THE AUTHORIZED KING JAMES BIBLE CONNECTION Craig Savige

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VICTORY FAITH CENTRE P.O. BOX 863 GEELONG 3220 AUSTRALIA

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1. What is the price of purity of the Word of God?

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart". Psalm 119:11a

"**I will not forget thy word.**" Psalm 119:16b

The purity and truth of the Word of God has always been treasured by the people of God. The price to keep it pure for future generations has been and is high because it demands a complete life commitment. The entrance of the Word of God into a Europe under the bondage of Roman Catholicism was stained in the blood of martyrs.

"And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were <u>slain for the word of God</u>, and for the testimony which they held".

Revelation 6:9 [author's emphasis]

The price of purity has been blood, which far too few today realise! For we must realise that it is no use "hid[ing the Word of God] in [our] heart[s]" (Psalm 119:11a) unless we know it to be pure and without error.

We would surely only want to remember something that is true, and cast out that which is error. Error always brings corruption of the pure, and this cannot be tolerated when it comes to the Word of God.

"Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?"

James 3:11

2. Is there something wrong in today's churches?

"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all <u>speak the same thing</u>, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the <u>same mind</u> and in the <u>same judgment</u>."

1 Corinthians 1:10 [author's emphasis]

"[L]et us walk by the <u>same rule</u>, let us mind the <u>same thing</u>." Philippians 3:16b [author's emphasis]

Note the key word "same". It is absolutely impossible for Christians to speak the same, think the same, judge the same or walk by the same rule unless they have the same standard by which to operate. The Bible is clear that that Word of God is meant to be the standard by which a Christian is to operate.

"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."

2 Timothy 3:16, 17

Something is tremendously wrong when we come to the plethora of contradictory, error-filled "bible" versions, which have infiltrated the Church today. How can anyone know which version to hide in their heart and not forget? How can anyone know what "same" word is meant to be followed? The answer lies in realising that history has always had a conspiratorial flavour to it in that Satan has always conspired to destroy God's foundation of faith and truth, namely the Word of God.

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

The warning of plagues is clearly in the Bible. It is a deadly warning to those who tamper with the purity of the Word of God.

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall <u>add unto these things</u>, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall <u>take away from the words of the book of this prophecy</u>, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book." Revelation 22:18, 19 [author's emphasis]

Once the Word of God has been rooted out and substituted or watered down, all types of pernicious doctrines and error come in to destroy. The foolish doctrine of evolution, for instance, has come in this manner, and is keeping multitudes from receiving the salvation of God. Let the warning bells ring out anew because, if the foundations are destroyed, then purity is substituted for rottenness.

3. Are destroyers of faith around today?

What a tragedy we have on our hands! Any man who casts doubt on the purity of the Word of God should never be allowed in the pulpit. Yet, the situation today is that men wittingly or unwittingly are casting doubt on God's ability to preserve His Word throughout history.

"Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD." Jeremiah 23:1

Note that destruction is first by destroying the foundations (i.e. destroy confidence in the purity and truth of the Word of God), and then comes the scattering. Are false prophets around today? This fact is as certain as life itself.

The Apostle Paul's prophecy concerning infiltration into the Church can easily be seen to be fulfilled in history.

"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also, of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."

Acts 20:29, 30

It is clear that the modernist versions are a manifestation of the "perverse things" spoken against the truth. The warning is for all to heed.

4. Should we expect the Word of God to be pure today?

There are certain Scriptures which *demand* the absolute purity of the Word of God — the Bible (the Authorized King James Bible in English). It is appropriate to look at some of these.

Speaking of Timothy, Paul the apostle said, "[F]rom a child thou hast known the holy scriptures" (2 Timothy 3:15a). The term, "holy scriptures", is of great interest. Either the Scriptures are "holy" or "unholy". Which is it? The Oxford English Dictionary defines "holy" to mean "consecrated ... Free from all contamination of sin and evil, morally and spiritually perfect".¹ It is always associated with purity. As believers we understand that "God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness" (1 Thessalonians 4:7).

"And thou shalt make it ... tempered together, pure *and* **holy."** Exodus 30:35

¹ The Oxford English Dictionary, second edition, Oxford University Press, 1998.

Something that is holy will not be contaminated by the world. In fact, pure religion is associated with being "unspotted from the world" (James 1:27). If something, such as the Word of God, starts pure and holy, then it will be preserved pure and holy for God's will and purposes. It cannot be in any way "unclean".

"[I] t^2 shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations ... that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean".

Leviticus 10:9b, 10

The following Scripture relates to the purity of all of the Word of God.

"<u>All scripture</u> is given by inspiration of God".

2 Timothy 3:16a [author's emphasis]

When the word "all" is used, there can be no exclusion. Is *every* verse in the Bible a part of holy Scripture and truly inspired? Yes or no? If no, then why believe it at all since it just becomes a pick and choose exercise in deciding what is true and what is not? If yes, then why are there so many *differences* between the versions? Surely someone is in error! Was it the millions throughout history who have regarded the Authorized King James Bible as being the perfect Word of God in English?

Remember that it is extremely dangerous to *add* or *delete* any *word* from Scripture (see Revelation 22:18, 19). Yet, the modern versions not only disagree with one another, but they also strive to undermine any faith in God's ability to providentially preserve His Word throughout history.

5. What has liberal theology got to do with destroying faith in the pure Word of God?

Later on, we will investigate the ungodly type of men who actually prepared the perverted manuscript upon which modern versions are largely based. It is sufficient now to say that liberal theology (i.e. a false theology that throws doubt upon the historicity of the Bible) delights and thrives in the propagation of modern versions.

But surely we must ask ourselves: Is God so weak that He cannot preserve His Word perfectly throughout history? Why would He put pure words into the Earth only to allow them to be degraded with the progression of history?

"The words of the LORD *are* pure words: *as* silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt preserve them, O LORD, <u>thou</u> shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."

Psalm 12:6, 7 [author's emphasis]

"Every word of God *is* **pure ... add thou not unto his words".** Proverbs 30:5a, 6a

You see, with God there is no compromise or change. How different this is from liberal theology! This type of theology is a cesspool of filth, which delights in introducing pollutions into the Word of God, so that people's faith is shaken. It is no wonder that the whole trend of the Church is now towards compromise with the world, with Catholicism, with other religions, with diverse beliefs! The foundations for many have been destroyed, resulting in a shipwrecked faith.

It should be understood that the Word of God is not like other literature. It is pure. Other literature is not. The Word of God has been sovereignly preserved. This is not the case with other literature. Thus, God has had His hand on the preparation *and* preservation of His Word in the Earth. It will

² In this case a commandment against drinking alcohol.

accomplish what God wants it to do! It will remain pure down to every word because God has said so. No mere scribe can disrupt the purity of the Word of God! In fact, nothing on Earth could stop God from preserving His Word perfectly. If people are faithful enough to believe it to be so, then God is not going to disappoint their rightly held faith. This is the type of faith Jesus found in the centurion. If you believe in miracles, then why do you think God cannot preserve His Word perfectly?

