



REVISITED

THE GREAT EXCHANGE

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Lesson 4

VERSE FOR THE JOURNEY

- × **Romans 1:21-25** For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and **exchanged** the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they **exchanged** the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.
- × Exchanged: *allasso*: to alter, to substitute one thing for another

THE BIBLE ABOUT ITSELF

- × **2 Timothy 3:16-17** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
- × Inspired: *theopneustos*: God-breathed
- × Teaching: *didaskalia*: doctrinal instruction
- × Reproof: *elegmos*: show where something is wrong
- × Correction: *epanorthosis*: showing how to fix it
- × Training in Righteousness: *paideia*: discipline.
dikaiosune: getting something right
- × Equipped: *exartizo*: fully prepared with all we need
- × When Paul wrote to Timothy, the scripture under discussion would have been the Old Testament

OWN INTERPRETATION?

- × **2 Peter 1:20-21** But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.
- × Own interpretation: *idios epilupseos*: personal opinion or personal facts interjected into things
- × **Mark 13:31** "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away."
- × **John 7:37-38** Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'"

JESUS SPEAKS OF SCRIPTURE

- × **John 13:17-18** "If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but *it is* that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'HE WHO EATS MY BREAD HAS LIFTED UP HIS HEEL AGAINST ME.'"
- × **John 19:36-37** For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, "NOT A BONE OF HIM SHALL BE BROKEN." And again another Scripture says, "THEY SHALL LOOK ON HIM WHOM THEY PIERCED."
- × **Luke 4:21** And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."
- × **Matthew 24:15** "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place...

I DON'T LIKE WHAT IT SAYS...

- × Some paraphrases are intended to help young people and new believers understand what the Word says
- × Many paraphrases flow from those who really don't like what the Bible says, so they tweak it so that it more conforms to their doctrinal position
- × Examples: The Message
The Passion Translation (not a translation!)
- × Is an ordinary person sitting in the pew on Sunday AM going to know that their version has been tweaked?
- × OR will they think it is God's Word because the book says "Bible" on the front or "translation" in the title?
- × **Deuteronomy 12:32** "Whatever I command you, you shall be careful to do; you shall not add to nor take away from it."

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

- × **Proverbs 30:5-6** Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words Or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar.
- × **Galatians 1:6-7** I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.
- × Either you believe that the Bible, in its original manuscript, is the inspired, infallible Word of God, or you don't

MANUSCRIPT EVIDENCE

- × Historians view manuscripts by asking:
 1. Do we have an original manuscript by the author
 2. If not, how much time passed between the writing and the earliest manuscript that we have
 3. Do the manuscripts that we have contradict each other?
- × There are 5686 known Greek manuscripts of the NT;
307 of them are uncials
- × There are 10,000 in Latin
- × There are over 9300 other versions
- × Total: 24,970
- × Next most numerous: Homer's Iliad with 643 manuscripts

OLD TESTAMENT

- × Much accuracy can be traced by looking at kings of other nations recorded in scripture and comparing to writings from those countries; 40 kings from 2000 BC to 400 BC compared; each is in chronological order
- × Odds of chance: 1 in 750,000,000,000,000,000,000,000
- × OT Manuscript collections:
 - Kennicott collection published at Oxford: 615
 - De Rossi collection: 731
 - Cairo Geniza: 10,000 fragments
 - Leningrad: 1582 manuscripts; 1200 fragments
 - British museum: 161; Oxford 146
 - Dead Sea Scrolls: 1QIs a: earliest complete Bible book
2QIs b: closer to Masoretic text

ISAIAH SCROLL

- ✘ Isaiah scroll dates to 125 BC; Masoretic text of Isaiah dates to 916 AD
- ✘ Very few changes and those were spelling and punctuation; word "light" added to Isaiah 53:11 which agrees with the Septuagint (250 BC)
- ✘ Additionally, a fragment of Samuel from 4Q is the oldest known piece of biblical Hebrew dating to about 280 BC
- ✘ The OT was protected first by the priests and later by the sopherim (scribes) after the Babylonian captivity until about 200 BC; these may have translated the Septuagint

SCHOLARLY GROUPS

- ✘ Between 200 BC and the time of Christ, the Zugoth (pairs) of textual scholars were caring for the scriptures
- ✘ The Tannaim (teachers) worked until about 200 AD
- ✘ The Talmudists worked until about 500 AD
- ✘ The Masoretes, 500 AD – 950 AD are credited with the most reliable OT manuscript and is the standard for OT translation into other languages
- ✘ In the New Testament, around 10% is actually Old Testament material, containing 295 quotations, 1600 citations, and several allusions
- ✘ These citations serve to show the respect the New Testament authors had for the Old Testament

INERRANCY

- ✘ Inerrancy means the scriptures in their original autographs, properly interpreted, will be shown to be completely true
- ✘ Everything affirmed by scripture, whether doctrine, morality, social, physical or scientific will be true
- ✘ The Apostolic Creed states the following:
“We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.”
- ✘ We can say with certainty that no book has been so protected as the Bible; believing it to be the Word of God is a matter of faith