

# Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 1

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Electronic Bible Or Hard Copy Bible, Definition Of Lexicons, Beware Of Doctrinal Influence, Verify All Doctrines With The Scriptures, Led By Holy Spirit, Divine Inspiration Of God's Word, Predigested And Interpreted Word Of God, KJV Bible Is Also The Interpreted Word Of God, Copies Of Copies Of Copies, William Tyndale And Desiderius Erasmus, Textus Receptus, My Personal Concerns, Roman Catholic Background Of Reformers, King James Bible Is Inspired But Not Perfect And Inerrant, The Political And Religious Manipulation Of The Scriptures, Organized Religion's Deception And Strong Hold On People, A Way To Serve God Outside Of The Established Church System, Ekklesia And The Called Out Ones, Separated From The World, Apostasy Of Ancient Jews And Their Misguided Temple Worship, God Questions David, Rebellious Kings, Solomon's Apostasy, God's Disdain For Physical Structures, Apostles Mesmerized, Conversation With Samaritan Woman At The Well, True Worship In Spirit And In Truth, We Are God's True Spiritual Temple, Jesus Is The Cornerstone And Foundation Stone Of Our Temple

The series you are about to read is an updated and expanded version of a commentary which I originally wrote as a "Note" for my Facebook timeline. It contains a large amount of new information, as well as dozens of Bible verses which were not included in my Facebook Note. While what I state here may be a bit challenging for some of you, it is my hope that it will also be a blessing to you, and a refreshing blast of Biblical truth as well, which will inspire your soul.

As some of my friends and readers will know, I have not used or read a physical, hard copy version of the Bible in many years. Instead, I use a free Macintosh Bible program called "Online Bible" which utilizes add-on modules. For those of you who may not be familiar with them, add-on modules serve to extend the functionality of a computer program by giving it new features. Two of the modules which I use with the Online Bible program are Hebrew and Greek lexicons.

Exactly what are lexicons? As you may possibly know, many study Bibles -- including electronic Bibles such as Online Bible -- include what are called Strong's Numbers. These numbers link each word or phrase in the English text to the original word(s) in the Hebrew or Greek text. Quite often, an entire English phrase may be translated from a single Hebrew or Greek word. The pronunciation, definitions and different usages of these Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic -- or Syrian -- words are found in the Hebrew and Greek lexicons, along with other useful information.

Quite frankly, as I have mentioned before, these Hebrew and Greek lexicons have been a tremendous blessing to me over the years. Not only have they greatly enhanced my personal

understanding of God's Word, but they have also enabled me to write much better and more informative articles for my readers. However, as some of you may have also discovered, whether one uses Hebrew and Greek lexicons, or any other extra-biblical resource in his studies and research, there is one drawback which we all need to watch out for. That is the fact that many of these study tools are influenced by the doctrinal positions of their authors and creators.

In other words, while it is good to use tools such as Hebrew and Greek lexicons, at the same time, we need to be careful that we don't allow these authors and creators to interpret God's Word for us. Rather, while we can and should use tools such as lexicons to understand the original Hebrew and Greek words and their meanings which are behind the English text, in the end, we should all rely solely upon God's Spirit to enlighten our understanding regarding exactly what He means in His Word. Furthermore, as I have pointed out many times before, we should verify and confirm all doctrines with the Scriptures, before we accept them as authoritative truth. I am reminded of the following verses:

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

"And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."  
Acts 17:10-11, KJV

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."  
1 John 4:1, KJV

"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."  
John 14:26, KJV

"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."  
John 16:13, KJV

The obvious reason regarding why it is so very important to always test all doctrines against the Scriptures is because they are Divinely Inspired, as we can determine by these two verses:

"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, KJV

"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."

2 Peter 1:21, KJV

Sadly, in our modern times, it is rather difficult to read a version of the Scriptures which is not already predigested, spit back out, and the interpreted Word of God. In fact, this is the tragic state of most modern versions of the Bible. If we are truthful with ourselves, we must be willing to admit that even our beloved KJV Bible has fallen victim to the same process, and is likewise the interpreted Word of God. If you are not yet aware of this important fact, please be advised that similar to all other versions of the Bible, our beloved KJV Bible is not based on the original autographs -- that is the original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts -- which were lost to time, decay and willful human destruction many centuries ago.

As I explain in such articles as "History of the Authorized King James Bible" and "In Defense of the KJV Bible", the KJV Bible -- as well as all other modern versions of the Bible -- are derived from copies of copies of copies, which have later been translated into our English language by different authors at different times, each of whom embraced his own doctrinal perspectives, which have leaked into the translation. In the case of the King James Version of the Bible, as I mention in the aforementioned articles, the New Testament is primarily based on the work of a Sixteenth Century reformer by the name of William Tyndale, who was later burned at the stake under the false charge of heresy.

In turn, Tyndale's translation work was based in large part on the earlier efforts of a Dutch scholar and theologian by the name of Desiderius Erasmus, who had compiled his own Greek New Testament from six or seven partial New Testament manuscripts, which were available to him during the early Sixteenth Century. Erasmus' translation of the New Testament has become known as the "Textus Receptus"; that is, "Received Text". Quite frankly, I must confess that it does leave me a little unsettled to realize that the English New Testament which we read today in the King James Version of the Bible, is in large part based upon the work of this one man.

If you don't understand my concern, it is that we are forced to place a lot of faith in the belief that when Desiderius Erasmus compiled his Greek New Testament, he was led by the Lord's Spirit, and that he did not allow his own religious prejudices to seep into his Greek compilation. You see, while Erasmus can be viewed as one of the early Reformers, he was nevertheless also a humanist, as well as a lifelong member of the Roman Catholic Church. Thus, he recognized the authority of the pope. Because of his middle ground approach, he was often criticized by both camps; that is, by the Reformers, as well as by the Roman Catholic Church. Other Reformers -- such as Martin Luther and William Tyndale -- were also from the same Roman Catholic background. Their goal was by no means to overthrow the Roman Catholic Church -- as if that would have even been possible -- but merely to reform it.

Because of this historical information -- which anyone can very easily verify -- and to the consternation of some of my

KJV extremist critics -- some of whom have already gnashed upon me because of my honest opinions -- it has long been my view that while we may consider the original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts to be the inspired, inerrant Word of God, I do not believe that the same can be said for our modern English translations; and this includes our beloved KJV Bible as well. Is the KJV Bible inspired? Yes it is. Is it truly perfect and inerrant in every way as KJV extremists believe? Definitely not, in my view. Let the howls begin.

While I have personally used the King James Bible as my Bible of choice for the past forty-two years -- and I would never consider using any other versions -- because of the things I have learned regarding its history, I am forced to recognize that, similar to more modern translations, this beloved tome was also manipulated by the political and religious forces of the time; that is, by the court of King James I of England and Scotland. According to what I have read, the translators were in fact instructed to translate the KJV Bible in such a way, that it would support the Church of England, which relied upon its church buildings and powerful religious hierarchy.

In other words, through their precisely-worded translation of the Scriptures, people were made to believe that they could not believe in God, or much less worship God properly, outside of the established, organized religion of the day; that being the Church of England. How much this sounds just like our own times where so many people have been craftily manipulated into believing that if a small group of sincere Christians attempts to worship God, serve God and fellowship together outside of an established, recognized church, they must belong to some kind of dangerous cult. While this is true in some cases, it is most certainly not true in every case. Some Christians have simply discovered the truth of the Scriptures, and they want to actually strive to live it.

However, as I point out in other articles, organized religion does not want anyone to know this. They don't want us to know that there is another way -- a better way -- to worship and serve God outside of their plastic, corrupt, materialistic, and increasingly-worldly, religious social clubs where the sickening disease of compromise has made some serious inroads in recent decades. Why? Because once people begin to wake up and realize that they do not need organized religion with its lavish churches and corrupt ecclesiastical power structures, the churches will lose their hold over people's lives, begin to lose their membership, and in the process, lose a lot of money as well.

So as I was saying, it is because of the way in which God's Word was purposely translated into our English language, that to this present day, when most people hear the word "church", they have been conditioned to automatically assume that it is referring to a physical church building with its associated hierarchy of powerful church leaders. Denominational issues aside, they all operate in basically the same manner. However, as I point out in other articles -- which I will list at the end of this series -- in the original Greek manuscripts, the word that is used -- "ekklesia" -- has absolutely nothing to do with a building. It actually means "called out ones", and refers to a congregation of people who are called out and separated -- from the Greek word "aphorizo" -- from this evil

world, very much like the Church in the Wilderness of the Old Testament period. If you doubt that this is supposed to be the real status of true Christians, then please consider what the Bible tells us in the following eye-opening verses:

"If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."  
John 15:19, KJV

"I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil."  
John 17:14-15, KJV

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,"  
2 Corinthians 6:17, KJV

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."  
Colossians 3:1-2, KJV

"No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."  
2 Timothy 2:4, KJV

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."  
Hebrews 11:13-16, KJV

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."  
James 4:4, KJV

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."  
1 John 2:15-16, KJV

That, my friends, is God's clear, straight Word regarding this issue. It is not my words, or my doctrine. Sadly, so many Christians resist the truth of those verses, because they like the world, and the things which it offers them, and they don't really want to be the "called out ones", as God has chosen them to be. They prefer to be spiritual

adulterers instead.

Taking a brief look at the Biblical history of the ancient Jews, if there is one thing of which I am rather certain, it is that it is when they abandoned true spiritual worship of God, and became involved in building temples, that they got sidetracked, and fell into a serious state of apostasy. Our Heavenly Father's strong distaste for religious worship that centers around physical structures is made quite apparent in the following verses:

"And it came to pass that night, that the word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying, Go and tell my servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an house for me to dwell in? Whereas I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle. In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an house of cedar?"  
2 Samuel 7:4-7, KJV

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?"  
1 Kings 8:27, KJV

"Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest?"  
Acts 7:48-49, KJV

"God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;"  
Acts 17:24, KJV

"Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?"  
Isaiah 66:1, KJV

"Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these."  
Jeremiah 7:4, KJV

"For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof."  
Hosea 8:14, KJV

You see, in His Divine Wisdom, God questioned King David, and asked him why he was so eager to build a temple for Him, when He had never asked him to do this, or required it of him. God was quite content with letting His presence be known "in a tent and in a tabernacle". He didn't need or require some big fancy temple, which He already knew would not end well anyway. Nevertheless, the Lord told David via the Prophet Nathan that

He would allow Solomon -- King David's son -- to build a house in His Name. Building the temple was clearly not God's highest Will. Furthermore, I am convinced that God acquiesced to human desire in order to eventually teach those stubborn Jews a very important lesson regarding true worship in the Spirit.

This was not the first time that God purposely acquiesced to human will in order to teach the Jews an important lesson. As I have mentioned before, something similar occurred when they also demanded that the Lord give them an earthly king so that they could be just like the pagan nations around them. Well, they got their king -- stubborn, rebellious King Saul -- but then they had nothing but problems after that with some good kings and some bad kings. Worse yet, Israel was eventually divided into the northern and the southern kingdoms, and it was one king fighting against the other king. So much for the idea of the Jews having their own earthly king. God knew ahead of time that it was a bad idea, because He wanted to be their only King who ruled from Heaven. Let me also mention that by the end of his life, King Solomon had become a total apostate, as we can easily see by the following verses:

"But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods. And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded. Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant. Notwithstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen."  
1 Kings 11:1-13, KJV

As you can see, that is why the kingdom of Israel became divided into north and south, with one king fighting against the other. It was a direct result of the grievous sins of King Solomon. He was a wise man by God's Grace, and a very rich man as well; but in the end, his power and wealth led

to his own demise, and falling into disfavor with God. Not only that, but the Temple he built eventually became quite an abomination, and was ultimately destroyed according to God's Will. Earthly kings and earthly temples? It should be obvious to you that God just does not care for either one.

Let me mention that while Hosea 8:14 is actually discussing pagan temples, nevertheless, the lesson remains exactly the same. That is that constructing buildings -- such as temples and churches -- eventually leads many people away from God, because they tend to get caught up in the magnificence of the buildings themselves and the materialism. Also, quite often what happens -- and this is certainly true in our modern day -- is that people become involved in a competition to see who can build the more lavish and impressive building. It becomes no longer about God, but rather about pride and social status.

I have mentioned before that in the Gospels we discover that even Jesus' own Apostles seem to have gotten carried away, and were mesmerized by the magnificence and splendor of the great Temple which stood on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem. This was actually the second Temple which had been enhanced by King Herod the Great. As I mentioned a moment ago, the first Temple -- which was known as Solomon's Temple -- was actually destroyed by the armies of Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar in about the year 586 BC, following years of siege against the city of Jerusalem. At any rate, consider how Jesus responded when His followers began to foolishly worship this creation of man:

"And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down."  
Matthew 24:1-2, KJV

It should be evident to you by now that God just doesn't like physical buildings, because they detract from true worship in the Spirit. Furthermore, the modern belief that churches are the house of God, and that His Spirit dwells in them, is absolutely bogus. If you still believe that subtle lie, then you need to read the previous verses again until you really believe them in your heart. As I said, our Heavenly Father is interested in true worship in the Spirit without the need for physical structures and powerful ecclesiastical hierarchies. If you still doubt that this is so, then let me remind you of the very interesting conversation which Jesus had with the Samaritan woman at the well, which we find in the Gospel of John. I am only going to quote the key verses for emphasis:

"Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father . . . But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."  
John 4:21, 23-24, KJV

Please notice that Jesus specifically tells this woman that worship in Jerusalem -- obviously meaning in the Temple --



would cease. Why? Well, for one thing, as we have already seen, the Temple -- and all of Jerusalem itself -- would be destroyed by General Titus and his Roman legions about forty years later in 70 AD. More importantly, however, the primary reason is because God the Father wants us to worship Him in Spirit and in truth. He just does not want us getting hung up on church buildings, and everything else that has become associated with them.

To reiterate, it is all about the Spirit. It is not about any kind of man-made physical structure. It is not about churches that are made out of concrete and steel, it is about the true spiritual Temple of God, which consists of you and I. It is about God's Spirit dwelling in us His people, and not in some cold, dead building. If you are a Bible-knowledgeable person, then you should already know that we Believers are the true spiritual Temple of God and the Church of God, and that Jesus Christ is the Cornerstone -- or Foundation Stone -- of our spiritual Temple. A cornerstone forms the base of a corner of a building and joins two walls together. In short, the entire spiritual Temple of God rests upon the Foundation of Jesus Christ.

