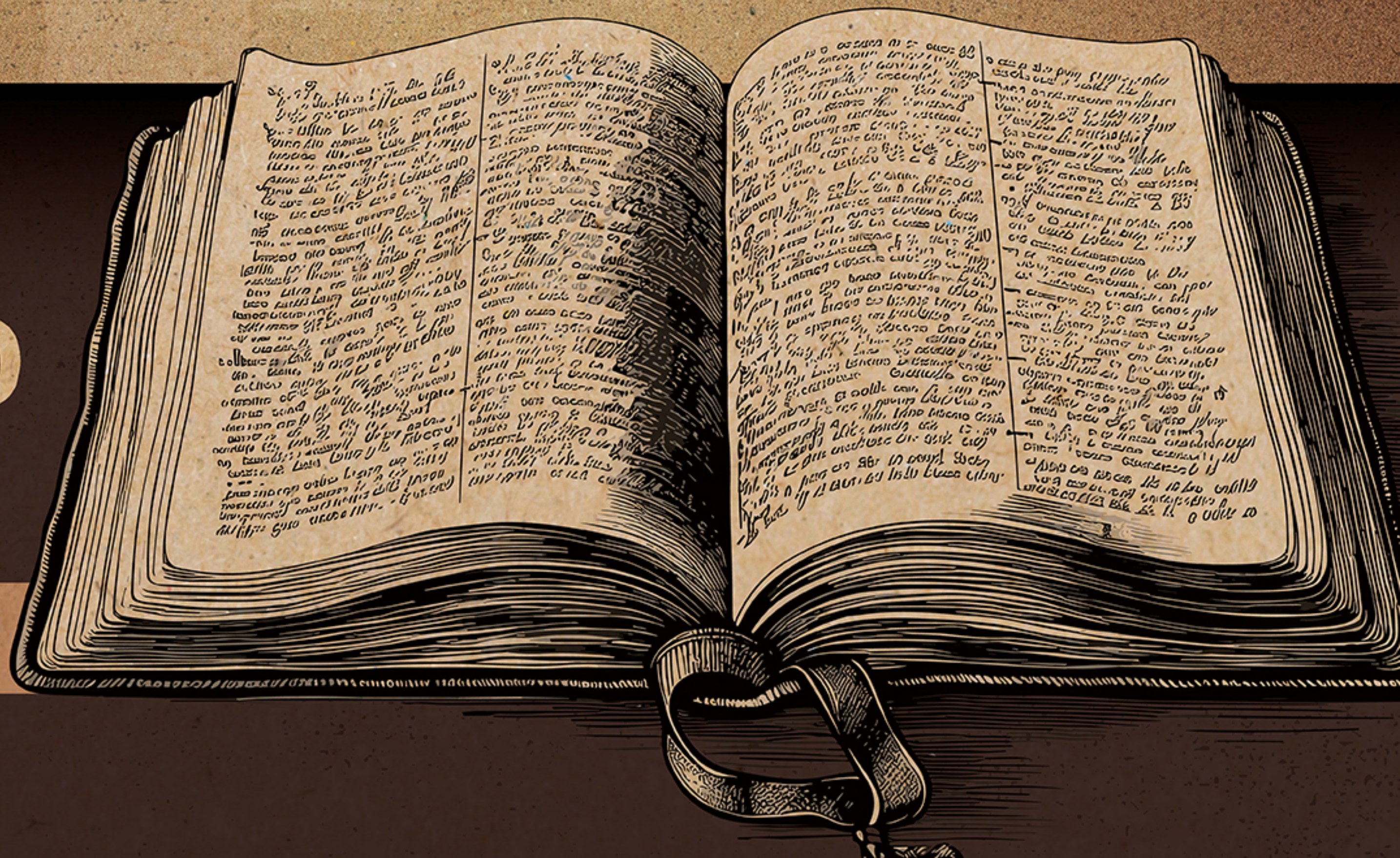


# FORGED BY THE WORD

**LEARN TO READ  
AND UNDERSTAND  
GOD'S WORD**

**MEN'S MORNING STUDY**

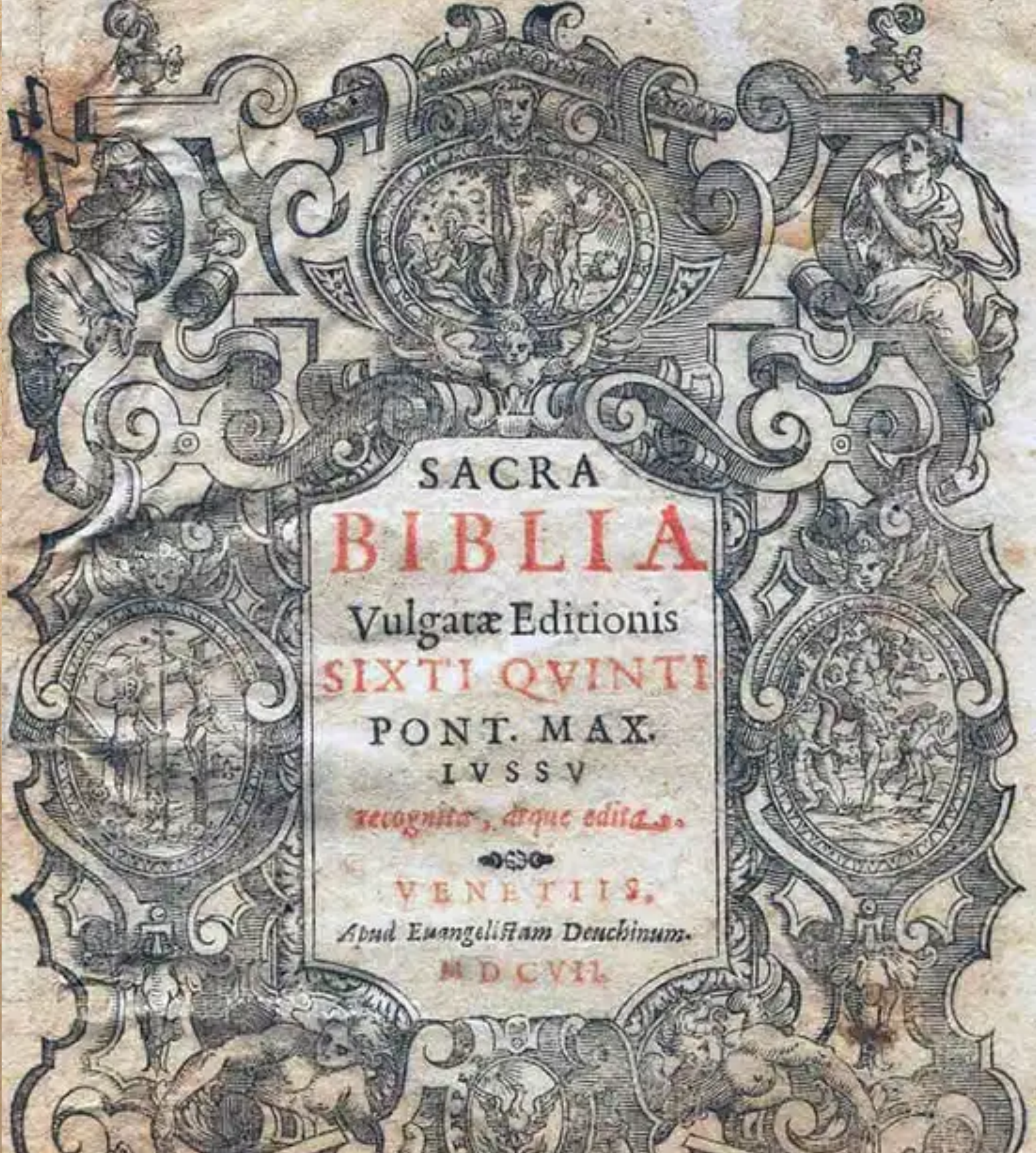


# WHAT MIGHT MOTIVATE A PERSON TO TRY TO MAKE THE BIBLE SAY MORE OR LESS THAN IT ACTUALLY SAYS?



# NEITHER MORE NOR LESS





# Deuteronomy 5:32-33

“Be careful to do as the Lord your God has commanded you; you are not to turn aside to the right or the left. Follow the whole instruction the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live, prosper, and have a long life in the land you will possess.

