

# Truth To

Volume 3 Issue 4 – October/November 2023



The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few - *Matthew 9:37 KJV*

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# The Bewildering Confusion of Modern Bibles

In some of these modern bibles we have words and phrases inserted that have no corresponding basic equivalency in authentic copies of the Hebrew and Greek. You will not find them in the Bible which God gave when 'holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost', (2 Pet 1vs21, 2 Tim 3v16).

Let me assure you dear believer that after 40 years of manuscript study of original sources, do not assume that those who claim that modern bibles are based upon oldest and best manuscripts, that such always go together. After the first century of the Apostles the mutilating of the scriptures had begun. For example, the African fathers and the whole Western, with a part of the Syrian Church, used far inferior manuscripts than those used 1300 years later when giving us the Textus Receptus. Look, the Majority Text or Traditional Text – sometimes called the Received Text which underlies our A.V. faithfully preserves God's Word.

God is more than able to providentially preserve His Word for centuries. It would be absurd to assume the God of the Bible couldn't. Yes, in many cases ancient copies of the bible have perished, but God's revelation has been preserved. In many examples the worn-out copies were destroyed when new ones were made from them. In this way the ancient text was perpetuated in less ancient copies. It is clear that the providence of God has watched over the sacred text in the early centuries thus taking care of them absolutely. In these troubled years God had His people producing faithful copies. These copies were returned to by the whole Greek Church in the fourth and fifth centuries, and from which we received our A.V.

We should be aware that the number of manuscripts behind our A.V. is huge, many believers have no knowledge of these matters, nor do bible college graduates. Christians are given the impression that the the A.V. is only backed up by inferior manuscripts, yet they do not know that contemporary textual critics call inferior manuscripts actually make up the huge majority of all manuscripts. In fact, more and more light is coming forth yearly that destroys any reliability on Sinaiticus or Vaticanus, they are corrupt and will one day be proved to be. On that day all modern bible versions will be revealed for what they are, worthless.



We need to remember that a revised text may be either good or bad, and anyway it is the result of the judgement of the revisers. Further, we have readings in the Greek text, which are not found in any extant Greek manuscript before the fifth century, which now has superior claim to originality. Further, when the likes of P66, P75 and B concur in spurious readings it raises real questions of their independence to the original text. Thus, the agreements against the Majority text are suspect on the grounds that they may simply reproduce the readings of a single ancient copy and the extent of those errors and revisions is unknown.

We should know that the views popularised by the heretics Westcott and Hort before the turn of the century are no longer tenable. However, it was their corrupt views that was responsible for relegating the Majority text to a secondary status in the general thought of textual critics. The Brilliant scholar Dean Burgon, a great defender of the Majority text who was a contemporary of Westcott and Hort scoffed (rightly so), at their official revision. Today however many scholars agree that such a revision never happened.

We should remember the Majority text is uniform in character with little variation between major representatives. No one has yet explained how a long, slow process spread over centuries as well as wide geographical areas, and also involving multitudes of copyists, who often knew nothing of the state of the text outside their area could achieve such widespread uniformity out of the diversity presented by the earlier forms of text. So, while denying the Majority text any claim to represent the actual form of the original text, it is nevertheless unable to explain its rise, its uniformity, and dominance. Now, these things can be accounted for, however, if the Majority text represents simply the continuous transmission of the original text from the start. All minority text forms are merely divergent offshoots of a broad stream of transmission whose original source is the Original Autographs.

Now, huge amounts of new evidence are coming forth that believers, pastors, lecturers etc. know nothing of, so they go right on suggesting false, corrupt versions. Let me tell you now, the Majority text, upon which the A.V. is based, has the strongest possible claim as authentic to the Original. Such a claim is quite independent of shifting scholarly views about its readings and is in fact based on the objective reality of its dominance in the transmissional history of the New Testament text. This dominance has not and I strongly suggest cannot be otherwise explained.