Indeed, any logical person would have to agree that the multitudinous differences in the modern versions must reflect some kind of liberality and lack of faith. Let's be honest here: just because many so-called scholars say that we no longer have God's exact Word in the Earth today, does that make God a liar? What if 99% of the world disagreed with God and His ways? Would that make God wrong? In fact, there have been many times in history where the majority of men have been *wrong* and God has been shown to be right! One obvious example of this today is the theory of evolution, held by the majority to be right. Does this make it right? No!

"[L]et God be true, but every man a liar". Romans 3:4a

6. Is the Word of God completely true or are there some mistakes?

The Authorized King James Bible is the final form of the Received Text³ of history. The fact that it is in English is no coincidence but part of God's plan to use this global language as the medium by which the "gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14). The Authorized King

James Bible has been received by the New Testament priesthood (i.e. true believers in Christ — see Revelation 1:5, 6) as the very Word of God preserved by God throughout history. The Protestant Reformation brought the "two witnesses [the Old and New Testaments] ... [which] prophes[ied] a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth" (Revelation 11:3)⁴ to the attention of the world, showing to all the preservation of the original Bible texts through a pure textual stream. The Authorized King James Bible has the stamp of God as being completely true and without error, historically verified by "the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15b).

In contrast, the false church in history⁵ has supported a corrupt textual stream and has produced a corrupted word from a corrupted fountain. The false church has been directly used by the Devil to produce the confusion of the modern versions. God is certainly not the author of these modern versions because He is pure, holy, consistent and without any blemish whatsoever. God is *not* the author of error.

"God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints."

1 Corinthians 14:33

Many people today are very very ready to believe men who say: "The differences in the versions are immaterial and very small. Choose your own version to suit your needs. The King James Bible is outdated and old-fashioned. The modern versions are merely an update on it." Note well

 $^{^3}$ The Pure Cambridge Edition, circa 1900 A.D., the seventh purification from 1611 (see Psalm 12:6, 7).

⁴ Note that the 1260 years spanned from 538 A.D. to 1798 A.D., which was the reign of the Papal Roman Empire.

⁵ This is the "great whore" of Revelation 17:1–9, identified by the Protestant Reformation as the Roman Catholic Institution.

that every one of these sayings is based upon flawed reasoning! These sayings are all rooted in liberal theology. They have no basis whatsoever in Scripture. They totally disagree with the following.

"For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot [small amount] or one tittle [small written or printed stroke or dot] shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."

Matthew 5:18 [author's emphasis]

God looks after every small part of His Word and it is erroneous to believe that His pure and perfect Word in English is not somewhere upon the Earth today. It can be abundantly proven to be the Authorized King James Bible — a book without parallel in the English language.⁶

7. Are conspirators around to corrupt the Word of God?

"[I]n the last days perilous times shall come." 2 Timothy 3:1b

"[W]ar a good warfare; Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck". 1 Timothy 1:18b, 19

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

Perilous times have certainly come. Many have a shipwrecked faith because the Word of God that produces faith has been undermined in their lives. An impure word produces weakness and disintegration of faith. It is the pure Word of God that we need, so that we can hold faith and show it to others.

We are in the time where many are "[h]aving a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof" (2 Timothy 3:5). Liberal theology seeks to take the supernatural away from the Bible. We are warned of false scholars "[e]ver learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7).

Jesus said of the Word of God, "[T]hy word is truth" (John 17:17). But many today resist the truth, which by definition *cannot* have error! These are they that continually "resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith" (2 Timothy 3:8).

"Thy word is true from the beginning".

Psalm 119:160a

We are living in the days where "evil men and seducers [i.e. those who would lead others from a knowledge of the truth] ... wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived" (2 Timothy 3:13). Many people now have not been "assured" (2 Timothy 3:14) that the Word of God is pure and without contamination of any kind.

"Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it."

Psalm 119:140 [author's emphasis]

"I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil." Psalm 119:162

In a world of impurity it is good to know that something is pure. In fact, this is the reason that the psalmist loves the Word of God! This should be the same reason that today's Christians love it but much of the love of God

⁶ "The King James Bible became part of the everyday world of generations of Englishspeaking peoples, spread across the world. It can be argued that, until the end of the First World War, the King James Bible was seen as not simply as the most important English translation of the Bible but as one of the finest literary works in the English language. It did not follow trends; it established them." (McGrath, A., "In The Beginning", Hodder & Stoughton, 2002, p. 3).

has been stolen from the hearts of many. Is the Word of God pure or not? If it is pure, can it then have any additions, omissions or errors in it? Surely there needs to be an awakening because the love of the truth always attracts purity but the way, at the moment, is being paved for the future Antichrist!⁷

"[H]im, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders ... [T]hey received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie".

2 Thessalonians 2:9–11

Because people do not love the truth, they are given over to believing a lie! How sad. But this is the kind of day that we are living in at the moment. The day of believing lies! The day of receiving not the love of the truth. So what if the truth is unpalatable to a majority of so-called scholars! If they disagree with God, then their word is false.

It is indeed interesting that the very stronghold of the Beast (i.e. the Antichrist of Revelation 13), namely the Vatican, has been the number one source for the corrupt textual stream of manuscripts, upon which the modern versions are based. The Roman Catholic manuscripts, Vaticanus and Sinaiticus (which *disagree with each other* in thousands of places), have been used to determine the readings of these corrupt "bibles". Many people today are not concerned about loving the truth. They *are* worried about offending the Roman Catholic cult or speaking against "disunity" or uncovering a distorted view of the unholy history associated with these Romanist manuscripts. The only alternative, therefore, is "strong delusion".

⁷ Historically, Satan has used Rome as the vehicle for his Antichrist masterpieces — the Roman emperors, the Roman popes and the future Roman Antichrist.

There are indeed plenty of wolves today. Jesus and the Apostle Paul predicted that they would be around, that they would infiltrate the Church and destroy and cause people to fall. They come smoothly and speak of "love", yet have no concept of the true meaning of the word. No man that truly loves God would corrupt the Word of God!

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." Matthew 7:15

8. Has "private interpretation" intruded upon the Church?

Purity of the Word of God is demanded by the following verse.

"[N]o prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation." 2 Peter 1:20b

This demands a literal translation of the Word of God from the original languages into English and other languages. The translators *cannot* allow any of their private interpretations to intrude! No private or personal or critical (higher or otherwise) interpretation is necessary for the communication of Scripture. Yet today's modern version translators talk about "dynamic equivalency" in translation, which means that they adjust the Word of God to suit the times or the beliefs of the person doing the translating!

The pure and literal wording is required and has been fulfilled in English by the Authorized King James Bible. In fact, many Protestant missionaries considered it to be so pure that they translated the English King James Bible into the language of those they were to preach to.⁸ The Word of God is rightly said to be "sharper than any twoedged sword" (Hebrews 4:12) because it never dulls in sharpness or brightness.

