conveniences' to keep the minds and hearts of people too busy to think.
- It was in the time when knowledge of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew was at its greatest.
- It was in the time when the English language was in its prime. Words were so full of meaning and so very rich in thought. That is the words were capable of containing in themselves not only their central thoughts, but also all the different shades of meaning which were attached to the central thought, just as the Hebrew and Greek (e.g. cleave, let, suffer, etc.).

- It was in the time of Shakespeare, Spenser, etc.
- It was in a time of *true* spirituality.

b. The King James Bible was translated by many great men.

In 1604, John Reynolds approached the king with the idea of a new translation of the Bible to be translated in England.

King James agreed, and commissioned 54 *of the greatest scholars the world has ever known* to produce this Bible. Many could read, speak, and write many different languages, even from childhood.

E.g.:

- One of the translators by the name of John Boys began reading Hebrew at age five.
- Another translator by the name of Lancelot Andrews spoke 21 languages.

Not only were these scholars men of intellect, but they were also men of prayer. For example, before a single word was translated, the translators of the King James Bible devoted the first three years of the work (from 1604-1607) to prayer and fasting.

c. The King James Bible was translated in a scriptural manner-by sevens.

In 1607, after the three years of fasting and prayer, the physical and mental work of translating the Bible began. Of the original 54 men, only 47 were able to do the work. This was because of death, sickness, and unforeseen circumstances.

These men were divided into six groups consisting of six to eight men in three different locations. The entire text of the Bible was divided into six portions for each committee to translate.

Each man in each committee translated the entire portion. Then, the committee met back together and reviewed each other's work.

This continued until they came to the agreement that what they had produced was accurate. Each committee's portion went to all six committees and they all had to agree. Then, a seventh committee met in 1610, and for one year they went over the final product until they were in perfect agreement.

Therefore, every portion of scripture was scrutinised over seven times. Something interesting to note: the work was scrutinised over seven times, went through seven committees, and was commissioned in 1604 and finished in 1611 (7 years)!

📖 Psalms 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.”

Question 44. According to Psalms 12:6-7, how many times are the words of the LORD purified? _____

d. The King James Bible is the very words of God that God preserved for His people. We know this because of:

1. The manuscripts it came from.

The KJB used the Majority Greek Manuscript Family of Text as its underlining Greek manuscript from which it was translated from. That means the KJB has over 35,000 pieces of information

backing it; whereas the modern versions of the English Bible have less than 2% of the manuscripts supporting them. And of that 2% of manuscripts they disagree amongst themselves.

2. The early witnesses.

The early church leaders' quotes of the Bible (dating back to the first and second century) agree with the King James Bible.

Many scholars have stated that even if all we had were the quotes of the church leaders, we would still be able to know exactly what the whole New Testament was.

3. Its perfection, there is not one single error in it (Psalms 19:7).

You can find errors in any other religious book in the world, but not the KJB.

4. Its prophecy (Deuteronomy 18:15-22).

It predicts the future thousands of years in advance without one single error. Mohammed could not do it. Buddha could not do it. Confucius could not do it. Nostradamus could not do it. Only God could do it. Only God has done it! He did so in a book and preserved it for us in the English language. That book is the King James Bible.

5. Its product (Matthew 7:15-20).

No other book has changed and shaped the world for good like the King James Bible has!

The fact the King James Bible is powerful enough to change nations, communities, destinies, and lives, proves it is the exact words of God. It can change drunks, dope addicts, the dirty, and the depraved rich. It can convert atheists, agnostics, prostitutes, murderers, etc. It can cure problems in the home and bring homes back together. It can convert sinners.

It produces fruits that could only come from God!

This, by far, is one of the greatest proofs anyone can have (John 7:17; 1 John 5:9-13). Oh' taste and see the Lord is good!

Truly, *“where the word of a king is there is power”*

6. The praise it brings to Christ (John 5:39).

It lifts up Christ more than any other book in the world.

7. The peculiarity of its text.

When a person picks up the King James Bible and begins to read it, that person is automatically struck with the Bible's peculiar content (e.g. words such as “thee” “thine” “ye”, etc.). The King James Bible has an air about it. An air of heaven!

The text of the King James Bible is more unique than any other book you have ever read or will ever read and so it should be!

The true words of God which came down from heaven should surely be different than anything produced on this earth. It should

be peculiar. As a matter of fact, peculiarity is often a trademark of something being from heaven and having God’s hands on it (Titus 2:14 & 1 Peter 2:9).

Thus, we should expect God’s words to be very different from our modern text because it comes from a different place—heaven. So, the King James Bible is peculiar and this is not a bad thing but rather it is evidence which shows its origin is from God.

The difference is to be expected, for the King James Bible is the words of God!

8. The personal testimony of the Holy Spirit who shows us what is true by comparing scripture with scripture. (We will talk more on this in the next chapter).

Question 45. List some ways we can know the King James Bible is the words of God? _____

CONCLUSION:

God spoke to humans through His prophets. He then had His words written down and preserved those words for every generation to read, even our generation. Today, in our generation, the words of God are found in the King James Bible. Therefore, the King James Bible is a book which unites us, divides us, and yet defines us. It is God’s Holy words.

The King James Bible is the very words that God preserved for us today. Thank God for this great gift—manna came down from heaven!

CHAPTER 5

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ANSWERED

From the previous chapters we have explained how God moved holy men of God to speak and write His words in a book. We proceeded further and discussed how the early believers could tell which words were truly from God and which were from false prophets.

We also illustrated how the early church made numerous copies of the originals, and then spread them all over the world. We said these copies have come to be known as manuscripts.

There are over 5,000 Greek manuscripts and thousands of versions. The manuscripts which mostly agree are referred to as the Majority Text. This text traces its roots back to Antioch, Syria. Thus, it is called the Received Text or the Traditional Family Text. It is this text the King James Bible is based upon.

The King James Bible is without a doubt God's perfect preserved words in English for the church of God.

However, there are several questions we left unanswered. Therefore, in this chapter we will answer some of the questions you may have lingering in your mind.

These questions are as follows:

Is the King James Bible the inspired words of God?

Yes, the King James is the inspired words of God. The King James translators were providentially guided by God to give us every single word of the original Old Testament and New Testament text.

The King James Bible is the result of God keeping His promise to preserve His words for every generation (Psalm 12:6-7). Thus, we can hold up the King James Bible and say that this book is the very words of God. We agree with the following quote made by Dr. Peter S. Ruckman in his book Manuscript Evidence: “*The AV is the crystal clear, exact, precise reproduction of the originals.*” (169)

Psalms 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.”

Were God’s perfect words here before 1611?

YES! God’s perfect words were here long before 1611. However, when it comes to the English language, they were not in one book until 1611.

It is in much the same way as the early church had God’s complete perfect words written down before 100 A.D., but they were not compiled into one book until a later time. This was due to the fact that not all the material and manuscripts were available in one area.

Question 46. Why weren’t the scriptures, before 100 A.D., compiled into one book? _____

Don't you lose something when you translate from one language to another, and so there cannot be any way the King James Bible is the exact words of the originals?

It is true that when we—in our own power—translate from one language to another we lose something from the original. However, our God is greater and mightier than us. He can override all human mistakes and ensure we get His exact words (Psalms 12:6-7). And that is what He did when He produced the King James Bible.

If someone says a translation cannot be the exact words of God then they are limiting God and attacking the very original writings. However, we know that God is great enough to make sure a translation is His exact words. The following is a list of some of the examples where God did this.

- All the conversations between Moses and Pharaoh were spoken in Egyptian. However, God had them translated into Hebrew when He wrote the original autographs of the book of Exodus. When God did that, He made sure we got the exact words. Thus, God overrode any mistake Moses could have made in translating from Egyptian to Hebrew.
- All of Acts 22 was spoken in Hebrew, but according to scholars, when it was originally written, it was written in Greek. Thus, when Acts 22 was originally written, God ensured it was an exact translation by directing the original writer (Luke) to give us the exact words of God, regardless of possible human failure. Now, if it did lose something, this would mean the Bible is in error (which it is not) when it said “*he spake...*” and, then, proceeded to tell you what he spake.

So, a translation can be the exact original words. So, we say again: “*The AV is the crystal clear, exact, precise reproduction of the originals.*”(Ruckman 169)

Question 47. What language was Acts 22 spoken in? _____

Question 48. What language did Luke originally write Acts 22 in?

Question 49. How was Luke able to translate the exact words of God?

What about the several revisions of the KJB?

There have not been several revisions of the KJB but rather different editions of the KJB.

These editions were not different translations. Nor was each succeeding edition a revision of the previous edition. Rather, each edition was only to correct spelling, printing, etc.

When studying this you must remember the following:

- The printing press was still relatively new and was done by hand. Thus, there were often mistakes made by printers. Therefore, as each edition came off the press, they would do another edition to correct the printer’s errors. These printing errors could come in the form of the wrong word being put in the wrong place, or the wrong spelling of a word being used.
- The spelling of words was very loose in the first printing of the KJB. Thus, as the spelling of words became more concrete, they would do another edition to correct the misspelled words made by the previous printer.

- The style of type used in the early editions of the KJB was Gothic. The style of type we now use is called Roman. Therefore, there would be a marked difference between an earlier edition and a later edition simply because a different style of type was used.

We conclude in saying, the only difference in the editions is the text typeface (which does not make any difference in the words), the spelling (which also does not make any difference in the words), and correction of printing errors (which will account for the different words being used sometimes).

If someone wants to study this subject more fully, we recommend them to read a booklet entitled The Myth of Early Revisions by David F. Reagan, Th.D.

Question 50. What would the printers do to correct misspelled words?