For many years now, I've been teaching this particular truth, and it is clearly based on God's Word. For example, consider these verses where Jesus and the Apostles both inform us that He is the Cornerstone and Foundation Stone of our spiritual Temple, who was rejected by His own people, the unbelieving Jews:

"The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvellous in our eyes."  
Psalms 118:22-23, KJV

"Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?"  
Matthew 21:42, KJV

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock [Jesus referring to Himself and NOT to Peter] I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."  
Matthew 16:18, KJV

"And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again."  
Mark 8:31, KJV

"And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner: This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?"  
Mark 12:10-11, KJV

"Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day."  
Luke 9:22, KJV

"But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation."  
Luke 17:25, KJV

"He came unto his own, and his own received him not."  
John 1:11, KJV

"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner."  
Acts 4:11, KJV

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."  
1 Corinthians 3:11, KJV

"And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."  
1 Corinthians 10:4, KJV

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;"  
Ephesians 2:19-20, KJV

"To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed [that is disapproved, rejected, repudiated] indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed."  
1 Peter 2:4-8, KJV

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 2

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Fall Upon The Rock Or Be Ground To Powder, We Are Pillars And Living Stones In God's Spiritual Temple, His Spirit Dwells In Us, Upper Room Where Passover Meal Was Held, Upper Room Where Eleven Apostles Were After Jesus' Ascension, Church Buildings Did Not Exist During The First Century, Emperor Constantine Helena and Theodosius I Legalize Roman Catholicism And Begin Church And Cathedral Construction Boom, Severe Persecution By Both Jews And Romans Made Church Construction Impossible For First Century Christians, There Were Not One Hundred Twenty People In The Upper Room, Disciples Hide Behind Locked Doors For Fear Of The Jews, Jesus Commands The Apostles To Wait In Jerusalem For Gift Of Holy Spirit, Only Eleven Apostles Are In The Upper Room, Spiritual Unity And Being Of One Accord, Apostle Peter Addresses The One Hundred And Twenty Disciples

Not only is Jesus the Cornerstone and the Foundation Stone of our true spiritual Temple, but the Scriptures -- and the Lord Himself -- warn us that if we do not voluntarily fall upon Him in humble submission to His Will for each of our lives, being the Rock that He is, He will have no choice but to grind us to powder. Consider the following verses:

"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces . . . And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."  
Daniel 2:34, 44, KJV

"Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."  
Psalms 2:6-9, KJV

"And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."  
Matthew 21:44, KJV

"Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."  
Luke 20:18, KJV

"And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne."  
Revelation 12:5, KJV

"And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."  
Revelation 19:15, KJV

"For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."  
Romans 14:11, KJV

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."  
Philippians 2:9-11, KJV

While Jesus Christ is the Cornerstone and Foundation Stone of our spiritual Temple, as some of the previous verses reveal, we -- His spiritually-adopted children -- are the pillars and "lively stones" which form the rest of His Temple. This truth is likewise made evident by the following verses where we can plainly see that our bodies of flesh actually serve as vessels or temples for the Spirit of God which dwells in each one of us. We should not look for a physical Kingdom, because it is already within us when we accept the Spirit of Christ:

"And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you."  
Luke 17:20-21, KJV

"Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said."  
John 2:19-22, KJV

"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."  
Romans 8:9-11, KJV

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."  
1 Corinthians 3:16-17, KJV

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."  
1 Corinthians 6:19-20, KJV

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle

were dissolved [meaning our body of flesh], we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

2 Corinthians 5:1, KJV

"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

2 Corinthians 6:16-18, KJV

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."

Ephesians 2:19-22, KJV

"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."

Ephesians 3:14-19, KJV

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

1 Peter 2:5-9, KJV

"Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name."

Revelation 3:12, KJV

Over and over again we see the very same truth being revealed in the Scriptures. Jesus said it, and the Apostles taught it. There can be no mistake about this. We are the living Temple

of the living God. His Temple, His Church, is not some cold, dead -- both physically and spiritually speaking -- church building that is constructed of concrete and steel. Have you been convinced yet? Is your heart open to the truth of God's Word? Are your spiritual eyes open?

Despite this preponderance of Scriptural evidence, there are still many Christians -- meaning priests, pastors, ministers, churchgoers, etc. -- who continue to adamantly insist that a church building is the house of God, even though He Himself has plainly informed us through His own recorded Word that He does not live there, that He does not want to live there, and that He does not even like such buildings. They are a little too small for the Creator of the Universe, it seems. Excuse my sarcasm. Thus, these blind religionists still try to find verses in the Bible which -- in their view -- seem to support their erroneous interpretation of God's Word. One example that was recently brought to my attention concerns the upper room.

There are actually two mentions of an upper room in the New Testament. The first of these was the place where the Lord ate the Passover meal with the Apostles just prior to His betrayal by Judas, and subsequent arrest and Crucifixion, as we see by the following verses:

"And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover? And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him. And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, The Master saith, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he will shew you a large upper room furnished and prepared: there make ready for us. And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover."  
Mark 14:12-16, KJV

"Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed. And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat. And they said unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare? And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready. And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover."  
Luke 22:7-13, KJV

Please note that in the previous verses, the phrase "upper room" is derived from the Greek word "anogeon". This word simply means anything that is above ground, or a room that is located in the upper portion of a house. It has no other significance than that. The word "guestchamber" is derived from the Greek word "kataluma". In this case it signifies an eating room or dining room. We likewise find mention of an upper room in the first chapter of the Book of Acts. In this case, the phrase "upper room" is derived from the Greek

word "huperoon". Similar to "anogeon", this word also refers to the highest part of a house, or the upper rooms or story where the women resided. Sometimes it was built on the flat roof of the house:

"Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus."  
Acts 1:12-16, KJV

The above verses are the ones with which we are concerned, because they are apparently used by certain religionists to try to convince people that our Christian forefathers built church buildings during the First Century. At least that is the impression I was given by someone who challenged me in a recent online discussion. This particular person seemed to indicate that he believed that this upper room was a church building in which were gathered one hundred and twenty First Century Christians, similar to a small church today.

At first glance, and without taking a closer look at these verses, this may seem to be the case. However, I assure you that these verses are by no means describing a First Century church building. Churches -- meaning church buildings -- did not exist at that time. The church construction business did not begin until several centuries later during the formative years of the Roman Catholic Church under Emperor Constantine and his mother Helena. This activity began during the first half of the Fourth Century. They became seriously involved in the church and cathedral -- or basilica -- construction business; particularly after Theodosius I made Catholicism the enforced state religion of the Roman Empire during the final quarter of that same century. As I point out in such articles as "Pontifex Maximus: Pagan High Priest to Roman Catholic Pope", it was either join the new state religion, or face the possibility of being persecuted.

The truth of the matter is that even if the First Century Apostles had wanted to build churches -- which they didn't -- it would have been totally impossible for them to do so due to the serious persecution which they faced from both the Jews, as well as the Romans. Let's not forget that their ringleader -- meaning Jesus, of course -- had just recently been cruelly killed by the very same people who now began to persecute them as well. This persecution against the Lord's children grew even more severe in later decades and centuries under the reigns of emperors Nero and Diocletian. The Lord had warned His followers that this would be their fate, and the Apostles wrote about it as well, as we can determine by verses such as the following:

"Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another."  
Matthew 24:9-10, KJV

"But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. But there shall not an hair of your head perish. In your patience possess ye your souls."  
Luke 21:12-19, KJV

"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me."  
John 15:18-21, KJV

"If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:"  
2 Timothy 2:12, KJV

"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."  
2 Timothy 3:12, KJV

You will find a lot more similar verses regarding this same topic in the "Persecution of the First Century Church" KJV Bible verse list. Thus, as a result of the persecution which began with the Lord Himself, and which then affected His own followers to different degrees for a number of centuries to come, the idea of church buildings being constructed during the middle of the First Century -- and for a few centuries afterwards -- is quite ludicrous, to say the least.

At any rate, it is obvious that the upper room was a room that was located on the second floor -- or possibly on the roof -- of someone's home. Perhaps it was even the same place where Jesus ate the Passover meal with His Disciples, although there is no clear way to absolutely confirm this idea. So the questions we need to ask ourselves are actually two: Who was in the upper room, and why were they there? If you believe that there were one hundred and twenty people staying or living in this upper room, allow me to inform you that you are mistaken. Don't feel bad. When this individual first brought these verses to my attention in order to try to give credence to his erroneous belief regarding a First Century church building, I too had a lopsided understanding of them, until I took a closer look at the verses, and then



conducted a bit of Biblical research.

Contrary to this person's belief, there were not one hundred and twenty people crammed into the upper room. I honestly do not know how large the average First Century Jewish home was, but unless the person was extremely rich, I seriously doubt that this upper room was big enough to hold so large a number of people anyway. Please note that while in the English text the word that is used in verse thirteen is "abode", it does not mean "live" or "home" as it does in our modern English language. It is derived from the Greek word "en", which is the imperfect tense of the verb "eimi". This word means to be or to exist in this particular case. Thus, in verse thirteen, the word "abode" actually means "were". In other words, they were in the upper room, but they were not necessarily living in the upper room. We really don't know for certain.

However, my inclination is to believe that they may have been in this upper room on a temporary basis. Before I explain to you who the "they" is, let's determine why they were there in the first place. As the following verses clearly explain, the Apostles were afraid of the Jewish religious elders. After all, those devil-inspired reprobates had turned Jesus over to Pontius Pilate -- who was the Roman governor of Judaea at the time -- to be crucified on the false charge of treason, only three days earlier. It is in this dangerous environment that we find the Apostles hiding behind locked doors, as we can easily determine by these verses:

"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you . . . 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."  
John 20:19, 26, KJV

But that is not the only reason why the Apostles were found together at that time in the upper room. You may recall that in Acts chapter one, during the forty days that He remained on the Earth following His Resurrection from the Dead, Jesus specifically told them to wait in Jerusalem for the Gift of the Holy Spirit, which in fact occurred in Acts chapter two. This commandment was given to them just prior to the Lord's Ascension to Heaven, as we can easily determine here:

"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: And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."  
Acts 1:1-5, KJV

So what happened immediately after Jesus had given them this

order to return to Jerusalem, and then ascended to Heaven in a "cloud" which took Him and carried Him away? The following two verses inform us that the eleven remaining Apostles did exactly as Jesus had told them to do; that is, they returned to the city of Jerusalem -- which was very close by -- and they entered into the upper room. That is how and why they came to be in that particular place:

"Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James."  
Acts 1:12-13, KJV

Whether or not this was the same exact room that is mentioned in the Gospel of John, we really don't know. Neither do we know if it is the same upper room where the Passover meal was held. Considering the dangerous environment which existed for the remaining Apostles at that time, maybe they were forced to move around continually and stay short periods in each "safe house". On the other hand, if we consider that Jesus Himself had specifically chosen the upper room where the Passover meal was held -- no doubt because He knew that it was a safe place for Him and His followers -- perhaps the Eleven chose that place as their base of operations from that point forward.

Now, please pay close attention, because this is where the church deception enters into the picture. We have just seen not only why they were in the upper room, but who was in it as well. We are specifically told that the eleven Apostles entered into this room, and we are even given their exact names. There were eleven people in that room, and not one hundred and twenty, as this particular person wanted me to believe. Eleven people -- and not one hundred and twenty of them -- being in the upper room of a First Century dwelling seems to make a lot more sense to me. It is right after this that we read the following verses which describe the tight spiritual unity which existed between the eleven Apostles -- that is, the "these" in the following two verses -- and the other Disciples, which also included the other women, Mary -- Jesus' biological mother -- and Jesus' biological siblings as well:

"These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)"  
Acts 1:14-15, KJV

Please note that the phrase "one accord" does not mean that they all lived together in the upper room. Based on what I understand regarding First Century Jewish society, laws and customs, a whole bunch of men and women -- particularly if they were single -- would not have lived together in such close proximity to each other. Such an arrangement would not have been acceptable by any means. The phrase "one accord" is derived from the compound Greek word "homothumadon" which means to be of one mind or with one passion. This very same

attitude regarding spiritual unity is expressed in verses such as the following:

"And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are . . . That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

John 17:11, 21-23, KJV

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

John 10:16, KJV

"That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 15:6, KJV

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

1 Corinthians 1:10, KJV

"Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

2 Corinthians 13:11, KJV

"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace . . . That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

Ephesians 4:1-3, 14-16, KJV

"Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;"

Philippians 1:27, KJV

"Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

Philippians 2:2, KJV

As I have already explained, the way in which the previous two verses are used to try to deceive people, is by throwing them altogether, and claiming that the Apostles, the women, Mary, Jesus' siblings, and all of these other Disciples were basically involved in a church service in the upper room in Jerusalem. In other words, the upper room was supposedly their church. However, that is not what those two verses say whatsoever. What they do say is that eleven men -- that is, the Apostles -- were in the upper room. The Apostles were in spiritual unity with the other people who are mentioned, but those other people are not living or staying in that upper room.

Now here is something which you may not realize if you're not reading the King James Version of the Bible. At the beginning of verse fifteen right before the words "And in those days", there is a paragraph symbol. While the original Hebrew and Greek texts did not use chapters, paragraphs or even verse numbers, I believe that the reason why the translators may have placed a paragraph symbol there, is to force the reader to stop, and to realize that there is a time gap and a change of events. In other words, the Apostles going into the upper room occurred at one point in time, and then Peter standing up before the one hundred and twenty Disciples so that they could select a replacement for the traitor Judas occurred at another time; and I would add, probably at a different place as well, unless you believe they squeezed one hundred and twenty people into the upper room.

In fact, please notice that while it is the Eleven Apostles who enter the upper room, when Peter stands up, it does not say that he addressed the Apostles -- which is what one would think it would say if this event occurred in the upper room -- it says that Peter addressed the one hundred and twenty Disciples. Do you see the difference? Thus, I conclude that this event occurred at some other place, and at a different time as well.

Please go to part three for the continuation of this series.

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End Of File

Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 3

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In The House Of God Which Is The Church Of The Living God, "House Of God" Does Not Mean Physical Church Building Or The Temple In Jerusalem In 1 Timothy 3:15, Lineage Of Timotheus, Timothy Was In Ephesus And Became Its First Bishop, Timothy

Never Went To Jerusalem, Temple To Diana/Artemis In Ephesus, Paul's Arrival In Ephesus Results In A Riot By Idol Makers, Great Is Diana Of The Ephesians, Big Deception: Robbers Of Churches Or Robbers Of Pagan Temples, Jesus Is The Head Of The Church, House Or Household: Oikos Oikia Panoiki Oikeios, Fellowcitizens With The Saints And Of The Household Of God, God Is Not The God Of The Dead But The God Of The Living, Compare Scripture With Scripture, We Must Understand God's Word In The Spirit, In The Temple, Their Heart Is Far From Me, Coming Destruction Of Temple, Jesus Taught In The Temple

The issue of the upper room is just one example where some religionists attempt to twist the meaning of the Scriptures in order to support their false, oppressive church system. Another example is found in the following verse which we find in the Apostle Paul's first Epistle to Timothy:

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

1 Timothy 3:15, KJV

As you can see, in this verse, the Apostle Paul states "in the house of God, which is the church of the living God". We have already discussed how the Book of Revelation informs us that we represent symbolic pillars in the Temple of God, so I see no need to further discuss that part of the verse. As you can probably imagine, religionists interpret Paul's words in a very literal fashion. In other words, to such people, the phrase "house of God" is understood to mean a physical church building. However, is this really what Paul is saying here?

Contrary to what religionists believe, the phrase "house of God" is not referring to a physical church building. You may recall that in part two, I pointed out that church buildings did not exist at that time. It would not be until centuries later that the Roman Catholics would begin to construct such buildings during the reign of Emperor Constantine. Neither is "house of God" a reference to the Temple in Jerusalem. This second point is very easy to prove, simply by taking note of what Paul is writing about, who he is writing to, and where that person is located.

The simple truth of this matter is that the Apostle Paul is offering counsel to his beloved son in the faith -- Timothy -- who has remained at Ephesus. The Book of Acts informs us that Timothy -- or Timotheus as he was known in Greek -- was half Jew on his mother's side, and half Greek on his father's side. The writer Luke informs us that Paul chose to have him -- meaning Timothy -- circumcised in order to quell the anger of the legalistic Jews. Timothy in fact later became the first bishop of Ephesus. Consider the following verses which verify these various points:

"Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope; Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord. As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia,

that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."

1 Timothy 1:1-4, KJV

"Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek: Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium. Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek."

Acts 16:1-3, KJV

"The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you. Amen. [The second epistle unto Timotheus, ordained the first bishop of the church of the Ephesians, was written from Rome, when Paul was brought before Nero the second time.]"

2 Timothy 4:22, KJV

The fact of the matter is that it makes absolutely no sense whatsoever, that in the previous verse, Paul would need to advise Timothy regarding how he should comport himself in the Temple in Jerusalem, which, as I already noted, is how some religionists apparently interpret "house of God" in the verse. Why? Because as far as we know, Timotheus' ministry and life centered around Macedonia and Asia Minor -- which is today known as Turkey -- and other nearby regions. To my knowledge, he never went to Jerusalem -- and there is zero evidence in the Scriptures to indicate that he did -- so to suggest that Paul was instructing Timothy regarding how "to behave [himself] in the house of God" -- supposedly meaning the Temple according to the religionists -- is really a moot point. Please note that the three cities of Derbe, Lystra and Iconium were located in Lycaonia, which was a region of Asia Minor. Iconium was in fact the capital of the region.