Jesus said: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Matthew 24:35). Did Jesus mean this or did He mean that some of His words would be lost with the transmission of time? You choose — to believe or not to believe! It is a deception to believe that the pure Word of God was only in the original manuscripts and that we do not have it completely intact today. The fact is we *do* have it today, providentially preserved from corruption, totally different from any other book that this planet has ever seen. Be sure about this because Jesus has spoken:

"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the <u>same</u> shall judge him in the <u>last day</u>."

John 12:48 [author's emphasis]

This means that God's same Word must exist in the last day. It will surely not be a different Word. It will be the same Word, preserved exactly for all to see. It will remain very pure, so that the servants of God will love it. The words of God shall not pass away! They are far too precious for that.

Jesus said: "Take heed that no man deceive you." (Matthew 24:4). People must be wary. It is so easy to be deceived if the philosophy of man is adhered to. Liberal theology, for instance, has invaded the Bible schools and instructs people that God has not providentially preserved His entire Word in the Earth, that the Bible contains many errors of transmission. This theology is showing itself for what it really is — theology of shifting sand! Do not listen to this! Go back to what the Lord Jesus Christ said.

"[W]hosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock". Matthew 7:24

The words of Jesus are as solid as a rock. *They are not subject to change!* In fact, the Word of God is "incorruptible" (1 Peter 1:23), not subject to the change of time. Heaven and Earth is subject to change but "the word of the Lord endureth for ever" (1 Peter 1:25).

9. Can modern versions cause confusion?

Modern versions cause confusion and more. They cast doubt upon the power of God and add to Scripture. They can only be described as the results of satanic intrusion into the Church. It would be appropriate here to relate the following fictional story:

One day, Thomas, who was a new Christian, tried to argue a point with John, who had been in the faith for fifteen years and, in that time, had

⁸ Note that with English now essentially being a global language, it would be appropriate to teach people Bible English with the view of conforming them to the pure text. God's way is to turn people to the pure — "For then will I turn to the people a pure language [i.e. the Biblical], that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent." (Zephaniah 3:9). For people to have "one consent" they would need to have access to the one Bible. The timing for this one Bible is given in Zephaniah 3:8 — "the day that I rise up to the prey ... to gather the nations". This represents a reversal of what happened at the tower of Babel where "the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this [evil] they begin to do ... Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." (Genesis 11:6, 7). The time has now come wherein "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." (Matthew 24:14). This demands a single pure Word in conjunction with a global language.

diligently sought the truth. John had always sought to back things up with facts and was counted a wise man in God's eyes.

"You know," said Thomas, "I believe that I can prove that Christ had an origin. The Bible says so!"

"Inasmuch," replied John, "that the Bible says in Acts 20:28 that God purchased the Church with His own blood, and that this is applicable only to the Lord Jesus Christ, then Jesus must be God. And God does not have an origin!"

"But it says that Christ had an origin!"

"Where? Show me!" exclaimed John, wondering what had transpired since he had last met with Thomas.

Thomas brought a book over to John, who recognised it immediately as the apostate Revised Standard Version. Thomas announced, "In the mouth of two or three witnesses it shall be established. I can show at least two places where it says that Christ had an origin." He flipped to Micah 5:2, which detailed the birthplace of Christ, and read it out. Sure enough, just as John had expected, it said that Christ had an origin. Then, Thomas flipped across to Hebrews 2:11 and read it out. This too seemed to point out that Christ had an origin and was therefore created.

"See now?" continued Thomas. "It says that Christ had an origin, so the Jehovah's Witness group⁹ must be right in this area at least! Christ must have been created then!"

John was very wise. "What type of version do you have?" he asked.

"The Revised Standard Version." was the reply.

"In both those verses," said John, "the Authorized King James Bible does not even contain the word 'origin'. You'll agree then that something is wrong somewhere."

"I thought as much," said Thomas.

"All right then," said John, "from that book you've got read out Revelation 21:6, 7 and then Revelation 22:13–16." Thomas did so and John continued with: "If Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega *and* God is the Alpha and Omega *at the same time*, then the only possible conclusion is that Jesus is God. And God does *not* have an origin as shown in the Scripture, '[F]rom everlasting to everlasting, thou art God' (Psalm 90:2). This seems to be very curious. The book you have in one part says that Christ is God and yet in another part says that Christ had an origin and hence was created! Surely the true Word of God would have no contradictions, particularly in such an important area as this!"

Thomas was perplexed. "Is this book I've got the Word of God?"

John answered, "According to Psalm 119:160, it states of God's Word, 'Thy word is true from the beginning', and Jesus Himself said, '[T]hy word is truth' (John 17:17). Hence, there can be no errors in the true Word of God since error is the *opposite* of truth, and 'All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16). Hence, God's Word is a standard by which other things are measured. It, therefore, has to be exact or else it would be useless for correction. It cannot have contamination or we will see contamination entering into the

⁹ This is a cult group, which, amongst other things, declares that Christ was a created being. Their "bible" is the New World Translation and is based on the same corrupt Romanist texts that are used by other modernist versions, such as the New International Version, to justify their readings.

Church doctrinally and morally. In fact, that's what's happening in the Church today. People are using a substitute word in place of the Word of God, resulting in a breakdown in the Church's ability to function properly."

"What do you mean?" asked Thomas.

"There needs to be a sincere return to purity in the Church today. The Bible says, '[M]an doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live' (Deuteronomy 8:3), thus signifying that every word of God is very important. 1 Peter 1:25 says, 'But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.' The Word of God then will be essentially without corruption or contradiction, 'not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever' (1 Peter 1:23)."

"Then," deliberated Thomas, holding up the polluted version, "this book cannot be the complete Word of God since it does have contradictions in it."

"Amongst other things," said John.

"What do you mean?"

"Open that book and read out to me John 5:4," said John emphatically.

Thomas looked for the verse in the book and then looked up at John with a puzzled look. "It's ... it's not here," he exclaimed horrified.

"What do you mean it's not there?"

"Well ... it's got verse 3 and verse 5 but no verse 4."

"Have a look at Acts 8:37 then," said John. "Surely that'll be in there!"

Thomas looks hard but cannot find this either. "This isn't in here either! Verse 36 and verse 38 but no verse 37."

"Oh well," said John sarcastically, "perhaps it's just a printing error. Have a look at Mark 15:28."

Thomas is frustrated. "No! This isn't here either. What is this book!? It contradicts itself, leaves out verses and who knows what else!"

"A closer examination," said John, " would reveal many such cases of omission, contradiction, as well as added words and even swapped around verses and yet the Revised Version (1881–1885) is the vanguard from which all other modern versions are derived! It seems that the book you've got there can't be called the total Word of God. At best, it could only be said to contain some of the Word of God."

Thomas half laughed, "Next thing you know they'll be claiming that Paul's thorn in the flesh was a sickness."

"Exactly!" sighed John. "In reality, the Church should only accept the English based on the Hebrew Masoretic Text and the Greek Textus Receptus. Anything else is a deviation from God's Word."

"What is the English version of those texts?"

"The King James Bible of 1611," stated John. "The Hebrew Masoretic Text was already in existence at the time of Jesus and He, being an Old Testament practising Jew, accepted it totally. It undergirds the Church's Old Testament today."