Question 51. Gothic was the typeface used in the early editions of the King James Bible. What typeface do we now use? _____

Question 52. What were the only differences in the editions of the King James Bible? _____

What about the italicised words?

If a word or words were not in any of the manuscripts the King James translators had available, they would put the word or words in italics.

As a true Bible believer, we know the translators of the KJB were guided by God to put the italicised words in the text. The italicised words are actually a part of the original words of God. The italicised words were

actually a part of the original writings! Thus, if you take them out you are taking away from the words of God!

Our evidence for this statement is found by comparing scripture with scripture. Let us look at the following examples:

- In **Psalm 16:8**, you find the words “*he is*” written in italics. Then, if you turn to **Acts 2:25**, you find Peter quoting Psalm 16:8 with the words “he is” not being in italics. Thus, according to the great apostle Peter the words “he is” are part of the original text of Psalm 16:8.
- In **Isaiah 65:1**, you find the words “*them that*” written in italics. However, when Paul quoted Isaiah 65:1 in **Romans 10:20** he added those words. Thus, according to Paul the apostle the words “*them that*” are a part of the original text.
- In **Psalm 94:11**, you find the word “*are*” in italics. However, in **1 Corinthians 3:20**, the great apostle shows us very clearly that the word “*are*” is actually a part of the original text.
- Then again, you find the same thing in **Deuteronomy 25:4** and **1 Corinthians 9:9**, but this time the words are “*the corn*”.
- Now look at **Deuteronomy 8:3** “And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every *word* that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.”

The word for “*word*” in the Hebrew is “*dabar*”. It is was not found anywhere in any Hebrew manuscripts that the King James translators had. However, in **Matthew 4:4**, Jesus quotes Deuteronomy 8:3 and He quotes the italicised word “*word*”. Thus,

according to the Word (Jesus Christ), the word “*word*” should be in the text regardless of what any scholar or manuscript says.

We say again, the King James Bible is the exact, precise, perfect words of God! Let God be true but every man a liar.

Question 53. Are the italicised words part of the original words of God?

What about the previous English translations?

The answer to this question is found in the following quote by Evangelist Bill Bradley out of his book Purified Seven Times:

“I have often compared the earlier reliable English translations of the bible (those produced from faithful, majority texts after the manner of Tyndale’s work) to a diamond in the rough. In Tyndale’s work, the diamond of the word of God was there, but it was not the polished, faceted, perfect gem that it would become. Coverdale’s revision, followed by the Matthew’s Bible, the Great Bible, the Geneva Bible and the Bishop’s Bible, were all steps in God’s process of refining and purifying. The King James Bible, the seventh major English translation of the holy Scriptures, is the refined, purified, perfect diamond God intended His word to be...Purified seven times.” (116-117)

“The King James Bible, the seventh major English translation of the holy Scriptures, is the refined, purified, perfect diamond God intended His word to be...” (117)

Question 54. According to Bill Bradley, the Coverdale’s revision, the Matthew’s Bible, the Great Bible, the Geneva Bible, and the Bishop’s Bible were what? _____

What about the newer English versions of the Bible?

In Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; and Revelation 22:18-19 we are warned by God not to add to nor take away from the words of God. Unfortunately, all new so-called bibles either add or take away from the true text, thus, producing a corrupt text. These new books change the meanings of verses and cast doubt on the doctrine and deity of Christ.

In these so-called bibles you may find some of the words of God, but they will also have leaven (false doctrine and men's words) in them. Thus, they are not the words of God!

People will often say, "All bibles are the same." That is a false statement. Not all "bibles" are the Bible! There is not a newer version that is the Holy Bible! The King James Bible is the only pure, perfect, and preserved Holy Bible! The rest are all corruptions of the one true Bible!

How do we know this? We let the Holy Spirit show us the truth by comparing scripture with scripture. So, let us do that by looking at the following tables on the next few pages.

King James	NIV
<p style="text-align: center;">Psalms 10:4-5</p> <p>“The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek <i>after God</i>: God <i>is</i> not in all his thoughts. His ways are always grievous; thy judgments <i>are</i> far above out of his sight: <i>as for</i> all his enemies, he puffeth at them.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Psalms 10:4-5</p> <p>“In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God. His ways are always prosperous; your laws are rejected by him; he sneers at all his enemies.”</p>
Comment	
<p>Notice how different they are to each other. Both of these cannot possibly be correct. One is right and the other is wrong. They surely are not the same. Now, which one sounds more like God’s words? The one that encourages someone to live wicked in order to prosper or the one that shows the wicked his ways are grievous?</p> <p>By the way, according to the Bible, the way to true prosperity is through keeping the words of God (Joshua 1:6-9).</p>	

King James	NIV
<p style="text-align: center;">Proverbs 18:24</p> <p>“A man <i>that hath</i> friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend <i>that</i> sticketh closer than a brother.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proverbs 18:24</p> <p>“One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”</p>
Comment	
<p>Notice how different the NIV is to the Bible. To say that all so-called bibles are the same is to lie.</p>	

King James	NIV
<p>Matthew 17:21</p> <p>“Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.”</p>	Missing
Comment	
In this passage Jesus is telling His disciples how to get rid of a certain devil. Who would not want you to know that?	

King James	NIV
<p>Matthew 18:11</p> <p>“For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.”</p>	Missing
Comment	
In that passage you find why Jesus came. Who would not want you to know that? Is there anything hard about those words?	

King James	NIV
<p>Matthew 23:14</p> <p>“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.”</p>	Missing
Comment	
Why would they take that out?	

King James	NIV
<p>Mark 7:16</p> <p>“If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.”</p>	Missing
Comment	
<p>What is hard about that passage? Why would they take it out?</p>	

King James	NIV
<p>Mark 11:26</p> <p>“But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.”</p>	Missing
Comment	
<p>Why take that passage out? Who would not want you to know how to get forgiveness?</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	NIV
<p style="text-align: center;">Acts 8:37</p> <p>“And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Missing</p>
Comment	
<p>This verse gives you the prerequisite to being baptised. You must first believe Jesus is the Son of God.</p> <p>Now, who would want you to become confused about salvation?</p>	

There are many more verses we could have pointed to which have been corrupted by the NIV but I think the above list is sufficient to show the honest person that the NIV has been corrupted.

Question 55. Name two verses that are completely removed from NIV.

By the way, the New Revised Standard Version and the Amplified Version can be checked with all of the previous verses as well.

Let us now compare two more new translations to the King James Bible.

King James	Living Bible	Revised Standard Version
<p>Acts 16:31</p> <p>“And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”</p>	<p>Acts 16:31</p> <p>“They replied, “Believe on the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, and your entire household.”</p>	<p>Acts 16:31</p> <p>“And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."</p>
Comment		
<p>Notice that the corrupt versions took “Christ” out of the verse. Why? What is hard about that word? Why would that word be taken out of a “Christian” bible?</p>		

King James	Living Bible	Revised Standard Version
<p>Ephesians 3:14</p> <p>“For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,”</p>	<p>Ephesians 3:14</p> <p>“When I think of the wisdom and scope of his plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father”</p>	<p>Ephesians 3:14</p> <p>“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,”</p>
Comment		
<p>Notice how those two books took out “our Lord Jesus Christ”. Why? Who would not want you to know God is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ?</p>		

Continued on the next page.

King James	Living Bible	Revised Standard Version
<p>1 Timothy 3:16</p> <p>“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”</p>	<p>1 Timothy 3:16</p> <p>“It is quite true that the way to live a godly life is not an easy matter. But the answer lies in Christ, who came to earth as a man, was proved spotless and pure in his Spirit, was served by angels, was preached among the nations, was accepted by men everywhere, and was received up again to his glory in heaven.”</p>	<p>1 Timothy 3:16</p> <p>“Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.”</p>
Comment		
<p>Those two books, among many other things, take out the word “God”. This removes a direct reference to the fact Jesus Christ is God. Who would not want you to know that Jesus Christ was God in the flesh?</p>		

Continued on the next page.

King James	Living Bible	Revised Standard Version
<p align="center">1 John 3:16</p> <p>“Hereby perceive we the love <i>of God</i>, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down <i>our</i> lives for the brethren.”</p>	<p align="center">1 John 3:16</p> <p>“We know what real love is from Christ’s example in dying for us. And so we also ought to lay down our lives for our Christian brothers.”</p>	<p align="center">1 John 3:16</p> <p>“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”</p>
Comment		
<p>Notice how both those books took out the words “love of God”. What is hard about those words? Why take out those words when those words prove once again that Jesus is God?</p>		

Question 56. In Acts 16:31, what word is removed in the Revised Standard Version? _____

Question 57. In 1 John 3:16, what words does the Living Bible remove? _____

We could give you many more examples, but we think this is sufficient to show how corrupt these two versions are.

Let us now look at one of the most deadly translations on the market:

1. The New King James Version.

It is a deadly version because its editors have succeeded in deceiving the many people into believing it is a King James Bible. That is an all-out lie!

Again, all we need to do to find the truth is compare scripture with scripture. So let us compare.