Being as we are discussing the Apostle Paul, Timothy and the city of Ephesus, allow me to interject another important fact which is directly related to our primary discussion regarding how the King James Bible was purposely translated in such a manner, so that it would support and enhance the power of the Church of England, and its church buildings and ecclesiastical structure at that time.

As I explain in other articles, when Paul and his companions -- Gaius and Aristarchus -- arrived in Ephesus, once their presence became known, a troublesome local idol maker by the name of Demetrius stirred up the anger of the union of local craftsmen, when he warned them that the presence of Paul and his companions would result in a loss of income for them. As you may know, Ephesus was the location of the famous Temple of Diana, which was also known as the Temple of Artemis. Much like the Roman Catholic Church today, selling silver statues and trinkets which were associated with this false goddess was their very livelihood. Thus, once the word spread about the arrive of Paul and his companions, a major disturbance erupted in the city, so that they shouted "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" for about two hours straight, as we see by

the following verses:

"And the same time there arose no small stir about that way. For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen; Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth. Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands: So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth. And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians . . . But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Diana of the Ephesians."  
Acts 19:23-28, 34, KJV

Now, please keep in mind that this entire incident revolved around pagan temples, idol worship and their false goddess Diana. While the primary temple to Diana was located in the city of Ephesus, this entire region -- and by extension, all of Asia Minor and beyond -- was very steeped in the worship of false gods and goddesses of one sort or another. They had constructed temples and shrines to a wide range of deities. However, oddly enough, when the townclerk finally managed to get the situation under control, you will never imagine how the KJV translators chose to translate part of what he said. Consider the following verse:

"For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess."  
Acts 19:37, KJV

What? Robbers of churches? Where in the world did that come from? As it turns out, the phrase "robbers of churches" is translated from the Greek compound word "hierosulos". This word is derived from "hieron" -- which refers to a sacred place or temple -- and "sulao" -- which means to rob or to despoil. When these two words are placed together, Thayer's Greek English Lexicon indicates that it generally means to be guilty of sacrilege, which actually goes along with the rest of the verse where it says "nor yet blasphemers of your goddess", referring, of course, to Diana. At the very least, it seems to me that the translators could have more properly translated "hierosulos" as "robbers of temples", so that the reader would realize that the townclerk was referring to the temples and shrines which had been dedicated to Diana.

Thus, in my view, there seems to be no way to get around the strong possibility that "hierosulos" was purposely and very intentionally mistranslated in the Scriptures. These people were pagans. The townclerk was likewise a pagan. They were clearly worshipers of Diana. Furthermore, as we have already seen, church buildings did not exist at that time. They most certainly did not exist in Ephesus. Just the knowledge of the arrival of these Christians caused the people to riot and go into a religious frenzy for Diana so that they chanted her name for two hours straight. My gosh! Can you imagine it?

So why did the translators choose to translate this word as "robbers of churches", when the Greek word "ekklesia" does not even appear in that verse? Isn't it obvious? As you will hopefully come to understand by the time that you finish this series -- if you haven't done so already -- the clear aim of the KJV translators was to manipulate the text in many small, subtle ways, so that it would support church buildings, and everything that was associated with organized religion; that is, churchianity, or in this case, the Church of England. If you happen to be a hard-nosed religionist who is tempted to accuse me of purposely trying to make the Scriptures say what I want them to say, then consider the following, and wake up to the truth; that truth being that the KJV Bible has in fact been purposely manipulated, and that it is not the inerrant Word of God. Inspired, yes; but inerrant, no.

Just now I investigated the matter further with my particular Bible program. As it turns out, the word "temple" is found twenty-five times in The Acts of the Apostles alone. Guess what? In every single case, it is translated from the Greek word "hieron", which is the first half of the Greek compound word "hierosulos" that we examined a moment ago. Furthermore, even in the phrase "the temple of the great goddess Diana", the word "temple" is derived from "hieron". So tell me; why did the KJV translators choose to translate "hierosulos" as "robbers of churches"? There was absolutely no reason to do so unless they had a specific agenda in mind. In fact, in my view, to do so it totally out of context with what this part of Acts chapter nineteen is about. Are you convinced yet?

Returning to our discussion regarding 1 Timothy 3:15, while certain religionists strive to convince us that the phrase "house of God" in that verse refers to a church building, as we have already come to understand, the Apostle Paul plainly tells us what he means by "house of God" in all of the verses that I shared with you earlier, where he very clearly informs us that our bodies are the Temple of God, and thus the House of God as well. We can also say that collectively-speaking, we are also the true Temple of God, and thus the House of God and the Church of God as well. Furthermore, we all know that Jesus Christ is the one and only true head of the universal Body of Believers, which we refer to as the Church, as we see by the following group of verses:

"But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God."  
1 Corinthians 11:3, KJV

"Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,"  
Ephesians 1:20-22, KJV

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:"  
Ephesians 4:15, KJV



"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body."  
Ephesians 5:23, KJV

"And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence."  
Colossians 1:18, KJV

"And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:"  
Colossians 2:10, KJV

"Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,"  
1 Peter 2:7, KJV

To convince ourselves that the Apostle Paul means something else in 1 Timothy 3:15, is to purposely twist the meaning of the Scriptures, in order to make them say what we want them to say. My friends, the truth becomes so clear, when we just compare Scripture to Scripture, instead of leaning to our own understanding. To reiterate my previous two points, it is impossible that Paul was referring to the Temple in the city of Jerusalem when he said "in the house of God, which is the church of the living God", because there is no record to even indicate that Timothy ever went to Jerusalem. Second, neither could the phrase "house of God" have implied a physical church building, because there were no church buildings at that time; especially not in Ephesus, which was the center of worship for the false goddess Diana, or Artemis. Are you convinced yet?

I suspect that another reason why some people -- particularly church-going religionists -- become confused when they see that phrase "house of God" in 1 Timothy 3:15, is because the Greek word "oikos" has been translated there as "house", when that is not what the Apostle Paul meant. You see, "oikos" does not just mean a physical building. It also means the members of a family or household; that is, the actual people. If you doubt that this is so, then consider the following well-known verse where the same Greek word is used:

"And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."  
Acts 16:31, KJV

Now, obviously, Paul and Silas are not telling the keeper of the prison that his actual physical house can be saved. They are plainly stating that the other members of his household can be saved, if they too believe that Jesus Christ is both Lord and Savior. This becomes clear simply by reading the next three verses, as we see here:

"And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."  
Acts 16:32-34, KJV

In this case, in the phrase "in his house", the word "house" is derived from a very similar word, "oikia", which again can refer to the actual dwelling place -- as it does in this case -- or to the actual members of the family; that is, the household. In the phrase "into his house", the word "house" is again translated from the Greek word "oikos", but this time it is referring to the actual structure, and not to the people. Finally, the phrase "all his house" is derived from the Greek compound word "panoiki". In this case, the first part -- pan -- means "all". This is the same prefix that we find in such words as "panorama", which is a sweeping view of an entire landscape. So the phrase "all his house" really means all of the members of his household.

It is my view, that for the sake of clarification, when the translators chose to translate the phrase "the house of God, which is the church of the living God" in 1 Timothy 3:15, it would have been a lot better if they had translated "oikos" as "household", so that the phrase reads "the household of God" -- meaning the family of God -- and not "house of God". In other words, in 1 Timothy 3:15, Paul is talking about us -- God's adopted children -- as being the "church of the living God" when he uses the phrase "the house of God". If you still doubt that this is so, then consider that in the following well-known verse, the translators translated the word "oikeios" as "household", so that the correct phrase "household of God" is used, just as I believe it should be used in 1 Timothy 3:15 as well:

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;"  
Ephesians 2:19, KJV

We have already looked at so many Scriptures which confirm this same point. The true Church of the living God is not a cold, dead building constructed of concrete and steel. It is not a church, it is not a temple, it is not a mosque, or anything else. As we saw earlier, the Apostle Peter writes that we are "lively stones" in the "church of the living God". Even Jesus Himself teaches us the same thing when He says the following:

"I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."  
Matthew 22:32, KJV

"He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living: ye therefore do greatly err."  
Mark 12:27, KJV

"For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him."  
Luke 20:38, KJV

Thus we see that all of these various Greek words -- that is, "oikos", "oikia", "panoiki" and "oikeios" -- are derived from the same Greek root, and can refer to an actual structure, or to the actual members of a family; that is, the household. In order to properly understand what it meant in each case, we need to do two things. First, we need to read the verses in

their proper context. Second, we need to consider everything else which has been stated regarding the same subject; not just in the same chapter, but also in the same Book, as well as in other Books. As I have long taught, we need to compare Scripture with Scripture in order to properly understand the Word of God. We cannot just quickly look on the surface and assume that we have understood it, because maybe we haven't.

When we do this, when we look at everything as a whole, if we are truly honest with ourselves, and open to the leading of God's Holy Spirit, we can't help but realize that all of this is meant to be understood in a spiritual sense, and not in a physical sense, as church-going religionists erroneously try to do, and exactly as this particular person tried to do. He looked at that phrase "the house of God, which is the church of the living God", and said "Aha! Gotcha! See! Right there we are told that the house of God is the church of God!" He looked at it with his physical eyes, and with the wisdom of his own mind, but not in the Spirit. As Paul also writes:

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."  
1 Corinthians 2:14, KJV

Because religionists feel compelled to defend and justify their corrupt religious system -- that is, the physical church system -- that is exactly what they do. They choose to interpret some of these verses in a purely physical sense, when that is not what they mean whatsoever. They ignore the plethora of verses which tell us "ye are the temple of God, and . . . the Spirit of God dwelleth in you", and "your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you," and "he spake of the temple of his body." Sadly, I know that there are people who will read this entire series, and they still won't get it. No matter how hard I have worked to make it so plain to them here, some of them will no doubt still take offense, and they will accuse me in their hearts. However, I can't be concerned with hurt feelings and such trivialities. God's truth goes marching on.

Because they are so beholden to the physical church system and its various trappings, another tactic which is used by certain church-going religionists to try to justify their position is to point to verses such as the following:

"And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen."  
Luke 24:50-53, KJV

"And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."  
Acts 2:46-47, KJV

"But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors,

and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life . . . And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ."  
Acts 5:19-20, 42, KJV

The argument seems to be that if the First Century Apostles preached and taught in the Temple in Jerusalem, then what is wrong with people going to church today? What difference is there really? Let me answer in the following manner. While it is true that the Apostles and Disciples did gather publicly in the Temple and witnessed there for a time, not only do we know that it wasn't before long that the Jewish religionists began to persecute them, but we also know that God eventually destroyed the Temple as well. Furthermore, we already know why God destroyed it. Jesus told us quite clearly in the four Gospels, in such chapters as Matthew chapter twenty-three and John chapter eight. In short, it was a corrupt, hypocritical religious system, where they worshiped God in name only. I am reminded of verses such as the following:

"Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:"  
Isaiah 29:13, KJV

"Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me."  
Matthew 15:7-8, KJV

"He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me."  
Mark 7:6, KJV

"Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:"  
Ephesians 6:6-7, KJV

Even though the Temple in Jerusalem was doomed to destruction as Jesus had prophesied, we know that during His last week of life, the Lord preached there as well on a daily basis, as we can determine by verses such as the following:

"In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me."  
Matthew 26:55, KJV

"And Jesus answered and said, while he taught in the temple, How say the scribes that Christ is the Son of David?"  
Mark 12:35, KJV

"I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be fulfilled."  
Mark 14:49, KJV

"And he taught daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him, And could not find what they might do: for all the people were very attentive to hear him. And it came to pass, that on one of those days, as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon him with the elders, And spake unto him, saying, Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority?"  
Luke 19:47-20:2, KJV

"And in the day time he was teaching in the temple; and at night he went out, and abode in the mount that is called the mount of Olives. And all the people came early in the morning to him in the temple, for to hear him."  
Luke 21:37-38, KJV

"Then Jesus said unto the chief priests, and captains of the temple, and the elders, which were come to him, Be ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and staves? When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness."  
Luke 22:52-53, KJV

"Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught . . . Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not. But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me."  
John 7:14, 28-29, KJV

"These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come."  
John 8:20, KJV

"The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing. Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said."  
John 18:19-21, KJV

Please go to part four for the continuation of this series.

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Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 4

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Jesus Drives Merchants Out Of The Temple, Money-Making Bible Hucksters Who Make Merchandise Of You, In My Father's House, God's True House Is In Heaven, Jesus Went To Prepare A Place For Us, Temple Veil Is Rent In Twain At Time Of Jesus' Death, Holy Place And The Holy Of Holies, Jesus Died Once To Atonement For The Sins Of All Men, Jesus Is Our Eternal High Priest And Only Mediator And Intercessor, New Testament And New Covenant Between God And Man Which Is Sealed With The Blood Of Christ, Gentiles Were Forbidden To Enter Jewish Temple, Temple Veil Symbolized Physical And Spiritual Barriers Between Jews And Gentiles, Salvation Was Only Available To Jews Prior To The Crucifixion Of Christ, The Apostles Realize That Salvation Is Meant For All Men, Jesus Broke Down Middle Wall Of Partition, In His Name Shall The Gentiles Trust, No Distinction Between Jews And Gentiles, Jews Have No Advantage, Chosen People Are Those People Who Place Their Faith In Christ, We Are All One In Christ Jesus, Jewish Elders: The Blind Leading The Blind

In their endeavors to justify the physical church system, not only do some religionists point to the fact that Jesus taught in the Temple, and the Apostles later preached in the Temple, but sometimes they also mention the fact that when Jesus went into the Temple and drove out the moneychangers and merchants, He referred to the Temple as "my Father's house", as we see by the following verses:

"And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise."  
John 2:13-16, KJV

However, in light of everything that Jesus said regarding the corrupt religious system of the Scribes and the Pharisees, is it possible that modern-day religionists have misunderstood the Lord's words? Furthermore, does it make any sense that He would refer to the Temple as His Father's house, and then turn around and prophesy of its coming destruction? Finally, if we consider all of the verses which we have now examined, which show us that God most certainly does not dwell in houses that are made out of stone, concrete and steel; rather, His Spirit dwells in the temples of our very own bodies, does this not suggest that Jesus was saying something other than what some religionists would like for us to believe?

Personally, I am convinced of this very fact. I believe that some people have simply misunderstood the tone of what Jesus was saying when He said "my Father's house". In other words, based upon all previous evidence, I am convinced that Jesus was really saying "what you claim is my Father's house". He did not believe it for a minute. Jesus saw the hypocrisy of that place. He was well aware of the lies and deception that were spun in that place. He knew of the oppressive system of

bondage which kept the common people dependent on that place. He knew of the centuries of blood which was already on the hands of those hypocritical religious leaders who feigned holiness before the common people.

Thus, I believe that what the Lord really intended for us to understand was "You hypocrites call this Temple my Father's house; but look at what you have done to it! You have turned it into a den of thieves where you grow rich at the expense of the poor!". As I point out in a number of other articles such as "Money-Making Bible Hucksters and Mammon" and "MP3's, Commercialized Christianity and Christian Hypocrisy", this sounds very much like the modern false church system as well. In particular, it sounds a lot like the deceptive prosperity gospel which is so popular amongst certain preachers these days. Notice how Jesus uses the phrase "house of merchandise" in the previous verses. Now look at what the Apostle Peter has to say regarding this very same subject:

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And THROUGH COVETOUSNESS SHALL THEY WITH FEIGNED WORDS MAKE MERCHANDISE OF YOU: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not."  
2 Peter 2:1-3, KJV

Truly, there is nothing new under the Sun. However, the most convincing Scriptural evidence which proves that the Lord did not really believe that the Temple in Jerusalem was actually His Father's house can be found in the following verses which are also in the Gospel of John. Be inspired, my friends:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."  
John 14:1-3, KJV

Is that clear enough for you? As we saw earlier, Heaven is God's Throne, and that is where His true House is located. There is no physical structure on Earth which can possibly ever contain Him; not the Temple two thousand years ago, or any church buildings, cathedrals, temples or mosques today. A man-made temple is not God's house, or His throne. Therefore, Jesus could not possibly believe that the Temple in Jerusalem was really His Father's house, and then turn around and tell His followers that His Father's House is in Heaven. As these verses clearly indicate, Jesus returned to His Father's true House, in order to prepare a place for the Apostles, as well as for us one of these days.