By Dr David Badger

## A Nation Awaiting Judgement

We live in a land that wonderfully fits the title of our little piece. Stop now and read Isaiah chapter 5. Now let us consider Israel's situation at that time. God's people had been well planted by the Lord. He had put them in a fruitful place, however, they had become increasingly rotten. The Lord had never failed them but they had rejected Him. Like our own Nation, once great and blessed by the Lord, now an increasingly rotten carcass. Just like Israel of old. So Britain has despised mercy, justice, goodness and holiness. Here in Isaiah v5 then God is going to take away His protective care. Judgement is coming on the land and they will no longer have God of Israel to protect them. Again, our nation needs to consider the days ahead, today this land flaunts its wickedness, parades it proudly, do you really think this will not have to be accounted for?

As the prophet Isaiah views his people, he warns them their land will become like an overgrown wasted garden. God had no place in His people's hearts, thus the poor etc. were trodden down. Everything that should have been socially present was missing. There was no righteousness or just law and truth had fallen in the streets. Today in our land, truth has not just fallen in the streets it has fallen in the churches. In the prophet's day buying up property and building little kingdoms was in vogue but it is all going to be swept away. All their investments in the land will collapse, easy to forget isn't it that God controls the seasons. Equally we need to remember as a nation when money is god, such a god can be dramatically dethroned.

Again, as we look at the prophets day we see that old curse DRINK. Drink that destroys reason, families, individual lives etc. Yes this nation likes to party, God is not even considered, no time is taken to consider how His hand may move and change their whole lives in a moment. Israel had removed God from their lives and nation in the way they feel, reason, live etc. They have no sense, knowledge, judgement, true wisdom, the fact is they are dying and don't even realise. Countless today fit that picture. What is the church preaching? It doesn't know how to preach. It sings, dances, claps, makes a lot of noise and when 'happy hour' is over, still in spiritual hunger.



Israel in chapter five has disaster on the way, it will leave many dead. As for that old sin of pride, well that is going to be dealt a crushing blow. Rank and station will not save them. There is a Holy God to be reckoned with and we might say here that our nation is facing such a coming day. But, go on listen to all your false prophets and 'soothsayers'.

Back in Israel their pride and vanity had caused them to flaunt iniquity, we see it on our own T.V.'s. Like today, Isaiah's people didn't think God could do anything, He was powerless, such is the thought today among the godless. Back in Israel they had turned morals upside down. To them wickedness equalled goodness and goodness evil. How long do you think such a nation will continue? Do you think that God cannot re-adjust the scales? Look at verse 21, they have made their wisdom the standard of prudence. They are heroes in drinking yet cowards in giving right judgement. So, in verse 24 God is about to sort the chaff from the wheat. That nation and this should know and understand that is despising God they have signed their own death warrant. So, Assyria is bearing down on them, Judgement is coming. What about Great Britain? Well the Great long departed. What of Britain then? Beyond a reckoning for sin and daily wickedness? You are in great darkness. Seek the Lord while He may be found.

By Dr David Badger

# Respect unto the recompense of the reward

**24** By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;  
**25** Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

**26** Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. *Hebrews 11*

It is all too easy in our hectic modern life to simply dismiss the trials and tests of our ancestors, particularly those who lived many centuries and millennia ago. How can the tests and trials of a simple farmer, shepherd, carpenter etc, ever contend with the myriad of stresses and worries we endure today? They didn't have mortgages, car payments, rent, insurance, childcare bills, etc, etc to fret over and so we attempt to rationalise that our stumbles of faith are justifiable. How can a modern Christian consider turning their backs on a successful career with all its financial stability in a economically volatile world, when the example of such a staggering life choice in Scripture be a man who lived thousands of years ago? Well as always, we must sweep away ill considered preconceptions of the tests and troubles faced by those who lived thousands of years ago, and instead look at what they **actually** endured in the name of Christ Jesus. What comes to light is an account of faith that truly marks them out as *heroes of the faith*, in comparison to we champions of grumbling.