King James	New King James
<p style="text-align: center;">Deuteronomy 23:17-18</p> <p>“There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these are abomination unto the LORD thy God.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Deuteronomy 23:17-18</p> <p>“There shall be no ritual harlot of the daughters of Israel, or a perverted one of the sons of Israel. You shall not bring the wages of a harlot or the price of a dog to the house of the LORD your God for any vowed offering, for both of these are an abomination to the LORD your God.”</p>
Comment	
<p>Why does the NKJV fear to use the words “whore” and “sodomite”? Why avoid connecting a sodomite and dog in this text?</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	New King James
<p style="text-align: center;">Psalms 10:4-5</p> <p>“The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts. His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Psalms 10:4-5</p> <p>“The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts. His ways are always prospering; Your judgments are far above, out of his sight; As for all his enemies, he sneers at them.”</p>
Comment	
<p>The reading in the NKJV is heresy. To say the ways of the wicked are always prospering is to make people desire to be wicked. However, the true reading as found in the KJB will discourage people from being wicked. The ways of the wicked are always grievous—not prospering. This is the truth, for even when the wicked thinks his way is prosperous, it is actually grievous, for it leads to more and more rebellion. This, in turn, leads to more judgment and suffering. As a matter of fact, the Bible tells us the only way to make your way prosperous is to observe the commandments of God (Joshua 1:8). Which Bible sounds like God’s words; words that are profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness? Which Bible has a little leaven (false doctrine) in it?</p>	

King James	New King James
<p style="text-align: center;">Proverbs 11:16</p> <p>“A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Proverbs 11:16</p> <p>“A gracious woman retains honor, but ruthless men retain riches.”</p>
Comment	
<p>The NKJV is not a King James. The NKJV is trying to discourage men from being strong. Does it want to make men effeminate?</p>	

King James	New King James
<p>Proverbs 18:8</p> <p>“The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.”</p>	<p>Proverbs 18:8</p> <p>“The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, And they go down into the inmost body.”</p>
Comment	
Talebearing is a sin that God hates. But the NKJV compares talebearing to tasty trifles! Is this wisdom? Again, the NKJV is not a King James Bible!	

King James	New King James
<p>Proverbs 19:18</p> <p>“Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.”</p>	<p>Proverbs 19:18</p> <p>“Chasten your son while there is hope, and do not set your heart on his destruction.”</p>
Comment	
Again, it is easy to see the NKJV is not a King James Bible.	

King James	New King James
<p>Proverbs 25:23</p> <p>“The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.”</p>	<p>Proverbs 25:23</p> <p>“The north wind brings forth rain, And a backbiting tongue an angry countenance.”</p>
Comment	
Notice that the NKJV says the exact opposite of the King James. Thus, how can a NKJV be a King James Bible?	

King James	New King James
<p style="text-align: center;">Zechariah 9:17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“For how great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty! corn shall make the young men cheerful, and new wine the maids.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Zechariah 9:17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“For how great is their goodness and how great their beauty! Grain shall make the young men thrive, and new wine the young women.”</p>
Comment	
<p>The word “his” in the KJB is a reference to God. Thus, the Bible is glorifying God not man. However, The NKJV glorifies Israel and not God. Thus, we can see again that the KJB is the words of God whilst the NKJV is the words of men!</p>	

King James	New King James
<p style="text-align: center;">Matthew 20:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping <i>him</i>, and desiring a certain thing of him.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Matthew 20:20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.”</p>
Comment	
<p>In the King James Bible, Jesus accepts worship from the mother of Zebedee’s children, showing He is God (Matthew 4:9-10). However, the NKJV took the words “<i>worshipping him</i>” and changed them to “<i>kneeling down</i>”. This is a direct attack upon Jesus Christ.</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	New King James
<p style="text-align: center;">Acts 17:22</p> <p>“Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Acts 17:22</p> <p>“Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious;”</p>
Comment	
<p>Notice the NKJV changes the word “superstitious” to “religious”. The NKJV is a product of an age that hates God, holiness, children, and the elderly. You cannot have too much true religion (James 1:27).</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	New King James
<p style="text-align: center;">Romans 11:28-33</p> <p>As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Romans 11:28-33</p> <p>Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all. Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!</p>
Comment	
<p>Notice how the NKJV changes the problem from unbelief to disobedience. The NKJV preaches the exact opposite of the KJV. Therefore, they are not the same. The NKJV preaches a false gospel. This is heresy. The thing that will keep you out of heaven is unbelief not disobedience.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">📖 John 3:36 “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”</p> <p>By the way, the NKJV does the exact same thing in Hebrews 3:18-19; 4:6, 11. Therefore, according to Galatians 1:8, the NKJV is accursed.</p>	

King James	New King James
<p data-bbox="170 161 415 193" style="text-align: center;">I Corinthians 1:18</p> <p data-bbox="90 217 497 368" style="text-align: center;">“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”</p>	<p data-bbox="628 161 873 193" style="text-align: center;">I Corinthians 1:18</p> <p data-bbox="555 217 947 405" style="text-align: center;">“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God”</p>
Comment	
<p data-bbox="85 504 958 890">Notice the NKJV confuses salvation by changing the words “are saved” to “are being saved”. That is heresy. The Bible teaches conclusively that a person is saved by receiving the free gift of eternal life and then sealed until the day of redemption by the Holy Spirit of God (Ephesians 2:8-9; 1:13). Due to the fact Jesus saves you by His own blood and seals you by His Spirit, we are saved the moment we put our trust in Him. We do not wait to be saved! Nor are we required to work to stay saved. No! We are saved and sealed by the grace of God. It is all of Christ. He is the Victor, the Master, the King, and the Saviour! We simply trust in Him (2 Timothy 1:12)!</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	New King James
<p data-bbox="273 161 464 188" style="text-align: center;">Galatians 3:16</p> <p data-bbox="172 217 561 405">“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.”</p> <p data-bbox="277 454 460 481" style="text-align: center;">Genesis 22:17</p> <p data-bbox="166 510 566 778">“That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;”</p>	<p data-bbox="729 161 920 188" style="text-align: center;">Galatians 3:16</p> <p data-bbox="628 217 1028 405">“Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.”</p> <p data-bbox="733 454 916 481" style="text-align: center;">Genesis 22:17</p> <p data-bbox="628 510 1028 778">“Blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.”</p>
Comment	
<p data-bbox="161 917 1033 1145">Paul taught the promises given to Abraham and his seed were to a singular seed, which meant Jesus, not the Jews. But the NKJV changed the Old Testament to "descendants," contradicting Paul's argument, making salvation by a race rather than grace, and thus creating a contradiction in their book. Thus, the NKJV is not perfect and thus cannot be the Bible for God’s words are perfect.</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	New King James
<p data-bbox="199 161 384 193">I Timothy 6:5</p> <p data-bbox="99 220 488 408">“Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.”</p>	<p data-bbox="656 161 841 193">I Timothy 6:5</p> <p data-bbox="556 220 945 408">“Useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.”</p>
Comment	
<p data-bbox="85 507 958 612">The NKJV removed Paul’s condemnation of those who think gain is evidence of godliness. Why? What spirit and type of men would be behind such alterations?</p>	

King James	New King James
<p data-bbox="185 756 397 788">II Timothy 2:15</p> <p data-bbox="90 815 493 1003">“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”</p>	<p data-bbox="642 756 854 788">II Timothy 2:15</p> <p data-bbox="553 815 945 1003">“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”</p>
Comment	
<p data-bbox="85 1102 958 1251">Notice how the NKJV changes the word “study” to “be diligent”. That is a mistake because the words “be diligent” are open to opinion. In the day and age we live in, to be diligent is to simply show up to church on special occasions.</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	New King James
<p data-bbox="277 161 460 188">Hebrews 2:16</p> <p data-bbox="169 204 568 309">“For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.”</p>	<p data-bbox="734 161 917 188">Hebrews 2:16</p> <p data-bbox="619 204 1032 309">“For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.”</p>
Comment	
<p data-bbox="161 408 1033 513">The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ became a man so that He might suffer for us, but the NKJV totally corrupts the verse, loses the sense, violates the context, and denies scriptures.</p> <p data-bbox="225 564 969 592" style="text-align: center;">The NKJV is not a King James Bible. They are different!</p>	

King James	New King James
<p data-bbox="277 734 460 761">Hebrews 3:16</p> <p data-bbox="165 777 567 882">“For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses.”</p>	<p data-bbox="734 734 917 761">Hebrews 3:16</p> <p data-bbox="636 777 1015 919">“For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses?”</p>
Comment	
<p data-bbox="161 1023 1033 1208">We know from Exodus that not all of the people that came out of Egypt with Moses provoked the Lord (e.g. Joshua and Caleb). However, the NKJV says they all rebelled. Thus, the NKJV contradicts itself. Therefore, it cannot be the words of God because God’s words are perfect.</p>	

Continued on the next page.

King James	New King James
<p align="center">Hebrews 10:14</p> <p align="center">“For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.”</p>	<p align="center">Hebrews 10:14</p> <p align="center">“For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.”</p>
Comment	
<p>The NKJV took away the blessing of knowing you are sanctified (that means cleansed) and replaced it with “<i>are being sanctified</i>”. This makes it sound like salvation is a process that takes time instead of an event that took place when we trusted in Christ.</p>	

King James	New King James
<p align="center">1 John 3:16</p> <p align="center">“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”</p>	<p align="center">1 John 3:16</p> <p align="center">“By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”</p>
Comment	
<p>Notice that the NKJV takes out the word “God” and replaces it with “He”. Thus, it destroys another reference to the fact Jesus Christ is God. Now, who would do that? Why would they do that? What is hard about the word “God”? What kind of Bible takes “God” out of its text?</p>	

Question 58. Is the New King James Version the same as the King James Bible? _____

Question 59. In Matthew 20:20 what important words did the NKJV change from the KJV? _____

Question 60. If you read the NKJV version of Psalms 10:4-5, what would its text imply? _____

Question 61. In 1 Corinthians 1:18, the translators of the NKJV changed the words “are saved” to “are being saved.” What could this make the reader think? _____

It is very clear that the new translations are nothing but a new form of corruption. Let us ditch them and stick to the Old King James Bible—God’s perfect words!

Aren’t the newer versions easier to read?

