

THE PUBLISHED WORD

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

Study Series 2

**AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF BIBLE DOCTRINE
AND
THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL.**

by

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Part 1 of this study series firmly established the Biblical concept of Christianity. We saw that a 'Christian' is simply a disciple of Christ, one who listens, understands, and follows what Jesus Himself taught, in the hope of finding THE TRUTH. This TRUTH is the MYSTERY of the Gospel that we are commanded to find. We saw the repeated fundamental emphasis of Christ's message was the importance and absolute necessity of learning Bible doctrine. The Holy Spirit and the Word of God are our guides to lead us TO the TRUTH. It is not ONLY the testimony of faith in the one true God and the measure of morals, but it is also the standard for the TESTING OF SPIRITS, whether of Truth or of error.

Since it is imperative that we are to put so much faith and time into the Word of God, then it is a reasonable endeavor to FIRST find out what we can about this unique book. Is it really supernaturally inspired by the Spirit of God? Why are there so many versions? WHERE DID THEY ALL COME FROM? ARE SOME BIBLE VERSIONS adulterated? IF SO, Which are correct? Why is the Bible so difficult to understand? From this point on, this is the focus of the rest of this study series. We are going to begin with the Scripture testimony itself, and carry it forward from there, regardless where it leads.

***"ZAIN. REMEMBER THE WORD UNTO THY SERVANT,*
UPON WHICH THOU HAST CAUSED ME TO HOPE."**

***"THIS IS MY COMFORT IN MY AFFLICTION:
FOR THY WORD HATH QUICKENED ME."***

***"THE PROUD HAVE HAD ME GREATLY IN DERISION:
YET HAVE I NOT DECLINED FROM THY LAW." (Psalms 119:49-51)***

1. THE SUPERNATURAL BOOK

**"ALL SCRIPTURE
IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD,
AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, FOR
CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS:"**

**"THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE PERFECT,
THOROUGHLY FURNISHED UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS."**
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The word 'ALL' here represents the ENTIRE Bible, Old and New Testaments. The word 'SCRIPTURE' in this verse is *graphe* (graf-ay'), which is: **the holy Writ, its entire contents, all scripture.** The phrase "GIVEN BY THE INSPIRATION OF GOD" is *theopneustos* (teh-op'-nyoo-stos), which is formed by two Greek words: *theos*, **the Divine God**; and *pneo*, which is **breath.** This relates to the Spirit of the Word of God, the *logos*, which is the Spirit of the pre-incarnate Christ, (John 1). Notice the order of the three key words: Scripture – doctrine – perfection. Later in this section we will see how some of this inspiration was given.

**"KNOWING THIS FIRST,
THAT NO PROPHECY OF THE SCRIPTURE
IS OF ANY PRIVATE INTERPRETATION."**

**"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 1:20-21)

The word 'FIRST' is *proton*, meaning: **firstly in time, place, order, or importance.** Even the Apostle Peter says THIS is what we should FIRST understand. The word study of 'PROPHECY' has a two-fold meaning: **(1) prediction (scriptural or other); or (2) inspired speaking.** The Holy Scriptures are BOTH inspired speaking and predictions of events. Therefore the Holy Bible IS THE BOOK OF PROPHECY, even though the overall majority of Christians typically excluded the prophetic part of God's Word which proves to be a GRAVE ERROR for many reasons.

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The word 'PRIVATE' is *idios* (id'-ee-os), and basically means: **pertaining to self, one's own**. And 'INTERPRETATION' is *epilysis* (ep-il'-oo-sis), defined: **explanation, application, interpretation**. Therefore, even though most Scripture was written by Holy men of God, they were NOT the source of it. The prophets and New Testament writers "brought it forth" from the *hagious pneuma*, which means: **an Holy angel, the Divine God, Christ's Spirit, the Holy Spirit**. The translated English word 'Ghost', (*pneuma*), relates to a "superhuman spirit", or we may say: a SUPERNATURAL SPIRITUAL entity.

It has been said that the word 'BIBLE' is not IN the *Holy Bible*. But the word IS in God's inspired Word of the New Testament 46 times as *biblos* or *biblion*. Webster's 1828 dictionary says 'BIBLE' is translated from these Greek words which means: **a book**, and his definition contains the statement: "**The Bible should be the standard of language as well as of faith.**" Webster made this statement in view of the *Reformation*, when the Bible was used for both purposes.

Notice that the phrase: "**private interpretation**" has three definitions. First, it was not someone's **explanation** of God. In other words, the Bible was a 'dictation' by God Himself through the Holy Spirit to the men that penned it. Second, its **application** is to be correctly and properly used. And third, it is NOT abstract, meaning it is not to be **interpreted** out of context, which is an adulteration of God's Word. To show the extent of this statement by the Apostle Peter, there are many references in the Old and New Testaments where God spoke directly to man. Not only speaking to His prophets but also others in various ways. For example:

*"And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the LORD:
And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty,
but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them."*
(Exodus 6:2-3)

And the word of the LORD came to:

Joshua, (Josh 1:1)	Ezekiel the priest, (Ezek 1:3)
Gideon, (Judg 6:22)	Hosea, (Hosea 1:1)
Samuel, (1 Sam 3:21)	Joel, (Joel 1:1)
Nathan, (2 Sam 7:4)	Amos, (Amos 7:15)
David, (1 Sam 23:2)	Jonah, (Jonah 1:1)
Prophet Gad, David's seer, (2 Sam 24:11)	Micah, (Micah 1:1)
Solomon, (1 Ki 6:11)	Zephaniah, (Zep 1:1)
Jehu, (1 Ki 16:1)	Haggai, (Hag 1:3)
Elijah, (1 Ki 21:17)	Zechariah, (Zec 7:8)
Shemaiah the man of God, (2 Chr 11:2)	Malachi, (Mal 1:1)
Isaiah, (Isa 38:4)	Jesus, (before witnesses: Mat 3:17; 2 Pet 1:18)
Jeremiah, (Jer 29:30)	

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God also spoke to the false prophet Balaam, (Num 22:12). The Lord spoke audibly to the witnesses at the baptism of Jesus, as well as to unregenerate Saul on the Damascus road, (Acts 9:4-5); and privately through a vision to Peter; (Acts 10:13), and John, (Rev 1:1); and to Enoch (Jude 1:14), whose writings are not considered by modern "standards" as being inspired by God, but was accepted by the early Jews and Christians. Then, we find numerous examples where God told these men to WRITE down His Word spoken to them, both in the Old Testament as well as the New. For example:

"And the LORD said unto Moses, WRITE thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel."

(Exodus 34:27)

"And thou shalt WRITE upon the stones all the words of this law very plainly."

(Deuteronomy 27:8)

"Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, WRITE thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book."

(Jeremiah 30:2)

"And the LORD answered me, and said, WRITE the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it."

(Habakkuk 2:2)

"Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, WRITE IN A BOOK, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia..."

(Revelation 1:11)

"WRITE the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;"

(Revelation 1:19)

The Bible contains many 'mysteries' within its text, making it, (among other things), a mysterious and puzzling book. Jesus said it is only for His elect Christians to understand those mysteries, (Mat 13:11, Mrk 4:11, Lu 8:10, 1 Cor 2:7-16, 4:1; Eph 1:9, 3:3-4, 6:19; etc...). This is confirmed by the Apostle Paul who said he understood ALL the mysteries, (1 Cor 13:2). The *Holy Bible* is known within its pages and within the Body of Christ as "*The Word of God*". And in Scripture, Jesus Christ is also called "The Word of God". This appears as a paradox. Behold, I show you a mystery:

***"BY THE WORD OF THE LORD WERE THE HEAVENS MADE;
AND ALL THE HOST OF THEM
BY THE BREATH [SPIRIT] OF HIS MOUTH." (Psalm 33:6)***

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**"IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD,
AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD."**

"THE SAME WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD."

**"ALL THINGS WERE MADE BY HIM;
AND WITHOUT HIM WAS NOT ANY THING MADE THAT WAS MADE."
(John 1:1-3)**

**"HE WAS IN THE WORLD,
AND THE WORLD WAS MADE BY HIM,
AND THE WORLD KNEW HIM NOT."**

**"HE CAME UNTO HIS OWN, AND HIS OWN RECEIVED HIM NOT."
(John 1:10-11)**

How can the 'Word' BE God, and BE WITH God at the same time? This relates to the *Holy Trinity* aspect of God, something that many Christians have a problem understanding to this day. This involves several doctrines and many hours of study to fully grasp, but we are going to get to the point, hoping you will get the gist of what this means. The main thing to keep in mind is we are dealing with a 'supernatural' subject that is alien to our natural mind. This is important in order to understand the TRINITY aspect of the 'Godhead', (the whole of the supreme Divinity of God), and EVIDENCE that the *Holy Bible* itself is not created by any man.

**"FOR THERE ARE THREE THAT BEAR RECORD IN HEAVEN,
THE FATHER, THE WORD, AND THE HOLY GHOST:
AND THESE THREE ARE ONE."**

(1 John 5:7)

Even though the word 'TRINITY' is also not in the Bible, the word 'THREE' here in the neutral sense is *tria* (tree'-ah), from which we get the word 'triad' or **trinity**. And in this context the word 'HEAVEN' relates to the spiritual realm of God. First bear in mind that **God is a Spirit**, (Jn 4:24); the Spirit of Divine *agape* love, (1 Jn 4:8). which IS the **Spirit of Life**, (Rom 8:2). This is THE eternal Spirit without a beginning or end, God the Father simply IS, (Exodus 3:14).

The next major points to consider is that with God, ALL things are possible, (Mat 19:26). SPIRITS have the ability to divide themselves, (Mark 5:8-9), and take on any form they choose, including the Lord (Mrk 16:12).

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The 'Word' is the Spirit that PROCEEDED out of the mouth of God by which He created all things, and spoke to and through the ancient prophets, (Mat 4:4). This *Spirit of the Word* was also made flesh (incarnated) in the human body of Jesus Christ, the second member of the Holy Trinity. That is why Jesus said His words (the Word of God), is SPIRIT and is LIFE, (John 6:63). Jesus Himself said He PROCEEDED FORTH from the eternal Father (Jn 8:42); and He was the beginning of the creation of God, (Rev 3:14). Jesus said the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit also PROCEEDED FORTH from the Father, (Jn 15:26). Jesus also said the things which PROCEED out of the mouth comes forth from the HEART (Mat 15:18), which is the essence of the spirit, (1 Pet 3:4). The 'WORD' is the Greek *logos*, which is the **Divine Expression** of God.

Therefore, IF we can assimilate all these things, God the Father is of ONE eternal, self-existent Divine *Agape* Spirit. Jesus Christ was and is God's Spirit within the flesh of man. The Holy Spirit is also of the ONE *agape* spirit of God in the form of a Holy Angel sent to aid those to whom He is sent, (Ex 23:20-21; Acts 7:35). We can see this one-in-three Spirit in the very first verse of the Bible. The God of creation in Genesis 1:1 is the *Elohiym* (el-o-heem'), which is the *plurality* of the Deity God, meaning the WHOLE of God as ONE.

"AND JESUS, WHEN HE WAS BAPTIZED, WENT UP STRAIGHTWAY OUT OF THE WATER: AND, LO, THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED UNTO HIM, AND HE SAW THE SPIRIT OF GOD DESCENDING LIKE A DOVE, AND LIGHTING UPON HIM:"

"AND LO A VOICE FROM HEAVEN, SAYING, THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED."
(Matthew 3:16-17)

Here, do we not have the manifestation of God as THREE separate entities? Jesus is not the Father, (Mat 17:5); nor is the Holy Spirit Jesus, (Jn 14:26), but they are of the ONE, all the FULNESS of God, (Eph 3:19); which also applies to authentic salvation. Jesus prayed to God the Father that all those that the Father had given Him out of the world, may ALL MAY BE ONE as they are ONE, "*the spirits of Just men made perfect*", (Heb 12:23), as God is perfect, (Mat 5:48).

"NEITHER PRAY I FOR THESE ALONE, BUT FOR THEM ALSO WHICH SHALL BELIEVE ON ME THROUGH THEIR WORD;"

**"THAT THEY ALL MAY BE ONE;
AS THOU, FATHER, ART IN ME, AND I IN THEE,**

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THAT THEY ALSO MAY BE ONE IN US:
THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE THAT THOU HAST SENT ME."
(John 17:20-21)

"AND I HAVE DECLARED UNTO THEM THY NAME, AND WILL DECLARE IT:
THAT THE [AGAPE] LOVE WHEREWITH THOU HAST LOVED ME
MAY BE IN THEM, AND I IN THEM."
(John 17:26)

The same *Spirit of the Word* that came and spoke to the Holy Men of God in old time was the same *Spirit of the Word* who made the heavens and the earth; and the same *Spirit of the Word* who came in the flesh as Jesus, the Son of the living God. And, a Christian that is IN TRUTH "born again", is made ONE in the Divine *Agape* Spirit of God and the *Spirit of the Word*, (Rom 8:8-11). The TRUE regenerated believer goes from an unsaved follower of Christ, and becomes the *Spirit of the Word* MADE FLESH. Because as He is, so are we in this world, (1 Jn 4:17).