Have you had enough yet? I hope not, because I still have one more piece of important evidence to share with you which will reveal why I do not think that Jesus actually believed that the Temple in Jerusalem was His Father's house. At the time that Jesus died on the Cross, something very significant also

occurred in the Temple. We read about this important event in all three Synoptic Gospels, as we see by these verses:

"And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;"

Matthew 27:51, KJV

"And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom."

Mark 15:38, KJV

"And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst."

Luke 23:45, KJV

For those of you who may not be familiar with the veil which is mentioned in the previous verses, it separated that part of the Temple where the priests usually ministered -- which was called the "holy place" -- from the innermost part of the Temple where the Ark of the Covenant was situated. Only the high priest was permitted to enter into this innermost part of the Temple -- which was called the "holy of holies" amongst other names -- one time each year in order to make atonement -- or expiation -- for the sins of the people. This was all mandated by God, to Moses, in the Torah -- or Pentateuch -- of the Old Testament. These are the first five Books of the Bible.

So why then would God the Father rip this veil in half from top to bottom at the time of His Son's Death on the Cross? As the following verses reveal, and as I explain in a number of other articles such as "Is Jesus the Only Begotten Son of God?", "The Blood Atonement: In Jesus' Own Words" and "Endless Genealogies and Endtime Deception", just as the Jewish high priest would enter into the holy of holies one time each year in order to offer atonement for the sins of the people, in a similar manner, Jesus Christ died one time, for all time, on the Cross, in order to make atonement for the sins of the whole world:

"Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin ONCE: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God."

Romans 6:9-10, KJV

"But this man, [Jesus] because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. 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. For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did ONCE, when he offered up himself."

Hebrews 7:24-27, KJV

"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in



ONCE into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."

Hebrews 9:11-12, KJV

"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now ONCE in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself . . . So Christ was ONCE offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

Hebrews 9:24-26, 28, KJV

"By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ ONCE for all."

Hebrews 10:10, KJV

"For Christ also hath ONCE suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:"

1 Peter 3:18, KJV

As some of the previous verses reveal, by shedding His pure, innocent Blood on the Cross -- just as unblemished animals were sacrificed during the Old Testament period -- Jesus became our new and eternal High Priest, thus replacing the necessity of the Levitical priesthood of the Old Testament era. This truth is again confirmed for us by verses such as the following:

"For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."

Hebrews 2:16-7, KJV

"Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house."

Hebrews 3:1-2, KJV

"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

Hebrews 4:14-15, KJV

"Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec."

Hebrews 6:20, KJV

"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;"

Hebrews 8:1, KJV

By becoming the eternal High Priest of Believers everywhere, Jesus also became our only Mediator and Intercessor with God the Father, as the following verses also clearly confirm:

"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

Romans 8:34, KJV

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"

1 Timothy 2:5, KJV

"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."

Hebrews 7:25, KJV

By way of this Divine Agreement between the Father and Jesus, -- which I discuss in "Backsliding, Divine Chastisement and the Divine Agreement", as I have already mentioned, Jesus put an end to the Old Testament -- that is, the Old Covenant -- and He introduced and ratified a New Testament -- or Covenant -- with His Father, which is sealed with His own Blood. This Scriptural truth is again confirmed by the following verses:

"For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Matthew 26:28, KJV

"And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many."

Mark 14:24, KJV

"Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."

Luke 22:20, KJV

"After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

1 Corinthians 11:25, KJV

"Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

2 Corinthians 3:6, KJV

"But now hath he [Jesus] obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put

my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away."  
Hebrews 8:6-13, KJV

"And for this cause he [Jesus] is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."  
Hebrews 9:15, KJV

"And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel."  
Hebrews 12:24, KJV

Now, here is the part of the Agreement which is of importance to us. Whereas the Old Testament -- or Old Covenant -- only concerned the Jewish nation, this New Covenant concerns the entire world. As some of you will know, it was forbidden for non-Jews -- or Gentiles -- to enter the Temple itself. It was completely off-limits to them. Gentiles were viewed as being unclean by the Jews. Ironically, today the opposite is true. Any Jew who rejects Jesus is viewed as being unclean by God. Furthermore, in order to keep the peace on the Temple Mount -- or Mount Moriah -- the Israeli government enforces a ban on prayer by non-Muslim visitors. Thus, the tables have been completely turned on the Jews.

At any rate, because of the negative Jewish attitude towards Gentiles, notice what happened when the Apostle Paul decided to purify himself in the Temple, in order to convince the legalistic Jews that he was not really a lawbreaker, meaning the Mosaic Law. The Jews from Asia purposely stirred up some trouble, based on the rumor that Paul had taken an Ephesian -- and thus a Gentile -- into the Temple:

"Then Paul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple, to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification, until that an offering should be offered for every one of them. And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews which were of Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him, Crying out, Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all men every where against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this holy place. (For they had seen before with him in the city Trophimus an Ephesian, whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.) And all the city was moved, and the people ran together: and they took Paul, and drew him out of the temple: and forthwith the doors were shut."  
Acts 21:26-30, KJV

Thus we can see how the physical veil in the Temple actually

served as a powerful symbol of both the physical and spiritual barriers which separated the Jews from the Gentiles prior to the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Salvation was only available to the Jews, which is why even Jesus stated the following in the Gospel of Matthew:

"These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand."  
Matthew 10:5-7, KJV

"But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel."  
Matthew 15:24, KJV

However, once Jesus shed His innocent Blood on the Cross, it is apparent that everything suddenly changed, at least from a spiritual perspective. As I point out in other articles, it took some time for the Apostles to realize that Salvation was no longer a closed club that was just meant for the Jew. Once the Apostle Peter had his vision in Acts chapter ten, and the Apostle Paul turned to the Gentiles due to the stubbornness of his own Jewish brethren, the situation regarding Gentiles changed rather quickly after that, and we have benefited from it ever since then.

Thus, in the following verses, reflecting back on a prophecy that is found in the Old Testament Book of Isaiah, we see how it was prophesied that by way of His own flesh being rent on the Cross -- just as the Temple veil was rent -- Jesus broke down the middle wall of partition, so that we Gentiles could also trust in the precious Name of Jesus, and thus be saved. We can now pass through the veil, and approach the Throne of Grace with boldness, because of what Jesus did for us as our High Priest and Sacrificial Lamb. I also discuss these issues in such articles as "Once Upon a Time: A True Story".

In short, there is now no distinction between Jew and Gentile when it comes to matters regarding Salvation. As the Apostle Paul clearly informs us, we are all one in Christ Jesus. In other words, Jews have no advantage over Gentiles. As I point out in such articles as "Many Are Called, But Few Are Chosen" and "Not Everyone is a Child of God", the only chosen people there are, are those individuals who humbly accept Christ:

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, THROUGH THE VEIL, THAT IS TO SAY, HIS FLESH; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."  
Hebrews 10:19-22, KJV

"Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But

now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath BROKEN DOWN THE MIDDLE WALL OF PARTITION BETWEEN US; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. FOR THROUGH HIM WE BOTH HAVE ACCESS BY ONE SPIRIT UNTO THE FATHER."

Ephesians 2:11-18, KJV

"And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious."

Isaiah 11:10, KJV

"Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory. AND IN HIS NAME SHALL THE GENTILES TRUST."

Matthew 12:18-21, KJV

"And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; IN HIM SHALL THE GENTILES TRUST."

Romans 15:12, KJV

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

Galatians 3:28, KJV

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

John 10:16, KJV

While I have now explained to you the spiritual significance of the Temple veil being torn from top to bottom after Jesus had died on the Cross, we aren't through with this topic yet. As I mentioned earlier, I believe that the Temple veil being rent in half may possibly offer additional evidence regarding why Jesus would not really view the Temple as being the house of His Father. While the previous paragraphs explain the main reason why it probably happened, I am very doubtful that the blind, hard-hearted Jewish religious elders would have really understand this at the time. After all, as both Jesus and Paul clearly noted, they were the blind leading the blind, as we can easily determine by the following verses:

"And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. Therefore speak I to them in

parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear."

Matthew 13:10-16, KJV

"Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."

Matthew 15:14, KJV

"Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! . . . Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel."

Matthew 23:16, 24, KJV

"And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other."

Mark 3:5, KJV

"And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?"

Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth."

John 9:39-41, KJV

"(According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day . . . For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in."

Romans 11:8, 25, KJV

If the Apostles themselves were slow to understand the full significance of Christ's Death on the Cross, how much more so would this apply to those vile Jewish religious leaders who handed Jesus over to the Romans to be mocked, tortured and ultimately crucified? This is why I have long believed that there may possibly be additional reasons regarding why God allowed the Temple veil to be torn at the time of the Death of His Son.

Please go to part five for the continuation of this series.

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Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 5

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God Commands Moses To Build The Ark Of The Covenant And The Mercy Seat, God's Communication Center With The Israelites, Mercy Seat Represented God's Presence On Earth, Mercy And Forgiveness Before The Throne Of Grace On Earth, Tabernacle And Solomon's Temple, Holy Of Holies Oracle Most Holy Place, Armies Of Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar Destroy The Temple, Ark Of The Covenant Disappears From Old Testament After The Book Of Jeremiah, Prophecy Regarding The Ark Of The Covenant, Jewish Tradition Regarding Jeremiah Hiding The Ark In A Cave, Ron Wyatt's Ark Claims, Theorized Ark Locations, Penalties For Touching The Ark, Third Temple Doctrine And Reappearance Of Ark, Ark Of His Testament In Heaven, Temporal Reflections And Eternal Realities, Ark Was Not In First Century Temple, Torn Veil Signified God's Anger With Jewish Religionists And Served As Omen That Their Days Were Numbered, General Titus And Romans Destroy Jerusalem And Temple In 70 AD, Why Jews May Have Concealed Disappearance Of The Ark From The People, God's Presence Departed From The Temple, Hope Alive In Jesus, Dead Religion Based On The Traditions And Doctrines Of Men, Holy Spirit Of The Father Dwelt Fully And Without Measure In The Physical Body Of Jesus Christ, Children Of Hell And The Synagogue Of Satan, Satan And Scribes And Pharisees Take Up Residence At Temple Compound, Satan Tempts Jesus At Temple, Satanic Son Of Perdition Sits In Temple Claiming To Be God

While the Temple in Jerusalem obviously represented the very center of Jewish spiritual life during the First Century, it should be noted that the primary component which even gave the Temple such great importance to Jews both within as well as without Israel, was lacking. To understand this, we need to travel back in time about fifteen hundred years prior to the First Century, to the time of Moses, and the following events which are described for us in the pages of the Torah:

"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it. And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without shalt thou overlay it, and shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about. And thou shalt cast four rings of gold for it, and put them in the four corners thereof; and two rings shall be in the one side of it, and two rings in the other side of it. And thou shalt make staves of shittim wood, and overlay

them with gold. And thou shalt put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, that the ark may be borne with them. The staves shall be in the rings of the ark: they shall not be taken from it. And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee. And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof. And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat. And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: even of the mercy seat shall ye make the cherubims on the two ends thereof. And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be. And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel."

Exodus 25:8-22, KJV

"And thou shalt put it [the altar] before the vail that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with thee."

Exodus 30:6, KJV

"And Bezaleel made the ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half was the length of it, and a cubit and a half the breadth of it, and a cubit and a half the height of it: And he overlaid it with pure gold within and without, and made a crown of gold to it round about. And he cast for it four rings of gold, to be set by the four corners of it; even two rings upon the one side of it, and two rings upon the other side of it. And he made staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold. And he put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, to bear the ark. And he made the mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half was the length thereof, and one cubit and a half the breadth thereof. And he made two cherubims of gold, beaten out of one piece made he them, on the two ends of the mercy seat; One cherub on the end on this side, and another cherub on the other end on that side: out of the mercy seat made he the cherubims on the two ends thereof. And the cherubims spread out their wings on high, and covered with their wings over the mercy seat, with their faces one to another; even to the mercy seatward were the faces of the cherubims."

Exodus 37:1-9, KJV

"And the LORD spake unto Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered before the LORD, and died; And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy place within the vail before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark; that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat."

Leviticus 16:1-2, KJV

"And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon



the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: and he spake unto him. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,"  
Numbers 7:89-8:1, KJV

As you can see from the previous verses, the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat represented an important nexus between our physical world and the Spirit World where God the Father, Jesus Christ, Angels and other entities dwell. It was in fact the communication center where God spoke with the Israelite nation; first through Moses, and then later through the high priest of the Levitical priesthood. Moses himself was the first high priest, and was then followed by his brother Aaron. As these verses reveal, the Lord would appear between the two cherubim which adorned the left and right sides of the Mercy Seat that sat on top of the Ark of the Covenant. Thus, the golden Mercy Seat represented God's presence on Earth. This point is very important, so please remember it as we continue our discussion.

Equally important, as its name implies, it was in front of the Mercy Seat that the chosen high priest would find Mercy and Forgiveness from our Heavenly Father for the sins of the Israelite nation, once each year. In effect, the Mercy Seat also represented the Throne of Grace of our Heavenly Father on Earth.

The Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat were carried about by the Israelites, supported by two poles. Whenever they took their rest, the Ark of the Covenant had a special place where it was kept inside the Tabernacle, behind the veil in the Holy of Holies. Later, once the Tabernacle had been replaced by the Temple which King Solomon built, the Ark of the Covenant was moved to the Holy of Holies within the Temple, which was also called the Oracle, or the Most Holy Place, for there it was that God communicated with the High Priest. These events are again confirmed by the following verses:

"Thus all the work that Solomon made for the house of the LORD was finished: and Solomon brought in all the things that David his father had dedicated; and the silver, and the gold, and all the instruments, put he among the treasures of the house of God. Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. Wherefore all the men of Israel assembled themselves unto the king in the feast which was in the seventh month. And all the elders of Israel came; and the Levites took up the ark. And they brought up the ark, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the holy vessels that were in the tabernacle, these did the priests and the Levites bring up. Also king Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel that were assembled unto him before the ark, sacrificed sheep and oxen, which could not be told nor numbered for multitude. And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy place, even under the wings of the cherubims: For the cherubims spread forth their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above. And they drew out the staves of the ark, that the ends of the staves were seen from the ark before the oracle; but they were not seen

without. And there it is unto this day. There was nothing in the ark save the two tables which Moses put therein at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of Egypt. And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place: (for all the priests that were present were sanctified, and did not then wait by course: Also the Levites which were the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:) It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD; So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God."

2 Chronicles 5:1-14, KJV

However, hundreds of years and many kings later, something very important happened to the Ark of the Covenant when God sent the Babylonian armies of King Nebuchadnezzar to destroy both Jerusalem and the Temple, as a result of the Jews' deep apostasy, around the year 586 BC. I discuss these issues in other articles such as "The Fruits of Disobedience". In a word, any mention of the Ark of the Covenant in the Books of the Old Testament just disappears after the Book of Jeremiah. As I note in other articles, the Prophet Jeremiah was still prophesying against the Jews of Jerusalem at the time of the final invasions by the Babylonians. The very last mention of the Ark of the Covenant is found in the following prophetic verse:

"And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the LORD, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of the LORD: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit it; neither shall that be done any more."

Jeremiah 3:16, KJV

This verse seems to be saying that the Ark of the Covenant will be totally forgotten, and that the high priests will no longer visit it, or seek God's counsel in its presence. According to Jewish tradition -- which is not confirmed by the accepted Biblical Canon -- sometime prior to the final assault against Jerusalem, the Prophet Jeremiah supposedly hid the Ark of the Covenant in a cave somewhere in the city of Jerusalem -- being as the city was under siege and they could not leave it -- and sealed the entrance to the cave with stones.