The simple answer to this question is NO! However, there are three things we need to consider when looking at this question.

1. The Bible is God’s words.

The Bible is the words of heaven, not the words of earth. Thus, we are not to change the Bible in order to bring it down to man’s standards. Rather the Bible is meant to change us in order to lift us up to God’s standards.

Question 62. Are we supposed to change to meet God’s standards or are we to change the Bible to meet our standards? _____

2. Many people are hypocritical when considering this question. If a foreigner comes to your country to live, you expect him to change his speech to the customs of the country he lives in. You do not expect him to make your country change, do you?

If people feel this way over nationality, then, surely we should feel this way even more so about God’s words.

3. The KJB is not as archaic as some would have you believe. The other day I was at the petrol station and noticed a warning sign was above the petrol pump which stated something like: “No pumping whilst seated on the motor bike”.

Now, did you notice that word “whilst”? That is a so-called archaic word. However, we use that word regularly in our courtrooms, speeches, contracts, thesis, conversations, etc.

As a matter of fact, the King James Bible is very much up-to-date. Sinners and saints alike speak the language of the KJB.

In all actuality, the new versions are often more archaic and harder to understand than the KJB. To illustrate this, we will compare a couple of new versions to the King James Bible.

First, let us compare the NIV to the KJB:

Reference	NIV	KJB
2 Chronicles 15:4	acclamation	voice
Ezekiel 40:13	Alcove	little chamber
2 Chronicles 13:22	annotations	Story
Numbers 31:50	Armlets	Chains
Exodus 35:22	brooches	Bracelets

Reference	NIV	KJB
1 Kings 7:6	colonnade	Porch
Proverbs 28:12	Elation	Glory
Isaiah 59:13	forming	Speaking
Genesis 14:1	Goim	Nations
Jeremiah 46:20	Gadfly	Destruction
2 Timothy 2:20	Ignoble	Dishonour
Job 12:6	marauders	Robbers
Exodus 29:14	Offal	Dung
Jude 12	Qualm	Fear
2 Kings 24:1	Vassal	Servant
Numbers 34:5	Wadi	River

Question 63. In 1 Kings 7:6 what does the NIV change the word “porch” to? _____

Question 64. In Genesis 14:1, what does the NIV change the word “nations” to? _____

Question 65. What word is easier to understand, “goiim” or “nations”?

Now, let us compare the NKJV with the KJB:

Reference	NKJV	KJB
1 Kings 10:28	Keveh	linen yarn
1 Samuel 13:21	Pim	file
Psalms 43:1	Vindicate	Judge
Isaiah 2:16	Sloops	pictures
Isaiah 28:1	Verdant	fat
Ezekiel 31:4	Rivulets	little rivers
Acts 17:22	the Areopagus	Mars Hill
Acts 18:12	proconsul	deputy
Acts 27:17	Syrtis Sands	quicksands

Question 66. In Ezekiel 31:4, the NKJV changes the words “little rivers” into what word? _____

Question 67. Referring to Isaiah 2:16, what word is simpler, “sloops” or “pictures”? _____

We could have looked at a few other translations, but we think this is good enough to show the error in thinking the KJB is out-of-date and harder to understand than the other translations.

How can you be so sure the KJB is the perfect, preserved words of God?

- It has been estimated that there are well over 35,000 ancient manuscripts and parts of manuscripts from all over the ancient world that support the Bible. Evidence upon evidence has stacked up that verifies beyond any doubt that we have the Bible exactly as God originally gave it.
- The place the KJB traces its roots to. The KJB can trace its roots back to Antioch. This is the place that became the centre of Christian activity (Acts 11:26; 13:1-3). Whereas, all the other so-called “bibles” trace their lineage back to either Rome or Egypt (these places have negative connotations about them in the Bible).
- The perfection of the KJB (Psalm 12:6-4; 19:7). There is not one single proven error in it. The only religious book in the world without any proven errors is the KJB.
- The prophecy of the KJB (Deuteronomy 18:15; John 13:19). The KJB predicts the future thousands of years in advance without one single error. Mohammed could not do it. Buddha could not do it. Confucius could not do it. Nostradamus could not do it. Only God could do it. And He has done it in a book and preserved it for us in the English language. That book is the King James Bible!
- The preservation of the KJB (Matthew 24:35; Psalms 12:6-7). The King James Bible has been persecuted, ridiculed and criticised by unbelievers, heathen, and professing Christians. But no matter how much they may hammer away at the Bible; it still stands and will stand forever.

- The product of the KJB (Matthew 7:15-20). It has produced more good and lasting results than anything else in the world. It changes lives, countries, and destinies for the better like no other book.
- The Praise it brings Christ (John 5:39). Jesus said the scriptures testify of Him. Therefore, the scriptures should lift up Christ. The King James Bible exalts Christ like no other. It is the Book of books that brags on the King of kings—the Lord Jesus Christ!
- The personal testimony of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13). The One who shows us what is true by comparing scripture with scripture has made clear to us the KJB is the very words of God!

CONCLUSION:

The Christian life is not meant to be hard and confusing, God is not the author of confusion. Do not let Satan, scholars, schools, sceptics, or even yourself confuse you from the simplicity of Christ. Pick up the unadulterated words of God as found in the KJB, read them, believe them, preach them, practice them, and pass them on to your children.

📖 Psalm 19:7 “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.”

📖 Psalms 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.”

📖 Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”

APPENDIX

1. Non-biblical accounts of New Testament events and people
2. The dating of the New Testament events
3. The infallible proofs of the Resurrection
4. How to be saved

Non-biblical accounts of New Testament events and people

There are a great number of non-Biblical accounts of New Testament events and/or people.

The first group of people outside the Bible which attest to the authenticity of the Bible are people who are commonly called “church fathers”. These men are called church fathers because they were instrumental leaders of the first and second century church.

For example:

- Papias was the bishop of Hierapolis, which is modern Pamukkale, Turkey. He lived between 60 A.D. to 135 A.D. and spoke on numerous New Testament events, characters, and books.
- Ignatius of Antioch, who lived between 37 A.D. to 107 A.D., spoke on numerous New Testament events and characters and quoted the New Testament frequently.
- Clement of Rome, who lived between 30 A.D. to 100 A.D., spoke often about the New Testament and quoted the scriptures frequently. It is possible he is the Clement mentioned in Philippians 4:3.
- Polycarp, who lived from 69 A.D. to 155 A.D. and who is said to have been a convert of the apostle John, spoke on and quoted numerous New Testament events and characters frequently in his writings.

- Tertullian, who lived from 160 A.D. to 220 A.D., also spoke on the New Testament often. He is one of the first men to write in defence of the Christian faith.

Question 68. What church leader was said to be a convert of the apostle John? _____

The previous list was only a short list of the many quotes made by the early church leaders. We could have listed many more. It has been proposed by many scholars that if all we had available was the quotes of the church fathers, we could know exactly what the New Testament said due to the amount of times they quoted the Bible.

The next group of people who authenticate the New Testament are unbelievers of the first and second century.

For example:

- Pliny the Younger, who lived from 61 A.D. to 112 A.D. He was a lawyer, author, and magistrate of Ancient Rome. He said this:

“I have asked them if they are Christians, and if they admit it. I repeat the question.... If they persist, I order them to be led away for execution; for, whatever the nature of their admission, I am convinced that their stubbornness and unshakable obstinacy ought not to go unpunished....They also declared that the sum total of their guilt or error amounted to no more than this: they had met regularly before dawn on a fixed day to chant verses alternately amongst themselves in honour of Christ as if to a god, and also to bind themselves by oath, not for any criminal purpose, but to abstain from theft, robbery, and adultery...” (Pliny, Epistles 10.96)

Question 69. Who was Pliny the Younger? _____

Question 70. What did Pliny state about the Christians meeting together? _____

- Tacitus was a senator and historian of the Roman Empire that lived from 56 A.D. to 117 A.D. In his Annals of Rome 15.44, he said the following about the fire that devastated Rome under Nero:

“Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome....Accordingly, an arrest was first made of all who pleaded guilty: then, upon their information, an immense multitude was convicted, not so much of the crime of firing the city, as of hatred against mankind.” (Tacitus, Annals 15.44)

- Josephus, also known as Yosef Ben Matityahu (Joseph, son of Matthias), and Titus Flavius Josephus, was a first century Jewish historian that lived from 37 A.D. to 100 A.D. In his Antiquities, he described many of the same events and characters described in the New Testament, including references to Jesus Christ and his followers. A few examples of these are:

1. He mentioned John the Baptist and Herod: *“Now some of the Jews thought that the destruction of Herod's army came from God, and that very justly, as a punishment of what he did against **John, that was called the Baptist: for Herod** slew him, who was a good man, and commanded the Jews to exercise virtue, both as to righteousness towards one another, and piety*

towards God, and so to come to baptism; for that the washing [with water] would be acceptable to him, if they made use of it, not in order to the putting away [or the remission] of some sins [only], but for the purification of the body; supposing still that the soul was thoroughly purified beforehand by righteousness." (Josephus, Antiquities 18.5)

2. He mentioned Jesus: "**Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man**, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, (9) those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; (10) as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day." (Josephus, Antiquities 18.3)
3. He mentioned James, the brother of Jesus: "Festus was now dead, and Albinus was but upon the road; so he assembled the Sanhedrim of judges, and brought before them **the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James**, and some others, [or, some of his companions]; and when he had formed an accusation against them as breakers of the law, he delivered them to be stoned: but as for those who seemed the most equitable of the citizens, and such as were the most uneasy at the breach of the laws, they disliked what was done." (Josephus, Antiquities 20.19)
4. He mentioned Ananias the High Priest, who was discussed in Acts 23:2: "Now as soon as Albinus was come to the city of Jerusalem, he used all his endeavours and care that the country

*might be kept in peace, and this by destroying many of the Sicarii. But as for **the high priest, Ananias** (25) he increased in glory every day, and this to a great degree, and had obtained the favour and esteem of the citizens in a signal manner; for he was a great hoarder up of money.”(Josephus, Antiquities 20.5)*

As a side note, his books can be purchased at just about any reputable book store.