"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."**
(John 1:14)

"For the law was given by Moses,
BUT GRACE AND TRUTH CAME BY JESUS CHRIST."
(John 1:17)

Let's take a good look at how the 'WORD' is defined in its "God-breathed" language. In Biblical Greek it is **logos** (log'-os), and is defined: **something said or thought; subject of discourse, also mental reasoning or motive; specifically the Divine Expression (i.e. Christ); a cause, communication, DOCTRINE, intent, mouth, preaching, saying, show, speech, talk, utterance, word, work.** Random House defines 'expression' in this context as: the act of expressing or setting forth in words; indication of feeling, spirit, character, etc.

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Concerning the Word, we find these attributes:

Word was in the beginning	Word was not known by the world
Word was with God	Word was made flesh
Word was God	Word came unto his own
God created all things by the Spirit of his Word	Word was not received by his own
Word made the world	Word was the only begotten of the Father
Word was in the world	Word was full of grace and truth

**"He that loveth me not, keepeth not my sayings:
AND THE WORD WHICH YE HEAR IS NOT MINE,
BUT THE FATHER'S WHICH SENT ME."**

(John 14:24)

*"Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you,
and yet hast thou not known me, Philip?*

**HE THAT HATH SEEN ME HATH SEEN THE FATHER;
*and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?"***

(John 14:9)

CHRIST'S SAYINGS = WORDS OF GOD THE FATHER

The following verses shows how God was very careful in choosing His words:

"EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE:

he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him."

**"ADD THOU NOT UNTO HIS WORDS,
LEST HE REPROVE THEE, AND THOU BE FOUND A LIAR."**

(Proverbs 30:5-6)

The word 'PURE' is *tsaraph* (tsaw-raf), which here means: **to refine, to cast, a founder as a goldsmith, melt, purify, purge away, try**. God tested His own words. Every single word was cast to form ONE WHOLE. This purity of His words would relate in every way, such as choice of wording in relation to each other and in meaning; or metaphorically what they represent. The accuracy and truth of God's wording is implied here, in other words they are PERFECT as they are. For IF you add to or diminish any of God's word YOU STAND IN DANGER OF LYING BY PERVERTING GOD'S WORD IN SPEECH OR WRITING.

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Let that sink down to your ears, *because when we compare some of the more popular Bible versions on the market, this truth will be extremely significant.*

**"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."
(Psalm 12:6-7)**

It should be noted here that the word 'PURE' and 'PURIFIED' in his verse are two different Hebrew words. The first, 'PURE', is *tahowr* (taw-hore'), meaning: **pure [in every sense] clean or fair**. The root word means: **sound, clear, unadulterated, uncontaminated; morally innocent or holy**. The other word 'PURIFIED', is *zaqaq* (zaw-kak'), and it means: **to strain, figuratively to extract, clarify, pour down, purge, purify, refine**. God did this SEVEN TIMES, and 'seven' in the Scriptures represents: **spiritual perfection**; and the seventh letter in the Hebrew alphabet is *zayin* or *zain* (Psalm 119:49), which means '**weapon**', and the seventh letter represents "**the spirit of sustenance and struggle**". Also, note verse 7 above, how the Psalmist says that God will preserve His words FOR EVER.

**"AS FOR GOD, HIS WAY IS PERFECT;
THE WORD OF THE LORD IS TRIED:
he is a buckler to all them that trust in him."
(2 Sam 22:31; Psalm 18:30)**

Notice how this relates to the 'WAY', perfection, and the Word. The Hebrew for 'way' here means the same as the Greek 'way' of Matthew 7: the 'narrow' WAY. The word 'perfect' is defined TRUTH. The word 'TRIED' here is *tsaraph*, as we saw earlier in Proverbs 30:5 as 'pure' meaning to refine and purify. But that is in context of the Lord 'trying' is own words, but the word is also defined: **to fuse (metal), to try**. Random House defines 'fuse' as: **to unite or blend into a whole, as if by melting together**. The word 'try' also has several meanings and applications. In view of the Lord's trying of His words it does mean: to test the quality, value, fitness, accuracy, etc.; but in view of "to fuse metal" it means: **to determine the truth or what is right (correct in doctrine)**. That is what God expects US to do in the NARROW WAY of reproof and correction.

**"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 SHOW YOU THINGS TO COME."
(John 16:13)**

The Spirit of Truth IS the Holy Spirit of God, and this is the primary reason He is sent. The word for 'GUIDE' is *hodegeo*, and means: **to show the way, to teach, guide, to lead**. The root word is *hodos*, the word Jesus used as the 'WAY' in Matthew seven. The word 'TRUTH' is *alethes* (al-ay-thace'), which means: **true -as not concealing**. Jesus said He was the TRUTH, but He told His disciples if they continued in His Word, they will know the TRUTH. What truth was He speaking of? That truth is obviously CONCEALED from the eyes of man, and has to be taught and revealed by the Spirit of Truth. Therefore the Bible claims it is not only supernaturally written, but ALSO supernaturally understood. This also includes Bible prophecy. This is covered in-depth in *Part 3 – The Bible Puzzle*).

**"FOR VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, TILL HEAVEN AND EARTH PASS,
ONE JOT OR ONE TITTLE SHALL IN NO WISE PASS FROM THE LAW,
TILL ALL BE FULFILLED."
(Matthew 5:18)**

Do you understand this? Jesus did not DESTROY the law, He only came to fulfilled it IN Himself. The law IS NOT canceled. This does not mean Christians are to 'attempt' to observe all the Old Testament laws, like the false teaching that had crept into the Church of Galatians. But the only way we can be exempt from the law is to be in GENUINE spiritual union with Christ, by which God the Father BESTOWS His Divine *agape* love upon us (1 Jn 3:1), because the *agape* love of God FULFILLS the law and the ONLY thing that fulfills it, (Rom 13:10).

Therefore, in the physical sense, this relates to God's plan for the ages, called Bible prophecy. But spiritually it applies to the child of God fulfilling the law of *agape* love, (Jn 13:34). Except a person repents and is truly "born again", they are under the law and will die in their sins, even until heaven and earth passes away.

**"BUT HE SAID, YEA RATHER, BLESSED ARE THEY
THAT HEAR THE WORD OF GOD, AND KEEP IT."
(Luke 11:28)**

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**"SO THEN FAITH COMETH BY HEARING,
AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD."**

(Romans 10:17)

*"And he answered and said unto them,
MY MOTHER AND MY BRETHREN ARE THESE
WHICH HEAR THE WORD OF GOD, AND DO IT."*

(Luke 8:21)

The word 'HEAR' is *akouo* (ak-oo'-o), and essentially means: **what comes to the senses; to understand**. It may be something spoken or read, but understanding has two applications. We may hear someone speak in a language we understand, but that does not insure we **comprehend** what we heard. This fact most definitely applies to the Word of God, (Mat 13:19). Notice that Jesus gave two qualifications for those He says is His real (spiritual) family. They hear the Word and DO what it says. That means: they MUST be given the TRUE UNDERSTANDING of the Word, for you cannot perform a task without understanding what the task is. And this type of understanding does not come with occasional Bible reading or "daily devotions", but the **work** of DEEP STUDY of Bible doctrine, (2 Tim 2:15; Rev 2:5).

**"AND THE NEXT SABBATH DAY
CAME ALMOST THE WHOLE CITY TOGETHER
TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD."**

"But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming."

**"THEN PAUL AND BARNABAS WAXED BOLD, AND SAID,
IT WAS NECESSARY THAT THE WORD OF GOD
SHOULD FIRST HAVE BEEN SPOKEN TO YOU: [THE JEWS]
BUT SEEING YE PUT IT FROM YOU,
AND JUDGE YOURSELVES UNWORTHY
OF EVERLASTING LIFE,
LO, WE TURN TO THE GENTILES."**

(Acts 13:44-46)

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This passage from Acts testifies of the beginnings of the New Testament Church, and the manifestation of the *antichrist* spirit, and the beginning of the "age of the Gentiles". According to 1 Corinthians 10:32, the world now has three divisions: **the Jew, the Gentiles, and the Church**. Then we find, the overall majority of all three Groups will perish because of the result of how we choose to believe. Because when Adam and Eve fell, the curse upon the *Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil* caused them to lose God's *agape* Spirit of Life within themselves, leaving them with the spirit of death. Death IS separation from God. Therefore, this is why they became as 'gods', knowing good and evil which we know as human morality. They no longer had God-consciousness but self-consciousness, thus becoming as 'gods', being self-ruled and self-judged. That is why Paul and Barnabas said what they did, and that is what happens to the majority of the world's three divisions of people. They JUDGE THEMSELVES TO BE UNWORTHY OF ETERNAL LIFE because they simply put the Word of God from themselves.

**"WATCH YE THEREFORE, AND PRAY ALWAYS, THAT YE MAY BE ACCOUNTED
WORTHY
TO ESCAPE ALL THESE THINGS THAT SHALL COME TO PASS,
AND TO STAND BEFORE THE SON OF MAN."
(Luke 21:36)**

From Section 1., the Scriptures have declared:

1. The *Holy Bible* declares it is the Word (Divine Expression) of God, a book of prophecy;
2. God Himself spoke or appeared to His Holy men and told them to write His words down;
3. God carefully selected His wording and purified it seven times;
4. The *Holy Bible* is a witness to the TRUTH and all things therein shall be fulfilled.
5. The Spirit of the Word and the Holy Spirit is to guide a person in the search of the hidden truth;
6. Do not judge yourself unworthy of eternal life; Jesus came to bring sinners to repentance;
7. The Lord and His regenerated ones, are all to be ONE in the *agape* Spirit of God.

2. THE GREAT PUBLICATION

We should now look at what is known about the initial publication of God's Word. In fact, the last section used Scripture itself to identify its spiritual origin –God. This section deals with the three initial publications and their origins in the physical world, which are: The Old Testament, the Apocrypha, and the New Testament. Section 3 covers the chronological paths of the Bible streams and its many versions.

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◆ THE OLD TESTAMENT:

**"WHAT ADVANTAGE THEN HATH THE JEW?
OR WHAT PROFIT IS THERE OF CIRCUMCISION?"**

**"MUCH EVERY WAY:
CHIEFLY, BECAUSE THAT UNTO THEM WERE COMMITTED
THE ORACLES OF GOD."**
(Romans 3:1-2)

The word 'COMMITTED' in this context means: **to entrust**. What was entrusted to them? God's 'ORACLES', which is *logion* (log'-ee-on), and defined: **an utterance of God**. The root word is *logos*, **The Word of God**. Do a word study on 'oracles' and you will find it is the Old Testament Scripture, (Acts 7:38), as well as the New, (Heb 5:12, 1 Pet 4:11). Through Abraham, God created His nation of people –the Jews. It is interesting to note that the word 'Jew' technically relates to a descendent of Judah, the fourth son of Jacob, who was renamed 'Israel'. Jesus was a descendent of Judah, both in His maternal line through Mary (King David and his son Nathan, Luke 3:23-31), and His royal line (King David and Solomon to Joseph, Mat 1:6-16). The tribe of Judah was given the southern part of the Kingdom (Judea), including the Holy city Jerusalem. Therefore, in "much every way", God entrusts the Jews with His Word, the Messiah, and the Holy City.

When did man first receive revelation from God and told to write it down?

~**Enoch** presented the first known written 'inspired' text, (according to the *Book of Enoch*, chapter 81:1-3). Enoch, the seventh from Adam, was an *antediluvian patriarch*, (pre-flood father). It is known that this book was considered valid at the time of Jesus and several centuries after until it fell out of favor, possibly because of the rise of the Catholic Church. Today, the *Book of Enoch* may be referred to as "1ST Enoch" (the Ethiopian text), and the *Secrets of Enoch* as "2ND Enoch" (the Slavic text).

These books should not be confused with 'Enochian' occultism. Jude quoted Enoch's text, (Jude 1:6, 14-15); and also Peter, (2 Peter 2:4). The book of 1ST Enoch consists primarily much detail concerning the "Sons of God" of Genesis chapter 6, and his interaction with them. He gives a detailed description of the heavens and Paradise, and prophecies concerning the latter-days and the coming of the Messiah. The 2ND book of Enoch gives more insight on the six days of creation, and the ten heavens.

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According to the books of Enoch, his knowledge came from first hand observation and direct instruction by the Angels of God. After his celestial tour, he returned to Earth and wrote down all that was given to him and passed it down to his son Methuselah for all future generations. Enoch was the first of few men that never saw death, (Gen 5:21-24; Heb 11:5), but was taken and translated to heaven in a "**chariot of fire**", (Jasher 3:36).

Creating a genealogy chart from the "book of generations" (Genesis 5 of the Hebrew Scriptures), from Adam to Noah, it becomes apparent who was living during subsequent offspring. In fact, by searching it out, the Bible gives us the years from Adam to Jacob and his son Joseph. This is important in view of understanding what knowledge of God the early patriarchs had until the law came through Moses. Enoch was 308 years old when Adam died, no doubt knowing all about God, Eden and the fall. Enoch passed along his experiences and books to his son Methuselah, who preached with Noah 120 years to warn people of the coming deluge. Noah carried the writings of Enoch through the flood, and most likely gave them to his son Shem. Shem is said to have been *Melchisedec* the high priest of God, in the days of Abraham, (Jasher 16:11; Heb 7:1-2), who lived 35 years longer than Abraham. Abraham lived with Noah and Shem for 39 years before leaving for the promised land, (Jasher 9:5-6). His son Isaac and his son Jacob, both had God's Abrahamic covenant confirmed in them. Then, Jacob produced the 12 tribes of Israel which went down into Egypt. This eventually led to the bondage of Israel, and finally, came Moses and the *Torah* law.