As I mention in the article entitled "Faith and the Shroud of Turin: No Sign Shall Be Given", certain archeologists -- such as the now-deceased Ron Wyatt -- claim to have actually discovered the Ark of the Covenant. Regarding Wyatt, he says in some of his videos that the Ark is located in a cave that is situated directly below the actual Crucifixion site, which

he claims is outside of the ancient perimeters of Jerusalem. Some people accuse Wyatt of being a fraud. While I personally have some reservations regarding the many claims that Wyatt made concerning his archeological discoveries, I must admit that in watching portions of one of his Ark of the Covenant videos, he did seem like an honest man who was sharing his Christian faith in a sincere manner with others. I did not detect any noticeable deception in his voice, or in his manner of comporting himself. I will say no more than this as I never knew the man personally.

Other people claim that the Ark of the Covenant is somewhere in Ethiopia, or hidden in a cave that is located at the base of Mount Nebo in Jordan. Another theory proposes that the Babylonians carried it off to Babylon, being as it would have been considered a valuable prize of war, since it was covered with plated gold both within and without. However, I consider this highly unlikely, being as any unauthorized person who touched the Ark either died immediately, or else received a plague of one sort or another, as we can easily determine by the following verses:

"And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod. When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon. And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of the LORD. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again. And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off upon the threshold; only the stump of Dagon was left to him. Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day. But the hand of the LORD was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with emerods, even Ashdod and the coasts thereof. And when the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, The ark of the God of Israel shall not abide with us: for his hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our god. They sent therefore and gathered all the lords of the Philistines unto them, and said, What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel? And they answered, Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried about unto Gath. And they carried the ark of the God of Israel about thither. And it was so, that, after they had carried it about, the hand of the LORD was against the city with a very great destruction: and he smote the men of the city, both small and great, and they had emerods in their secret parts. Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron. And it came to pass, as the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, They have brought about the ark of the God of Israel to us, to slay us and our people. So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to his own place, that it slay us not, and our people: for there was a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there. And the men that died not were smitten with the emerods: and the cry of the city went up to heaven."  
1 Samuel 5:1-12, KJV

"Again, David gathered together all the chosen men of Israel,

thirty thousand. And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD of hosts that dwelleth between the cherubims. And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drave the new cart. And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark. And David and all the house of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals. And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God."

2 Samuel 6:1-7, KJV

Whatever the case may be, the basic fact is that the Ark of the Covenant went missing following the Babylonian invasions. As I mention in the series "Sorry . . . Jesus is Not Coming at Any Moment", there are those Jews and Christians who are of the belief that a third and final Temple will be built on the summit of Mount Moriah in East Jerusalem, at some point in the near future. These people believe that at the right moment, once this final Temple has been built, the Orthodox Jews will present the Ark of the Covenant to the world once again. Is there any truth to this doctrine? Do the Israelis truly know where the Ark of the Covenant is now located? Are they purposely keeping it a secret until the opportune time arises? I honestly don't know. What I do know is that other than a brief mention of the Ark of the Old Testament period in the Epistle to the Hebrews, the only other New Testament verse that I am aware of is the following one that is found in the Book of Revelation:

"And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail."

Revelation 11:19, KJV

There are two ways that we can look at the previous verse. We can propose that it means that the physical things which are on this Earth, are merely temporal reflections of the eternal things which exist in Heaven; or we can theorize that perhaps for reasons which are only known to God, the actual Ark of the Covenant and Mercy Seat which were constructed by the ancient Israelites under Moses' direction, were in some way actually transported to Heaven prior to the final Babylonian invasion which resulted in the destruction of both Jerusalem and the Temple.

Regardless of what happened to the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat, the main point to consider here is that since the days of the Prophet Jeremiah, including at the time that Christ died on the Cross, they were missing from the Holy of Holies in the Second Temple, which was also known as Herod's Temple. While we have already examined the spiritual nature and implications of the Temple veil being torn in twain, as I mentioned earlier, I believe that there may be other reasons

why God allowed this to happen as well. For one thing, this event no doubt signaled to the Jewish religious leaders that God was sorely displeased with them. Furthermore, perhaps it served as an omen that the oppressive religious power which they exerted over the common people would soon be ripped out of their hands, exactly as Jesus had prophesied in verses such as the following:

"Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."  
Matthew 21:43-44, KJV

So maybe the Jewish religionists realized that the Temple veil being rent in twain was a sign from God, that their days as the spiritual leaders of Israel were in fact numbered. As we already know from history, they were indeed numbered, and their number was up in 70 AD when General Titus and the Roman legions laid siege to Jerusalem during the First Jewish-Roman War, and ultimately destroyed both Jerusalem and the Temple.

Furthermore, by ripping the Temple veil in half, God exposed the deception, and revealed that the Ark of the Covenant was nowhere to be found. Now, if we stop to consider everything that I have stated regarding the precise function of the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat, it is easy to understand why the Jewish religious leadership would not want this truth to be revealed. As we have seen, the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat represented the Lord's actual presence amongst the Jews. That the Lord in some way descended and appeared upon the Mercy Seat, and communicated with the Jewish high priest, demonstrated His favor with the Jewish nation.

Now please consider the previous thoughts in reverse, and you will quickly realize how serious of an issue this must have been for the Jewish religious hierarchy. In other words, the absence of the Ark of the Covenant in the Holy of Holies was a clear indication that God had in fact abandoned their false religion centuries before. He grew tired of their idolatry, their sacrifices to other gods, and their spiritual whoredoms. However, the common people of the day may not have known that the Ark was missing from the Temple, because the Scribes and the Pharisees purposely kept them in the dark concerning it. The Temple veil being torn from top to bottom exposed what a dead, hollow, spiritless religion the Jewish hierarchy was forcing upon the people.

Please note that while I have stated that the Lord's Presence no longer appeared in the Holy of Holies in the Temple, this does not signify that He had abandoned the Jewish people as a whole. After all, the hundreds of Messianic Prophecies had to be fulfilled. Thus, there was still hope for them, and a great Light would soon shine on the horizon in the manner of Jesus Christ. However, the main point I would like for you to think about here, in addition to the spiritual symbolism regarding the Temple veil representing Christ's own flesh which was torn on the Cross, is that God's Spirit no longer abided, appeared or communicated with the Jewish high priest in the Temple. It was a dead, meaningless religion which was based on traditions and the doctrines of men, as Jesus Himself stated in verses

such as the following:

"In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."  
Luke 12:1, KJV

"Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread. Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."  
Matthew 16:6-12, KJV

"Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition."  
Matthew 15:1-6, KJV

"He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free. And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye."  
Mark 7:6-13, KJV

Now we are going to delve into some even deeper revelations which tie into that last thought. Not only was First Century Judaism -- or Pharisaism -- a dead religion, it was in fact a very devilish religion. While the absence of the Ark of

the Covenant and the Mercy Seat signified the departure of the Lord's Spirit from the Temple, this does not mean that it departed entirely from the Earth. More correctly, we can say that, if anything, during the First Century, the Divine Spirit of our Heavenly Father was in fact present in all of its fulness and without measure into the very body of Jesus Christ. This truth is plainly revealed in these verses:

"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him."  
John 3:34, KJV

"For it pleased the Father that in him [in Jesus] should all fulness dwell;"  
Colossians 1:19, KJV

"For in him [in Jesus] dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."  
Colossians 2:9, KJV

Now, if the Lord's Spirit no longer manifested itself in the Holy of Holies in the Temple as it had done in ages past; and if it now revealed itself in all its power and fulness by way of the many miracles which Jesus performed -- such as turning water into wine, multiplying food on occasions, healing the sick, raising the dead, walking on water, calming the seas, casting out demons, etc. -- what kind of conclusion can we draw regarding the spirit which inhabited the Temple on Mount Moriah? Do I really need to tell you? If you have any doubts about this, then please consider the indisputable truth which is revealed in the following verses:

"Ye [speaking to the Jewish leadership] are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."  
John 8:44, KJV

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves."  
Matthew 23:15, KJV

"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan."  
Revelation 2:9, KJV

"Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee."  
Revelation 3:9, KJV

You see, it is my belief that the departure of God's Spirit from the Temple resulted in a spiritual vacuum being created. That vacuum apparently did not remain for very long. While the Jews who eventually returned from the Babylonian Exile and the Seventy Years of Captivity in Babylon -- Zerubbabel, Nehemiah, Ezra, et al -- started off on the right foot by

rebuilding Jerusalem and the Temple, and by inspiring their Jewish brethren to return to God and to forsake their sinful ways, at some point in time, the self-righteous, legalistic Scribes and Pharisees, as well as the Sadducees, took over the Temple compound. When they did this, it is evident that someone else took up residence with them as well. This was the situation that existed at the time that Jesus walked the Earth.

I propose that it may for this very reason, that this someone was in fact able to transport Jesus to the Temple compound, place Him on a pinnacle of the Temple, and there tempt Him to cast Himself down, as we see in the following verses.:

"Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone."  
Matthew 4:5-6, KJV

"And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone."  
Luke 4:9-11, KJV

It seems to me that if the Temple was still hallowed ground, if God's Presence still resided or manifested itself there, Satan would not have been able to do this. Thus, based upon the previous verses, I conclude that the Devil now owned the place. The Temple compound became his turf. That explains why he possessed the power to move the Scribes and the Pharisees to indirectly murder Jesus. If you really think that Satan had no interest in controlling the Temple compound, then let me provide you with the final piece to this amazing Biblical jigsaw puzzle:

"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?"  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, KJV

Please go to part six for the continuation of this series.

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Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 6

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Jesus Represented God's House And Temple On Earth, House Of Our Body, Jesus Became The Physical Embodiment Of The Mercy Seat And The Throne Of Grace, Scripture Interprets Scripture, By Preaching In The Temple Jesus And Apostles Made The Jewish Religious Elders Accountable For The Truth, Eyewitnesses To The Truth, Requirement Of The Mosaic Law Regarding Multiple Witnesses, Though One Rose From The Dead, Jewish Elders Try To Conceal Jesus' Resurrection, Murderers Of Prophets Jesus And The Apostles, Kill The Messengers To Stop The Message, God Salvaged People From Corrupt Judaism For His New Church, Apostles And New Church Were Viewed As A Serious Threat By Scribes And Pharisees, Roman Catholic Church Losing Ground To Pentecostals And Evangelicals, Judaism And Temple Worship Were A Spiritual Blight, First Century Church In Their Homes Tyndale Used "Congregation" Instead Of "Church", Organized Religion's Subtle Indoctrination Of People By Using Specific Words Which Nurture Dependence On Churches, "Congregation" Is Better Translation Of "Ekklesia", Some Specific Examples

With the overwhelming amount of Scriptural evidence which I have now shared with you, it should be a lot easier for you to understand in what spirit Jesus probably used the phrase "my Father's house" when He cast out the merchants and the moneychangers. As I said, He probably meant "what you claim is my Father's house." Jesus knew full well that the Temple was not His Father's house. He knew full well who now abode in that place. It was the children of hell and their father the Devil. He knew that His Father's true House is in Heaven. Furthermore, He knew that if His Father's Holy Spirit abode anywhere on the Earth, it was not in the Temple in Jerusalem, it was in His own body of flesh, as we have already seen. As we learned earlier, the Apostle John wrote "he spake of the temple of his body." Jesus was the House of God and the Temple of God on Earth.

Let me remind you again regarding how even the Apostle Paul referred to our body of flesh as a "house" and "tabernacle" that contains God's Spirit, in the following verses where he discusses how we all long "to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven"; that is, with our glorified body:

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan,

being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life."  
2 Corinthians 5:1-4, KJV

Not only did Jesus literally become the House of God and the Temple of God on Earth, because His Father's Spirit abode in Him in all its fulness, but consider this next point as well. Earlier, I stated that the Mercy Seat represented the Throne of Grace of our Heavenly Father on Earth. This too was also represented in Jesus Christ; for as it is written:

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth . . . For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."  
John 1:14, 17, KJV

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."  
Ephesians 2:8-9, KJV

In a word, Jesus actually represents God's Grace and Mercy to humanity. To come to Jesus in faith, is to pass through the veil, and to come to the Mercy Seat as well.

Thus, once again we see that Scripture interprets Scripture, without the need for any of us to try to force our private interpretation on them. It is because so many people today twist and pervert God's Word, and try to make it say what they want it to say, that the Christian world has become so full of many false doctrines and misinterpretations. If we would just diligently study God's Word, and let it speak for itself, it will most certainly do that.

To reiterate my previous point, God's true House is located in Heaven. It was not the Temple in the city of Jerusalem. So, if the Temple was doomed to destruction, why would Jesus preach the Word, and perform miracles, in a place which had clearly been taken over by the children of the Devil? Why would Jesus literally march into Satan's own territory, and throw the truth right in the faces of His enemies, by even performing miracles before their very eyes? Furthermore, why would the Apostles preach there, and likewise perform some miracles there as well? I can think of several good reasons.

The amazing truth is that not only did Jesus prove to them exactly who He was and is -- even though they did not want to believe Him at the time -- but He also witnessed to the unbelieving Jewish religious leaders of those things which were yet to come; most notably His Resurrection from the Dead. In contrast, the Apostles served as a confirmation to those same reprobate Jews, that the things which Jesus had told them only days earlier, had indeed come to pass. In short, it was all about the witness. It was about making the Jewish religious leaders fully accountable for the truth. Consider the following verses where this is made so plain:

"Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and

six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said."  
John 2:18-22, KJV

"If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin."  
John 15:22, KJV

"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. For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool. Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ."  
Acts 2:22-36, KJV

"Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned. And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him. When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them."

Acts 5:26-33, KJV

So as you can see from the previous verses, Jesus basically told them "This is what is going to happen"; and the Apostles said "This is what has now happened. We are eyewitnesses to these events. We have seen, touched and spoken to the risen Christ." These multiple eyewitness accounts by the Apostles and Disciples were very important due to the requirements of the Mosaic Law. As the following verses reveal, this is also why several witnesses had to be called at Jesus' own trial, as well as why several witnesses were likewise present when Stephen was martyred:

"Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die."  
Numbers 35:30, KJV

"At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death. The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So thou shalt put the evil away from among you."  
Deuteronomy 17:6-7, KJV

"One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established."  
Deuteronomy 19:15, KJV

"This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established."  
2 Corinthians 13:1, KJV

"Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses. Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear."  
1 Timothy 5:19-20, KJV

"He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:"  
Hebrews 10:28, KJV

Thus, the fact that so many people bore witness to the truth regarding the resurrected Christ, stood up to the test of the Mosaic Law, and served as an undeniable testimony before the blind Jewish religious leaders. Tragically, Jesus knew that no matter what proof the Jewish elders were given, they would never accept the truth; for as He had previously predicted in His Parable regarding Abraham, the rich man and Lazarus:

"Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."  
Luke 16:29-31, KJV

As I mention in other articles, rather than face the truth

regarding Christ's Resurrection from the Dead, those wicked children of hell in fact tried to conceal the event from the general public, by bribing the guards who had been assigned to watch Jesus' tomb, as we see by the following verses:

"Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you. So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day."  
Matthew 28:11-15, KJV

Clearly, Jesus knew exactly what abode in the dark hearts of His enemies. Thus, He also knew how the situation would play out. Please notice that in the previous verses that we find in the Book of Acts, we are informed that after Peter and the rest of the Apostles were such a bold witness regarding the Resurrection of Christ, the Jewish religious leaders "took counsel to slay them." You see, that had actually been their modus operandi for literally hundreds of years whenever they were faced with an uncomfortable truth which they didn't want to hear. They attacked and killed the Prophets which God had sent to them in His great Mercy; they attacked and killed the very Son of God; and they attacked and killed the Apostles and Disciples as well. Consider these additional verses:

"Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? 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. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate."  
Matthew 23:33-38, KJV

"Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill him. But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people."  
Matthew 26:3-5, KJV

"Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people."  
Luke 22:1,2, KJV

"And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day. But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto,

and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God." John 5:16-18, KJV

"After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him . . . Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me? The people answered and said, Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee? . . . Then said some of them of Jerusalem, is not this he, whom they seek to kill?" John 7:1, 19-20, 25, KJV

"I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God. Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:37-44, KJV

It is rather obvious that because they could not refute the truth of the message itself which was borne by the Prophets, by Jesus, and by His followers, those self-righteous snakes adopted the practice of what in their view was the next best thing: kill the messenger in order to stop the flow of the message. However, as we have already seen, once we hear the truth, God holds us accountable for it; and the Scribes and the Pharisees -- as well as the Sadducees and other Jews who rejected Christ -- were clearly accountable.