# Neither More nor Less

As we study the Bible and apply it to our lives, our goal is to say neither more nor less than what the Bible itself says.

# Neither More nor Less

As we study the Bible and apply it to our lives, our goal is to say neither more nor less than what the Bible itself says.



# Problems Avoided

- **More**
  - **Legalism**
  - **Spiritual Pride**

# Problems Avoided

- **More**
  - **Legalism**
  - **Spiritual Pride**
- **Less**
  - **Licentiousness**
  - **Liberalism**

# **Benefits of Applying this Principle**

- **Balanced Interpretation**
- **Protection from Ourselves**

# **Benefits of Applying this Principle**

- **Balanced Interpretation**
- **Protection from Ourselves**

# Genesis 3:1-7

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’” “No! You will certainly not die,” the serpent said to the woman. “In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

## Genesis 3:1-7

The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

## Mark 7:1-13

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him. They observed that some of his disciples were eating bread with unclean—that is, unwashed—hands. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, keeping the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they have washed. And there are many other customs they have received and keep, like the washing of cups, pitchers, kettles, and dining couches.)

## Mark 7:1-13

So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders, instead of eating bread with ceremonially unclean hands?” He answered them, “Isaiah prophesied correctly about you hypocrites, as it is written: This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. They worship me in vain, teaching as doctrines human commands.

# Mark 7:1-13

Abandoning the command of God, you hold on to human tradition.” He also said to them, “You have a fine way of invalidating God’s command in order to set up your tradition! For Moses said: Honor your father and your mother; and Whoever speaks evil of father or mother must be put to death. But you say, ‘If anyone tells his father or mother: Whatever benefit you might have received from me is corban’ ” (that is, an offering devoted to God),

## Mark 7:1-13

“you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother. You nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many other similar things.”

## Case Study: Matthew 5:27-30

“You have heard that it was said, Do not commit adultery. But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

# Case Study: Matthew 5:27-30

- Going above: Mutilation (cut your hand off or gouge out your eye)
- Going below: Treating it metaphorically (loosing all meaning).
-

# Case Study: Matthew 5:27-30

- Going above: Mutilation (cut your hand off or gouge out your eye)
- Going below: Treating it metaphorically (loosing all meaning).
- On the line: Sin needs to be taken seriously

# CASE STUDY: 1 JOHN 1:5-10

05:00



# Case Study: 1 John 1:5-10

- Going above: Total Sanctification (perfectionism)
- Going below:
- On the line:

# Case Study: 1 John 1:5-10

If we say, “We have no sin,” we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say, “We have not sinned,” we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

# Case Study: 1 John 1:5-10

- Going above: Total Sanctification (perfectionism)
- Going below: Take pursuit of holiness lightly
- On the line:

# Case Study: 1 John 1:5-10

- **Going above: Total Sanctification (perfectionism)**
- **Going below: Take pursuit of holiness lightly**
- **On the line: Hope of Sanctification / Seriousness of Sin / Christ-Centered forgiveness**

# CASE STUDY: MATTHEW 24:32-44

05:00



# Case Study: Matthew 24:32-44

- Going above:
- Going below:
- On the line:

# Case Study: Matthew 24:32-44

- Going above: Guess exact time or place of Jesus return
- Going below:
- On the line:

# Case Study: Matthew 24:32-44

- Going above: Guess exact time or place of Jesus return
- Going below: We'll never be able to tell when Jesus will return.
- On the line:

# Case Study: Matthew 24:32-44

- **Going above:** Guess exact time or place of Jesus return
- **Going below:** We'll never be able to tell when Jesus will return.
- **On the line:** Remember Christ's coming, look for it, and prepare for it.

# Review

**When we approach God's word and we seek to speak it to others, our commitment must be to say neither more nor less of the whole truth of His word.**