Our passage of Scripture in question refers to the great act of faith that Moses lived in his turning away from the myriad pleasures and luxuries in Ancient Egypt so that he might attain an eternal reward in Christ Jesus. It is vital to remember that Moses was raised as the adopted son of the daughter of Pharaoh. Moses lived as a member of the most powerful royal family on planet Earth! Moses spent forty years strolling through incredible streets of stunning architecture that still makes engineers gasp in awe to this day! His days would be filled with an army of servants rushing to answer and fulfil his every desire. Whether this be the prestigious role of the Royal Sandal Bearer, for when Moses required a fresh set of footwear (sandals were reserved for the elite in Ancient Egypt), or the Royal Wig Bearer for when a grand state occasion demanded he looked his best; or even the Royal Fan-bearer, who Moses could summon whenever he pleased to act as his own personal air conditioning unit. All these were very real roles in Ancient Egypt and Moses would've enjoyed them for four decades.



Furthering this comfortable life, Moses, as a member of the Royal Family, would've feasted on rare delicacies such as honey glazed gazelle, whilst the average Egyptian lived on meagre fare such as flatbreads and mutton. The finest wines would've been poured plentifully into his cups, whilst we enjoyed the most expensive and exquisite fabrics available to man in his daily dress. Beauty would've surrounded him as he would've had

no shortage of suitors from admiring young ladies of the noble classes, all seeking to become part of the great and regal family of the world's superpower.

To compound all this opulence and luxury, the Egyptians viewed their royals as gods with them all playing important roles in the many processions and ceremonies of the various religious festivals and events of the day. Moses' life was filled to the very brim with all the most stunning treasures the world can offer to any individual. It was the kind of life the world's elite to this day would struggle to emulate such was the all encompassing grandeur of Moses' daily life.

Now consider how Moses had known this world for forty years before he left the land. As I too approach this milestone of life, with it being less than a year away, I desire to fully and finally establish a secure life for myself and my family. I know what I like and what I don't and the prospect of great change does not particularly enthrall me to say the least. This is the same for most men. The age of energy and youthful abandon is fading away and stability and security is appearing far more desirable at this stage of life. After years of labour, recognition and the desire for it begins to form also in the mind of many men at this age. Yet at this turning point of many lives, Moses instead makes a decision that can only be attributed to an act of revelation; he turns away from opulence and embraces affliction for Christ's sake instead.



Moses turned his back on the most luxuriant, comfortable and secure life this world could ever summon. What awaited him was a hard and difficult life in the wilderness of Midian first for forty years, then another forty years travelling through a land of inhospitable terrain. He found himself without the plentiful servants, without the luxuriant clothes, without the tasty delicacies and pleasant cool fans of his courtiers. Instead, he found himself battling against harsh elements in rough and functional attire, trying to first care for difficult and rebellious sheep in the mountains of Midian; then trying to care for the difficult and rebellious people of Israel in the wilderness. Could you make that call for Christ? I doubt it. In truth, how many could? We would in all likelihood baulk at the thought of leaving such ease and comfort in the first place. Even if we did make that first step and leave such a secure and luxuriant life, we would soon likely rush back to it once we experienced but a few days or weeks of what Moses found himself to be his new life in service of God.