We could have listed many more quotes and writings which authenticate the New Testament. However, others have already done this and we refer you to them.³

The dating of the New Testament events

When we look at the history of the New Testament with an open mind, we are left with the solid foundation that the New Testament events were recorded very soon after the Lord's ascension.

In this short essay we will look at some of the reasons we can say with authority that the New Testament was not written by mad men who wrote hundreds of years after Jesus; but was rather written by contemporaries of Christ within a few short years after Christ's ascension.

Some of the things we can look at, which prove an early date for the events and writings of the New Testament are:

1. Known historical dates and their relationship with the New Testament events. For example:
 - a. We know from history that Paul was martyred between 63-69 A.D. Thus, all he did and wrote must have been done before 70 A.D.
 - b. Late in Paul's ministry, after he had written most of his books and during Gallio's reign as the deputy of Achaia, Paul was prosecuted (Acts 18:1-13). Since we know from secular history, Gallio was proconsul of Achaia from 1st July, 51 A.D. for approximately one year; we also know many of Paul's writings and works were done before 52 A.D.
 - c. Paul was converted to Christ no later than 37 A.D. (about three to four years after Christ's ascension). Thus, making the beginning of Paul's works and writings much earlier than 50 A.D.

The way we know Paul was converted early is by the fact that during King Aretas' reign, Paul had been let down in a basket

by his brethren in order to escape persecution whilst he was in Jerusalem (2 Corinthians 11:32-33, Acts 9:23-26).

Since we know Aretas was only king until 40 A.D. this would mean Paul was let out of a basket before 40 A.D. Thus, dating Paul's conversion no later than 37 A.D. due to the fact that after Paul's conversion and before he was let out of a basket he stayed in Damascus three years (Galatians 1:17-18).

In turn, this would mean that all of Paul's writings and works were much earlier than 64 A.D. Plus, it would also mean that the gospel of Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection was preached and believed much earlier than 37 A.D. because when Paul got saved Christianity had already spread dramatically due to the believers proclaiming the truth of the Gospel.

Question 71. Approximately when was Paul's conversion? _____

Question 72. How do we know that Paul was converted very early?

There are many more examples of where known historical dates and their relationship with the New Testament events assure us of an early date for the New Testament, but let us go on to our second line of evidence for an early date of the New Testament events and writings.

2. The manuscript evidence produced by archaeological finds make it clear the New Testament events and writings are very early.

For example:

A manuscript with a portion of scripture from the gospel according to Mark was found near the Dead Sea. This manuscript is 7 Q5 which has been dated at 40 A.D. It was studied by Jose O'Callaghan in 1972 in his work “¿Papiros neotestamentariosen la cueva 7 de Qumrán?” (New Testament Papyri in Cave 7 at Qumran?). Then later, his work was reasserted and expanded on by German scholar Carsten Peter Thiede, in his work “*The Earliest Gospel Manuscript?*” in 1982.

Question 73. Where was 7 Q5, a portion of an early manuscript of the gospel of Mark found? _____

Question 74. What is the date that some scholars have given 7 Q5?

Another amazing manuscript is P52. This manuscript is of the gospel according to John. This manuscript was found in Egypt by C.H. Roberts in 1934. After studying this manuscript, he concluded it to have originated between the years 100 to 150 A.D. Some have dated it between 98 to 117 A.D. This is an amazing study because it was taught for many years by sceptical theologians that the fourth gospel was not composed until at least the year 160. This manuscript proved them wrong!

Question 75. Where was the manuscript P52 found? _____

Question 76. What did C.H. Roberts date manuscript P52? _____

We could give you much more proof for the New Testament being written very early in the Christian era but I think we have given plenty to prove the point to the honest inquirer. If you would like any more material on this subject I suggest the reader to look to other, more qualified authors.

The infallible proofs of the resurrection

After Jesus Christ was crucified, He was taken off the cross and buried in the borrowed tomb of Joseph of Arimathaea.

There were guards stationed at his tomb to make it as sure as they could. But something happened on the third and glorious day of Christ being in the tomb. HE AROSE!

☞ Luke 24:1-8 “Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered his words,”

☞ Acts 10:37-40 “That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;”

The fact Jesus Christ arose from the grave is of the utmost importance.

Paul said this in **1 Corinthians 15:14**, “And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.”

Question 77. According to 1 Corinthians 15:14, if Christ did not rise again, what would happen to the preaching and our faith? _____

The whole of the New Testament revelation rests on Christ’s resurrection being a historical fact.

Acts 17:31 “Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof **he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.**”

Acts 1:1-3 “The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: **To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs**, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:”

Dr. Simon Greenleaf, who was the Royal Professor of Law at Harvard University and one of the greatest legal minds that ever lived, said the following in his book entitled An Examination of the Testimony of the Four Evangelists by the Rules of Evidence Administered in the Courts of Justice:

“IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE that the apostles could have persisted in affirming the truths they had narrated, had not JESUS CHRIST

ACTUALLY RISEN FROM THE DEAD, (McDowell 217)
...according to the jurisdiction of legal evidence, the resurrection of Jesus Christ was the best supported event in all of history!”
(McDowell 252-253)

Gilbert West and Lord Lyttleton, two Oxford students, believed Christianity was a “*tale gone mad*” and they determined to refute the Christian faith.

Lyttleton resolved to disprove the conversion of Saul of Tarsus, and West would refute the resurrection of Jesus Christ. They figured a careful, rational examination of the evidence would easily disprove the Christian faith.

But after examining the evidence, they both separately came to accept the Bible as the words of God! Lyttleton concluded that Saul of Tarsus did convert to the Apostle Paul through Jesus Christ. Whilst Gilbert West concluded that the Resurrection was among the best established facts in all of history! West went on to write a book entitled Observations on the History and Evidences of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Question 78. What conclusion did Lord Lyttleton come to, after his attempt at disproving the resurrection? _____

Professor Thomas Arnold, former chair of history at Oxford and author of the famous volume, History of Rome stated,

*“I have been used for many years to study the histories of other times, and to examine and weigh the evidence of those who have written about them, and I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is **PROVED BY BETTER AND FULLER EVIDENCE** of every sort, than the great sign which God has given us that Christ died and rose again from the dead.”* (McDowell 216)

I say to you, it is a fact that there exists such **overwhelming evidence**, positive and negative, factual and circumstantial, that no intelligent jury in the world could fail to bring in a verdict that the resurrection story is true.

What are some of the *overwhelming evidence* that point to the fact that Christ Jesus arose?

1. The four Gospel records declare the resurrection of Christ.

When we look at this line of reasoning we shall not assume the four Gospel records are true history.

We shall not assume the four Gospels were written by the men whose names they bear.

We shall not even assume they were written in the same time in which Jesus is alleged to have lived, died, and risen again.

We will assume nothing whatever, lest someone try to claim we are bias. Instead, we will start out with a fact all know and accept; and that is the fact we have the four Gospels today.

We shall place the four Gospels side by side and see if we can discern in them the marks of truth or of fiction. Ah' and when we do this, as you shall shortly see, the truth that Jesus Christ arose from the grave is very evident.

When we start looking at the Gospels side by side, the first thing we notice is that they are four separate and independent accounts. This appears plainly from the apparent discrepancies in the four different accounts. These apparent discrepancies are many. Thus, it would have been impossible for four accounts to have been made up in collusion with one another.

Now let me hasten to say, lest the unbeliever take glee in the fact of apparent discrepancies, that although there appears to be discrepancies, they are only on the surface. There is actually great harmony between the four accounts, but the harmony does not lie upon the surface, but rather only comes out by thorough study.

It is just such a harmony as would exist between accounts written by several different people, each looking at the events recorded from his own standpoint. It is just such a harmony as would not exist in four accounts manufactured in collusion. In four accounts manufactured in collusion, the harmony would have appeared on the surface, whilst the discrepancies would have only come out by careful study; but the case of the Gospel records is just the opposite. The harmony comes out by careful study whilst the apparent discrepancy lies upon the surface. Therefore, if you are honest you must admit that whether true or false, these four accounts are separate and independent from one another.

It is plain these accounts must be either a record of facts which actually occurred, or else fiction. If fiction, they must have been fabricated in one of two ways, either independently of one another, or in collusion with one another. They cannot have been made up independently; the agreements are too marked and too many; nor could they have been made up in collusion as the apparent discrepancies are too numerous and too noticeable.

Therefore, it is evident they are a true relation of facts as they actually occurred. The Gospel records are simply independent witnesses, all bearing testimony to the same essential facts, but with varieties of detail, one omitting what another tells, and the third unconsciously reconciling apparent discrepancies between the two. This most assuredly shows us the Gospels are eyewitness accounts of the great events which happened in the life of Jesus.

The next thing we notice about these Gospel narratives is their naturalness, straightforwardness, and simplicity; all of which is what we would expect if these accounts were from eyewitnesses. There is an absolute absence of all attempts at trying to doctor up the accounts. The Gospels are simply a straightforward telling of facts as they occurred. The Gospel authors do not seem to have reflected at all upon the meaning or bearing of many of the facts which they relate. They simply tell what they saw, in all simplicity and straightforwardness, leaving the philosophising to others.