~**Moses** was chosen by God to bring the Jews out of the bondage of Egypt, and to present God's law and ordinances. The Biblical account was both literal and spiritually symbolic of what was to come through the future Messiah, Jesus Christ. Along with the 10 commandments, God established (also as law), the original Hebrew calendar, (not the Jewish calendar of today), the three feasts to be celebrated forever, the tabernacle and order of service by the priesthood, among other things. There are many Religious Jews and Christians who believe the exodus across the Red Sea, and many events that is recorded of the wilderness journey, did not actually happen. However, it is interesting to note, that only in recent years, artifacts of the Egyptian army of that time has been discovered in the bottom of the Red Sea, and the real Mt. Sinai was found and confirmed.

The rocks upon the summit if the mountain were charred, there were altars found, and Hebrew symbols found carved on rocks in the surrounding areas. Today, the mountain is fenced-in and protected by the local government. It is located in an area the Bible text supports, but not tradition which claims it is in the Sinai peninsula.

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Several verses that testify of the Sinai event should be shown, so that we may consider the greatness of God. How that the written Word of the *Torah*, (Genesis to Deuteronomy), did not simply come by a "voice in the head", or the finding of "gold plates" of secret text buried in the desert sand. The event was the deliberate manifestation of the supernatural. A close encounter of the "*Divine Kind*".

"And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may HEAR WHEN I SPEAK with thee, and believe thee for ever.
And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD."

"And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes,"

"And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down IN THE SIGHT OF ALL THE PEOPLE upon mount Sinai."

"And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death."
(Exodus 19:9-12)

"And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.
"And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it IN FIRE: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, AND THE WHOLE MOUNT QUAKED GREATLY."

"And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice."
"And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up."
(Exodus 19:17-20)

"The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: even Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
(Psalms 68:8)

***"THE CHARIOTS OF GOD are twenty thousand, EVEN THOUSANDS OF ANGELS: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.*"** (Psalms 68:17)

"And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, AND THE CLOUD COVERED IT SIX DAYS: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.
"And the sight of the glory of the LORD was LIKE DEVOURING FIRE on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.
(Exodus 24:16-17)

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"And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle." (Exodus 33:11)

"And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God."
(Exodus 31:18)

"And the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone: and Moses put the veil upon his face again, until he went in to speak with him."
(Exodus 34:35)

"And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them."
(Deuteronomy 33:2)

"LORD, when thou wentest out of Seir, when thou marchedst out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water."

"The mountains melted from before the LORD, even that Sinai from before the LORD God of Israel."
(Judges 5:4-5)

"Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments:"

"And madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant:"
(Nehemiah 9:13-14)

"And the LORD CAME DOWN IN THE PILLAR OF THE CLOUD, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth."
(Numbers 12:5; Deuteronomy 31:15)

Not only does it say God descend upon a mountain in the Wilderness of Sin, but THREE times did this event occur: (1) Mount Sinai, (2) Mount Seir, and (3) Mount Paran. Scriptures reveal that Angels have the ability of "intra-dimensional travel", (2 Kings 6:15-17). And from a study on these "chariots of fire", and the word study of Ezekiel's testimony, describes these as:

A revolving and rapidly moving cloud, with an object of brightly polished metal within, producing an infolding flame. The object was initially UNIDENTIFIED by Ezekiel, observed moving in the sky, and operated by NON-TERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE. Therefore, by definition does this not qualify as a type of UFO? Sound too bazaar?

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Then consider the following verses which relates to the return of Christ and the 'RAPTURE' of His elect:

**"OUR GOD SHALL COME, AND SHALL NOT KEEP SILENCE;
A FIRE SHALL DEVOUR BEFORE HIM,
AND IT SHALL BE VERY TEMPESTUOUS ROUND ABOUT HIM."**

**"HE SHALL CALL TO THE HEAVENS FROM ABOVE, AND TO THE EARTH,
THAT HE MAY JUDGE HIS PEOPLE."**

**"GATHER MY SAINTS TOGETHER UNTO ME;
[THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH]
THOSE THAT HAVE MADE A COVENANT WITH ME BY SACRIFICE."
(Psalms 50:3-5)**

The word 'TEMPESTUOUS' is Strong's no. H8175, *sa'ar* (saw-ar'), and is defined: **to storm; by implying to shiver with fear, be horribly afraid; to come like a whirlwind**. Is this literal? Did Jesus not say that every eye shall see Him coming in the CLOUDS of HEAVEN? That men's hearts shall FAIL for FEAR of what they see coming in the sky? That He will send His Angels to "GATHER TOGETHER" His ELECT, to meet Him in the air? Now this is interesting because according to the Apostle Paul, (1 Thess 4:13-18), the 'gathering' shall consist of a resurrection of the Christian dead, plus the Christians who are living at the time to "meet in the air". This means that they all are "gathered together" and taken up into the sky in flesh and blood bodies, just as Jesus ascended, (Acts 1:9). Now, if you research it out, you will find that in EVERY CASE where one is taken into heaven in their BODY, they were ALWAYS received into a cloud, which Biblically involves a CHARIOT OF FIRE. Enoch, Elijah, Jesus, and the two witness who are to be killed by the Beast of Revelation were taken up by physical means.

- 1) **THERE IS A TOTAL CONSISTENCY OF BIBLICAL 'UFO' ACCOUNTS;**
- 2) **THERE IS A CLOUD WITH A BRIGHT GLOW WITHIN;**
- 3) **THERE IS A LIKENESS OF A FIRE ASSOCIATED WITH IT;**
- 4) **IT CAN MANUEVER IN ANY DIRECTION, SLOW OR VERY FAST;**
- 5) **THERE IS NO MENTION OF ANY SOUND;**
- 6) **WHEN LARGE, IT CAUSES THE EARTH TO TREMOR GREATLY;**
- 7) **IT RADIATES AN ENERGY THAT CAUSES THE SKIN TO GLOW;**
- 8) **THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD OR ANGEL IS ALWAYS WITHIN;**
- 9) **GOD'S "CHARIOTS OF FIRE" ARE ALWAYS ASSOCIATED WITH A WHIRLWIND TYPE CLOUD;**
- 10) **THE CHARIOTS OF GOD (or Satan) ARE OF ANGELIC ORIGIN, NEVER "EVOLUTIONARY" BIOLOGICAL ENTITIES;**

- 11) **THEY CAN MANIFEST IN THE PHYSICAL DIMENSION, AND BE SEEN BY MANY WITNESSES; THEY CAN APPEAR IN ANY FORM THEY CHOOSE**
12) **THE WHIRLWIND AND CHARIOTS OF FIRE WERE ALWAYS USED TO TRANSPORT MAN FROM EARTH TO HEAVEN IN THEIR FLESH.**

When was the Lord's first visitation and Moses given the Law?

**"IN THE THIRD MONTH,
WHEN THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WERE GONE FORTH OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT, THE SAME DAY CAME THEY INTO THE WILDERNESS OF SINAI."**
(Exodus 19:1)

**"AND IN THE THIRD MONTH
FROM THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL'S DEPARTURE FROM EGYPT,
ON THE SIXTH DAY THEREOF,
THE LORD GAVE TO ISRAEL THE TEN COMMANDMENTS
ON MOUNT SINAI."**
(Book of Jasher 82:6)

These verses have greater importance other than understanding timelines. In Exodus 12, God instructed Moses in beginning the (true Biblical) calendar and keeping the feast of Passover. However, God Himself caused this calendar to be forgotten because of Israel's apostasy, when the Jews were evicted from their land in 586 BC by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, (Lamentations 2:5-6; Isaiah 1:13-14). They then adopted the Babylonian 'lunar' new moon calendar, and the month names of its gods.

Leviticus 23:
15 And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete:
16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number
FIFTY DAYS;
and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.
17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the firstfruits unto the LORD.

This is literal as far as the celebration goes, but can you see the spiritual application of this? On this fiftieth day, this new meat offering represents the new converts to the Lord, an offering by sacrifice. The TWO 'loaves' represent bread (doctrine), the teaching of the TWO COVENANTS. The "two

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tenth deals" is the two stone tablets of testimony, where the first five commandments pertain to loving God, and the other five pertain to loving our neighbor. The point here has to do with what this Feast represents:

Pentecost: "Solemn festival on the fiftieth day after the 16th of Nisan, which was second day of passover. Called the Feast of Weeks, because it was celebrated seven weeks after the passover. **To offer God the first fruits of harvest; also as reminder of the law given from Mt. Sinai on the fiftieth day of their departure from Egypt.**" [Webster 1828]

The word 'PENTECOST' is a Greek term, meaning: **fiftieth**. The LAW came down from Heaven to baptize God's chosen on Pentecost with the Word of God. The Holy Spirit came down from Heaven to baptize Christ's chosen with God's Spirit also on Pentecost, (Acts 2:1-4). The first was the Old Covenant to put God's law in their minds, the second was to also write it in their hearts (a new spirit), which IS the New Covenant, (Heb 8:10; Ezek 36:25-27).

~**Language** of the Old Testament was mostly written in Hebrew and some Aramaic in portions of Daniel and Ezra. At the time of Moses, when God revealed His Word to Israel, the Hebrew language was somewhat more archaic as compared to modern Hebrew. The *Torah*, (the first five books of the O.T.), was credited to have been mostly written by Moses during the time in the wilderness. For many years, the stone tablets of the 10 commandments and the "Book of the Law" (*Torah*) were kept in the *Ark of the Covenant*. (Deut 31:24-26).

Over time the Hebrew alphabet and language was 'modernized', and the O.T. was translated in the more modern form of Hebrew between 7th and 10th century A.D., called the *Masoretic Text* (M.T.). As compared to the Hebrew Scriptures of the Dead Sea Scrolls and earlier periods, the M.T. varies little. However, some scholars believe the New Testament quotes were taken from the *Septuagint*. The *Random House Dictionary* defines it:

Sep·tu·a·gint (sep-tyuh-jint), the oldest Greek version of the Old Testament, traditionally said to have been translated by 70 or 72 Jewish scholars at the request of Ptolemy II. Most scholars believe that only the Pentateuch was completed in the early part of the 3rd century B.C. and that the remaining books were translated in the next two centuries.

The *Septuagint*, (also called the LXX from the 70 Jewish translators), was considered to be the common translation many years before and after the first advent of Christ. In fact, during the time of Christ, the Hebrew language had begun to diminish, giving way to the common languages of the Greeks and Romans.

Until the 1880's A.D. when the regathering of Jews in Palestine began, Hebrew had become a 'dead' language, except by the priesthood of Judaism. Today, it is the only ancient language to 'REVIVE' as a national spoken

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language. The 'Pentateuch' (pen-Ætã tÁkÅ), is the Greek-Latin name for the *Torah*. The Jewish Scripture of today's Jewish 'Bible' is called the *Tanach* (tä näKHÆ), which is comprised of the three divisions of the O.T., which are the Law, the Prophets, and the Hagiographa.

Jesus referred to it as "the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms", (Luke 24:44). The *Septuagint* has both minor and major differences compared to the *Masoretic* Hebrew text, and in the next Section we will look at a couple of the major differences in the English translation of those two texts. The overall majority of later versions of the Catholic Bibles and all of the Protestant Bibles, (Old Testament), were translated from the more accurate Hebrew *Masoretic Text* (MT).

~**Authors** of the Old Testament were many, that expanded a time of nearly eleven hundred years. Moses and the exodus out of Egypt took place approximately 1520 B.C., at what time we saw where the *Torah* law was given to Moses. then 40 years later the Lord had Moses to select Joshua, son of Nun to take his place and lead the children of Israel into the promised land, (Num 27:18-23; Josh 1:1-2). After this began the times of the Judges, (Judges 2:16); this ended with the prophet Samuel, (1 Sam 3:20), which began the times of the Kings with King Saul, (1 Sam 8, 9), David, his son Solomon, and so on till the first temple was destroyed in 586 B.C. After the writings of King Solomon, i.e. *Proverbs*, *Ecclesiastes*, and the *Song of Solomon*, came the books of the prophets, (there were other prophets). Regardless if these books were written by these prophets themselves or not, the following chart shows the time span of their service as prophets. The times shown are taken from *Tyndale's Handbook of Bible Charts & Maps*, and are in chronological order. Remember that after King Solomon, Israel was divided between the **Northern Kingdom of Israel**, and the **Southern Kingdom of Judah**.

Prophet	Years B.C.	Kingdom	Prophet	Years B.C.	Kingdom
Obadiah	~ 853	Southern	Jeremiah	627-586	Southern
Joel	835-796	"	Habakkuk	612-589	"
Jonah	793-753	Northern	Daniel	605-536	"
Amos	760-750	"	Ezekial	593-571	"
Hosea	753-715	"	Haggai	520- after exile	"
Micah	742-687	Southern	Zechariah	520- after exile	"
Isaiah	740-681	"	Malachi	~ 430	"
Nahum	663-612	"	Ezra	~ 440	"
Zephaniah	640-621	"	Nehemiah	~ 430	"

Consider the span of time of the Old Testament Scriptures. The time span of these prophets, (according to Tyndale's estimates), is 423 years.

