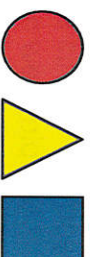


God's Word Preserved – the beloved English Bible

REVIEW



- Things that are **different** are **NOT** the same.
- God promised to **preserve** His **WORDS** – and God **cannot** lie. Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:17-18
- The Bible issue really comes down to a tale of two cities – **Antioch** vs. Alexandria, Egypt.
- The Bible testifies it is preserved as a **copy** – if God was not able to preserve His **actual words in English**, our faith would have to stand in the wisdom of men!

WEEK 12. Questions and Answers

- 1) Why did God command Joseph, Mary and Jesus to flee to Egypt after Jesus was born? Egypt is a negative place in the Bible, why did God want His Son there?

Because of our approach to this Bible study and the emphasis on the comparison of Antioch, Syria and Alexandria, Egypt, this question is probably on more people's mind than just one. Consider the following:

- 1) When we speak of Antioch vs Alexandria, Egypt we are looking at how all through the Bible God is consistent in his positive perspective of Antioch and negative perspective of Alexandria and Egypt. When we look at the movement of God on the planet related to Gentiles specifically, and the picture of Egypt as this world and all those verses it is clear and powerful that when choosing between Antioch and Egypt for our Holy Bible as the Book of God for New Testament Christians and His church, **we choose Antioch**. Those verses in Isaiah 30 and 31 are powerful as God is clearly saying "Woe" and he is comparing Egypt with men and this world – as God does in the New Testament.
- 2) The Bible says in Eph 2:20 that the Church was "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets" and the Acts of the Apostles (the Book) is the foundation for church history. When we see Alexandria, Egypt in Acts, it is always bad and connected to false teaching and Rome. There were no doubt Bible believers in Egypt. There were no doubt even Bible preaching churches in Egypt at times. However, we were looking at the actual words (Prov 30:5) in Acts and how they set the **foundation for church history** and especially for the coming Bible issue. When we say Egypt is "bad" we are saying that God has placed an **overwhelming pattern in the Scriptures** related to that place.
- 3) God told Mary and Joseph to take Jesus to Egypt as a means of protecting him from Herod. Matthew 2:15 says, And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. According to this verse, the primary reason to do that was that the Scriptures might be fulfilled that God would call His Messiah out of Egypt. He was not born in Egypt. He did not set up home base in Egypt. Disciples were not called Christians there. **He was only there for a time to fulfill the Scriptures**. In a similar manner, we are born in Egypt and then are called out of Egypt by God when we are saved or born again as a picture of salvation.

At the end of the day, you have to take the whole counsel of God into account and His consistency to form a basis for how He worked and for how He will work in the church age. I want to clarify something. In the study, we concluded this way...if all we had was a Bible, we would come to the conclusion that Egypt is _____. What I was trying to convey was that Egypt itself is bad - that is the pattern. It is a picture of this world. I said that according to Isaiah 30 and 31 and Deut 17:6, God tells us not to go there for business, help, counsel, or to trust in them or anything they have.

Here is my "simple" version of the answer. The fact that Jesus went with Mary and Joseph to Egypt and then was called by God to come out of Egypt does not make it a good place relative to God's pattern in Scripture. Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt. He was an incredible type of Christ in the Bible. When he left, he did not want his bones buried there because of how God felt about that place.

So, related to the Bible issue, when we look at history and see 2 lines of Bibles, we are forced to ask the overall question, "What does the Bible say about Egypt and Antioch?" **The overwhelming answer has to be ANTIOCH for New Testament church age saints who line up under the apostle Paul from the church of Antioch.**

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2) What sources do you use for this study? How do you know they are accurate and other sources are not? For example, how can we know for sure there were thousands of manuscripts and not just a few as other sources say?

The primary source for this study is the Bible itself. Because Satan's open attack on the Bible and His 3-fold plan to counter, counterfeit and confound the plans and purposes of God, it is very important that we start with the Bible. Just like we did when we studied Church History, we want to study the Book of God to determine His patterns and consistencies so that we can apply it in weighing the evidence. Once we do that, we take those patterns and we go do some investigating.

There are many sources for this study that can be used. You can pick up just about any book on the Bible issue that has Bible history and manuscript evidence or "Google" it on the internet and find out that there are 2 primary lines of manuscripts – Antioch and Alexandria, Egypt. Almost everyone gets that right. In addition, the same sources on both sides of the issue would tell you that the majority of the copies (5,000 approx) are on the Antioch side. Almost everyone knows that the minority is on the side of Egypt. The scholars on the Egypt side of the issue will argue that their copies are "older" and "better" – and they would be referring to Sinaiticus (considered "world's oldest Bible") and Vaticanus.

The following was taken from an online Catholic Encyclopedia: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/04085a.htm>

Sinaiticus (CODEX Aleph), a Greek manuscript of the Old and New Testaments, of the greatest antiquity and value: found on Mount Sinai, in St. Catherine's Monastery, by Constantine Tischendorf. He was visiting there in 1844, under the patronage of Frederick Augustus, King of Saxony, when he discovered in a rubbish basket forty-three leaves of the Septuagint, containing portions of I Par. (Chron.), Jer., Neh., and Esther...

Vaticanus (CODEX B), a Greek manuscript, the most important of all the manuscripts of Holy Scripture. It is so called because **it belongs to the Vatican Library (Codex Vaticanus, 1209).**

You can go do your homework and study the issue out, but some people would be very comfortable stopping right there. ☺ You will want to get the connection between these two "copies" and two men named Westcott & Hort. Satan did a masterful job of using these ghost-chasing, KJV haters. They really liked a guy from church history that was instrumental in Satan's plan – **ORIGEN** and his infamous Septuagint.