Aside from the reasons which I have already mentioned, if we look at what happened as a result of the Apostles preaching in the Temple, we can detect another reason why God may have had them temporarily witness in that place for a time, until it became impossible for them to do so due to persecution by their own Jewish brethren. In the verses which I shared with you in part three, we are told that "the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." In other words, that false religious system was already doomed to destruction. However, it seems that before that day would arrive in 70 AD, God was purposely salvaging those people who could be saved from it, drawing them out of that corrupt system, and adding them to His new true Church, which was founded, not upon the doctrines and traditions of men, but upon the one true Rock of Jesus Christ.

There is no doubt that the Scribes and the Pharisees greatly feared losing their hold on the people, just as the modern,

false church system also fears losing its members as well. I suspect that the fear which was experienced by the Scribes and the Pharisees was augmented by the fact that we are told that even many of the members of the Temple priesthood were embracing the young, new Christian faith. Obviously, this must not have sat well with the high priest and his wicked cronies. Consider this verse:

"And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith."  
Acts 6:7, KJV

To help you to better understand what was happening at that time, allow me to offer you a more specific modern example. For years now, the Roman Catholic Church -- which everyone obviously knows is the dominant denomination in our current time -- has seriously been losing ground. Not only is there a major shortage of priests in that church, but a lot of the laity -- the regular members of the church -- are leaving it as well. However, this does not mean that they are all just losing their faith in God and Jesus Christ. No; quite to the contrary, other flavors of the Christian church -- such as Pentecostals and Evangelicals -- are making serious inroads in areas of the world which were once dominated by the Roman Catholic Church, such as Latin America. The Vatican is of course very concerned about this development. Perhaps that is one reason why they recently elected the very first pope from Latin America; that is, Pope Francis I.

In a sense, this is exactly what was also happening during the First Century following the outpouring of the Holy Ghost upon the Apostles and Disciples. They were on-fire for the Lord, and they were winning new Disciples left and right. That is why the dominant religion of the time -- Judaism -- determined that it simply had to stop this new movement in its tracks. Thus, the Scribes and the Pharisees first opted to kill its ringleader -- meaning Jesus -- and after that they also went after the other leadership of the Church as well, beginning with Stephen, and then James. Now do you understand what was going on?

Allow me offer one final reason regarding why God may have chosen to destroy the Temple in 70 AD. In a word, Judaism and Temple worship had become a dangerous spiritual blight. God obviously did not want His new Church to be infected by it. Thus, while it may not be the main reason why the Temple was destroyed, I propose that the events of 70 AD served as a safeguard, so that the First Century Christians would not get sidetracked in buildings, which, as we saw earlier, is exactly what occurred with the early Roman Catholic Church, beginning with the Fourth Century reign of Constantine, and no doubt with strong encouragement from his mother, Helena.

For those religionists who erroneously insist that the fact that the Apostles and Disciples gathered in the Temple for a time is proof that God approves of church buildings, let me ask you a simple question. If the Temple in Jerusalem was truly the house of God, and supposedly a model for modern-day Christianity, then why did God choose to destroy His "house" not once, but twice? Furthermore, if your claim is true, then why has God prevented the Jews from rebuilding His "house" in

almost two thousand years? Is it possibly because the Most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands? Is it possible that Stephen actually died for the truth, while you insist on living a lie?

In the verses which I shared with you in part three, we were specifically informed that the Apostles went "house to house" breaking bread, and that daily -- not just on the Sabbath -- they taught and preached Jesus Christ "in every house" also. This does not sound like a once-a-week, weekend affair to me. This was daily, intimate Christian fellowship, and it was not occurring in the Temple. If the Apostles really considered the Temple to be their base of operations, it makes no sense that they would teach, preach and break bread in every home on a daily basis. All of such activities would have strictly been done in the Temple, just as occurs in modern churches.

It becomes evident then, that the reason why they were doing these three things in the homes of the Disciples, is because that is where the churches and the fellowships were located. The Temple compound was not their real church. They were the Church, and they gathered in their very own homes, in small intimate fellowships. As I explain in such articles as "Where Are the First Century Churches?", this solid truth is made so evident in verses such as the following. How did Saul make havoc of the church? By "entering into every house", because that is where the churches were located:

"As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison."  
Acts 8:3, KJV

"Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my wellbeloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ."  
Romans 16:5, KJV

"The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house."  
1 Corinthians 16:19, KJV

"Salute the brethren which are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the church which is in his house."  
Colossians 4:15, KJV

"And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house:"  
Philemon 1:2, KJV

"And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,"  
Acts 20:20, KJV

While we have just taken quite a detour from our discussion regarding the King James Version of the Bible, and the facts concerning its translation into our English language, as you will now see, all of these various points are necessary and in fact related. This is because the Scriptural information which I have just shared with you will help you to recognize the huge contrast which exists between what the Scriptures



actually reveal to us regarding the true Church and Temple of God, and what modern organized religion -- which I refer to as "churchianity" -- claims to be the truth concerning the same.

According to my "Online Bible" program, the word "church" is found exactly eighty times in the New Testament of the King James Version of the Bible, while "churches" is found a total of thirty-seven times. In contrast, when Tyndale translated the New Testament into English, the words which he used were "congregation" and "congregations". Only in two places does he use the word "church", and it is actually in reference to pagan temples. Certain religionists will no doubt argue that "congregation" and "church" are the same thing. However, what they don't realize, is that by even saying that, they are in fact proving my point; which is that we've all been affected -- or more correctly stated, indoctrinated -- to believe and think a certain way by organized religion.

In other words, we have been brought up in such a way, that when we hear the word "congregation", we automatically assume that one is talking about a church building. Our minds have been trained to automatically associate "congregation" with "church", because that is what religionists want us to think. However, the fact of the matter is that a congregation can be a group of people who congregate anywhere, at any time, and for any reason. It can be in someone's house, at some sports events, on a street corner, at a music concert, at a political rally, or anywhere else. A congregation is not necessarily a group of Christians who gather in a church building. That is simply organized religion's hold on your life that makes you think that way, because they want to keep you dependent on the ecclesiastical power structure and church buildings.

Furthermore, the word "congregation" is a much better English equivalent of the Greek word "ekklesia", which, as we learned in part one, is simply a called out assembly of people. They are the "called out ones" who have been called out by God and separated from the evil world. William Tyndale was a brilliant scholar who was very fluent in a variety of languages. He knew what "ekklesia" actually means, and that it has nothing to do with a building. That is why he apparently chose to use the word "congregation" instead of the word "church". Let me give you a few examples by showing the same verse as it is printed in the KJV Bible, and as it appears in the translation which was done earlier by Tyndale:

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."  
Matthew 16:18, KJV

"And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter. And upon this rock I will build my congregation: and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."  
Matthew 16:18, Tyndale

"And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."

Acts 2:46-47, KJV

"And they continued daily with one accord in the temple, and brake bread in every house, and ate their meat together with gladness, and singleness of heart praising God, and had favour with all the people, and the lord added to the congregation daily them that should be saved."

Acts 2:46-47, Tyndale

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body."

Ephesians 5:22-23, KJV

"Women submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the lord. For the husband is the wife's head, even as Christ is the head of the congregation, and the same is the saviour of the body."

Ephesians 5:22-23, Tyndale

"John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;"

Revelation 1:4, KJV

"Ihon to the vij. congregations in Asia. Grace be with you and peace, from him which is and which was, and which is to come: and from the vij. spirits which are present before his throne,"

Revelation 1:4, Tyndale

As I noted earlier, if you have been raised in a Christian environment, particularly in a church-going environment, it may be difficult for you to fully grasp the significance of this difference. It may even seem small to you, and not that worthy of discussion. However, as I said, its effect is that it points people to organized religion, and to its system of church buildings. Putting this thought into sharper context, about four hundred years ago, it manipulated the minds of the common people of England, and made the statement that all good Christians attend a church building, which at that time meant submitting to the authority of the Church of England.

Please go to part seven for the continuation of this series.

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End Of File

Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 7

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Tyndale's Use Of "Senior" Instead Of "Elder" Irks The Church, "Presbuteros" Is Someone Who Is Advanced In Age, Comparison Between KJV Bible And Tyndale New Testament, Tyndale's Bible Threatened The Ecclesiastical Power Of The Church Of England, Tyndale Accused Of Heresy Strangled And Burned At The Stake, The Israelites Served As Slaves Four Hundred Years In Egypt, The Absence Of Words Slave Slaves And Slavery In KJV Bible, Vile Practice Of Slavery In England And The United States Original 1611 King James Bible Included Books Of Apocrypha, Which Is Inerrant Word Of God: 1611 KJV With Apocrypha Or Modern KJV Without Apocrypha, Apocrypha Removed From KJV By 1646 Westminster Assembly, KJV Extremists' Misunderstanding Regarding Psalm 12, The Holy Spirit Leads Us Into All Truth, Importance Of Reading And Understanding God's Word In Right Context, King David Prays For God's Help For The Righteous Godly Poor And Needy Against The Generation Of The Wicked, God's Word Is Pure And Very Trustworthy, God Does Not Lie

While using the word "congregation" instead of "church" is no doubt what raised the ire of the church authorities against Tyndale the most, it is not the only thing in his translation which irked them. Tyndale used a number of other English words -- which were actually more literal translations -- which were likewise viewed as a threat to the Church of England, and to the Roman Catholic Church as well. For example, while the KJV Bible often uses the words "elder" and "elders" -- which are very church-oriented words -- William Tyndale chose the more literal words "senior" and "seniors". These words are derived from the Greek word "presbuteros", which means someone who is older and more advanced in age; that is, an old man. The word does not mean someone who is an authority in an established church; that is, a presbyter or elder. As occurred with the word "ekklesia", this latter meaning was applied to the word later on, in order to support the ecclesiastical structure of organized religion.

That "presbuteros" simply means a person who is older in age becomes apparent in the very first example below where we see that the Apostle Paul is making an obvious contrast between the older men and the younger men, and the older women and the younger women. Where the verse says "elder women", it is again translated from the Greek word "presbuteros". In each case, the KJV Bible version of the verse is followed by the Tyndale New Testament version of the same verse so that you can compare the two of them:

"Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren; The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity."  
1 Timothy 5:1-2, KJV

"Rebuke not a senior: but exhort him as a father, and the younger men as brethren, the elder women as mothers, the younger as sisters, with all pureness."  
1 Timothy 5:1-2, Tyndale

"Then the disciples, every man according to his ability,

determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul."  
Acts 11:29-30, KJV

"Then the disciples every man according to his ability, purposed to send succour unto the brethren which dwelt in Jewry, which thing they also did, and sent it to the seniors, by the hands of Barnabas and Saul."  
Acts 11:29-30, Tyndale

"And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed."  
Acts 14:23, KJV

"And when they had ordained them seniors by election in every congregation, after they had prayed and fasted, they commended them to God on whom they believed."  
Acts 14:23, Tyndale

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:"  
1 Peter 5:1, KJV

"The seniors which are among you I exhort, which am also an senior, and a witness of the afflictions of Christ, and also a part taker of the glory that shall be opened:"  
1 Peter 5:1, Tyndale

So as you can see, these elders were simply older people in the congregations which met in people's homes who were chosen by their peers to lead the Lord's flocks, due to their wisdom and advanced age. However, because "elder" is a word that was in use by the ecclesiastical powers of the day, and signified a person who had some degree of authority in the church, the Church of England did not like Tyndale using "senior" instead. As with his use of the word "congregation" instead of the word "church", his choice of "senior" detracted from the power of the established church, focused the people's attention on regular elderly men, and pointed to the Scriptural truth that the power really lies within the Body of Believers themselves, who are the real Church on Earth, and not the false church of organized religion.

In other words, if the words which had been chosen by William Tyndale had remained in his New Testament, the end result is that they would have eventually eroded the oppressive power of the church -- or organized religion -- at that time, which is why they were eventually removed, and replaced with a lot less threatening words, which supported the ecclesiastical structure. As we have seen, the most notable change which the church authorities made was to replace the word "congregation" with the word "church", so that it would send the message to the common people, that if one is a Christian, his duty is to attend church services, and also to submit to the authority of the Church of England.

While I have only shared with you two clear examples of word changes which were made in later versions of the Bible which followed Tyndale's New Testament, you should know that there

are a number of others. In fact, to be honest, I am not sure how many there are in all, being as I really do not have the time to read both versions side-by-side, and compare them in their entirety. Regardless, with the limited evidence which I have provided here, I hope you have begun to understand how the Scriptures -- including the KJV Bible -- were translated in such a way, so as to give power to organized religion and the established church of the day, and to manipulate people towards that church.

As a result of his translation, as well as the Bible-based doctrines which he embraced, Tyndale was charged with heresy, sentenced to death, and strangled and burned at the stake. He was too dangerous, so the church had to get rid of him before the common people rose up against the corrupt church. The real tragedy here, as I first mentioned in part one, is that even though Tyndale was burned as a heretic, all later versions of the Bible -- up to and including the King James Version of the Bible -- were still about ninety per cent based on Tyndale's work. His translation was so efficient, that the church only changed those parts which threatened their own power. All of the rest remained basically the same.

Let me give you another clear example which demonstrates how the KJV Bible has been purposely manipulated by political and religious forces. The fact of the matter is that slavery is mentioned throughout the Scriptures. For example, all of you are familiar with the fact that the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob became slaves in Egypt for over four hundred years, exactly as God had warned the Patriarch Abraham years earlier. This historical and Biblical fact is made evident by verses such as the following:

"Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt."  
Exodus 12:40-41, KJV

"And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him. And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full. And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."  
Genesis 15:12-21, KJV

"And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in

a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them evil four hundred years."  
Acts 7:6, KJV

Despite this obvious fact, other than one time in the Book of Jeremiah where the word "slave" is inserted in italics -- which is to signify that the word was added by the English translators for the sake of clarification -- the three words "slave", "slaves" and "slavery" cannot be found anywhere in the entire King James Version of the Bible. Instead, other more politically-correct, less harsh words are used, such as "bondage", "servant", etc. Here is the verse that is found in the Book of Jeremiah. The word in brackets is actually in italics in the actual KJV Bible:

"Is Israel a servant? is he a homeborn [*slave*]? why is he spoiled?"  
Jeremiah 2:14, KJV

Why is this? Why would slavery be described throughout the pages of the Bible, and yet the actual words are never used? The answer seems simple in my view: intentional manipulation of the Scriptures. In other words, I suspect that being as England still practiced blatant slavery at the time -- which vile, wicked practice was also imported by the colonists to the United States of America as well -- perhaps the English translators thought that King James I might take offense if the words "slave", "slaves" and "slavery" were used in their translation. Thus, they opted for less harsh words. Friends, try as we might, we can't avoid the fact that this represents intentional manipulation of the Scriptures. This means that the King James Version of the Bible is not the inerrant Word of God. Similar to other versions, it too is the manipulated and interpreted Word of God. It has been translated so that we understand it in a certain way. However, the more modern versions are a lot worse, which is why I still prefer using the KJV Bible.