So, beginning with God giving the Ten Commandments in the first year of the exodus from Egypt, ~1521 B.C., to Malachi and Nehemiah is

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approximately 1,091 years. Most Bible scholars agree that John wrote the book of Revelation as late as 95 A.D. That means **the total time** involved in producing the entire *Holy Bible*: Old and New Testaments, plus everything else in between, is approximately **1616 years***, beginning **3533 years ago** from the year A.D 2012.

*Note the Biblical number symbology of the total time span of Scripture: '1616'. Ten is the number for perfect order, and six is the number for man. $1+6=7$, which '7' represents spiritual perfection; and '16' is twice, where 'two' represents a witness or testimony for the two stone tablets of testimony, and the "two witnesses" of God –the Old and New Testaments. Then $1616 (1+6+1+6) = 14 (1+4) = 5$, where five is the number for the redemption of man. Coincidence?

◆ THE APOCRYPHA:

The Apocrypha has been rejected for the most part in modern Christianity for no apparent reason other to claim it is not canonical. All Protestant and Catholic Bibles until 130 years ago, had 80 books instead of the 66, even the editions of the King James Bible. The modern-day Theologians have adopted the belief that these 14 'other' books are not part of the "inspired word" or that it is a "Catholic thing". Why was it once was considered part of the WHOLE Word, and who decided it wasn't? The etymology of the word 'Apocrypha' is from the Greek *apo-*, meaning **separated**; and *-crypt*, meaning **hidden or secret place**. Random House defines it:

a·poc·ry·pha, (Ã pokÆrÃ fÃ),

1. a group of 14 books, not considered canonical, included in the Septuagint and the Vulgate as part of the Old Testament, but usually omitted from Protestant editions of the Bible.
2. various religious writings of uncertain origin regarded by some as inspired, but rejected by most authorities.

Why would it be named 'separated' and 'hidden'? Perhaps because it contains mysteries, secrets to be kept from the last of the Church Age? Even some of the facsimile reprints of the early Bibles have deliberately removed it, why? It was in all the King James Bible revisions **until** the English (E.S.V.) and American Standard Version (A.S.V.) came out in the **1880's** and 90's. Just 100 years prior, Englishman *Alexander Cruden's Complete Concordance To The Apocrypha* was published in Philadelphia in 1806. The so-called 'Authorized' King James Bible, (4TH revision of 1769), which is still considered the 'standard' of English language Bibles, also had it removed in the early 20TH century, and even after WWII could be purchased as a separate book in the language and format of the 'Authorized' 1769 version. The fourteen books of the *Apocrypha* are:

I & II Esdras	Baruch, with the Epistle of Jeremiah
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Tobit	The Song of the Three Holy Children
Judith	The History of Susanna
The Rest of Esther	Bel and the Dragon
The Wisdom of Solomon	The Prayer of Manasses
Ecclesiasticus	I & II Maccabees

These books are historical record, (such as the Maccabees), some are allegorical, and latter-day prophecy, (such as II Esdras). The Maccabees is both history, and may be a "blue-print" of the ANTICHRIST to come. The celebration of *Hanukkah* comes from the time of the Maccabees, the third century B.C. After their victory over *Antiochus Epiphanies*, (a type of "anti-Christ"), and their celebration of the re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem. It is interesting to note that the *Feast of Dedication*, (the word 'dedication' in Hebrew is Strong's no. H2598 *Chanukah* khan-ook-kaw'), is only mentioned once in the Bible, and Jesus celebrated this feast, (John 10:22-23). That means the Jews had a recorded history of the event, and Jesus obviously had knowledge of the Maccabees and what the Feast meant.

◆ *THE NEW TESTAMENT:*

Part 1 of this study mentions that God works by "pattern of design", and within His patterns there is variety, suggesting the manifold wisdom of His creativity. This is mentioned because there is a PATTERN and variety to the presentation of the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament was not made manifest to God's people Israel until He literally came down to Earth and presented the *Torah* personally in their sight. Later, Holy men of God wrote the Psalms and the Prophets, expounding the WAY of God more perfectly and revealed things to come. So, how did the New Testament manifest? Again, God came literally to Earth as Jesus Christ who presented the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to Israel.

Afterward, Holy men of God wrote the Epistles (letters of exhortation) to expound the WAY of God more perfectly and show us things to come, (Revelation 1:1).

**"THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS WERE UNTIL JOHN:
SINCE THAT TIME
THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS PREACHED,
AND EVERY MAN PRESSETH INTO IT." (Luke 16:16)**

Jesus connects the two links of the chain of Scripture with this statement. The Old Testament law and the line of prophets ended with John the

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Baptist. That also would include all of God's prophets between Malachi and John, such as Esdras of the *Apocrypha*. Jesus added in the following verse, that nothing will fail from the law till ALL be fulfilled. Therefore, that makes the *Torah* still very much active and applicable, but now in relation to Christ and Bible prophecy.

Shortly after Jesus was baptized by John, Jesus entered into the wilderness of the 'WAY', His the trial of faith. Meanwhile John, the last of the prophets, was beheaded, ending the time of the prophets. Jesus, had just begun to preach the Gospel, a practice that has continued since. Notice the response Jesus gives to the preaching of the Kingdom: "EVERY MAN PRESSETH INTO IT". The word 'PRESSETH' is *biazo* (bee-ad'-zo), meaning: **to force, i.e. to crowd oneself into**. The root words mean: **a livelihood, (through the idea of vital activity)**. This gives the connotation that it requires a tremendous effort and striving to enter into the Kingdom of God. Jesus said the 'WAY' into the Kingdom was NARROW, meaning: **to crowd into**.

This verse is the beginning of the manifestation of New Testament Scripture. The thing to remember is that there were no New Testament 'Bibles' available to Christians for several centuries after the advent of Christ. Only the testimony of the Messiah in the Old Testament scrolls, and "word of mouth" until copies of the epistles began to be published. The first compilation of Christian writings were not published as a 'Bible' (book form), until the early 5th century A.D. by Jerome of the Roman Catholic Church. (More on this later).

THE LORD GAVE THE WORD:
GREAT WAS THE COMPANY OF THOSE
THAT PUBLISHED IT.
(Psalm 68:11)

We will find that this verse in Psalms applies to the New Testament Scriptures as well as the Old. The word "PUBLISHED" is *basar* (baw-sar'), meaning: **to announce, preach, publish, shew forth, good tidings**. The announcement of "good tidings" specifically relates to the GOSPEL of Christ, (Isa 40:9, 41:27, 52:7, **61:1**; Luke 2:10).

***"And he [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up:
and, as his custom was,
HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE ON THE SABBATH DAY,
AND STOOD UP FOR TO READ."***

***"AND THERE WAS DELIVERED UNTO HIM
THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ESAIAS. [ISAIAH]"***

**AND WHEN HE HAD OPENED THE BOOK,
HE FOUND THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS WRITTEN,"**

**"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME,
BECAUSE HE HATH ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE
POOR; HE HATH SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKENHEARTED,
TO PREACH DELIVERANCE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERING OF
SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET AT LIBERTY THEM THAT ARE BRUISED,"**

"TO PREACH THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

*"And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down.
And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him."*

**"AND HE BEGAN TO SAY UNTO THEM,
THIS DAY IS THIS SCRIPTURE FULFILLED IN YOUR EARS."**

(Luke 4:16-21)

Jesus had just returned from being baptized by the prophet John and spending 40 days in the wilderness. This began His ministry of bringing the good tidings of the Gospel. Jesus was naturally THE FIRST to publish the Gospel.

**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)*

BUT THE WORD OF GOD GREW AND MULTIPLIED.
(Acts 12:24)

**AND THE WORD OF THE LORD
WAS PUBLISHED THROUGHOUT ALL THE REGION.**
(Acts 13:49)

The Greek for "PUBLISHED" here is, *diaphero* (dee-af-er'-o), which literally means: **to transport by carrying, enduring, upholding**. Webster's 1828 dictionary defines it:

PUB'LISH, (from the word *public*); To make known to the public in general what was private or unknown. To utter or put into circulation. To make known by posting, or reading in a church.

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It is obvious that as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ increased, so did the Word. At first this was by word of mouth, just as Jesus taught and preached throughout Galilee and Judea.

**"Many of them also which used CURIOUS ARTS
BROUGHT THEIR BOOKS TOGETHER,
AND BURNED THEM BEFORE ALL MEN:
and they counted the price of them,
and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver."**

**SO MIGHTILY GREW THE WORD OF GOD
AND PREVAILED.
(Acts 19:19-20)**

Another thing that is obvious is the impact the spread of the Gospel had wherever it multiplied. These 'many' must have represented the general population that was well grounded in Greek and Roman paganism, then converted to Christ. Note that these people possessed religious 'bibles' and books of occult arts, and knew that they must be destroyed, regardless of value.

These verses are from *The Acts of the Apostles* who initially took the message of Christ and His doctrine, and converted many souls to establish Christianity in the Near and Middle East. As Churches were established, the Apostles and their disciples followed up with visits and letters of exhortation. These letters (called epistles), were most likely held very dear, (perhaps even sacred) to all Christians who received them.

They were copied, passed down, and some of them collected and eventually became the NEW TESTAMENT Scriptures.

~**Language** of the New Testament was altogether *Koine* Greek. As mentioned earlier, Hebrew had diminished as a national language due to the Jews exiles and invasions. Why Greek instead of Hebrew? The 12 Apostles of Jesus were Jewish and sent to publish the Gospel Among the Jews. Whereas Paul was sent unto the Gentiles, (Gal 2:7-9).

Koine Greek replaced the Classical Greek dialects in the Hellenistic period and flourished under the Roman Empire. It is also known as 'common' or commercial Greek because it was a common language of merchants and tradesmen in that part of the world. Jesus spoke *Aramaic*, (Mark 5:41, 15:34), the language of Syria and Galilee. He was no doubt also proficient in Greek and likely Hebrew. Even at age twelve, Jesus could intelligently converse with the Jewish doctors of Theology, and proved to be very literate

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and knowledgeable of Scripture and the doctrines, (Luke 2:42-46; Jn 7:15-17; Luke 4:16-21).

~**Writers** of the New Testament who are not identified in their book (epistle), are often debated as to their identity. Of course what is written is always much more important than who wrote it. There are some variation of opinions concerning the unidentified books, but what is shown here is based upon older tradition or suppressed findings. In general, the New Testament was written between the mid 40's to early 70 A.D., except for Revelation and possibly 1ST, 2ND, and 3RD John which is believed to have been written after the fall of Jerusalem. It is also stated in traditional Church history that the Apostle Paul was killed as a martyred in 65-66 A.D., and Peter was martyred in 67-68 A.D.

**"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)

**"BUT YE SHALL RECEIVE POWER,
AFTER THAT THE HOLY GHOST IS COME UPON YOU:
AND YE SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO ME
BOTH IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDAEA, AND IN SAMARIA,
AND UNTO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH."**

(Acts 1:8)

These verses declare that the Apostles of Jesus who spoke and wrote about Him, did so under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The books of the New Testament were not a haphazard collection of 'recollections' to promote some new religion of moral perfection. **IF**, one obeys the commands of Christ of entering into the STRAIT GATE and NARROW WAY OF THE CROSS, **then** they will clearly see how the entire Bible is a well planned testimony of a spiritual hidden truth.

A truth that can only be known by supernatural manifestation of Christ to the seeking believer.

The New Testament contains 27 books, and three of which were known to be of the disciples of Jesus. The first four books are the Gospels of Christ: *Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John*; next is the book of the *Acts of the Apostles* of Jesus Christ; then 21 epistles (letters address to specific persons or Churches); and the book of Revelation, (also known as *The Apocalypse* in

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the Catholic Bibles). The first three Gospels are known as the *Synoptic* Gospels because of their similar content, which differs somewhat from the book of John. The first 13 epistles, called the *Pauline Epistles*, are contributed to the Apostle Paul. The remaining 8 are called the *General Epistles*. The book of Hebrews is debated as been written by Paul or Peter, but most likely by their evangelistic companion: Barnabas prior to 70 A.D.

The name 'JUDE' in the Greek is *Ioudas* (ee-oo-das'), and may be translated as **Judas**. And there are three 'James' in the New Testament in close association to Jesus: James, brother to John the beloved (Jn 21:20), both of which were disciples, (Mat 4:21-22); James the son of Alphaeus, and brother to Judas (Jude), both of which were disciples, (Luke 6:15-16); and James *the less* (Mat 15:40), brother to Judas (Jude) and Jesus, (Mat 13:55). James, brother to John, was killed between 41-44 A.D. by Herod Agrippa (Acts 12:1-2). James, the brother of Jesus went on to become an apostle and an elder of the Jerusalem Church, (Gal 1:19; 2:9). Therefore, most scholars believe James and Jude were written by the brothers of Jesus. The following chart lists the books of the New Testament, their prospective writers, and the estimated date of writing.