Take as a first instance the fact that in Luke 24 and John 21 we are given to understand that Jesus was not at first recognised by His disciples when He appeared to them after His resurrection. We are not told why this is so, the Gospel narratives simply record the fact without attempting to explain it. If the stories were fictitious, they would never have been made up in this way; for the writers would have seen at once the objection that would have arisen in the minds of those who did not wish to believe in the resurrection; that is, that it was not really Jesus whom the disciples saw. Why then is the story told in this way? This was the way it occurred, and therefore this is the way in which they told it. It is not a fabrication of imaginary incidents, but an exact record of facts accurately observed and accurately recorded.

Take a second instance. In the entire Gospel records of the appearances of Jesus after His resurrection there is not a single recorded appearance to an enemy or opponent of Christ; all the appearances were to those who were already believers.

Again, if the stories were made up, they certainly would never have been made up in this way. If the Gospels are, as some would have us believe, fabrications constructed 100, or 200, or 300 years after the alleged events recorded, when all the actors were dead and gone, Jesus would have been represented as appearing to Caiaphas, Pilate, and

Herod but there is no suggestion of anything of this kind in the Gospels. Every appearance is to one who is already a believer. Why is this so? For the very evident reason this was the way that things occurred, and the Gospel narratives are not concerned with producing a story for effect, but simply with recording events precisely as they occurred and as they were observed.

We find another very striking instance in what is recorded concerning the words of Jesus to Mary at their first meeting, in John 20:17.

In that passage Jesus is recorded as saying to Mary, “Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father.” We are not told why Jesus said this to Mary. We are left to discover the reason for ourselves, if we can.

The commentators have had a great deal of trouble discovering it. They vary widely from one another in their explanations of the words of Jesus. Why then is this little utterance of Jesus put in the Gospel record without a word of explanation? The reason is because this is exactly what happened. This is what Jesus said; this is what Mary heard; this is what Mary was told; and therefore this is what John recorded. We have not a fictitious record, but rather an accurate record of words spoken by Jesus after His resurrection.

Another incidental detail that is introduced in the Gospel narrative, and which is decisive proof of its historical accuracy, is found in John 19:34. In that passage we are told that when one of the soldiers pierced the side of our crucified Lord with a spear and straightway there came out blood and water. The reason of this we are not told. In fact, the writer could not have known the reason. There was no man on earth at the time who had sufficient knowledge to have told the reason. It was only centuries afterwards that the physiological reason was discovered. The distinguished medical authority, Dr. Simpson, of Edinburgh University, the discoverer of chloroform,

wrote during his lifetime a brochure, in which he showed on scientific grounds that Jesus Christ died from what is called in scientific language “extravasation of the blood,” or, in popular language, “a broken heart.” When one dies in this way the arms are thrown out, there is a loud cry, the blood escapes from the pericardium and prevents the heart from beating. Then the blood stands for a short time, it separates into serum (the water) and clot (the red corpuscles, blood). When the soldier pierced the bag (pericardium) the blood and water flowed out. This is the scientific explanation of the recorded fact, but John did not know this explanation. No one then living knew it, no one knew it for centuries afterwards.

Is it conceivable that a writer in fabricating an account of events that never occurred should have made up and inserted a fact that has a strict scientific explanation, fitting precisely into the various facts recorded, but an explanation which neither he nor anyone living at the time could have possibly known? How, then, does it come to be recorded in this way? Because this is precisely what occurred, and though John did not know the explanation, he observed the fact, and recorded the fact as observed, and left it for time and scientific discovery to conclusively demonstrate the historical accuracy of what he told. Beyond a shadow of doubt, we have an exact record of something that occurred and was observed precisely as recorded.

Take another illustration, **John 20:15** says “Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou has laid him, and I will take him away.”

Here is surely a touch that surpasses the art of any man of that day, or any day. Mary had gone into the city and notified Peter and John that she found the sepulchre empty.

They start on a run for the sepulchre. As Mary has already made the journey twice, they easily out run her; but wearily and slowly she makes her way back to the tomb. Peter and John have been long gone when she reaches it. Broken-hearted, she stands without, weeping.

There are two angels sitting in the tomb, one at the head and the other at the foot where the body of Jesus had lain, but the grief-stricken woman has no eye for angels.

The angels say to her, “Woman, why weepest thou?” She responds, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.”

All of a sudden she hears something behind her, and she turns herself about to see who is coming. She sees Jesus standing there, but blinded by tears and despair, she does not recognise her Lord. Jesus says unto her, “Why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou?” She supposes it is the gardener who is talking to her, and says, “Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.”

Now remember who it is that makes the offer, and what she offers to do; a weak woman offers to carry away a full-grown man. Of course she could not do it, but how true to a woman’s love that always forgets her weakness and never stops at impossibilities. There is something to be done, and she says, “Tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.” Is this made up? Never! This is life! This is reality! This is truth!

There are so many more examples of the honesty, realness, and majesty of the Gospels that it would take a whole book just to list them. However, if we just take the examples previously listed, we are forced to conclude that the four Gospel narratives are manifestly separate and independent from one another, they bear the clear marks of having been derived from eye-witnesses, they are characterised by simplicity and straightforwardness, they apparently disagree in minor

details, but are in perfect agreement as to the great essential facts related. And therefore, if we are fair and honest, we are logically driven to say: “Here is a true account of the resurrection of Jesus.”

Thus, I am persuaded if one sits down and reads the Gospels with an open mind and seeking heart, he or she will be overcome with the majesty, realness, and honesty of the words of God and will thus get up and walk away a believer.

Even though the above is sufficient proof that Jesus Christ arose from the dead, let us continue offering you even more evidence of Christ’s resurrection.

2. An empty tomb attests loud and clear that “He is not here: for he is risen, as he said.”

Matthew 28:1-7 “In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.”

3. The eyewitnesses give us empirical evidence that Christ arose from the dead.

Eleven different appearances of our risen Lord are recorded in the New Testament:

- He appeared to Mary Magdalene at the sepulchre alone (John 20:11-18; Mark 16:9-11).
- He appeared to certain women, "the other Mary," Salome, Joanna, and others, as they returned from the sepulchre (Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-11).
- He appeared to Simon Peter alone on the day of the resurrection (Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5).
- He appeared to the two disciples on the way to Emmaus on the day of the resurrection (Luke 24:13-35; Mark 16:12-13).
- He appeared to the ten disciples (Thomas being absent) and others "*with them*," at Jerusalem on the evening of the resurrection day (John 20:19-24).
- He appeared to the disciples again (Thomas being present) at Jerusalem (Mark 16:14-18; Luke 24:33-40; John 20:26-28; 1 Corinthians 15:5).
- He appeared to the disciples when fishing at the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-23).
- He appeared to over 500 brethren at once, at an appointed place in Galilee (1 Corinthians 15:6). Take note that in 1 Corinthians 15, the point is made by Paul that these 500 brethren saw him at one time, and he challenges the sceptics to go and talk to some of these brethren; for when Paul wrote this passage some of them were still alive.

- He appeared to James (1 Corinthians 15:7).
- He appeared to the apostles immediately before the ascension. They accompanied him from Jerusalem to Mount Olivet, and there they saw him ascend “till a cloud received him out of their sight” (Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50-52; Acts 1:4-10).
- He appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3-9, 17; 1 Corinthians 15:8; 9:1).

Question 79. According to 1 Corinthians 15:6, how many brethren saw the risen Lord at one time? _____

It is worthy to note these appearances were not just fleeting appearances but rather He conversed with them face to face, they touched him (Matthew 28:9; Luke 24:39; John 20:27), and He ate with them (Luke 24:42-43; John 21:12-13).

As a matter of fact, when they first saw the risen Saviour, they thought He was just a ghost and therefore He had to prove to them He was more than a spirit; He was flesh and bone.

📖 Luke 24:36-43 “And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them.”

Question 80. According to Luke 24:39-43, what did Jesus do to prove to His disciples that He was not a ghost? _____

Not only are the Gospel records, the empty tomb, and His appearances evidence of Christ's resurrection, but another evidence of Christ's resurrection is:

4. The amazing transformation of the apostles.

The night Jesus was crucified, eleven disciples were left defeated and confused. They thought they had given up everything for naught and so they forsook Christ and ran away. That is why it says in **Mark 14:50**, "And they all forsook him, and fled."

Question 81. In Mark 14:50, how did the disciples react when Christ was arrested? _____

Listen to what the great apostle Peter does when faced with a decision to either turn his back on Christ or stand up for Him:

📖 Mark 14:71 "But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak."

It is hard to believe it; but the great apostle Peter denied the Lord Jesus three times, cursing and swearing and saying, "***I know not this man.***"

Question 82. What was Peter's reaction in Mark 14:71, when he was suspected of being in association with Jesus? _____

As you can see, these men thought all was a waste, all was lost, all was over. Thus, they were scared and did not want to be associated with Jesus; lest they too should be crucified.

But something happened. Less than two months later, they went back into Jerusalem boldly preaching even at the threat of death that “JESUS CHRIST IS ALIVE!”

Listen to Peter in **Acts 2:22-24**, “Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.”

What transformed these fearful and confused men into fierce, bold lions? What had these men seen? What had these men heard? What was it that beatings, threatening, jail, torture, and even death could not silence?

In Acts 5 we are told how they were put in jail and beaten and yet verse 41 says: “And they departed...rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.” What had these 11 men seen that they would eventually die a horrible death for?

It was the resurrected Lord!

Acts 2:32 “This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.”

Acts 3:13-15 “The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.”

Acts 10:34-41 “Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:) That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.”

Question 83. A few weeks after the crucifixion, the disciples changed their attitudes from disappointment to joy. What was the cause of this?