"Well, if Jesus accepted it, why doesn't everyone in the Church accept it?" asked Thomas.

"Because," deliberated John, "the Church has been infiltrated by false teachers who think they know better than Jesus. These false teachers are the wolves Jesus prophesied about, and have been supplied by the false church. They are '[e]ver learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth' (2 Timothy 3:7). The tragedy is that so many have adopted their beliefs and have abandoned the belief of the inerrancy of God's Word, held to by millions throughout history."

"What about the New Testament text?"

"The Textus Receptus or Received Text is predominantly made up¹⁰ of New Testament manuscripts,¹¹ copies that can be traced back to the time of the Apostles, who discerned for the early Church which were true and which were corrupted. These were preserved throughout history by the true Church of history, such as the Eastern Orthodox Church, and make up about 95% of all New Testament manuscripts that we have today. The majority of the extant New Testament manuscripts constitute a text that is called the 'Traditional Text'. The Received Text was the result of the Protestant Reformation recognising the pure textual stream and incorporating other considerations (i.e. not just the Traditional Text), such as the writings of the Church Fathers, to present to the world the true Word of God. The Greek editions of the Received Text were further

refined upon, resulting in the final form of the Received Text being in English as the 1611 King James Bible.¹² The various editions of the King James Bible were then necessary to conform the text to absolute purity,¹³ resulting in the pure English text (i.e. the Pure Cambridge Edition) printed circa 1900."¹⁴

Thomas was astounded. "You mean 95% of all existing Greek manuscripts substantially agree with the Textus Receptus and hence with the King James Bible?"

"That's correct," said John. "In fact, the King James Bible is the final form of the Received Text, which corrects any inaccuracies that were present in the previous editions."

¹⁰ The Received Text and the Traditional Text differ in that the Received Text takes into account more than just the extant New Testament manuscripts. Also considered in the historical context of God's preservation of His Word were the writings of the Church Fathers, ancient versions, lectionaries, certain Western manuscript readings and Church tradition. "[T]he Textus Receptus was a further step in the providential preservation of the New Testament. In it the few errors of any consequence occurring in the Traditional Greek Text were corrected by the providence of God operating through the usage of the Latin-speaking Church of Western Europe." (Hills, E., "*The King James Version Defended*", The Christian Research Press, 1984, p. 107).

¹¹ Relatively few of the extant New Testament manuscripts cover the whole of the New Testament. They comprise segments or books of the New Testament.

¹² "The King James Version ought to be regarded not merely as a translation of the Textus Receptus but also as an independent variety of the Textus Receptus." (Hills, E., "*The King James Version Defended*", The Christian Research Press, 1984, p. 220). The Authorized King James Bible differs from the Greek editions of the Received Text because the Greek editions needed to be further purified. For example, "[s]ometimes the King James translators forsook the printed Greek text and united with the earlier English versions in following the Latin Vulgate." (Hills, p. 221). "[A]ccuracy and clarity were regarded as supreme virtues by the [King James Bible] translators." (McGrath, A., "*In The Beginning*", Hodder & Stoughton, 2002, p. 75).

¹³ Inaccuracies that subsequently need to be expunged out came into the text through men's negligence and greed. "It will thus be clear that the use of the King's printer for this important new translation [i.e. the King James Bible] did not rest upon any perception that this would ensure a more accurate printing, but upon the belief that this was potentially a profitable project that would bring financial advantage to Barker and his partners. If any printings showed absolute scrupulosity in ensuring textual accuracy, these were the editions that subsequently came from the university printing houses at Oxford and Cambridge." (McGrath, A., "*In The Beginning*", Hodder & Stoughton, 2002, p. 199).

¹⁴ See footnote 3.

"How then can the body of existing manuscripts be so flippantly rejected by people in the Church for another text?"

"Satan dealt a masterstroke to the Church," said John. "He introduced a false doctrine into the Church,¹⁵ which was foolishly adopted by many, even in the face of clear evidence against it. The false doctrine was this: *the older a manuscript is, the more accurate it's going to be.* This is a blatant and cruel lie! In fact, history tells us that if a manuscript survives to be very old, then it generally means that the common people didn't use it because they thought it to be too full of inaccuracies! How correct they were. Satan introduced two old Romanist manuscripts, namely the Vaticanus and the Sinaiticus, both having survived because the common people didn't use them and, in fact, they disagree with each other in thousands of different places! Thus, even though these and other corrupt manuscripts are in the minority of all extant New Testament manuscripts, their readings have been accepted by many people as viable alternatives because there has been 'a falling away' (2 Thessalonians 2:3) from the truth."

"Then, we can safely say that God has preserved His perfect Word throughout history, even though corruption exists?"

"That's correct!" said John. "2 Timothy 2:19 says, 'the foundation of God standeth sure' and our faith must be based on what we *know* to be the Word of God, according to Romans 10:17; otherwise, our faith may be in vain because we need to be absolutely sure, knowing that God never fails."

Thomas held up the book. "What shall I do with this then?"

John replied emphatically, "Since you cannot be sure which in it is the true Word of God and which is corrupted, then there's really only one place for it."

John pointed to the rubbish bin.

10. How important is God's Word?

"I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast <u>magnified thy word</u> <u>above all thy name</u>."

Psalm 138:2 [author's emphasis]

The truth of God causes men to praise Him and indeed the truth or Word of God is magnified even above the name of God Himself!

If God could not have preserved His Word perfectly throughout history as He promised, then He is less than all powerful and how then can His name be trusted? But the fact remains and always shall, despite man's efforts to say otherwise, that "[t]he words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times" (Psalm 12:6). The words of the Lord are pure, not contaminated, and so they shall stay! They are like pure silver, which has no dross or rubbish in it whatsoever. God promises preservation of them. He has promised to watch over them! No matter what man does, the Word of God will always be available for those

¹⁵ This is a manifestation of the Papal Antichrist who introduced corrupt Romanist manuscripts (through there being "a falling away" post–1798 — see 2 Thessalonians 2:2, 3) into the true Church, "an holy temple in the Lord" (Ephesians 2:21) — "[H]e as God sitteth in the temple of God [i.e. the true Church], shewing himself that he is God." (2 Thessalonians 2:4b). He is showing himself as God by giving his version of what God has said, thus subjugating the place of the true Word who "was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1b). It is clear that this false "God" must be cast out of the true Church by the pure Word being reinstated. "Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Ephesians 5:25b–27).

who truly seek it. In other words, it did not vanish after the original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts were copied. It did not vanish when the original manuscripts were destroyed. The Word of God has been preserved, *even through the copying process*. Why should it be otherwise?¹⁶ Only liberal humanistic thinking demands that we approach the Bible as though it were an ordinary book without the hand of God upon it. *But the Bible is not an ordinary book at all!* God breathed His inspiration into men, who wrote and then, He preserved His words through all types of furnaces, processes, trials, inquisitions. He did not allow one word to sink into oblivion, forever unable to be recovered.