BOOK	WRITER	YEAR A.D.	BOOK	WRITER	YEAR A.D.
Matthew	Matthew , (Mat 10:3)	18-20	I Timothy	Paul	63-65
Mark	John-Mark, (Acts 12:12)	40's-70	II Timothy	Paul	66-67
Luke	Luke (Col 4:14)	40's-50	Titus	Paul	63-65
John	John , (Mat 10:2)	40's-70	Philemon	Paul	~60
Acts	Luke, (Acts 1:1, Lu 1:3)	63-70	Hebrews	Barnabas (?) (Acts 12:2)	50's-70
Romans	Tertius, for Paul (Rom 16:22)	~57	James	James the less (?)	40-60's
I Corinthians	Paul	~55	I Peter	Peter (I Pet 1:1)	67-68
II Corinthians	Paul	~55	II Peter	Peter (II Pet 1:1)	67-68
Galations	Paul	40's-50's	I John	John (Mat 10:2)	85-95
Ephesians	Paul	~60	II John	"	"
Phillipians	Paul & Timothy	~60	III John	"	"
Colossians	Paul & Timothy	~60	Jude	Jude, brother to James (Ju 1:1)	65-80
I Thessalonians	Paul, Silvanus, & Timothy	~51	Revelation	John (Mat 10:2)	90-95
II Thessalonians	Paul, Silvanus, & Timothy	51-52			

3. THE EARLY CHURCH

To better understand the development of the Scriptures, it becomes necessary to take a brief view of the early development of Christianity. This seems an enormous task, which it is if it were thoroughly researched. However, from the perspective of this study, we need to only look at people and events in relation to the publication of Scripture, as well as insight into the fact that true Biblical Christianity was redefined in the process. This view of doctrine will also prove to have a great effect upon language translations due to the spiritual understanding of the translators. There are points to consider that are CRITICAL in understanding the truth of both Scripture and history in view of Christianity. Some key points to keep in mind are:

1. *Jesus, Paul, Peter, Jude and John warned that the true church of the first century would be scattered and wasted. Like Israel, Christianity would be attacked from both without and within.*

***"BUT HE THAT IS AN HIRELING, [PAID SERVANT]
AND NOT THE SHEPHERD, WHOSE OWN THE SHEEP ARE NOT,
SEETH THE WOLF COMING, AND LEAVETH THE SHEEP, AND FLEETH:
AND THE WOLF CATCHETH THEM,
AND SCATTERETH THE SHEEP."
(John 10:12)***

The SHEEP are obviously disciples of Jesus Christ, and Jesus warned of the WOLVES in Sheep's CLOTHING, (Mat 7:15). The HIRELINGS are servants of Christ whose profession it is to watch after the flock, but do not have the unconditional *agape* bestowment to fight and die to protect the flock, but abandon them to the overbearing priests, preachers, and evangelists who creep-into the flock. The word 'SCATTERETH' is *skorpizo* (skor-pid'-zo), meaning: **to dissipate, figuratively to put to flight, waste, be liberal; disperse abroad, scatter abroad.**

It means the same as G4651, *skorprios* (or scorpion), which means: **to pierce, through the idea of penetrating.** These people penetrate the Church of God and turn them to a LIBERAL form of Christianity, by which destroys their effectiveness to save souls.

2. *Like the birth of Moses and all of Israel's history, Christianity began to be attacked by its spiritual enemy as soon as Jesus was born, and will continue until He returns.*

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"...and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born." (Revelation 12:4)

"...take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him." (Matthew 2:13)

"...the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take him [Jesus] by craft, and put him to death." (Mark 14:1)

"And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army." (Revelation 19:19)

3. The New Testament Scripture reveals the Church had begun to be infiltrated and adulterated by false Christian teachers to the point where the true followers of Christ were few in comparison.

"...Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for MANY, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." (Luke 13:24)

"...after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock...Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." (Acts 20:29-30)

"For we are not as MANY, which corrupt the word of God..." (2 Corinthians 2:17)

"...there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, ...And MANY shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of." (2 Peter 2:1-2)

"For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ." (Jude 1:4)

"For MANY are called, but FEW are chosen." (Matthew 22:14)

4. It is impossible to recognize all of the false Christian doctrines without FIRST having understanding of true-whole doctrine as given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31-32)

"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 show you things to come." (John 16:13)

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

5. Contrary to popular belief, the Roman Catholic Church did not begin with the Apostle Peter as the first 'Pope', but with Constantine in the early fourth century. The official title of the Roman Catholic Pope is "Vicar of Christ". (The word 'vicar' in latin means SUBSTITUTE, or 'ANTI-').

"Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time." (1 John 2:18)

6. The Catholic Church reigned as feudal overlords over the people and martyred millions of Christians who opposed their edicts, during and after the so-called dark age, beginning around the death of Constantine and fall of the Roman Empire until the Reformation. Because of which, they created the Jesuits to launch an counter-reformation that continues to this day.

"And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:" (Revelation 17:4)

"And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." (Revelation 17:5)

"And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration." (Revelation 17:6)

7. The so-called "early Church fathers" had further adulterated the interpretations of Scripture with a blend of Neo-Platonism, the belief that idealism is established truth. Later Bible versions (of the 20th century) were translated and understood primarily from the ideas of Alexanderism, Lutheranism, and Platonism. Many of the famous reformers were considered "Christian humanists".

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (Colossians 2:8)

8. The mystery of true Biblical Christianity will once again be revealed to the world when the latter rain is given upon the Earth.

"But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." (Revelation 10:7)

"Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain." (James 5:7)

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◆ *First Century Christianity.*

For the most part, first century Christianity is best viewed from the New Testament itself because it not only bears record to Christ and His apostles publishing the Gospel and establishing the churches of God, but also testifies to attacks against Jesus and His church from both without and within. This fact is revealed even in a few statements from Scripture:

"And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord..." (Acts 9:1)

"...in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I [Saul] persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:" (Galatians 1:13)

"And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison." (Acts 5:18)

"...And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles." (Acts 8:1)

"Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word." (Acts 8:4)

"Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only." (Acts 11:19)

"Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him." (Acts 12:5)

"But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison..." (Acts 16:37)

The attack from without against Christ and His anointed began at the HEART of all the Earth –Jerusalem. First the Jew's religion and then the Roman Empire, beginning with Nero in A.D. 65. It is believed by some historians that Nero intentionally set fire to Rome, in order to blame the Christians to persecute them. In effect, the New Testament Church began with the book of Acts through to the third chapter of Revelation. In between we find the struggles of the Apostles to publish the Gospel, despite opposition from the Jew's religion and then the Romans until the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. Then we find the seven Churches of Asia, (Revelation chapters 2 and 3).

"THE MYSTERY OF THE SEVEN STARS WHICH THOU SAWEST IN MY RIGHT HAND, AND THE SEVEN GOLDEN CANDLESTICKS.

**THE SEVEN STARS ARE THE ANGELS OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES:
AND THE SEVEN CANDLESTICKS WHICH THOU SAWEST
ARE THE SEVEN CHURCHES."**

(Revelation 1:20)

There are SEVEN SPIRITS before the throne of Christ, (Rev 1:4), who represent ONLY SEVEN CHURCHES. There are not eight, ten, a hundred or even millions (one for every Christian Church that was, is, or shall be). There were many churches during the latter part of the first century when John wrote the book of Revelation.

HOWEVER, these particular seven represent a "MYSTERY". The seven candlesticks and their spirits cannot be limited to 'these' seven churches of asia 2000 years ago; WHY?

First. these spirits and their candlesticks all EXIST TOGETHER and are BEFORE THE THRONE OF CHRIST. The candlesticks are the FIRST things John saw. They WERE, ARE, and SHALL BE HEREAFTER, and the Lord WALKS AMONG THEM. According to Biblical historians these were literal churches near the island of Patmos in the final years of the first century, but the MYSTERY OF THESE SEVEN CANDLESTICKS IS THAT THEY represent THE SPIRIT OF ALL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES. Every church that ever has been established in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, or is, or shall be till His return, is characterized by one of THE SPIRITS OF THESE CHURCHES OF ASIA.

Second. the following verses from this passage proves this MYSTERY RELATES ESPECIALLY TO THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES JUST PRIOR TO TRIBULATION AND THE RETURN OF CHRIST. REGARDLESS OF BELIEFS, Jesus is commanding and talking to CHRISTIANS HERE, NOT the ungodly of the world or to the house of Jacob. But to the CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS, ESPECIALLY THE LATTER-DAY CHURCH. Christ WARNS AND COMMANDS ALL SEVEN CHURCHES TO OVERCOME. All one has to do is LOOK at the rewards of overcoming and see that it has to do with being SAVED, BEING BORN AGAIN OF GOD.

THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION:

1. Christ directs his words to the spirit governing each of these churches.
2. These are 'Christian' churches, they do not represent the ungodly nor the Jew's religion.
3. Christ warns all seven churches to 'overcome' WHICH IS to be born again.
4. Christ warns three of these churches to repent of their false doctrines and beliefs;
5. Christ warns two churches to repent: one of forgetting first work; and the second to watch

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6. Christ has nothing against the church of Smyrna or Philadelphia, but they are to hold fast.
7. The Laodicean Church is a blind unregenerate Christian Church that will be removed from the body of Christ.

From analyzing and considering the conditions of these seven churches, they can then be compared to our own christian church and/or beliefs; and there is ONE BASIC characteristic that the Lord Jesus Christ commands and expects from these seven churches, DO THE FIRST WORK, which is to DO the WILL of God.

**PROPHETIC NOTE: It is interesting that TWO out of the SEVEN CANDLESTICKS (CHURCHES) are not given warnings to repent, and that the TWO WITNESSES of Revelation are described as "TWO CANDLESTICKS", (Rev 11:4).*

It is evident that five of these seven Churches had allowed distractions or false doctrines to creep in and divide their Christian believers: Ephesus, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, and Laodicea. These are victims of an attacks from within by the enemy.

This reveals they had not reached the point of Christian maturity to recognize these things, a discernment that comes by understanding of the teachings of Christ.

The attacks of the Roman government against the early Christians, typically came in waves and various regions until the fall of Roman Empire. After this, the Papacy was well establish and organized, and began its own waves of Christian persecution against the so-called 'heretics', something Jesus never taught.

By the time the Catholic Church was in sole power, and made itself the ONLY true Christian assembly of believers on Earth, this began a time known as the "Dark Age" of Christianity. More on this later.

What we want to briefly explore next is the TRANSITION from the time of the Churches of the Apostles, to fifth century Catholicism and their Latin Vulgate Bible translation. The last known Epistles to be written by an Apostle of Jesus was John, from approximately 85–95 A.D. There are several significant men that were part of the transition from the first century to the second.

Clement of Rome was a fellow laborer of the Apostle Paul, (Phil 4:3), and is attributed to two non-canonical (unapproved) epistles called *First* and *Second Clement*.

4. BIBLE VERSION STREAMS.

This is where we begin the Bible's chronologic journey.

[W.B.] World Book Encyclopedia references:

"The leading clergymen asked James I of England in 1604 to have a new translation made. James appointed fifty-four great scholars to make a new revision. They worked at the task for seven years. The result was the *King James Version* in 1611. It was much better in language and arrangement than any Protestant version produced before." [W.B. B-220]

"William Tyndale had said that he wanted to make a Bible that a plowboy could understand. The same purpose had been in the minds of the translators of the *King James Version*, as stated in its foreward. Most of the incorrect modern views of that version arose because that foreword is no longer printed." [W.B. B-220]

"Tyndale's translation of the Bible helped to make English a literary language. It "fixed the phrases" of the Bible in most of the other English translations. The New Testament is still about 92 percent the way Tyndale first wrote it in 1525. His work influenced *The Great Bible* of 1539, which was the first one that could be read publicly in churches in place of the Vulgate Latin Bible. The second authorized Bible was the *Bishop's Bible* of 1568." [W.B. B-222a]

"But the English language was steadily changing. More and more things had been learned about the Bible. Many of the words used in the *King James Version* had changed in meaning over the years. For these reasons, a new revision was started by a group of English scholars in 1870. ...Most people today still prefer the language of the *King James Version*. But they are grateful to the men who make the *Revised Version* for taking away many of the difficulties. The *American Version* contained readings which the American revisers liked, but which the English did not. ...The *Revised Standard Version* of the Bible for Protestants was completed in 1951 and published in 1952.

A demand for this revised version had arisen because of the discovery of the new manuscripts." [W.B. B-220] See '**revised version of 1881**' ref. in book: *New Age Bible Versions*.

CATHOLIC BIBLES.

Latin Vulgate:

"St. Jerome (about 340-420), was a learned Father of the Roman Catholic Church. ...Jerome was then ordained a priest in Antioch, and went to Constantinople. The Bible knowledge of Jerome made him the best of the early interpreters of the Bible. His Latin version of the the Old Testament from the Hebrew is the Vulgate version which is in use among Roman Catholics today. He revised the Latin New Testament, using the best Greek manuscripts of his time." [W.B. J-75]

"It [Latin Vulgate] became the *authorized* Bible of the Western [Roman Catholic] Church. This early Roman version was translated into an English version called the *Douay*, or *Douai*,

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Bible. The *Douai* New Testament was published at Reims in 1582, and the Old Testament in 1609 at Douai, France. Most Roman Catholic translations into modern languages have been based on the Vulgate." [W.B. B-219]

"The Vulgate Bible is the *authorized* Bible of the Roman Catholic Church. Monsignor Ronald A. Knox published a translation of the New Testament for Roman Catholics in 1944, and a translation of the Old Testament (in two volumes) in 1948." [W.B. B-220]

◆ OTHER VERSIONS.