For diehard KJV extremists -- yes, I am KJV-only, but I am not an extremist like you -- allow me to offer you a final piece of irrefutable evidence which clearly points to the fact that the King James Version of the Bible is by no means the inerrant Word of God, and that it has been significantly manipulated since its creation. For those of you who are not aware of it, similar to Luther's Bible of 1534, the original King James Bible included the Apocrypha. In fact, the early Reformers also viewed the Apocrypha as "books proceeding from godly men", considered them recommended reading, and therefore included them in the 1560 Geneva Bible which preceded the KJV.

For those of you who may not be familiar with it, the word "apocrypha" refers to writings which were hidden away, and not accepted as a part of the Biblical canon, because there were doubts concerning their authorship, Divine Inspiration and genuineness. The Apocrypha with which we are concerned consists of various Books which still remain in the Catholic Bible. I no longer possess a Catholic Bible -- a friend of mine sent me a huge one many years ago -- but unless I am mistaken, the included Books are some or all of these:

- 1 Maccabees
- 2 Maccabees

3 Maccabees  
4 Maccabees  
Additions to Esther  
Baruch  
Bel and the Dragon  
Daniel and Susanna  
1 Esdras  
2 Esdras  
3 Esdras  
4 Esdras  
Judith  
Letter of Jeremiah  
Prayer of Azariah  
Prayer of Manasseh  
Psalm 151  
Tobit  
Wisdom of Jesus Son of Sirach (Ecclesiasticus)  
Wisdom of Solomon

The 1611 version of the King James Bible included most of these Books. Now, if you were not aware of the fact that the Apocrypha was at one time included in the King James Bible, you are probably a bit surprised at this moment. If you are one of those obnoxious KJV extremists who likes to insist and promote the erroneous belief that the KJV Bible is the inerrant Word of God, you are probably even more surprised, and perhaps even shocked. After all, I have just shown you clearly that the KJV Bible has been manipulated. If any of you KJV extremists doubt my word, I invite you to go ahead and conduct your own personal research, and see what you discover. You will see that I have no agenda, and that I am telling you the absolute historical truth.

This fact regarding the inclusion of the Apocrypha in the original 1611 King James Bible presents us with a challenge. If the KJV Bible is truly the inspired and inerrant Word of God, then please explain to me why modern versions of the KJV Bible do not contain the Apocrypha. If someone removed the Apocrypha from the original 1611 KJV Bible, doesn't that equate to intentional manipulation of the Sacred Text? Does that not also mean that the modern KJV Bible is not truly an inerrant text? I mean, really folks, stop and think about it. If we accept the KJV extremist argument that the King James Bible is the inerrant Word of God, we are faced with a major dilemma.

For those of you who may not be following my reasoning, allow me to state it more clearly. How can the modern version of the King James Bible even be considered the inerrant Word of God when it is missing a set of Books which were a part of the original 1611 KJV Bible? The argument here is not whether or not the Apocrypha is inspired text, it is the fact that both of these versions cannot be the inspired, inerrant Word of God. Actually, for reasons which I have already explained, I do not believe that either is inerrant, but that is beside the point. This discussion regarding the Apocrypha is simply being made to prove a point to KJV extremists. If the 1611 version of the King James Bible with the Apocrypha is truly the inerrant Word of God, then the present version of the KJV without the Apocrypha cannot be, because it is missing those Books.

Obviously, the exact opposite holds true as well. If the KJV Bible which we use today -- which does not include the Books of the Apocrypha -- is the inspired and inerrant Word of God, then the original 1611 King James Bible cannot be. Isn't that easy enough to understand? Let me rephrase that one more time for those of you who still don't grasp the key point here. If for the sake of argument we view the original 1611 version of the KJV -- which contained the Apocrypha -- as God's inspired and inerrant Word, then that means that someone tampered with and manipulated God's Word, and made a serious mistake when they chose to remove the Apocrypha from later versions, which are what we still use today. We can only conclude from this that today's version of the KJV is a tampered, manipulated, erroneous version, because it is missing a set of Books which the original translators and compilers deemed to be inspired.

In contrast, if today's version of the KJV Bible -- without the Apocrypha -- is really the true, inspired and inerrant Word of God, it is indirectly making the statement that the original 1611 translators and compilers made a very serious mistake when they included this set of Books. They published a Bible which contained a grievous error in the form of the Apocrypha. It cannot be considered inerrant, if we consider today's version of the KJV Bible inerrant. I hope that you can see now that it really comes down to both the political and religious influences of the day, as well as the whims of men. What is deemed acceptable, inspired and inerrant is solely determined by those in power at any given time, and opinions change. However, God's true, pure Word as guarded in Heaven, and as spoken to the holy Prophets and Apostles of old never changes.

The tragedy here is that some of these KJV extremists are probably so ignorant when it comes to the history of their own Bible, that they don't even know that if they are using a modern version without the Apocrypha in between the Old and the New Testaments, they are not even using the real, original 1611 King James Bible, yet they are claiming that it is the inerrant Word of God. How can it be when it is missing Books which the original translators and compilers deemed inspired?

If you are wondering what happened to the Apocrypha in the 1611 version of the KJV Bible, it was removed as a result of the 1647 Westminster Confession of Faith. This confession of faith was crafted by the 1646 Westminster Assembly as a part of the Westminster Standards, and thus became the doctrinal confession of the Church of England. Today, hundreds of years later, it still forms the basis for the confessions of faith of a variety of Protestant denominations. At any rate, from that point forward, any Bibles that were printed by English Protestants who had separated themselves from the Church of England, no longer included the Apocrypha.

As a result of all of the evidence which I have now shared with you -- and I have really only scratched the surface -- I remain convinced that while the original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts were the inspired and inerrant Word of God, in contrast, modern Bibles -- including our beloved KJV Bible -- are no such thing. As I have already stated, while I do believe that the King James Bible is inspired, I can in no way accept that it is perfect and inerrant, because there is



simply too much evidence which contradicts that position. Of course, KJV extremists do not accept my position, and they are quick to judge and condemn me as a result of it. One set of verses which they often point to in their attempt to try to justify their dogmatic position is the following:

"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."

Psalms 12:6-7, KJV

Sadly, based on those two verses alone, such people accuse me of being a liar and a false prophet. They claim that I am deceived, misguided and of the Devil. Some of them have even rebuked me. They basically say "See! God says right there that He will preserve His Word forever! That means that you are a liar!". Well, folks, I have something rather heavy to share with you. I can tell you with confidence that the way in which KJV extremists are interpreting the aforementioned verses is completely wrong. That is not what those verses are saying whatsoever. King David's concern in the previous two verses is not the preservation of God's Word, as these KJV extremists would have us to believe.

When I first read those verses, I immediately fell for the ruse. I accepted at face value that what the KJV extremists were saying about the verses is true. However, as I noted earlier, Jesus promised us that the Holy Spirit would lead us into all truth, if we are open to it. I am so thankful for that promise, and I can't tell you how many times God has led me in my understanding, because I sincerely wanted to know the truth. Quite often, the truth is contrary to what is being preached and taught by organized religion, or in this case, by misguided KJV extremists.

As I studied the original Hebrew words that are used in the previous two verses, and then expanded my study to include not only the entire Psalm in which they are found, but also the Psalms which come both before and after this Psalm, I made an interesting discovery which totally contradicts what is being promoted by the KJV extremists. The word "keep" is derived from the Hebrew word "shamar". This word signifies to keep, guard, observe, watch over, preserve or protect. In similar fashion, the Brown, Driver, Briggs, Gesenius Hebrew Aramaic English Lexicon explains that the word "preserve" is derived from the Hebrew word "natsar". This word likewise means to guard, watch over, observe, keep or preserve.

However, the important question which we need to ask is this: What is the object of King David's statement? Exactly what is being kept, guarded, watched over, preserved and protected? What is the "them" in verse seven? Is it really "The words of the LORD" as these KJV extremists state? If we accept their interpretation, we run into a problem, because David writes "thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." Are we to assume then that prior to that generation, God did not preserve His Word? Even more strange, are we to believe that David is saying that the Lord must protect His Word from that generation? Is there something about David's generation that God needs to be extra careful about guarding and protecting His Word from it?

As I hope you can likewise see, no matter how we choose to look at it, the KJV extremists' interpretation of those two verses in Psalm 12 is rather suspect. There is something that is just not right about it. However, if you just look at those two verses alone -- which is what they want you to do -- you won't see it. You will do as I did at first, and say to yourself, "Yes, that is what those verses are saying. God will preserve His Word and keep it pure forever." If you do that, you will be making the very same mistake that they have made. Please note that I am not saying that God's Word is not pure, or that He does not protect it. All I am saying is that this is not what those two verses are saying, as I will clearly prove to you in the paragraphs which follow.

Now, please pay close attention, because I am going to teach you an important lesson regarding Bible study and research, in case you are not already aware of it. When endeavoring to understand God's Word, it is important that we read it in context; because if we fail to do this, we can easily arrive at the wrong conclusions, as these KJV extremists have done with the aforementioned two verses. Like the Psalms which come both before and after it, Psalm 12 is a short Psalm of only eight verses. However, there is a common theme which runs through all three of the Psalms, and it is precisely by understanding exactly what this theme is, that we can gain the proper interpretation of David's words in the previous two verses.

The first thing we notice in reading Psalm 12, is that it is both a lamentation and a plea for God's help. In fact, the very first two words in the Psalm are "Help, LORD". For whom is King David asking help? If you read all three Psalms -- I encourage you to stop and do so now -- you will quickly see that the king is discussing the ongoing battle between the wicked and the righteous, the faithful and the faithless, the godly and the godless. In fact, the very first verse of Psalm 14 is one which I have often quoted in my articles, as well as on my Facebook timeline. It begins with the famous words "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." In verse four of Psalm 12, the wicked and the unrighteous proudly boast that they will prevail over the godly and the righteous, as we see here:

"Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?"  
Psalms 12:4, KJV

However, please notice how the LORD responds in the very next verse. This verse is very important, because it tells us what King David means in verse seven:

"For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him."  
Psalms 12:5, KJV

Do you see that? The LORD very clearly states via the king that He is going to arise to protect the oppressed poor and the needy of David's generation. He is going to place them in His care in a safe place. In other words, this is really the "them" that King David is talking about in verse seven.

This is the real "them" that God is going to keep, guard, observe, watch over, preserve and protect. The "them" is most definitely not referring to God's Word whatsoever. To even suggest such a thing is to take these verses out of context. Now, let's put verses five and seven together so that you can see how clear this becomes:

"For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him . . . Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."

Psalms 12:5, 7, KJV

Thus, when David writes "thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever", we should actually understand this to mean "thou shalt preserve [the righteous, the faithful, the godly, the poor and the needy] from this generation [of wicked, faithless and godless men] for ever." The "them" in verse seven is actually reflecting back to what David said in verse five, and in other verses that are found in these three related Psalms. Furthermore, the phrase "from this generation" in verse seven is reflecting back to the phrase "from him that puffeth at him" which is found in verse five. Verse seven is simply a continuation or rephrasing of verse five.

Do you see how clear it becomes when we take the time to read these two verses in context with the rest of the Psalm, and even with the tone and theme of the surrounding Psalms? Now, why is David so confident that God will do this thing for his people? Why is the king so certain that the Lord will protect the poor and needy from the wicked generation who boasts with their tongues? The answer is found in verse six, as we read here:

"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."  
Psalms 12:6, KJV

In other words, King David knows that God's Word is extremely trustworthy. It is as good as pure silver which is purified in the furnace seven times. David knows that if God makes a promise to him and gives His word to him, He will keep it. It is for this reason that the king is so confident that if he asks the Lord for His help in protecting and preserving his people, God will do it for him. This wonderful truth regarding the trustworthiness of God's Word is supported by a number of other verses which are found throughout the Scriptures as well. Consider the following examples:

"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"  
Numbers 23:19, KJV

"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."  
1 John 5:14-15, KJV

"God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged."  
Romans 3:4, KJV

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"  
Titus 1:2, KJV

Please go to part eight for the conclusion of this series.

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End Of File

Is the KJV Bible the Inerrant Word of God? : Part 8

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Always And For Long Duration, Political Environment During King David's Reign, Enemies Within And Without, Dishonest And Deceptive Tactics Of KJV Extremists, Understanding God's Word In Context, Letter Of The Law Versus Freedom Of The Spirit, Lesson Regarding Being Persuaded In Our Own Minds, God's Unadulterated Word Is Forever Preserved And Settled In Heaven, Free Will And Personal Choice Have Given Man Power To Manipulate And Corrupt Written And Printed Word Of God, Were The Pre-KJV Versions Of The English Bible Inerrant?, Seven Different Editions Of KJV Bible, The 1769 Oxford Text, KJV Bible Was Translated And Designed To Support Church Of England And Strengthen Its Power Over English Common People, Rigid Physical Church System Versus Spiritual Global Body Of Christ, My Journey To Gain A Proper Perspective Regarding King James Bible, Doctrines And Practices Were Crafted As A Result Of Specific Word Translations, Blinded By Dogmatism And Zeal, Deception Or Verifiable Historical Truth, Harsh Response Of KJV Extremists, Check Those Eggs, My Longtime Dedication To The KJV Bible, My Long-Term Goal Is To Instill Faith In God's Word, Speaking Truth About KJV Bible Should Not Hinder Our Faith In God's Word, KJV Is Best We Have Got, Conduct Your Own Research, Small Textual Changes Throughout The Bible Which Affect Our Doctrinal Understanding, Spurious Text Debated By Theologians, Closing Remarks, Resources List

Concerning King David's words "from this generation for ever", this is the part of the verse which may confuse some people -- such as the KJV extremists -- and make them think that the king is referring to God preserving His Word for eternity. As we have seen, this is not what the verse is talking about whatsoever. Furthermore, it is important to

understand that the Hebrew word which is translated here as "for ever" -- that is, "owlam" -- does not always signify forever, eternity or everlasting. Sometimes it simply means for a long duration or always. In other words, King David is simply praying that God will always protect the poor, the needy and the righteous from the machinations of the generation of the wicked.

Taking these thoughts a step further, if we consider the environment which prevailed during the time of King David's forty-year reign, it becomes even easier to understand the tone and meaning of these various Psalms, as written by the king. In a word, it was a time of political intrigue and treachery. Not only was there treachery and betrayal within David's own household, but there were many enemies without, being as it was a time of war and conquest. As if these two factors didn't already give the king enough problems, there were likewise the disgruntled members, friends and allies of former King Saul's household to deal with as well.

If you take the time to read some of the historical Books of the Old Testament, you will discover that these remnants of King Saul's reign were a constant thorn in David's side, and were continually trying to bring down the king. In a word, it seems to me that in writing some of his Psalms where the king prays for the protection and victory of the righteous over the wicked, David is probably talking about himself, and praying for the survival of his own royal lineage.

While I have gone to great lengths to explain these verses to you, the reason why I have done so, is because I suspect that if the KJV extremists have twisted the meaning of these two verses that are found in Psalm 12, and attempted to use them against me in order to prove that I am wrong, then it is more than likely that they have used the same two verses to convince other people of their views as well. For them to twist the meaning of these verses, so that they can use them like a club and knock people in the head with them when they don't agree with their insistence that the KJV Bible is the inerrant Word of God, is just plain wrong. In fact, it is being both dishonest and deceptive.

Before moving on in our current discussion, let me briefly mention another point which is related to reading the Bible in context, so that we draw a proper understanding from it. Being as I have brought up this point regarding not taking the Scriptures out of context, I don't doubt that there will be a few legalists and critics who will accuse me of doing that very thing, because some have made the same accusation against me before. However, what these KJV extremists are doing with the aforementioned two verses, and what I do in many of my articles is quite different.