Some good books – Which Bible? (Fuller), The Answer Book (Gipp), Forever Settled (Moorman), New Age Bible Versions (Ripplinger), Final Authority (Grady)

3) Why was the Apocrypha included in the first King James Bible? Why was it taken out? Why was it even translated?

The Apocrypha is a set of books that were not considered "canon" of Scripture by the King James Translators or the New Testament church prior to the development of the English Bibles. The Catholic church does recognize them as Scripture – again that helps us as we look at things through the context of what the Bible says.

The KJV translators knew that it was not "inspired" by God and disclaimed it. However, they did realize that it had value as a historical document during the 400 years of history from Malachi to Matthew (OT to NT).

This was taken from Gipp's, "The Answer Book" on question #34:

EXPLANATION:

Many critics of the perfect Bible like to point out that the original King James had the Apocrypha in it as though that fact compromises its integrity. But several things must be examined to get the factual picture.

First, in the days in which our Bible was translated, the Apocrypha was accepted reading based on its **historical** value, though not accepted as Scripture by anyone outside of the Catholic church. The King James translators therefore placed it **between** the Old and New Testaments for its historical benefit to its readers.

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They did not integrate it into the Old Testament text as do the corrupt Alexandrian manuscripts.

That they rejected the Apocrypha as divine is very obvious by the seven reasons which they gave for not incorporating it into the text. They are as follows:

1. Not one of them is in the Hebrew language, which was alone used by the inspired historians and poets of the Old Testament.
 2. Not one of the writers lays any claim to inspiration.
 3. These books were never acknowledged as sacred Scriptures by the Jewish Church, and therefore were never sanctioned by our Lord.
 4. They were not allowed a place among the sacred books, during the first four centuries of the Christian Church.
 5. They contain fabulous statements, and statements which contradict not only the canonical Scriptures, but themselves; as when, in the two Books of Maccabees, Antiochus Epiphanes is made to die three different deaths in as many different places.
 6. It inculcates doctrines at variance with the Bible, such as prayers for the dead and sinless perfection.
 7. It teaches immoral practices, such as lying, suicide, assassination and magical incantation.
- If having the Apocrypha **between** the Testaments disqualifies it as authoritative, then the corrupt Vaticanus and Sinaiticus manuscripts from Alexandria, Egypt must be totally worthless since their authors obviously didn't have the conviction of the King James translators and incorporated its books into the text of the Old Testament thus giving it authority with Scripture.

4) What was God's preserved Word for the common man before 1611?

This was taken from Gippi's, "The Answer Book" on question #13:

ANSWER: In the available Antiochian manuscripts (copies).

EXPLANATION:

The overwhelming majority of Bible manuscripts existent throughout history have been the text found in Antioch. They have always been available in some form, either in copies of the original Greek, or the old Latin of 150 AD, (**NOT** to be confused with Jerome's corrupt "Vulgate") or the Syrian Peshetto of 157 AD.

That it would be difficult indeed to gather all of these sources together and place them in the hands of the common man gives credence to God's reasoning for the collation and translation of the King James Bible.

The Biblical Line:

- The Masoretic Text (OT)
- Peter, James, John, Paul, etc (30-90)
- The Syrian manuscripts of Asia Minor (100-200)
- The Old Latin and old Syriac of the Originals (100-200)
- The Papyrus readings of the Receptus (150-400)
- The Uncial readings of the Receptus (500-1500)
- The Gothic Bible of Ulfilas (310)
- Martin Luther's German Bible (1522-1534)
- The Latin Bibles of Waldensians (1100-1300)
- The Latin Bibles of Albigenes (1300-1500)
- The Latin Bibles of the Lollards (1382-1550)
- The Russian, French, Norwegian, Spanish, Italian, Bulgarian, Rumanian, Swiss, Swedish, Austrian, and Czech Bibles that came from Luther's version (1540-1900)
- The Receptus of 1516, Beza's Receptus of 1565, Stephanus' Receptus of 1550, Colinaeus' Receptus of 1534, Elzevir's Receptus of 1624
- The King James Authorized Version (1611)
- The Chinese, Burmese, Malayan, Indian, Japanese, African, Persian, Arabic, Hebrew, and other Bibles that came from the AV 1611, preached through missionary translators in over 500 languages (1620-1940)
- The evangelistic preaching of Philadelphian Church Period pastors, evangelists, preachers and missionaries (1700-1900).

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5) What about the Spanish KJV? Can all be trusted equally? Is it as good as the English KJV?

I think the above question address the Spanish KJV. However, there is another question that can be found within this question and it is this:

What is the final authority? The “oldest and best” Greek and Hebrew manuscripts, the Textus Receptus and Masoretic texts, or the AV 1611?

Jeremiah 32:17, 27

KEY If we believe God's inspired Word is preserved, the 1611 AV King James Bible _____
preserve and correct any extant Hebrew and Greek texts.

Think of it this way:

- Hebrew is **NOT** a universal language.
- The nation of Israel – God's chosen people, originally commissioned to take the word of God to the world as a sovereign power, does **NOT** acknowledge Jesus Christ as their Messiah...
- Greek (Koine or otherwise) is **NOT** a universal language.
- Koine Greek (the language of the original writers) is a **DEAD** language and is no longer spoken by anyone.
- English is the **MOST** descriptive language in existence on the planet Earth.
- English **IS** the universal language of the planet Earth!!!
- English speaking people (first or second language) have been, and still are, the most widely traveled populace **EVER** to exist in the human race...

KEY _____. What you just learned makes you **very dangerous** to Satan. He wants to devour you, and he does not want you to trust **EVERY** word of God's beloved and blessed English Bible!!! You better hold on to it with both hands!!!