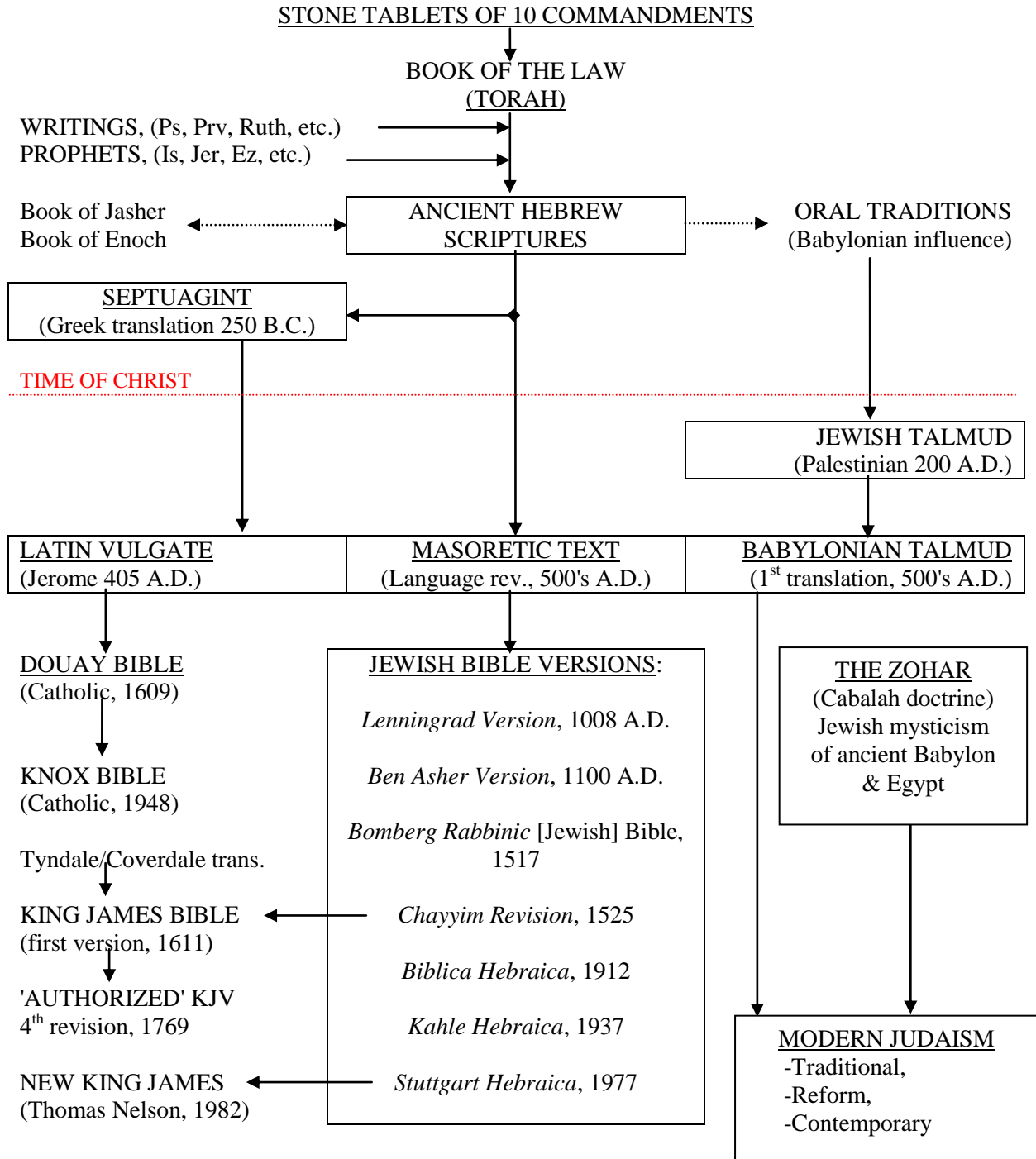
"The Latin language became the official language of the Western Church, and most translations form the Old and New Testaments were put in other languages. ...The first translation in French were done in the 1100's. Italian and Spanish versions came out in the 1200's and German and English Bibles appeared in the 1300's. [Martin] Luther brought out his [German] version of the New Testament in 1522, and his complete Bible in 1534." [W.B. B-220]

Prior to the availability of translated English Bibles, English speaking people had to depend upon Latin, Hebrew, Greek, or Aramatic language Scriptures. The absence of translated Bibles, and also the common place of illiteracy, forced people to depend on the Catholic Church for the hearing and instruction of God's word for a thousand years.

This of course gave great control by the churches to use this to their advantage. The *Latin Vulgate*, which included the books of the *Apocrypha*, was considered THE authority for scripture of the Roman Catholic Church for over 1,000 years. However the accuracy of the Vulgate text and its origin is debated.

The Greek MMS is from the earliest collation of Greek manuscripts called *papyri*, with the earliest text being from the 2nd century. The *Textus Receptus* of the Greek majority text is considered to be the most accurate to the New Testament writers. Some of the 1611 King James New Testament, is said to be based upon the interpretation of the Greek *majority text*, most likely through the 1516 A.D. translation of Erasmus.

OLD TESTAMENT, MAJOR VERSIONS OR TRANSLATIONS.



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◆ *Original English Version Bibles:*

NOTE: According to the *World Book Encyclopedia* under "Languages", *Old English* is a form of Germanic spoken by the Anglo-Saxons from late A.D. 400's to 1100. *Middle English* developed between A.D. 1100's to 1450; and *Modern English* from A.D. 1450 to present. Therefore **the King James Version Bible is NOT old English**, but was written in *modern English*, also known as 'sacred' English.

1380 Wycliffe Bible, revised 1382 was the **first complete English language** [*Middle English*] Bible translation by John Wycliff. Prior to Wycliffe's translation, people had to learn the Latin of the Vulgate; and Wycliffe apparently translated his version from Jerome's Latin Vulgate of A.D. 405. Every copy had to be hand written, but so many were produced that parliament wrote a bill to forbid circulation. Wycliffe was considered a heretic and was excommunicated. This was "the" Bible for over 229 years of the common people. Examples shown as facsimile of the original text, Genesis 1:1-5:

Wycliffe 1380 version	Wycliffe 1382 Revised Version
In the firste made God of Nougth heuene and erthe. The erthe forsothe was veyn with ynnne and void, and derknessis weren on the face of the see; and the Spiryte of God was born vpon the watyrs. And God seide, Be maad ligit; and maad is ligit. And God saw ligit, that it was good, and deuydid ligit fro derkness; And clepide ligit, day, and derknessis nygt. And maad is euen and moru, o day.	In the bigynnyn God made of nougt heuene and erthe. Forsothe the erthe was idel and voide, and derknessis weren on the face of depthe; and the Spiryte of God was borun on the watris. And God seide, Ligt be maad, and ligit was maad. And God seis the ligit, that it was good, and he departide the ligit fro derknessis; and he clepide the ligit, dai and the derknessis, nygt. And the euentid and morwetid was maad, o daie.

1534 Tyndale's Bible Translation

The first New Testament printed in English. Shows influence of Luthers's 1522 German translation. (Included the books of the Apocrypha). Example of Tyndale's version and how English had changed, Genesis 1:1-5:

In the begynnyng God created heaven and erth. The erth was voyde and emptie, and darcknesse was vpon the depe, and the spirite of god moved vpon the water. Than God sayd: let there be lyghte and there was lyghte.	And God saw the lyghte that it was good: & deuyded the lyghte from the darcknesse, and called the lyghte daye, and the darcknesse nyghte: and so of the evenyng and mornyng was made the fyrst daye.
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Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

1535 Coverdale's Bible

First complete Bible **printed in English**, edited by Myles Coverdale, an associate of Tyndale. This version was translated from the Latin and German texts. (Included the books of the Apocrypha)

1537 Matthew's Bible

John Rogers, also friend of Tyndale, issued his Bible under the pseudonym of Thomas Matthew due to stiff persecution. A composite book, utilizing chiefly the translation of Tyndale and Coverdale.

1539 Taverner's Bible

A revision and rare version of the *Matthew's Bible* by Richard Taverner.

1539 Great Bible

Issued under the editorship of Coverdale and the authority of General Cromwell. Called the "*Great Bible*" because of its size. Nicknamed the "*Chain Bible*" because they were chained to pulpits in English churches. In 1558, Elizabeth I replaced "Bloody" Mary (Catholic) on the throne of England and restored the church of England, and the injunction of Edward VI that a Bible should be placed in every church. This was the FIRST "Authorized" * English version.

* NOTE: "*Authorized*" simply means the only Bible version accepted by the heads of the Church of England at the time. There were three Bible versions that were "*Authorized*": *The Great Bible* of 1539, *The Bishop's Bible* of 1568, and the *King James Version* of 1611.

1560, 1599 Geneva Bible

Produced by English exiles in the city of Geneva, nonconformists and puritans who did not believe the 1539 Great Bible was translated accurately from original scriptures. **The first English Bible to adopt roman type and to divide the chapters into verses.** This version was not accepted by the Church of England, only first by reformists, then many ordinary people. This is the version the Pilgrims brought to America in the *Mayflower* in 1620, and considered by many as the original "American" bible. Some *puritans* continue to use this version to this day.

1568 Bishop's Bible

Because the *Geneva* version was so popular, the church needed their own revised translation. Even though the Church of England adopted this version as their second "Authorized" Bible, the common people did not. In 1618, state church authorities banned further printing of the *Geneva* Bible, and ordered existing copies to be burned.

1582 Rheims New Testament

A Roman Catholic New Testament version, translated from the *Latin Vulgate* at the Catholic College at Rheims. This version included the books of the *Apocrypha*. [Jesuit produced]

1609 Douai Bible

Completed Roman Catholic Bible. Due to the lack of funds, the Old Testament was delayed

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in the 1582 *Rheims*, and added in 1609 to be known as the *Douai Bible* because it was translated in Douai, France.

1611 King James "Authorized" Bible, major revisions 1629, 1638, 1762, 1769, ?

Planned in 1604 and completed in 1611, "the authorized version was never really 'authorized' by parliament or the King⁵". In the title pages it states "Translated from the original languages and diligently compared to previous translations and revisions". However, according to Dr. Estus Pirkle, 61% came from previous translations and 3% of that from versions of other languages, other than the original Hebrew and Greek. Over 7,100 alternate word choices are shown in the margins of the 1st edition; and over 30,000 grammatical changes were made between the 1611 and 1769 editions. **Modern Authorized King James Version Bibles are actually 1769 editions of the fourth revision, and often mistakenly called the "1611 King James Version Bible"**. The books of the *Apocrypha* were included in the original 1611 version, but removed in the second revision of 1629. The *Authorized King James Bible* has been the long standard of English speaking world for almost 400 years. The first edition was nicknamed the "He Bible" because "He" is rendered in Ruth 3:15, and was replaced by "She" in the second edition. Scholars claim the New Testament of the 1611 *King James Version* was translated using the *Textus Receptus* of 1539 by Erasmus.

The Apocrypha.

Set of 14 writings or books located between the Old and New Testaments of the original 1611 King James Bible. The *Apocrypha* was not accepted by Protestants as an authority in the Church, and ultimately rejected by the Puritans because they believed they were not divinely inspired. Due to later opposition of the Puritans, the *Apocrypha* was removed from the *King James Version* Bibles, but continued to be printed as a separate Christian text.

Other Scriptural Writings:

There are recent publishings and availability of "lost books" of the Bible. Some of these early writings may be valid inspired works or not, who can prove? The editors of these publications suggest each reader form their own opinion. According to the author of the book *New Age Bible Versions*, The *Book of Barnabas* and the *Shepherd of Hermas*, are from pagan influence and contains verses which are contrary to the KJV.

The exception to the 'traditional' belief that any book outside of the published Bible should not be considered viable is the *Book of Enoch*, which is quoted by Jude; and the little known *Book of Jasher*, which is recommended twice in the Holy Bible, (i.e. Joshua 10:13 and 2 Samuel 1:18).

Modern English Version Bibles:

New American Standard Bible (NASB), also known as *The Living Bible*; and particularly the *New International Version* (NIV) Bibles, have been sold to the Christian populus as being an accurate and easier to understand English versions. However, comparison of verses to the *Authorized King James Version* or *Geneva* Bibles, one will find that wording of many scriptures has been "revised or translated" to the degree that key words are removed, meanings of many KEY verses have changed.

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

The Holy names of our God and his Son Jesus Christ have also been removed or replaced with pronouns which removes their Divinity from scripture. There has been an extensive study which parallels these versions with recent teachings from New Age and Luciferian publications.

The results are clear and shocking. For example, between verse 8 and 9 of Mark 16, there is a dividing line and a statement that says "[The most reliable early manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do not have Mark 16:9-20.]. The only witness" that exclude this is the Alexandria, Egypt line, initiated by Ammonius Saccas, who was cited by Madame Blavatsky (a devout Satanist of late 1800's) who was founder of the Luciferian Theosophy, and her works are used by New Age leaders. The new revised Bibles, especially the NIV and NASB, use the 1% minority Greek manuscripts of Alexandria Egypt for non-doctrinal verses and altered liberal translations from the 4th century to the 1500's for most of the key verses dealing with Christian doctrine.⁶ Half of the Lord's prayer in Luke is missing!