Sometimes, people will say they only saw a figment of their imagination. However, that theory will not work due to the fact that these sightings were seen by people who did not expect to see Him. As a matter of fact, these people were very slow to believe that Jesus had risen as He said!

Matthew 28:17 “And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.”

Mark 16:9-13 “Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils. And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept. And

they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not. After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country. And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them.”

📖 Luke 24:10-11 “It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.”

Question 84. What was the apostles’ reaction when the women told them of Jesus’ resurrection? _____

This is not the testimony of people who were self-deceived. They needed definite proof and thus God gave it to them.

📖 Luke 24:36-43 “And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them.”

📖 John 20:24-31 “But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord.

But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.”

Question 85. What did it take for Thomas to believe that Jesus had risen from the grave? _____

When we consider Jesus Christ’s resurrection is supported by the glorious Gospel records, an empty tomb, the transformation of the apostles from mice to men, and the eyewitnesses who ate and drank with Him for 40 days after the resurrection; we must say there are many infallible proofs.

We are not crazy when we declare unto you “JESUS IS ALIVE!” These things were not done in a corner, but openly. The glorious Gospel records, an empty tomb, the transformation of the apostles, and the eyewitnesses all give us assurance of this fact.

However, we now desire to point you to one of the greatest things which attest to the truth of the resurrected Lord. We point you to the effects He has made upon true believers everywhere from every walk of life.

Jesus Christ has bound up many broken hearts; brought peace to many restless lives; brought many broken homes back together; and changed the most vilest and violent people into good, productive, and peaceful citizens.

Christ has never let down anyone who truly trusts Him.

You have been given “many infallible proofs” and we know that in your heart, you know Jesus is alive, for the Holy Spirit has revealed that unto you!

Acts 17:31 “Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof **he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.**”

If you do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, let not your rebellious heart stand in the way; repent and believe the gospel!

I invite you to take heed to the following passages:

Psalms 34:8 “O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.”

John 5:39 “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.”

Jeremiah 29:13 “And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”

John 7:17 “If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or *whether* I speak of myself.”

Romans 10:17 “So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

† John 8:31-32 “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

† John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

How to be saved

The most important question you will ever be asked on this earth is “Do you know for sure that you are going to heaven when you die?” **Your joy or your sorrow for all eternity depends upon your answer.**

The question is: **Are you saved?** It is not a question of how good you are or if you are a church member. The question is: **Are you sure you will go to heaven when you die?**

In **John 3:7**, Jesus said, in order to see the kingdom of God, “*Ye must be born again.*”

In the Bible, God gives us the plan of how to be born again which means to be saved. His plan is simple! You can be **saved** today. How?

First, you must realise **you are a sinner.**

📖 Romans 3:23 “**For all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God.”

Question 86. According to Romans 3:23, how many people have sinned and come short of the glory of God? _____

Second, you must realise that without salvation, **you are condemned to an eternal punishment in the lake of fire.**

📖 Romans 6:23 “For the wages [payment] of sin is death....”

📖 Hebrews 9:27 “...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”

Revelation 21:8 “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

Revelation 20:15 “And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Question 87. What does the word “wages” mean? _____

Question 88. What has the sinner earned? _____

Question 89. According to God’s standard, do you deserve to be cast into the lake of fire? _____

Thirdly, you must realise that even though you deserve the lake of fire, God has provided a way out.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

God so loved the world that **He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to bear your sins and die in your place.**

2 Corinthians 5:21 “...he hath made him [Jesus] **to be sin for us...**that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”

Jesus shed His perfect blood on Calvary’s cross to pay for your sins.

1 Peter 1:18-19 “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your

fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

✠ Romans 5:8 “...God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, **Christ died for us**”.

Question 90. Why did Jesus Christ shed His perfect blood? _____

You and I are guilty. We deserve to die and go to hell, but God provided a propitiation (substitute, payment) for our sins—Himself.

✠ 1 John 2:1-2 “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

Christ is the payment for our sins. He is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. He died for our sins, was buried, and rose again on the third and glorious day. He is alive right now at the right hand of the Father, ever living to make intercession for them that come to God by Him.

✠ Hebrews 7:25 “Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

However, there is one great pivot to the whole thing; you must make Him your personal Saviour by faith in His blood, receiving Him as your personal Saviour.

✠ Romans 3:23-26 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare

his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”

The way you receive Him and get saved from the hell you deserve, is by putting all your trust in Him and in what He did on the cross for you (Ephesians 1:13). You must call on the Lord Jesus Christ to save your soul, receiving Him as your personal Saviour.

📖 John 1:12 “But as many as received him, **to them gave he power** to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name.”

Question 91. According to John 1:12, who gets the power to become God’s son? _____

In **Acts 16:30-31**, the Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas: “... “Sirs, what must **I do to be saved?**” And they said, “**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved ...**”

📖 Romans 10:13 “For **whosoever** shall call upon the name of the Lord **shall be saved.**”

Question 92. What must you do to be saved? _____

Surely, you realise you are a sinner. Right now, wherever you are, trust in Jesus Christ today. Are you willing to trust in Jesus Christ as your Saviour today? If so, call on Christ to save you, telling God something like this:

“Dear Lord, I now put all of my trust in You, believing Jesus Christ died for my sins, was buried, and rose again from the grave. Please save me

from the lake of fire and give me the gift of eternal life. I now receive You as my Saviour, trusting in You and You alone to save my soul. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Do not trust your feelings, as they change. Stand on God's words, they never change.

***📖* John 1:12** "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:"

***📖* Matthew 7:7-8** "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

***📖* Romans 10:13** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Page: 12

- 1 Those figures come from Professor Peter Stoner in his book Science Speaks. However, he used the state of Texas and silver dollars as his example.

Page: 25

- 2 These facts were obtained from Dr. Peter S. Ruckman's Manuscript Evidence and The History of the New Testament Church Volume I from pages 39-54; Pastor Keith Piper's tract Addressing Islam; and Dr. Edward F. Hills' The King James Version Defended from pages 104-105.

Page: 88

- 3 Further reading on the authenticity of the New Testaments, we refer you to: Jesus and Christian Origins outside the New Testament by F.F. Bruce; He Walked Among Us by Josh McDowell and Bill Wilson; or The Historical Jesus by Gary Habermas.

REFERENCE LIST

1. Albright, William Foxwell. The Archaeology of Palestine and the Bible. New York: Fleming H. Revell, 1935. Print.
2. Bradley, Bill. Purified Seven Times: The Miracle of the English Bible. Haines City, FL: Landmark Baptist, 2001. Print.
3. Foxe, John. Foxe's Book of Martyrs. Ed. W. Grinton Berry. Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell, 2002. Print.
4. Hills, Edward F. The King James Version Defended. Des Moines, IA: CRP, 1984. Print.
5. Josephus, Antiquities, 18.3.
6. Josephus, Antiquities, 18.5.
7. Josephus, Antiquities, 20.5.
8. Josephus, Antiquities, 20.19
9. Roberts, Alexander, D.D., The Ante-Nicene Fathers, Vol. 3. Latin Christianity: Its Founder, Tertullian. Grand Rapids, MI. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1989. Print
10. McDowell, Josh. The New Evidence that Demands a Verdict. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999. Print.
11. Piper, Keith. Addressing Islam.
12. Pliny, Epistles,10.96

13. Ruckman, Peter S. The Christian's Handbook of Manuscript Evidence. Pensacola, FL: Pensacola Bible, 1970. Print.
14. Roberts, Alexander, James Donaldson, A. Cleveland Coxe, Allan Menzies, Ernest Cushing Richardson, and Bernhard Pick. The Ante-Nicene Fathers. Translations of the Writings of the Fathers down to A.D. 325. Vol. 3. New York: C. Scribner's Sons, 1903. Print.
15. Scrivener, Frederick H.A. A Plain Introduction to the Criticism of the New Testament for the Use of Biblical Students. Ed. Edward Miller. 4th ed. Vol. 1. London: George Bell & Sons, 1894. Print.
16. Stoner, P. W., and R. C. Newman. Science Speaks. [S.l.]: Moody, 1976. Print.
17. Tacitus, Annals, 15.44
18. Torrey, Reuben A. The Bible and Its Christ: Being Noonday Talks with Business Men on Faith and Unbelief. Kessinger Publishing, 2010. Print
19. Willmington, H.L. Willmington's Guide to the Bible. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, 1984. Print.
20. Gipp, Samuel C. Gipp's Understandable History of the Bible. DayStar Publishing, 1987. Print

ANSWER KEY

CHAPTER 1

Question 1. What was the means God used, to communicate to man?

Answer: Through languages.

Question 2. According to 2 Peter 1:21, who moved the prophets to speak?

Answer: The Holy Ghost.

Question 3. According to 2 Corinthians 12:12, what were the signs called which God used to confirm His words in the New Testament called?

Answer: The signs of the apostles.

Question 4. If a person claims to be giving us God's words and yet speaks something which doesn't agree with already revealed truth, is that person lying?

Answer: Yes.

Question 5. Despite each writer's differences, does the Bible ever contradict itself?

Answer: No.

Question 6. According to Matthew 7:15-20, what is a way you can know if something/someone is from God or not?

Answer: By the fruits.

Question 7. According to 2 Peter 1:16-21, what is more sure and more secure than God's audible voice?

Answer: His [God's] written words.

CHAPTER 2

Question 8. According to Psalms 12:7, who is going to preserve the words of the LORD?

Answer: The LORD.

Question 9. Approximately, when was the New Testament recognised by the church collectively as a part of the Bible?

Answer: No later than 150 A.D.

Question 10. Who has made clear to us what books were to be compiled into the Bible?

Answer: The Holy Spirit.