As many of my longtime readers will already know, whenever I write my articles, I always strive to fill them with as many verses from the Bible as possible. I do this for two primary reasons. First, I want my readers to see that my opinions are supported by the Scriptures; and second, I want them to place their faith in God's Word, and not just in what I say. After all, as the Apostle Paul writes, faith comes by hearing the Word of God:

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Romans 10:17, KJV

Now, the problem which I have seen, is that in their desire to remain faithful to God's Word, and to keep their teaching in context, some Christians tend to go to the extreme. In other words, they become overly legalistic in their approach to understanding the Scriptures, and they lose the freedom of the Spirit. I am reminded of the following verse:

"Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

2 Corinthians 3:6, KJV

While the Apostle Paul is discussing the Laws of Moses versus the freedom of the Spirit in that verse, the point I wish to make is this: If we become overly legalistic in our approach, we can miss sharing many valuable lessons from the Bible with our friends and readers, simply because the verses where the lesson is found, may not in any way be related to our current discussion. No doubt some of you will probably not understand what I just stated, so let me give you an example by using a portion of a verse which I use often in my articles, on my Facebook timeline, and in various other ways with my friends.

As some of you will know, in the fourteenth chapter of his Epistle to the Romans, the Apostle Paul discusses the issue of the legalism of the law versus the freedom of the Spirit. More specifically, the chapter concerns those Disciples who believe that certain foods should not be eaten -- because they do not conform to Jewish dietary laws and are thus not considered "kosher" -- versus those people who believe that they have the spiritual freedom to eat whatever they want. In similar fashion, Paul also discusses those Disciples who feel obligated to observe certain Jewish feast days, versus those who believe that they are free from such legalistic restrictions.

In summarizing his own opinion regarding these matters, Paul states that whatever we do, we should always strive to do it in love, so that we do not stumble our brethren. Yet at the same time, Paul also writes the following counsel:

"One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind . . . Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth."

Romans 14:5, 22, KJV

As you can see, there is a very important lesson which is contained in these verses, and it happens to be one which I personally like a lot. For this reason, I will often quote the second half of verse five by itself in this manner: "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." What Paul is stating here, is that the bottom line is that regardless of what other people may think or say, we must each live our lives according to our own faith and personal convictions. While Paul is discussing Jewish dietary laws and feast days in this chapter, nevertheless, his wise counsel is a lesson

which we can apply to many different facets of our lives, even if they are not directly related to these two specific subjects. We may view this is a "universal lesson".

Now, if I were a legalist, I might say to myself "Well, yes, that is a really good lesson; but unless I am specifically discussing Jewish dietary laws and feast days, I should not share that verse anywhere in my articles, because I will be taking it out of context." However, Paul also said that "the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." Thus, because I have the freedom and the flexibility of the Spirit, I remain convinced that it is appropriate, applicable and suitable to share Paul's advice in other articles, even if they are not related to Jewish dietary laws and feast days, if it is going to teach my readers something, and be a blessing to them. In contrast, legalists will say "No, you should not do that. You are taking the verse out of context." I say "Hogwash!"

Do you understand the difference between what I do, and what these KJV extremists are doing when they intentionally twist the meaning of verses six and seven in Psalm 12? By sharing the portion of verse five from Romans chapter fourteen, I am not changing its meaning whatsoever. I am merely applying the same lesson to another situation. I haven't really taken the words of the Apostle Paul out of context or attempted to make them say something which they are not meant to say, which is that we should stand our ground, and live our life according to our own faith. In stark contrast, the KJV extremists have totally corrupted the two verses in Psalm 12, so that they mean something vastly different from what King David actually intended.

While the aforementioned two verses have nothing to do with preserving God's Word forever, there are clearly other verses in the Bible where we are in fact told that God's Word and Counsel stands forever, and is settled and preserved forever. Consider these sample verses:

". . . For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."  
Psalms 119:89, KJV

"The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."  
Psalms 33:11, KJV

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:"  
Isaiah 46:9-10, KJV

So what can we gather from all of these verses, and from similar verses which I have not shared here? My view is that God's Word indeed remains pure -- or inerrant if you prefer -- and is settled and eternally preserved in Heaven. As I point out in a number of my Facebook timeline graphics, it cannot be altered or shaken in any way. It is immutable, or unchangeable. However, I believe that the key which helps to unlock our understanding is in realizing that these verses are referring to the words which are spoken by the Lord in Heaven. Those are the words which are pure. Those are the

words which are "settled in heaven". Man cannot possibly touch or alter those words.

In agreement with the previous verses that I shared, I also believe that the words which were conveyed to the Prophets of old in past millennia were also pure and unadulterated, because they were moved, motivated and inspired by the Holy Spirit to write them. I do not believe that this means that every single word that was written was verbatim or straight from the mouth of God. After all, we do use our own minds when we speak and write and craft our words. Furthermore, I don't believe that God really speaks in King James English. However, generally speaking, the words of the Prophets were inspired by God.

However, as a result of free will and personal choice, what has happened to God's Word here on Earth since those times is an entirely different story. Man does possess the power to manipulate and corrupt both the written and the printed Word of God; and to ignore this truth is ludicrous. From the evidence which I have provided here, it becomes obvious that physical texts have most certainly not been protected from intentional human manipulation. Tragically, our beloved KJV Bible has not remained immune to this human tampering. On a related note, if we accept the KJV extremists' opinion that the 1611 King James Version of the Bible is the one and only inerrant Word of God, what kind of statement is that making regarding the various English versions of the Bible which preceded it? I am referring to the following versions:

1380's	- Wycliffe Bible
1525-26	- Tyndale New Testament
1535	- Coverdale Bible
1537	- Matthew's Bible
1539	- Great Bible
1560	- Geneva Bible
1568	- Bishop's Bible

If the 1611 KJV Bible is the only inerrant Word of God, are we to assume then that all of these previous English versions of the Scriptures were full of errors? Before you decide to take that position, let me remind you again that every Bible that was printed after Tyndale's New Testament -- including our beloved KJV Bible itself -- was about ninety per cent based on William Tyndale's work. So if the KJV is inerrant, does this not imply that Tyndale's work must have also been inerrant as well? In fact, if the Lord has fully preserved the inerrancy of His Word in the manuscripts and texts since the time when it was first given to us by way of the Prophets and Apostles of old, doesn't this demand that we accept that all of these previous versions were inerrant as well? Based on the KJV extremists' point of view, to believe otherwise would seem to suggest that God has failed in His own purpose.

According to what the KJV extremists believe regarding God preserving the pureness and integrity of His Word, this is what we are forced to accept. To believe that God suddenly preserved His Word perfectly in the KJV Bible, but for some inexplicable reason chose not to do the same in all of the previous English versions is ludicrous to say the least. Not only that, but it goes against the very argument which has been presented by the KJV extremists. This leaves us with a



troubling question to address. If William Tyndale's work was inerrant, then why was there a need to continue publishing any newer versions of the Bible after that time, including the KJV itself? Do you see my point? In other words, once we adopt the position of the KJV extremists, we create a new set of problems for ourselves.

That is not the end of the issue either. As I stated earlier, the Apocrypha was included in the original 1611 version of the King James Bible. If this is the one true inerrant Word of God as the KJV extremists claim, what right did the Church of England have to take it out during the 1646 Westminster Assembly? Does their action not make the indirect statement that God apparently made a mistake when He inspired the 1611 translators to include it in their original KJV Bible? The idea of men having to "fix" God's mistake is again silly.

The truth of the matter is that none of these Bibles were perfect in every way -- they all had errors -- and neither is the King James Version of the Bible. That is in fact why seven different editions of the KJV Bible were ultimately published, with the seventh edition -- the 1769 Oxford text -- being the one which is still passed off as the 1611 King James Version today. It is not the original 1611 KJV Bible. It is a later edition which includes printer corrections and other improvements in the text. If the original 1611 edition of the KJV Bible was the inerrant Word of God -- obviously meaning that it had no errors -- then these later editions would have been totally unnecessary. All of this evidence shouts out one big truth: the printed Word of God has been filled with human errors for a very long time. It is not perfect. It is not inerrant. Inspired? Yes. Inerrant? No.

As we have already discussed, the primary impetus behind the publication of the KJV Bible was to create a version of the Scriptures which conformed to the beliefs of the court of King James I, which lent support to the specific doctrines of the Church of England, and which strengthened the power of the Church of England over the common people through its ecclesiastical structure, which it justified through its particular interpretation of the Holy Scriptures. As we have seen, that interpretation was purposely designed to support the physical religious system of church buildings, and all that is associated with it, as opposed to a spiritual, global Church -- that is, the Body of Christ -- which worships God in spirit and in truth, and which is knit together by love, and their common belief in Christ as the Savior of the world.

To be quite honest, when I first began to study God's Word in earnest many years ago, I did not view the KJV Bible as I now do. I was very much like those KJV extremists. However, over the years during which I have engaged in this writing ministry, and studied the KJV Bible, and conducted online research, the evidence began to slowly mount, to the point that I finally came to realize that while what we have come to cherish today as God's Word is in fact inspired, it is clearly not perfect in every way. It is not inerrant. It has in fact been adulterated, corrupted and manipulated by both political and religious forces, each of which has had their particular agendas; primary of which has been to preserve their own political or ecclesiastical power, as well as to justify their own actions.

While you may possibly not agree with me today as you read this series, I assure you that if you are truly a serious student of God's Word, if your mind and heart are open to the truth and have not been clouded by personal prejudices and doctrinal filters, if you continue to earnestly dig into the Bible, and frequently use Hebrew and Greek lexicons, you will eventually discover -- as I have -- that certain words have been translated in a particular way, so as to convey a doctrinal position which was embraced by the translators, and in turn by the Church of England. Because of this, there are doctrines and practices which we embrace even today that are the result of the way in which some of these words were intentionally translated, such as the word "ekklesia" being translated as "church", instead of as "called out ones" or "congregation".

To reiterate, to believe that the KJV Bible is the inerrant Word of God, as it was originally received and written by the holy Prophets and Apostles thousands of years ago, in my view, is to purposely deceive oneself. Tragically, this is exactly what KJV extremists do. Whether they realize it or not, they have been blinded by their own dogmatism and zeal. They prefer deception over verifiable, historical truth. They willingly choose to ignore the intentional manipulation of the Sacred Texts, in order to support an idealistic belief. Worse yet, they endeavor to deceive other Christians as well with their extremism, by trying to convince them that the King James Version of the Bible is the inerrant Word of God.

Anyone who resists their endeavors at persuasion -- such as myself -- are met with a harsh, judgmental response. As I mentioned earlier, I have been accused by such individuals of being a liar and a false prophet. The KJV extremists claim that I am misguided and deceived. Some of them have even gone to the length of removing me from their Facebook friends list and blocking me. Aside from their personal attacks against me, one of their harshest criticisms is that by publicizing my position regarding the KJV Bible, I am causing people to lose faith in God's Word. One fellow went so far as to ask how I can repeatedly quote from a Bible in which -- according to him, at least -- I don't believe, thus revealing his own lack of understanding regarding exactly what my position is.

Personally, I prefer honesty and truth. It is just like when I go food shopping. For many years now, I have had the habit of always opening the egg carton in order to check the eggs. Not only will I visually check them for cracks and such, but I will also place my finger on each egg -- all twelve of them one at a time -- and roll it a bit to make certain that it is not cracked and stuck to the carton. I am sure you all realize what happens when you try to take a stuck egg out of the egg carton. It can create quite a mess if one is not careful.

In short, whether it is food shopping, or reading the Bible, I like to know what I am getting. I want to know what kind of condition it is in. I want to know how much it can be trusted. The misguided accusation that I am quoting from something in which I don't really believe -- meaning the KJV Bible -- is absolutely absurd. Anyone who has read a fair number of my articles, or who has enjoyed my Facebook graphics, knows how much I thoroughly believe in and enjoy sharing God's Word

from the King James Version of the Bible. Furthermore, as I have mentioned on a number of occasions, I have been reading strictly from the King James Version of the Bible, as well as teaching strictly from the KJV Bible, for more than forty-one years now. Does anyone honestly believe that I would do this if I didn't have a strong degree of faith in its reliability and accuracy compared to more modern versions of the Bible?

To such people who are aware of my love for the King James Bible, it should be obvious that my intention in writing this series, and in sharing my views regarding the debate surrounding its claimed inerrancy, is certainly not to cause people to lose faith in God's Word. Quite to the contrary, I have worked very hard over the years to instill strong faith in that very thing. I have also written three articles now in support of the KJV Bible. Furthermore, speaking the truth regarding the KJV Bible should not hinder our faith in God's Word. It is my view that if we cannot honestly discuss the history of this wonderful tome, both the positive and the negative, then there is something wrong somewhere. Not only that, but if anyone does lose their faith in God's Word as a result of such discussions, then their faith must have been weak to begin with.

To reiterate, I simply believe that we need to recognize what we have in the King James Version of the Bible, and be honest about the situation. Returning to the eggs example for just a moment, I am not going to bring home a carton which contains a few cracked eggs, and pretend that they are all in perfect condition. In similar fashion, I am not going to pretend that the King James Version of the Bible is the perfect, inerrant Word of God, when I know that it does not meet that standard.

Let's simply admit that the KJV Bible has suffered from some degree of corruption and manipulation by both political and religious authorities, whether we like to hear that truth or not. Exactly to what degree, I cannot say, because I have not mastered either Hebrew or Greek. Therefore, I cannot make a qualified comparison. Nevertheless, I still view the KJV as the best and most reliable English version of the Bible that we have today. Not only that, but I have huge respect for the KJV, due to the serious price which was paid in persecution and blood by the early Reformers, so that we can have this precious tome in our hands today. More modern versions cannot make such a claim.

So, how about you? Do you prefer the deception of the KJV extremists who can be dogmatic -- and sometimes vicious and aggressive -- when it comes to defending the KJV inerrancy doctrine, or do you want the verifiable, historical truth, even if it slightly tarnishes the grandeur of the King James Version of the Bible?

In conclusion, if after reading this series you still doubt what I have shared here, then I urge you to conduct your own personal research. You will discover that you won't be able to refute anything which I have stated here, because it is all documented historical fact. Furthermore, as I mentioned earlier, I have barely touched the tip of the ice berg with this series. The plain truth of the matter is that there are small textual changes which have been made throughout God's Word. On their own, each one of these changes may not seem to

be that important or significant. However, in reality, the combined effect of these manipulated translations and textual changes is that they can alter how we think and believe. They can have a direct effect on our doctrinal stance.

Some of these manipulations have been argued and debated by serious-minded theologians for centuries. In fact, there are some verses in the KJV Bible which certain theologians have long suspected may be spurious text. In other words, these verses may be false text which was inserted later by other parties, and which may not have been written by the original author of the Book or Epistle in question. I believe that I discuss a few of these questionable verses in other articles. So the manipulation is real. For any of us to say otherwise, is to purposely deceive ourselves.

With these thoughts I will bring this series to a close. I trust that you have found it informative, and I pray that it has been a blessing and an inspiration in your life. If you have enjoyed reading this series, please consider sharing its URL with your online friends. If you have an account with Facebook, Twitter or Google+, I would also appreciate if you would take the time to click on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you abundantly!

For additional information and further study, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were also mentioned in this series, or which are related to the topics which were discussed in this series. All of them are likewise located on the Endtime Prophecy Net web server:

Are You Just a Baby Huey?  
Backsliding, Divine Chastisement and the Divine Agreement  
Churchianity or Christianity: Which Do You Practice?  
Civil Disobedience and Christian Persecution  
Endless Genealogies and Endtime Deception  
Gargoyles: Satan Loves Church Buildings!  
History of the Authorized King James Bible  
In Defense of the KJV Bible  
Is Jesus the Only Begotten Son of God?  
Many Are Called, But Few Are Chosen  
Money-Making Bible Hucksters and Mammon  
MP3's, Commercialized Christianity and Christian Hypocrisy  
Not Everyone is a Child of God  
Once Upon a Time: A True Story  
Pontifex Maximus: Pagan High Priest to Roman Catholic Pope  
So You Really Think You Are So Humble?  
Sorry . . . Jesus is Not Coming at Any Moment  
Study, Work and Don't Be Ashamed  
The Blood Atonement: In Jesus' Own Words  
The Fruits of Disobedience  
Where Are the First Century Churches?

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