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, **IF any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And IF any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.** (Rev 22:18-19)

Notice what the verse of Revelation 22:18-19 says and does not say. It does not say that anything could not or would not be changed, but only if it does. G.A. Riplinger, a Christian professor at Kent State, researched the new translations and the men involved. According to her research, she found the following points concerning the creators of all the modern versions:

1. "The New Age movement's expressed goal of infiltrating the evangelical church and gradually changing the bible to conform to its One World Religion is evident in the current new versions."
2. "This has taken place because the editors of the new versions, as well as authors of the Greek editions, manuscripts, lexicons and dictionaries used in their compilation, had beliefs which an orthodox Christian would find shocking."
 - "The Greek text used to translate the NIV, NASB and others was an edition drastically altered by a Spiritualist, who believed he was in the "new age". Two other new version editors were also involved in spiritualism."
 - The NASB Living Bible's progenitor was an instrumental member of the "gathering" which was a kick off event for the New Age movement and the East West Synthesis.
 - "A suprising number of new version editors have permanently lost their ability to speak." (Five to date).

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- The reference dictionary used by new version editors to research Greek etymology was edited by Hitler's propaganda 'high priest' Joseph Goebles.

3. "Contrary to advertising claims, the new versions are more difficult to read than the King James, according to research using the Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level indicators."

4. "A new Christianity is emerging from the new versions which substitutes riches for righteousness, a crown for a cross, and an imitation for a new creation. (Just listen to some of the TV evangelists)

5. The few Greek manuscripts underlying new versions contain yet unreleased material which is an exact blueprint for the antichrist's One World Religion. A complete translation is being requested by new version editors and new agers. This would be the final "universal bible" called for by (now former) UN Assistant Secretary General Robert Muller, who runs an occult school in Texas. [see his "website"]

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: (2 Th 2:11)

Text: Isaiah 14:12

'Authorized' King James

New International Version (NIV)

"How art thou fallen from heaven,
O Lucifer, son of the morning!
how art thou **cut down to the ground**,
which didst weaken the nations!"

"How you have fallen from heaven,
O morning star, son of the dawn!
You have been **cast down to the earth**,
you who once laid low the nations!"

Notice that this is the only place in the entire Bible that mentions the name Lucifer, and in Rev 22:16, Jesus says himself he is the morning star. The other differences are also a direct contradiction. Lucifer according to Isaiah, is a man, which is the antichrist. It seems appropriate that his name would be concealed in latter day Bibles.

Also compare a simple word replacement which changes the intent of this verse of John 3:16-

'Authorized' King James

New International Version (NIV)

"For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him
should not perish,
but have everlasting life."

"For God so loved the world,
that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him
shall not perish,
but have eternal life."

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

This one is not as obvious as the previous example. The King James in this verse gives the "intent" that one should not perish, indicating that there is more to just belief vs. the NIV leads one to think that only believing in Jesus, one is absolutely saved.

Compare to the following verse:

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God **must believe that he is**, and that **he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him**. (KJV Heb 11:6)

The NASB Living Bible has removed the word **diligently** in this verse and from the results of this study and search for the truth, it is plain that all modern day Christian religions have changed the Biblical definition of faith and belief. It was by words that God created and Satan changes and perverts words to deceive. If you compared earlier word definitions of an 1828 Webster's dictionary to a modern one, even many of our own word definitions have been changed. According to the *Encyclopedia of the Occult and Parapsychology*, the "New Age" is defined as a SEMANTIC REVOLUTION!

Text: Ephesians 3:9

Authorized King James

Living Bible (NASB)

"And to make all men see what is the **fellowship** of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things **by Jesus Christ**."

"And to bring to light what is the **administration** of the mystery which **for ages** hath been hidden in God who created all things."

Now it is not enough to deny the Holy Son of God in this translation, but this verse in the NASB, actually changes the meaning of how long God's mystery has been hidden. These previous examples are only the tip of the iceberg. These bibles are gradually, and intentionally being changed to deceive people into the New World Religion that is already underway.

There is an underlying truth about these Bible versions and translation arguments as well as the dissention between conservatives vs. moderates vs. liberals and their interpretations and the bickering, etc. (which is by the way one of the 7 abominations unto God). They all can't be right in their differences, which makes it obvious that they really don't know all the truths. And it is rightly so that the Holy God of Israel, and our Lord Jesus would not reveal his divine holy truths to such. I will avoid arguments concerning which Bibles to use on this basis. The main fact is that the majority of Christians hardly ever read whatever Bible they have, and it unless God lifts the veil of understanding of a person's mind, when they do read, they are reading in vain.

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The most recent translation to date (i.e. 2005), is the New Living Translation (NLT), introduced in 1996, and revised in 2004. This translation has been increasingly popular on a "global" level. Each new popular translation appears to become more progressively perverted in context. A brief example is this statement made by Jesus in the sermon on the mount. Ref. Text: Matthew 6:31-33. (Major differences shown in bold).

<i>Authorized King James Version</i>	<i>New Living Translation</i>
31 "Therefore take no thought , saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we <u>be clothed</u> ?"	³¹ "So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we <u>wear</u> ?' ³² These things
32 "(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek ;) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things."	dominate the thoughts of unbelievers , but your heavenly Father already know all your needs. ³³ Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously , and he will give you everything you need .
33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness ; and all these things shall be added unto you."	

There is a grave difference between the meanings of these two translations. The KJV clearly indicates that one is also **to search for the righteousness of God**, which is the *agape* love essence of Christ. If we are being **COMMANDED** by the Lord Himself to search for it, then obviously **WE DO NOT POSSESS the righteousness of God**, nor can we ever BE RIGHTEOUS before a just and holy God. The righteousness of God is IN Christ, therefore we cannot learn it or force our will to 'do it', it HAS to be BESTOWED, (1 John 3:1). The righteousness of God is his *agape* love that is only given THROUGH UNION with Jesus Christ. This NLT version indicates just the OPPOSITE where the search for the righteousness of God is **omitted** and replaced with MAN'S RIGHTEOUSNESS, which is considered by God as FILTHY RAGS!, (Isaiah 64:6).

5. ADULTERATION OF GOD'S WORD

*"Now the parable is this: **THE SEED IS THE WORD OF GOD.**"*
(Luke 8:11)

"FOR WE ARE NOT AS MANY,
WHICH CORRUPT THE WORD OF GOD..."
(2 Corinthians 2:17)

"BEING BORN AGAIN, NOT OF CORRUPTIBLE SEED,
BUT OF INCORRUPTIBLE, BY THE WORD OF GOD,

WHICH LIVETH AND ABIDETH FOR EVER."

(1 Peter 1:23)

**"BUT HAVE RENOUNCED THE HIDDEN THINGS OF DISHONESTY,
NOT WALKING IN CRAFTINESS,
NOR HANDLING THE WORD OF GOD DECEITFULLY;
BUT BY MANIFESTATION OF THE TRUTH
COMMENDING OURSELVES TO EVERY MAN'S CONSCIENCE
IN THE SIGHT OF GOD."**
(2 Corinthians 4:2)

*"Now therefore hearken, O Israel,
unto the statutes and unto the judgments,
WHICH I TEACH YOU,
FOR TO DO THEM, THAT YE MAY LIVE,
and go in and possess the land which the LORD God
of your fathers giveth you."*

**"YE SHALL NOT ADD
UNTO THE WORD WHICH I COMMAND YOU,
NEITHER SHALL YE DIMINISH OUGHT FROM IT,
THAT YE MAY KEEP
THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD
WHICH I COMMAND YOU."**
(Deu 4:1-2)

"DIMINISH", H1639. *gara'*, gaw-rah'; a prim. root; to scrape off; by impl. to shave, remove, lessen or withhold;--**abate**, clip, (di-) minish, do (take) away, keep back, restrain, make small, withdraw.

ABATE, [*Random House*], 1. to reduce in amount, degree, intensity, etc.; lessen; diminish. 2. *Law*. (a.) to put an end to or suppress (a nuisance). (b.) to suspend or extinguish (an action). (c.) to annul (a writ). 3. to deduct or subtract: *to abate part of the cost*. 4. to omit. 5. to remove... 6. to diminish in intensity, violence, amount, etc. 7. *Law*. to end; become null and void. —Syn.1. decrease, weaken., subside.

**"EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE:
he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him."**

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"ADD THOU NOT UNTO HIS WORDS,
lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." (Prov 30:5-6)

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book,

IF ANY MAN SHALL ADD UNTO THESE THINGS,
GOD SHALL ADD UNTO HIM THE PLAGUES
THAT ARE WRITTEN IN THIS BOOK:"

"AND IF ANY MAN SHALL TAKE AWAY
FROM THE WORDS OF THE BOOK OF THIS PROPHECY,
GOD SHALL TAKE AWAY HIS PART OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE,
and out of the holy city,
and from the things which are written in this book."
(Rev 22:18-19)

"ADD", G2007. *epitithemi*, ep-ee-tith'-ay-mee; from G1909 and G5087; **to impose** (in a friendly or hostile sense):--add unto, lade, lay upon, put (up) on, set on (up), + surname, X wound.

IMPOSE, [*Random House*], {from Latin *in* and *pono*, **to put**}

1. to lay on or set as something to be borne, endured, obeyed, fulfilled, paid, etc.
2. **to put or set by or as if by authority**: *to impose one's personal preference on others.*
4. **to pass or palm off fraudulently or deceptively.**
7. *Archaic.* **to put or place on something, or in a particular place.**
9. **to make an impression on the mind**; impose one's or its authority or **influence.**
10. **to obtrude oneself or one's requirements, as upon others.**
11. **to presume**, as upon patience or good nature.
12. impose on or upon,
 - a. to thrust oneself offensively upon others; **intrude.**
 - b. **to take unfair advantage of**; **misuse** (influence, friendship, etc.).
 - c. **to defraud**; cheat; **deceive.**

AND NOW I KNOW THIS MYSTERY,
THAT SINNERS WILL ALTER AND PERVERT
THE WORDS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

IN MANY WAYS,
AND WILL SPEAK WICKED WORDS, AND LIE,
AND PRACTICE GREAT DECEITS,
AND WRITE BOOKS
CONCERNING THEIR WORDS. (I Enoch 104:10)

But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty,
NOT WALKING IN CRAFTINESS,
NOR HANDLING THE WORD OF GOD
DECEITFULLY;
but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every
man's conscience in the sight of God.
But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe
not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God,
should shine unto them. (2 Cor 4:4)

"HANDLING ... DECEITFULLY", G1389. *doloo*, dol-o'-o; from G1388; to ensnare, i.e. (fig.) **adulterate**:--handle deceitfully.

G1388. *dolos*, dol'-os; from an obs. prim. *dello* (prob. mean. **to decoy**; comp. G1185); a trick (bait), i.e. (fig.) wile:--craft, deceit, guile, subtilty.

DECOY, [*Random House*], 1. a person who entices or lures another person or thing, as into danger, a trap, or the like. 2. anything used as a lure.

"FOR WE ARE NOT **AS MANY** [THE MAJORITY]
WHICH CORRUPT
THE WORD OF GOD:
but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God
speak we in Christ.
(2 Cor 2:17)

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"CORRUPT", G2585. *kapeleuo*, kap-ale-yoo'-o; from *kapelos* (a huckster); to retail, i.e. (by impl.) **to adulterate** (fig.):--**corrupt**.

ADULTERATE, 1. **to debase or make impure by adding inferior materials or elements**; use cheaper, inferior, or less desirable goods in **the production of any professedly genuine article**.

CORRUPT, [*Random House*], 3. **made inferior by errors or alterations, AS A TEXT**. 6. **to destroy the integrity of**. 7. **to pervert**. 8. **to alter (a language, text, etc.) for the worse; debase**.

*"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing,
because,
WHEN YE RECEIVED THE WORD OF GOD WHICH YE HEARD OF US,
YE RECEIVED IT NOT AS THE WORD OF MEN,
BUT AS IT IS IN TRUTH,
THE WORD OF GOD,
WHICH EFFECTUALLY WORKETH ALSO IN YOU
THAT BELIEVE." (1 Th 2:13)*

[The word of God IS: "AS IT IS".]

**ALTER AND PERVERT = ADULTERATE AND CORRUPT
TO ALTER THE LANGUAGE OF THE TEXT FOR THE WORSE.**

1. THEY ALTER THE TEXT FOR THE WORSE, (CORRUPT BIBLE VERSIONS);
2. THEY PERVERT DOCTRINE, (ADULTERATE INTERPRETATION)

***"STRIVE TO ENTER IN AT THE STRAIT GATE:
FOR MANY, I SAY UNTO YOU,
WILL SEEK TO ENTER IN, AND SHALL NOT BE ABLE."
(Luke 13:24)***

**TO CORRUPT THE WORD OF GOD,
OR TEACH CORRUPT DOCTRINE
PRODUCES TRAGIC RESULTS.**

A FEW COMPARISONS OF CORRUPTED BIBLE VERSIONS:

Text: Jude 1:3

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

<i>1611 King James Bible</i>	<i>1769 'Authorized' King James Bible</i>
"Beloued, when I gaue all diligence to write vnto you of the common saluation : it was needfull for mee to write vnto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was <u>once deliuered</u> vnto the Saints."	"Beloued, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common saluation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort <i>you</i> that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was <u>once delivered</u> unto the saints."

"COMMON", G2839. *koinos*, koy-nos'; prob. from G4862; **common**, i.e. (lit.) **shared by all or several**, or (cer.) **profane:--common, defiled, unclean, unholy**.

"NEEDFUL", G318. *anagke*, an-ang-kay'; from G303 and the base of G43; constraint (lit. or fig.); by **implying distress:--distress, must needs, (of) necessity (-sary), neededth, needful**.

"EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR", G1864. *epagonizomai*, ep-ag-o-nid'-zom-ahee; from G1909 and G75; **to struggle for:--earnestly contend for**.

CONTEND, (*Webster-1828*), **To strive, to use earnest efforts to obtain**, or to defend and preserve.

Other than the updated spelling of several words (and letters u-v exchange), these verses are identical in context. Jude addresses this warning to "Beloved", which means fellow Christians of the *agape*-love of Christ. Jude is warning of a "common" salvation gospel that has crept in, and he is distressed to forewarn fellow Christians to strive and struggle for the faith of Christ, which leads to salvation.

1599 Geneva Bible

**"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you
OF THE COMMON SALVATION,
it was needfull for me to write unto you, to exhort you,
that ye should earnestly contend for
the maintenance of the faith,
which was once given unto the Saints."
*(Jude 1:3, 1599 Geneva Bible)***

The *Geneva* has the additional phrase: "*the maintenance of*", which is also in *italic* indicating that the translators **added it** as "their" interpretation. This phrase is not in the Greek majority text of *The Interlinear Bible*, nor is it in any other popular translation.

With their addition, it changes the meaning of the last statement of this verse to contend for the "maintenance of" faith instead of struggling for the

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TRUE faith itself. Now, compare these to some of the more recent Bible versions.

<i>The New King James Version, 1982</i>	<i>The NIV Study Bible, 1985</i>
" Beloved , while I was very diligent to write to you concerning OUR common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints."	" Dear friends , although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share , I felt I had to write and urge you to *contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints."

[*Earnestly is omitted.]

Both the *New King James Version* and the *NIV* have totally changed the meaning of this verse, which removes the danger of the warning from Jude. THE "common" of the older versions represent the false salvation gospel that 2 Peter chapter 2 warns of, and how it became increasingly popular within early Christianity. Both of these modern versions totally remove the warning by indicating the OPPOSITE, by stating the "common" doctrine as being the true one. Also, the implication of distress of Jude is made unapparent by changing the one word "needful" into several smoother sounding words. Finally, the last statement is changed from "once", referring to the original application of faith that is being perverted, to a statement that removes the "striving" and the fight the good fight of faith that leads to TRUE salvation.

This is but ONE of thousands of altered verses, some more evident than others where the MEANING of the text has been altered, usually to the direct OPPOSITE of the original from the majority of Greek text.

Literal translation; (The Interlinear Bible, by J.P. Green):

27	3956	4710	4160	1125	5213	4012	2839	4991
Αγαπητσι	πασαν	σπουδην	πισυμενος	γραφειν	υμιν	περι	της	καινης
Beloved,	all	diligence	making	to write	you	about	the	common
318	2192	1125	5213	3870	1864	530	3860	
αναγκην	εσχσν	γραψαι	υμιν	παρακαλων	επαγωνιζεσθαι	τη	απαξ	παραδοθειση
necessity	I had	to write	you	exhorting	to earnestly	contend	for	the
40	4102							once
40	4102							delivered
τοις	αγιοις	πιστεις	.					
to the	saints	faith						

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

"3 Having made all diligence to write to you about the common salvation, beloved, I had need to write to you to exhort you to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints" [Steven's Interlinear Bible]

It is an obvious fact that both the Greek *majority text* and *Strong's Concordance* agree with the *King James Version* Bibles, which continues to prove to be the more accurate English language version available in this example.

Here is a more accurate translation based upon the Greek MMS (majority manuscripts), in context with Jude and 2 Peter 2 subject matter:

- 'BELOVED', G27. *agapetos*, ag-ap-ay-tos'; from G25 [*agapao*]; beloved.
- 'MAKING', G4160
- 'ALL', G3956
- 'DILIGENCE', G4710
- "TO WRITE", G1125
- 'YOU', G5213
- 'CONCERNING', G4012, about or concerning
- "THE COMMON", G2839, shared by all or defiled
- 'SALVATION', G4991
- "OF NECESSITY", G318
- 'HAVE', G2192, *have* in the possessive: [I had]
- "TO WRITE", G1125
- 'EXHORTING', G3870, or beseech
- 'YOU', G5213
- "TO STRUGGLE FOR", G1864
- "FOR THE"
- 'ONE', G530
- 'DELIVERED', G3860
- " TO THE"
- 'SAINTS', G40

"Beloved, making all diligence to write you concerning the common salvation, of necessity I have to write exhorting you **to struggle** for the faith once delivered to the saints."

Now compare the NIV to the latest NLT (New Living Translation) version of Jude 1:3.

<i>New International Version, 1985</i>	<i>New Living Translation</i>
"Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share , I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints."	Dear friends , I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share . But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to this holy people.

Obviously the true message here of the original inspired Greek, has adulterated the serious warning originally given by the Holy Spirit of God through his servant Jude!

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"For we are not as MANY who corrupt the word of God..."
(2 Corinthians 2:17)

FALLIBILITY OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE.

The comparison of alterations of Jude is by no means conclusive, nor does that make the 'Authorized' King James Bible TOTALLY "INFALLIBLE". This can be proven by the text John 21:15-17; and the insertion of the word: '**Easter**' in Acts 12:4.

15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, [AGAPAO] **LOVEST** thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I [PHILEO] **LOVE** thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, [AGAPAO] **LOVEST** thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I [PHILEO] **LOVE** thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, [PHILEO] **LOVEST** thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, [PHILEO] **LOVEST** thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I [PHILEO] **LOVE** thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. (John 21:15-17)

If one did not know the difference between the "AGAPE" love of God, and the "PHILEO" love of man, and also compare any English Bible translation to the original New Testament Greek, they would most probably MISS the entire point of this conversation between Peter and our Lord. The English language only has the one word for "LOVE", whereas the Greek has more than thirty words for different applications and types of love. The King James translators should have also known this and compensated for it. Therefore, it is wise to assume that ALL English version Bibles can be deceptive, unless one compares and does the word studies of key words to their original languages. The Strong's Concordance with the Hebrew and Greek lexicon is the easiest way to do that for any literate person.

- THE GREAT "G" DEBATE.

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."
(2 Cor 4:4, 'Authorized' KJV)

Most scholars believe the reference to the "god of this world" refers to Satan. However, that is easily proved to be an assumption. It is interesting that the NIV Bible translates this as "God of this world", and Wycliffe also gives an entirely different translation:

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

"in which **God hath blent the soulis of vnfeithful men of this world**, that the liytning of the gospel of the glorie of Crist, which is the ymage of God, schyne not." (2 Cor 4:4, Wycliffe Bible, 1380)

9 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, **and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes**, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. (Isaiah 6:9-10)

38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again,

40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with *their* eyes, nor understand with *their* heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

(John 12:38-40)

Wycliffe places the phrase "of this world" in relation to men, instead of to God! However, by closely examining and comparing the rest of 2 Corinthians 4:4, Isaiah 6:9-10, and John 12:38-40, we find it is **God the Father that blinds the minds of men to the truth of His word**. The basic fact is: that the minds of most people are blinded to the truth of the gospel, except they repent and OBEY Christ, regardless who is doing the blinding!

6. GLOSSARY OF COMMON TERMINOLOGY.

BIBLE, (*Webster*). [Greek, *biblos*] THE BOOK, by way of eminence; the sacred volume, in which are contained the revelations of God, the principles of Christian faith, and the rules of practice. It consists of two parts, called the Old and New Testaments.

"The *Bible* should be the standard of language as well of faith. *Anon.*"

CANON, Ancient writings 'officially' accepted as THE inspired words of God. The books of the traditional Bibles are considered the *canon* which were accepted by the various religions. Jews established their canon about 90 A.D. ; and do not consider the book of Esther canonical because it does not mention the word "God".¹

DECALOGUE, (*Webster*). [Greek, *ten – speech*] The ten commandments or precepts given by God to Moses at mount Sinai, and originally written on two tables of stone.

PENTATEUCH, (*Webster*). [Greek, *five – a book.*] The first five books of the Old Testament.

¹ The World Book Encyclopedia, B-218

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SEPTUAGINT, (*Webster*). The first complete language translation of the Old Testament into Greek. So called because it was the work of *seventy*, or rather of seventy two interpreters. This translation from the Hebrew is supposed to have been made in the reign and by order of Ptolemy Philadelphus, king of **Egypt, about 250 B.C.**

"The *Septuagint* chronology makes fifteen hundred years more from the creation to Abraham, than the present Hebrew copies of the Bible. *Encyc.*"

TESTAMENT, (*Strong's*). G1242. *diatheke*, dee-ath-ay'-kay; from G1303; prop. a disposition [settlement], i.e. (spec.) **A CONTRACT** (espec. **a devisory will** [testator]):--**covenant**, testament.

CONTRACT, (*Black's Law*): An agreement between two or more persons which creates an obligation to do or not to do a particular thing. "A contract is a promise or a set of promises for the breach of which the law gives a remedy, or the performance of which the law in some way recognizes as a duty."

TORAH, (*Strong's*). H8451. *towrah*, to-raw'; or ***torah***, to-raw'; from H3384 [teach]; a precept or statute, espec. the *Decalogue* or *Pentateuch*:--law. [Hebrew term for the first five books of the Old Testament; also called the *book of the law*, or the book (s) of Moses, or the *Pentateuch*.]

◆ BOOKS MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE:

BOOK OF THE LAW, (Deu 31:26; 19 times) [This is the TORAH, first five books of Bible]

THE BOOK OF THE COVENANT, (Exo 24:7)

THE BOOK OF MOSES. (2 Chr 35:12)

BOOK OF THE WARS (Num 21:14) [Book of Joshua?]

THE BOOK OF THE KINGS of Judah and Israel. (2 Chr 16:11; 2 Chr 24:27)

THE BOOK OF THE CHRONICLES of the kings (1 Ki 14:29; Est 6:1; Neh 12:23)

THE BOOK OF THE RECORDS (Ezra 4:15; Numbers?)

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE (Mal 3:16)

THE BOOK OF PSALMS, (Luke 20:42, Psalms)

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHETS, (Acts 7:42)

THE BOOK OF THE WORDS OF ESAIAS the prophet, (Luke 3:4, Book of Isaiah)

THE BOOK OF THE VISION OF NAHUM the Elkoshite. (Nahum 1:1)

Qualifying the Bible and Bible Versions

THE BOOK OF THE GENERATION OF JESUS CHRIST, (Mat 1:1)

THE BOOK OF JASHER (Josh 10:13; 2 Sam 1:18); Recommended reading by The Holy Bible. (reprints are scarce)

I ENOCH Quoted in the Holy Bible in Jude 1:14. [available in several different translations; also the "Secrets of Enoch" is known as **II Enoch**]

◆ *WHAT BIBLE VERSION ONE SHOULD USE ?*

**"... GOD IS ABLE OF THESE STONES
TO RAISE UP CHILDREN UNTO ABRAHAM."**

**"AND NOW ALSO THE AX IS LAID UNTO THE ROOT OF THE TREES:
THEREFORE EVERY TREE WHICH BRINGETH NOT FORTH GOOD FRUIT
IS HEWN DOWN, AND CAST INTO THE FIRE."
(Mat 3:9-10)**

"STONES", G3037. *lithos*, lee'-thos; a stone, millstone, stumbling stone.

**"I have chosen THE WAY OF TRUTH:
THY JUDGMENTS HAVE I LAID BEFORE ME."
(Psa 119:30)**

"LAID", H7737. *shavah*, shaw-vaw'; prop. to level, i.e. equalize; **fig. to resemble**; by impl. to adjust (i.e. counterbalance, be suitable, compose, place, yield, etc.):--avail, behave, bring forth, compare, countervail, (be, make) equal, lay, be (make, a-) like, make plain, profit, reckon.

**"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)**

THE PUBLISHED WORD

"TRY", G1381. *dokimazo*, dok-im-ad'-zo; from G1384; **to test** (lit. or fig.); by impl. to **approve--allow, discern, examine, X like, (ap-) prove, try.**

CONCLUSION:

Since the 'Authorized' King James Version Bible has been the English-speaking standard for almost 400 years, and the alternative choices could potentially lead to eternal suicide, I personally chose the 1769 version 'Authorized' King James Holy Bible as my primary (but not exclusive) Bible text. The principle reference books I use for study is the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible with the Hebrew and Greek lexicons; the *American Dictionary Of The English Language* by Noah Webster 1828; and *Steven's Interlinear Bible*. The Strong's Concordance should match the Bible version it is to be used with. This reference gives the original Hebrew or Greek word definitions, while Webster's first 1828 dictionary was developed close the King James 'Authorized' Version of 1769 that relates to the English word definitions common to that time. It is interesting to note that, (at the time of this writing, February 1995), that the Authorized King James Bibles or reprint 1611 editions, are becoming difficult to obtain, and many local "Christian" bookstores no longer stock 'Authorized' King James Bibles. I also avoided all "study" Bibles including the *Scofield or Dakes Annotated*, because the references verses support the particular interpretation by the author and his persuasion which is most often contrary to SOUND DOCTRINE. The same goes for Bible commentaries, such as Matthew Henry's and others. The only other thing that is extremely helpful in deep Bible study is Bible computer software that synchronizes Strong's Hebrew and Greek Lexicon with the Bible text which **allows instant word definitions** to be displayed alongside the King James text. The best and simplest was 1993-95 versions of *Quickverse for Windows*, which unfortunately, this original company and software is no longer around. Perhaps there are others.

~ End of Study ~