Question 11. Name one of the tests found in the Bible, on how we can know what the words of God are.

Answer: They must predict the future accurately; *or* It must be perfect; It must not contradict already revealed truth; It must be endorsed by someone who was endorsed by God; It must produce good fruit.

Question 12. If a religious book, like the Apocrypha, does not pass these tests, should they be considered frauds?

Answer: Yes.

CHAPTER 3

Question 13. On what kind of material were minuscules mostly written?

Answer: Papyrus.

Question 14. How are papyrus manuscripts identified?

Answer: Papyrus manuscripts are identified by a number preceded by the letter “p”.

Question 15. What kind of Greek was commonly used in these papyrus manuscripts?

Answer: Koine Greek.

Question 16. What material were Uncials normally written on?

Answer: Vellum.

Question 17. By what are majuscules identified?

Answer: By a number which is usually preceded by a zero. But a few are also designated by a single letter.

Question 18. What Greek language was used in majuscules?

Answer: The classical Greek.

Question 19. What are cursives designated by?

Answer: They are also designated by numbers, but the number is not preceded by a zero.

Question 20. Why did lectionaries come into existence?

Answer: Because there was a shortage of Scripture copies.

Question 21. What are lectionaries designated by?

Answer: Each lectionary is defined by the letter “l” followed by a number.

Question 22. What language are “Copies” produced in?

Answer: Greek.

Question 23. What four groups are these copies categorised into?

Answer: 1) Minuscules 2) Majuscules (Uncials) 3) Cursives 4) Lectionaries

Question 24. Why did God allow the early Greek manuscripts to be translated into other languages?

Answer: So that the true Word of God could be placed into the hands of people in other lands.

Question 25. Give an example of a version that has been translated from the Greek manuscripts.

Answer: Peshitto, *or* Latin, Gothic, Sahidic, Bohairic, and Coptic.

Question 26. By what are the early versions identified?

Answer: Versions are mostly identified by a simple abbreviation of the name of the language they are written.

Question 27. By what are the early writings of church leaders identified?

Answer: By an abbreviation of their popular name.

Question 28. Why is the Traditional Text, called the Majority Text?

Answer: Because it is supported by the majority of manuscripts.

Question 29. Why is the Traditional Text, called the Received Text?

Answer: Because it was the text the church received from the Holy Spirit as the true text.

Question 30. From where does the Received Text trace its roots to?

Answer: Antioch, Syria.

CHAPTER 4

Question 31. What was the name of one of the first translations of scripture written in the Syrian language?

Answer: The Peshitta Bible.

Question 32. When did the Italla Bible come about?

Answer: 157 A.D.

Question 33. What was the Erasmus' Bible later known as?

Answer: The Textus Receptus.

Question 34. Who was William Tyndale's teacher?

Answer: Erasmus.

Question 35. What was William Tyndale's life goal?

Answer: To translate the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament into the English language.

Question 36. How many languages did William Tyndale know?

Answer: Seven.

Question 37. When did he finish translating the N.T. Majority Greek Manuscripts into English?

Answer: 1525 A.D.

Question 38. When was Luther's Bible written?

Answer: 1534 A.D.

Question 39. Whose material did Thomas Matthew (John Rogers) mostly use for his translation?

Answer: William Tyndale's.

Question 40. Why was the Great Bible, also called the "Chain Bible?"

Answer: Because it was chained to the altar of the churches for 'safe keeping.'

Question 41. What was unique about Stephanus' Bible?

Answer: It was the first Bible to have verse divisions in it.

Question 42. What did the italicised words in the Geneva Bible signify?

Answer: That they were not found in any manuscripts the translators had.

Question 43. Why wasn't the Bishop's Bible widely distributed?

Answer: Because they were very expensive.

Question 44. According to Psalms 12:6-7, how many times are the words of the LORD purified?

Answer: Seven times.

Question 45. List some ways we can know the King James Bible is the words of God?

Answer: The manuscript evidence, early witnesses, its prophecy, perfection, product, the praise it brings to Christ, its peculiarity, the personal testimony of the Holy Spirit.

CHAPTER 5

Question 46. Why weren't the scriptures, before 100 A.D., compiled into one book?

Answer: Because not all the material and manuscripts were available in one area.

Question 47. What language was Acts 22 spoken in?

Answer: Hebrew.

Question 48. What language did Luke originally write Acts 22 in?

Answer: Greek.

Question 49. How was Luke able to translate the exact words of God?

Answer: It was through God's direction.

Question 50. What would the printers do to correct misspelled words?

Answer: They would print another edition.

Question 51. Gothic was the typeface used in the early editions of the King James Bible. What typeface do we now use?

Answer: Romans.

Question 52. What were the only differences in the editions of the King James Bible?

Answer: Text type (typeface), spelling errors, and printing errors.

Question 53. Are the italicised words part of the original words of God?

Answer: Yes.

Question 54. According to Bill Bradley, the Coverdale's revision, the Matthew's Bible, the Great Bible, the Geneva Bible, and the Bishop's Bible were what?

Answer: They were steps in God's process of refining and purifying.

Question 55. Name two verses that are completely removed from NIV.

Answer: Matthew 17:21 and Matthew 18:11, *or* Matthew 23:14; Acts 8:37; Mark 7:16; 9:44, 46; 11:26; 15:28; Luke 17:36; 23:14.

Question 56. In Acts 16:31, what word is removed in the Revised Standard Version?

Answer: “Christ”.

Question 57. In 1 John 3:16, what words does the Living Bible remove?

Answer: The “love of God.”

Question 58. Is the New King James Version the same as the King James Version?

Answer: No.

Question 59. In Matthew 20:20 what important words did the NKJV change from the KJV?

Answer: They change the words “worshipping him” to “kneeling down.”

Question 60. If you read the NKJV version of Psalms 10:4-5, what would its text imply?

Answer: That the way to prosper is to be wicked.

Question 61. In 1 Corinthians 1:18, the translators of the NKJV changed the words “are saved” to “are being saved.” What could this make the reader think?

Answer: This makes it sound like salvation is a process that takes time, instead of a single event that took place when we trusted in Christ.

Question 62. Are we supposed to change to meet God’s standards or are we to change the Bible to meet our standards?

Answer: We are meant to lift up to God’s standards.

Question 63. In 1 Kings 7:6 what does the NIV change the word “porch” to?

Answer: Colonnade.

Question 64. In Genesis 14:1, what does the NIV change the word “nations” to?

Answer: Goim.

Question 65. What word is easier to understand, “goim” or “nations”?

Answer: Nations.

Question 66. In Ezekiel 31:4, the NKJV changes the words “little rivers” into what word?

Answer: Rivulets

Question 67. Referring to Isaiah 2:16, what word is simpler, “sloops” or “pictures”?

Answer: Pictures.

APPENDIX

Question 68. What church leader was said to be a convert of the apostle John?

Answer: Polycarp.

Question 69. Who was Pliny the Younger?

Answer: He was a lawyer, author, and magistrate of Ancient Rome; he was an unbeliever.

Question 70. What did Pliny state about the Christians meeting together?

Answer: They met regularly before dawn on a fixed day to chant verses alternately amongst themselves in honour of Christ.

Question 71. Approximately when was Paul's conversion?

Answer: It was no later than 37 A.D.

Question 72. How do we know that Paul was converted very early?

Answer: Because during King Aretas' reign, Paul had been let down in a basket by his brethren in order to escape persecution.

Question 73. Where was 7 Q5, a portion of an early manuscript of the gospel of Mark found?

Answer: It was found near the Dead Sea.

Question 74. What is the date that some scholars have given 7 Q5?

Answer: 40 A.D.

Question 75. Where was the manuscript P52 found?

Answer: Egypt.

Question 76. What did C.H. Roberts date manuscript P52?

Answer: Between 100 to 150 A.D.

Question 77. According to 1 Corinthians 15:14, if Christ did not rise again, what would happen to the preaching and our faith?

Answer: It would be vain.

Question 78. What conclusion did Lord Lyttleton come to, after his attempt at disproving the resurrection?

Answer: He concluded that the resurrection was among the best established facts in all of history.

Question 79. According to 1 Corinthians 15:6, how many brethren saw the risen Lord at one time?

Answer: More than 500 brethren.

Question 80. In the passage of Luke 24:36-43, what did Jesus do to prove to His disciples that He was not a ghost?

Answer: He ate broiled fish and honeycomb.

Question 81. In Mark 14:50, how did the disciples react when Christ was arrested?

Answer: They all forsook him and fled.

Question 82. What was Peter's reaction in Mark 14:71, when he was suspected of being in association with Jesus?

Answer: He cursed and he denied Christ.

Question 83. A few weeks after the crucifixion, the disciples changed their attitudes from disappointment to joy. What was the cause of this?

Answer: It was seeing the resurrected Lord.

Question 84. What was the apostles' reaction when Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Joanna told them of Jesus' resurrection?

Answer: The apostles did not believe the women.

Question 85. What did it take for Thomas to believe that Jesus had risen?

Answer: He had to see Christ, and see the nail-prints on His hand.

Question 86. According to Romans 3:23, how many people have sinned and come short of the glory of God?

Answer: All of us have sinned.

Question 87. What does the word "wages" mean?

Answer: Payment; Something you earn.

Question 88. What has the sinner earned?

Answer: Death.

Question 89. According to God's standard, do you deserve to be cast into the lake of fire?

Answer: Yes.

Question 90. Why did Jesus Christ shed His perfect blood?

Answer: To die for our sins, so that we can go to heaven.

Question 91. According to John 1:12, who gets the power to become God's son?

Answer: Receive Jesus.

Question 92. What must you do to be saved?

Answer: Call on the name of the Lord.