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

Modern translators have a very big problem — by altering God's Word, by accepting corrupted manuscripts as a basis, they have effectively denied that God's Word shall not return to Him void. They have said in their hearts, "This or that word is lost through the passage of time", thus making God out to be a liar! God's Word is forever, not just for those who had the original manuscripts! If words were lost after the original manuscripts vanished, why then were those words there in the first place! You see — the modernist version position is untenable and full of deception, seeking to undermine God's power and to take away from what God has said. Man in his arrogance does not want to retain the knowledge of God — "even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge" (Romans 1:28a).

Let's face it! God's ways and thought are much higher than man's. Unbelieving man thinks that complete preservation of the Word of God is impossible! But God doesn't! And that's the difference. If we align our thoughts with His, then nothing is impossible. In fact, preserving His Word in the Earth is easy for Him. Only man thinks otherwise because He does not look with the eye of faith in God.

11. Does history confirm God's preservation of His Word?

Prior to the time of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Old Testament Scriptures had been completed. Jesus referred to them with appeal to their absolute authority and dependability. He only ever rebuked the Jews for their lack of obedience to the Word of God, not for their historical care of the Scriptures. Many millions looked upon the Old Testament as their inheritance. The Jews took great practical care to make sure that copies substantially agreed.

The Masoretic Hebrew Text¹⁷ of the Old Testament, used by the translators of the King James Bible, is so called because it was the result

¹⁶ Great credence has been given to man's ability to override God's purpose in history. However, mankind has *no* power to override what God wants to do. "[T]he most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will ... And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?" (Daniel 4:32b, 35). See also Isaiah 40:13–17.

¹⁷ "[B]elieving textual criticism leads us to full confidence in the Masoretic (Traditional) Hebrew text which was preserved by the divinely appointed Old Testament priesthood and the scribes and scholars grouped around it." (Hills, E., "*The King James Version Defended*", The Christian Research Press, 1984, p. 102).

of a sixth century A.D. school of Jewish scholars, known as the Masoretes or Traditionalists. 18

The discovery between 1947 and 1956 of the Dead Sea Scrolls¹⁹ in caves east of Jerusalem near the ruins of Qumran on the Dead Sea only confirmed what the logic of faith already stated, namely that God had faithfully preserved His Word throughout history. The translators of the 1611 King James Bible had accepted the Masoretic Hebrew Text as the pure textual stream. The oldest Masoretic type manuscripts they could have examined in their time dated no earlier than the Middle Ages. In other words, they relied on God's promise that He had preserved His Word intact right up to their day and that this was evident in the Masoretic Hebrew Text. The Dead Sea Scrolls show that the Masoretic Hebrew Text was in existence and authoritative amongst the Jews almost 1000 years prior to the Middle Ages, so it could not have been something that had been made up or had no historical backing. Evidence suggests that the Dead Sea Scrolls are the remains of a diverse library,²⁰ rather than merely the work of one group, such as the Essenes. The Dead Sea Scrolls thus give an idea as to the type of Old Testament text that held sway amongst Jews. The following important facts have been found through an examination of the Dead Sea Scrolls:

(1) There are about 800 manuscripts consisting of thousands of fragments.

(2) They constitute a large library made up of different types of books.

(3) Only 25% of the Dead Sea Scrolls represent Biblical books (i.e. about 200 manuscripts).

(4) 65% of the Biblical Dead Sea Scrolls are of the Traditional Masoretic text type.

(5) 5% of the Biblical Dead Sea Scrolls are of the Septuagint text type.

(6) 5% of the Biblical Dead Sea Scrolls are of the Samaritan text type.

(7) 25% of the Biblical Dead Sea Scrolls are a mixture of text types.

¹⁸ "By Ezra and his successors, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, all the Old Testament books were gathered together into one Old Testament canon, and their texts were purged of errors and preserved until the days of our Lord's earthly ministry. By that time the Old Testament text was so firmly established that even the Jews' rejection of Christ could not disturb it. Unbelieving Jewish scribes transmitted this traditional Hebrew Old Testament until the dawn of the Protestant Reformation." (Hills, E., "*The King James Version Defended*", The Christian Research Press, 1984, p. 93). The Masoretes were in this pure text scribal line. "It is generally believed that vowel points and other written signs to aid in pronunciation were introduced into the text by the Masoretes." (Hills, p. 93).

¹⁹ Some 800 manuscripts (mainly fragmentary) in Hebrew and Syriack, variously dated between 250 B.C. and 70 A.D.

²⁰ The Essene theory is disputed on several grounds, one being that texts, such as the phylactery texts (brief passages from the five books of Moses), are so divergent and conflicting in their readings that they could not have been the result of just one group. Another ground for rejecting the Essene theory is that Josephus Flavius, a Jewish historian, indicated that refugees from the Roman siege and capture of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. seized whatever opportunities they could to hide away any texts of holy writ they had with them to prevent them from desecration at the hands of the Roman troops.

Thus, the Dead Sea Scrolls indicate the presence of both the pure textual stream and the corrupt textual stream²¹ with the pure textual stream holding sway amongst the Jews even to the time of their dispersion amongst all nations in 70 A.D.

12. How did God preserve the New Testament?

Once again the hand of God is evident in history. The text underlying the New Testament of the Authorized King James Bible is of great antiquity. The translators of the 1611 King James Bible had accepted the Greek Received Text²² as the pure textual stream. This Received Text was the result of understanding that God had preserved His Word in the Earth despite the corruptions that had crept into manuscripts by heretics. Over

95% of extant Greek manuscripts substantially agree with each other but certain areas, such as 1 John 5:7,²³ were underrepresented or had been altered away from the truth. The Majority Text, which purports to collate all the readings of the majority of extant manuscripts that agree, thus does not have every correct reading. The Received Text corrects back (i.e. refines) towards purity the small number of corruptions that were present in the Traditional Text.²⁴ The final form of the Received Text is the 1611 King James Bible,²⁵ which refines towards purity the small number of corruptions still present in the Greek Received Text.

The following points are applicable to the area of the preservation of the New Testament:

(1) The Ante-Nicene Fathers (the Church Fathers to A.D. 325) had manuscripts predating most of the manuscripts available today. The Biblical quotes in their writings substantially agree with the Received Text and are so numerous that the entire New Testament could be reconstructed from them.

(2) The early versions of the New Testament, such as the Syriac Peshitta, the Italic Bible, the Celtic Bible, the Gallic Bible and the Gothic Bible, substantially agree with the Received Text. Also, the medieval²⁶ versions

²¹ "[T]he Dead Sea Scrolls were a great find in establishing the importance of the Masoretic Text as the authoritative text. Up until the finds at Qumran (as well as findings at Wadi Murabbaat) the oldest Masoretic texts dated to the middle ages. With Qumran, we now have manuscripts almost a thousand years older which are Masoretic. Most of the scrolls which came from Cave IV are of this textual type ... Two scrolls containing the book of Isaiah were found in Cave I ... Both represent the Masoretic Hebrew Text, and are considered a major victory for both the Masoretic Text and the King James Bible ... [T]he Dead Sea Scrolls ... reveal something to the Bible-believing Christian. First, as in any library, the library at Qumran shows a diverse variation of material ... Second, considering the wide use of the Masoretic Text in the dead Sea Scrolls, and its exclusive use in other manuscript findings near the Dead Sea, the Traditional Hebrew Text must be unquestionably considered as authoritative ... Third, as in the study of New Testament criticism, it should not surprise the believer to see the subtle hand of the enemy corrupting and questioning the very words of God (Genesis 3:1). Thus, we are to expect additional textual types." (Dr Thomas Holland, "Crowned With Glory: The Bible from Ancient Text to Authorized Version", Chapter 7: Understanding The Dead Sea Scrolls -<http://hometown.aol.com/Logos1611/>).

²² There are several editions of the Greek Received Text, each slightly different from the other.

 $^{^{23}}$ "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." (1 John 5:7). This is an important proof text for Trinitarian doctrine.

²⁴ See footnote 10.

²⁵ See footnotes 12 and 13.

²⁶ "Traditionally, medieval history is said to begin with the fall of the Western Roman Empire in A.D. 476." ("Clothing," Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopaedia 99. © 1993–1998 Microsoft Corporation).

of the evangelical Waldenses and Albigenses agree with it. It is clear then that the text of the Authorized King James Bible must predate the inferior fourth century Romanist manuscripts (i.e. the Catholic Codex Sinaiticus or "Aleph" and Codex Vaticanus or "B") used to give the corrupt variant readings adopted by the modern versions.

(3) From about 476 A.D. (i.e. the fall of the Western Roman Empire)²⁷ until 1453 A.D. (i.e. the fall of Constantinople to the Turks — the fall of the Eastern Roman Empire),²⁸ the New Testament manuscripts agreeing

The time 1453 A.D. is indeed significant in the history of the Bible. Two other important events occurred around this time: (1) The printing press was invented. "Around 1440–1450, the German printer Johann Gensfleich called Gutenberg ... developed with his associates the technique of movable characters. In addition, he perfected the material necessary for the quality and conservation of characters: an alloy of lead, antimony and tin. In 1455, in Mainz, Gutenberg printed the *Biblia sacra latina*, called the 42–line (per page) Bible." (Giscard d'Estaing, V., "*The World Almanac Book of Inventions*", World Almanac Publications, 1985, p. 85). (2) English was consolidated as the national language of England. "The Hundred Years War (1337–1453) served to consolidate the

substantially with the Received Text were preserved through the Godguided usage of the Greek Church. Unlike the Roman false church, which was changing and adjusting and becoming more and more polluted, the Greek Church remained relatively static for over a thousand years. This made it a superb medium for the preservation of the Word of God until the advent of the printing press. The New Testament manuscripts agreeing substantially with the Received Text are sometimes called the Byzantine Text, an acknowledgement that this is the text that was used throughout the Byzantine Period (320 A.D. to 1453 A.D.).²⁹

"[H]is truth *endureth* **to all generations."** Psalm 100:5b

growing popular impression that French was the language of England's enemy ... At Castillon (1453) the French destroyed the last English army with cannon, handguns, and heavy cavalry ... The war with France at an end, English became the language of choice of the upper classes and government departments. No longer was English dismissed as the language of the lower classes; it was now the language of choice of a nation with an increasing sense of national identity and shared purpose, strengthened by England's growing maritime enterprise." (McGrath, A., "In *The Beginning*", Hodder & Stoughton, 2002, pp. 29–31).

²⁹ "Byzantine Empire, eastern part of the Roman Empire, which survived after the break up of the Western Empire in the 5th century A.D. Its capital was Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey)." ("Byzantine Empire," Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopaedia 99. © 1993–1998 Microsoft Corporation). Constantinople became the capital of the Roman Empire in 320 A.D. "[T]he city [of Constantinople] was the seat of the Eastern Roman, or Byzantine, Empire, which between A.D. 320 and 1453 was the centre of Eastern Christendom" ("Orthodox Church," Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopaedia 99. © 1993– 1998 Microsoft Corporation).

 $^{^{27}}$ According to the Historicist interpretation of prophecy, the fall of the Western Roman Empire was predicted with the fourth trumpet of Rev. 8:12 — "And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise."

²⁸ According to the Historicist interpretation of prophecy, the fall of the Eastern Roman Empire was predicted in Rev. 9:13–16 — "And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them." The time period equates as follows: 1 year + 1 month + 1 day + 1 hour = 396.04 days (prophetically) = 396.04 years. This time period started in 1057 A.D., when the Turks crossed the Euphrates, and ended in 1453 A.D., when Constantinople fell.

13. What has undermined confidence in the Authorized King James Bible?

The manuscripts underlying the Authorized King James Bible were not seriously doubted until the 1800s when Romanist agents successfully infiltrated the Protestant Church and proceeded to undermine the confidence in the purity of the Word of God.

From 1798 A.D. (the fall of the Papal Roman Empire) until 1882 A.D. a total of 84 years — there was essentially no opposition to the introduction of a false "bible" into the Church. The Roman beast had been "wounded to death [but] his deadly wound was healed" (Revelation 13:3a), so that Romanism now took on another face, deceiving many into thinking it had changed its murderous ways. By subterfuge, the Papal Antichrist was establishing himself "as God sitt[ing] in the temple of God [i.e. the true Church], shewing himself that he is God" (2 Thessalonians 2:4b) through substituting the true Word with his false word. The Papal Antichrist was able to do this during these 84 years because the two witnesses of history (the Old Testament and the New Testament) were "dead bodies three days and an half" (Revelation 11:9), even though the nations were still seeing them.³⁰

"By the middle of the 19th century the researches and propaganda of Tischendorf and Tregelles [Romanist agents] had convinced many British scholars that the Textus Receptus was a late and inferior text and therefore a revision of the King James Version was highly necessary. This clamour for a new revision of the English Bible was finally met in 1870, when the Revision Committee was appointed by the Church of England to carry out the project ... The New Testament [of the Revised Version] was finished November 11, 1880, and published May 17, 1881, amid tremendous acclaim."³¹

By the close of the 84 years, God had raised a man, Dean John William Burgon, to answer the new revision and show it as a false and intrusive word into the Church. "It was John W. Burgon (1813–1888), however, who most effectively combated the neutralism of naturalistic Bible study

... Throughout his career he was steadfast in his defence of the Scriptures as the infallible Word of God and strove with all his power to arrest the modernistic currents which <u>during his life time had begun to flow within</u> the Church of England ... [H]is arguments have never been refuted."³²

In Burgon's book, "*The Revision Revised*", published 1883, he recognised that the final (i.e. the seventh) purification of text of the Authorized King James Bible had not been completed (the Pure Cambridge Edition was not arrived at until circa 1900) but resisted completely another version. His book was made up of three articles that had appeared in the "Quarterly Review" in 1881 and 1882. Burgon says, "[W]e hold that a revised edition of the Authorized Version of our English Bible, (if executed with consummate ability and learning,) would at any time be a work of inestimable value ... As something intended to supersede our present English Bible, we are thoroughly convinced that the project of a rival translation is not to be entertained for a moment. For ourselves, we deprecate it entirely."³³

³⁰ There are prophetic passages (Revelation 3:10b; Rev. 14:7a; Rev. 17:12) that place meaning on one prophetic hour as a time frame greater than one literal hour, giving grounds for the extrapolation of the 3.5 days of the 2 witnesses into 84 years (i.e. 3.5×24).

³¹ Hills, E., "*The King James Version Defended*", The Christian Research Press, 1984, pp. 225, 226.

³² Ibid, Hills, p. 139. Emphasis added.

³³ Burgon, J., "The Revision Revised", Oxford University Press, 1883, p. 114. Emphasis added.

14. Why was there a rejection of the Received Text?

To answer this we need to look closely at what has happened in history, especially in connection with the translation of the King James Bible and in connection with the 1881 Revised Version produced by the Church of England Revision Committee headed by Westcott and Hort. From this time came the flood of modern versions. What we must realise is that if God was to preserve His Word throughout history, then surely He would not have kept it hidden for a thousand years from true believers. Yet, this is exactly the view held to by those who agree with Westcott and Hort of the Revision Committee!

There are historically two main manuscript streams:

(1) the accurate copies, which represent the majority of all New Testament manuscripts available, and underlying the Received Text; and

(2) the corrupted copies, which include the fourth century Vaticanus and Sinaiticus.

It is interesting to note that the Vaticanus and Sinaiticus disagree with each other over 3000 times in the Gospels alone! And yet Westcott and Hort exalted these above all the other New Testament manuscripts available. Modern versions today rely on a revised Greek text, which largely uses the readings of these two manuscripts over the Received Text.

It seems clear that Westcott and Hort were biased against manuscripts that were accepted historically by Protestants. They exalted their heretical Romanist manuscripts above the abundant evidence that God had preserved His Word in the Received Text.

The Vaticanus and Sinaiticus are tainted by the heresies of an early "scholar", Origen (184–254 A.D.), who changed the Word of God to suit

his views that Christ was Christ was a created being. Westcott and Hort were men who wanted to destroy the Protestant Bible. They hated the Authorized King James Bible calling it "vile". They conducted the Revision Committee in secret for over ten years whilst they introduced their Romanist biases and acceptance of certain corrupt Romanist manuscripts. They pushed the false doctrine that the oldest manuscripts surviving today are the best to use! When this doctrine was accepted by Protestants, it opened the way for the acceptance of new and modern versions. This doctrine is now accepted in many of the world's "bible" colleges.

15. How was the King James Bible formed?

On July 22, 1604, King James I of England announced that he had appointed 54 of the best Hebrew and Greek scholars to produce a Bible, which we now know as the Authorized King James Bible. To determine Bible readings, these men predominantly used the Masoretic Hebrew Text of the Old Testament and the Received Greek Text of the New Testament.

They were organised into six groups, which were to meet separately. Each group was designated a certain portion of Scripture to translate into English. Each scholar first made his own translation of his allocated section, then passed it on to be reviewed by each other member of his group. When each portion of Scripture was completed, it was sent to the other five groups for their independent criticism. In this way each book went through the hands of the entire body of translators. To guard further against possible errors, another committee was formed by selecting two from each of the groups. Then, the entire version came before this select group where all differences of opinion were ironed out. It put the finishing touches on the work and prepared it for the printers in 1611. Unlike the Revision Committee of 1881, which was conducted in secret, the translation of the Authorized King James Bible was a very public affair.

16. Does the Authorized King James Bible contradict itself?

Unlike modern versions, the Authorized King James Bible does not contradict itself. Every seeming contradiction can be explained by looking at the biblical and historical context of the Scripture in question. The Word of God, in reality, is perfect in every way. What might seem to be contradictory can often be sorted out once the context is looked at closely.

There are other books which detail these supposed contradictions and give appropriate answers to them, so only two of them will be looked at here. As Psalm 119:140 says, "Thy word is very pure", so it is up to each believer to "[s]tudy to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

The Bible itself tells us how to deal with problems:

"Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? *them that are* weaned from the milk, *and* drawn from the breasts. For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little". Isaiah 28:9, 10

So-called contradictions come when people isolate Scriptures out of context or ignore the exact wording of Scripture.

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

Hence, our approach to the Word of God should not be in a naturalistic or unbelieving way but in a sincere, godly way, in the same way we approach Christ. Our approach to the Bible is very important! We can approach it with the eyes of faith, believing that God preserves His Word perfectly, or we can come with the eyes of unbelief, ready to doubt without much study at all. The true Bible student, however, will "be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh [us] a reason of the hope that is in [us]" (1 Peter 3:15b).

EXAMPLE ONE

The following is an example of the type of "contradiction" that people level against the Bible. Unbelievers treat the Bible as they would no other book and assume beforehand that the Bible writers were not inspired and were so unlearned that they could not "see" the so-called contradiction.

Some refer to the so-called error between 2 Samuel 6:23 and 2 Samuel 21:8; in their puffed up knowledge they say that "this is due to a textual error in the Hebrew manuscript available to the KJB translators". As if this statement would help anyone come to a trust in the accuracy of God's Word — just resort to the "copyist error" argument if study is too hard! With reference to the above two verses, look at what the King James Bible actually says:

"Therefore, Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death."

2 Samuel 6:23

"But the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bare unto Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she brought up for Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite".

2 Samuel 21:8

The King James Bible is not in error: it is clear that Michal despised David in her heart (see 2 Samuel 6:20–22) and "therefore" (i.e. because of this)

had no child by him until she died. Additionally, it seems she had five stepsons from her other husband, Adriel. Why assume a copyist error?

EXAMPLE TWO

The following two Scriptures are presented by doubters as evidence of copyist errors coming in *but* the truth is that every example of this type is *easily* answerable!

"Jehoiachin *was* eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name *was* Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem." 2 Kings 24:8

"Jehoiachin *was* eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD."

2 Chronicles 36:9

The problem as to when he began to reign comes when it is assumed that Kings and Chronicles are looking at the same thing! The trend in Chronicles is towards being technical and exact in details as evidenced by stating that Jehoiachin's reign in Jerusalem was "three months and ten days" whereas Kings rounds this off to "three months". Thus, the writers are looking at different aspects of the same thing. Notice that 2 Kings 24:18 mentions Jehoiachin's mother as though she were somehow significant in the picture. In 2 Chronicles 36:9, the writer is starting from when Jehoiachin technically started reigning; put the two Scriptures together and we see that it was his mother that acted as a regent, running the kingdom for him for ten years until he was eighteen. Notice that so-called correcting of these Scriptures would actually introduce error into Scripture, whereas taking them in their purity reveals the details that would be missed by doubters!

17. What will happen to corrupters of the Word of God?

God is not happy with those that seek to corrupt the Word of God through the propagation of polluted versions with their so-called biblical criticism and liberal viewpoints. In fact, it is an extremely serious thing to meddle in this area! God makes Himself very clear about the end of those who corrupt His Word.

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, <u>If any man shall add</u> unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And <u>if any man shall take away</u> from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book." Revelation 22:18, 19 [author's emphasis]

"Every word of God *is* **pure ... Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."** Proverbs 30:5a, 6

It is God who wins in the end, not men who want to stay blind to the truth about God's ways. Thus, there is no need to add to God's Word! It is sufficient for faith, so that men put their trust in Him. Without His Word they cannot do so. Without the purity of God's Word, false doctrines creep in, causing the Church to fail. Men love God because He is pure and His Word is pure and there is no contamination in Him. It is "the word of faith, which we preach" (Romans 10:8b), not the word of doubt and corruption. The Word of God must be believed before faith can come. How can the Word of God be believed if it is corrupted? Look at the Church and notice: the Church becomes weaker and more worldly as more compromise and corruption is let in. The Word of God *must* be pure or effective preaching is vanquished!

"[T]he word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard *it*."

Hebrews 4:2b

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

Thus, a pure Word brings a pure faith! Let's be absolutely clear about this very important thing because a corrupted word obviously brings a corrupted faith, which is not of God and easily defeated by the world.

"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* **our faith."** 1 John 5:4

18. What is the King James connection?

The King James connection to God is the place in a long chain of events which the King James Bible holds in regard to God's preservation of His Word in the Earth. The King James Bible is the God-ordained Received Text in English and as such should be held up as the Bible for English Christendom. It is a pure book, which many have shed their blood to bring to us today. If we neglect it, we also neglect freedom in our land.

In God's scheme of things, He divinely placed the Authorized King James Bible as a standard in English. Standards are what things are measured by. When other versions are measured against this standard, they are found severely wanting!

19. What is Satan's plan of attack against the Church of God?

Satan has always been determined to cast doubt upon the Word of God. This is very clear in his temptation of Eve in the Garden of Eden. He started by asking, "Yea, hath God said ... ?" (Genesis 3:1). He plants doubts in people's minds as to whether God has said something or not. Surely this is the dilemma of modern versions! Because they are all contrary to one another and contrary to the historically correct Authorized King James Bible, they continually project into people's minds, "Has God said?"

To undermine the authority of the Word of God is but the beginning of Satan's attack. The next step is to substitute it for a lie. Satan contradicted God completely when he said to Eve, "Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:4), putting himself in God's place as the authority. And Eve believed him! Similarly, Satan has planted doubts in people's minds about the inerrancy of God's Word and about His power to preserve His Word throughout history. He has then substituted a whole array of new selections for people to choose from, so that confusion and false doctrine start to reign.

Since men have "changed the truth of God into a lie" (Romans 1:25), judgment must inevitably come. This is as sure as the judgment that came upon Adam and Eve. Men's tendencies have always been against the truth and towards trying to change what God has said.

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." John 3:19

This is the reason why there must be the pure Word of God in the Earth today! It is the only way of ensuring that truth is not lost. It is the only way of ensuring that Satan's plan is not followed. The Lord Jesus Christ said,

"If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15), and again, "If a man love me, he will keep my words" (John 14:23a). He called Himself "the truth" (John 14:6) and His title is "the Word" (John 1:1, 14). How then can He lie or be in error in any way? If the Word of God is attacked or cast doubt upon, so then are the commandments and words of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself!

"But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, and that they are wrought in God." John 3:21

20. What is God's testimony?

The Apostle Paul said that he came "declaring ... the testimony of God" (1 Corinthians 2:1b), not in excellency of speech or wisdom. He came declaring something totally different from what man could produce! He came "not with enticing words of man's wisdom" (1 Corinthians 2:4). He declared that "which the Holy Ghost teacheth" (1 Corinthians 2:13). Thus, the testimony of God comes from the heart of God and is not to be tampered with by trying to alter it according to man's wisdom. There are many enticing words of man's wisdom. The so-called scholars call it "criticism". But how can any man criticise God's testimony when the Bible clearly states:

"The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: <u>the testimony of</u> <u>the LORD *is* sure</u>, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether." Psalm 19:7–9 [author's emphasis]

One should notice very carefully the words God uses to describe His law, testimony, statutes, commandments and judgments. They are: "perfect",

"sure", "right", "pure", and "true and righteous altogether"! How different is this to the so-called higher criticism, which seeks to change the Word of God and cast doubt upon it. How clear does the Lord have to be concerning the perfection of His Word in the Earth? The fact that His testimony is sure *must* mean that it can never be destroyed or lost through the transmission of time. Clearly, "the word of the Lord endureth for ever" (1 Peter 1:25). How can this be reconciled with the pernicious doctrine that we no longer have the exact Word of God with us today? The King James Bible answers this false doctrine. It has stood the test of time. It has been shown to agree with the majority of all Greek manuscripts today and with the Hebrew Masoretic Text. It is based on the doctrine that none of God's words get lost in the transmission of time.

The word "testimony" means witness. The Scriptures are God's witness that He is true. We must receive this testimony or we call God a liar.

"He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true."

John 3:33

The Apostle John wrote concerning the accuracy of his book.

"This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true." John 21:24

The Bible is the witness of God in the Earth for men to receive and believe. God put it here. The Holy Ghost illuminates, guides and teaches it to those who want to go God's ways. The Holy Ghost is called the "Spirit of truth" (John 14:17). He is error free! His Word is error free! His Word is sufficient!

"Thy word *is* **a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."** Psalm 119:105

"I love thy testimonies." Psalm 119:119b

The truth and the purity of the testimonies of God is the reason for loving them. They are all sufficient for keeping us in the will of God.

21. What is the conclusion?

The Authorized King James Bible is the standard Word of God in English. It represents the connection of God to mankind — without it, we would be in another dark age! The rise of modernist versions represents the rise of apostate Christianity at the time of the end — with its rise comes corruption and error. There is a famine in the land! Hungry men and women call out for the pure Word of God.

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find *it*." Amos 8:11, 12

"[T]hey received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved ... for this cause shall God send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

2 Thessalonians 2:10b–12

Let the reader understand the seriousness of not loving and believing the truth!

THE END

HOW TO KNOW THE PURE CAMBRIDGE EDITION OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE

It is important to have the correct, perfect and final text of the King James Bible, since there are correctors (e.g. publishers) who have changed some aspects of King James Bible texts. The final form of the King James Bible is the Pure Cambridge Edition (circa 1900), which conforms to the following:

"or Sheba" not "and Sheba" in Joshua 19:2
"sin" not "sins" in 2 Chronicles 33:19
"Spirit of God" not "spirit of God" in Job 33:4
"whom ye" not "whom he" in Jeremiah 34:16
"Spirit of God" not "spirit of God" in Ezekiel 11:24
"flieth" not "fleeth" in Nahum 3:16
"Spirit" not "spirit" in Matthew 4:1
"further" not "farther" in Matthew 26:39
"bewrayeth" not "spirit" in Matthew 26:73
"Spirit" not "spirit" in Acts 11:28
"spirit" not "Spirit" in 1 John 5:8