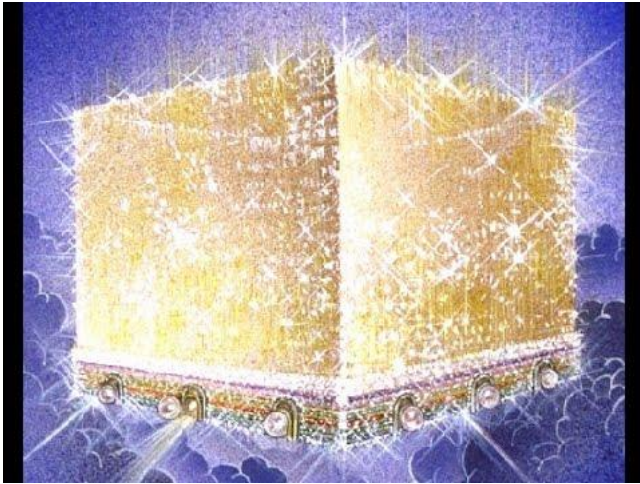
Moses knew the pleasures of sin very well, they were visible before him daily in the courts of Pharaoh. Yet after years of seeing these pleasures come and pass with alarming impermanence, a realisation dawned on Moses that though the pleasures of sin are real, they are short lived and soon end. Not only that, but whilst they are temporary, the pleasures of sin also come with consequences; consequences of a temporal and eternal nature.

So what was Moses to do in such a realisation. An individual has two in such a situation, that terrible moment when they realise that sinful pleasure constantly fulfilled brings no lasting joy, peace and fulfilment; they can either lean into it and destroy themselves with over indulgence of such pleasures (think of all the music stars who have come to premature ends as a modern day example of this tragic truth), or they walk away from it and seek something deeper, something more meaningful and permanent. By the grace of God, Moses chose the latter as the revelation of God witnessed to his heart that there is a way of gaining lasting peace, lasting joy and eternal security, and that is through faith in Christ.

Moses, who had known the great and mighty Pharaoh as a family member, and adopted grandfather; came to meet the Great I AM, Jesus Christ at the burning bush. In that declaration, Moses saw the permanence, the unchanging and eternal glory, power and grace of God for himself. The pomp of Pharaoh was of no value to him any longer, for he had been in the presence of the LORD Almighty! He had known for himself the grace and mercy of the LORD, for he had been called to serve when he was yet a cowardly murderer, one who had lived in fear in the fearsome mountains of Midian for four decades. Humility of spirit laid Moses low before the might of Christ Jesus in that hour at the burning bush. Moses experienced for himself a King unlike any other he had ever known (he would've met many as the adopted grandson of the mighty Pharaoh of Egypt) and he saw for himself the boundless grace and mercy of Christ extended to him when all others had desired him dead.

Thus his spirit reborn in the embrace of Christ Jesus, Moses knew through the glorious ministry of the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, that the goodness of His Master did not end with the forgiveness of his sins. No, no! His merciful Redeemer would seek to ensure that not only would Moses be washed clean of his sins in His own pure and precious blood, but that he would be lifted up to share in the very inheritance of the Son of God also! Such a reward was being revealed to the heart of Moses in the most beautiful of manners by the illuminating work of the Holy Spirit. In the comfort of His tender word, the LORD God would assure Moses that all he sacrificed in service of Him would be returned unto him. This is the meaning of that word *recompense*. It means to compensate. In the goodness of God, Moses was shown that all he had turned away from would not go unnoticed, but would instead be returned unto him.

However, the goodness of God is not so meagre as to end at this point, even though that would be a fair compensation for services Moses would render unto the LORD God. All the treasures, beauty, comforts and security Moses knew in Egypt were temporary remember; even the great Pharaoh would break down and die and his opulent life would become nothing more than a memory and dust. Yet the treasures of heaven exceed even the headiest of Egypt's days in such a measure that eye has seen and ear of not heard of such marvels! And all these marvels are everlasting, never fading or diminishing, but new every morning in the glorious eternal light of Christ Jesus.



So Moses held these wondrous and certain promise with awe and reverence in his heart towards the goodness of God. This is what the word *respect* truly means, to hold something with a degree of awe and reverence. Our use of the word today is a poor one for certain! Moses therefore held that eternal reward, secured in the hands of the One he encountered at the burning bush, the One whom had split the Red Sea, with a great degree of awe. It was this sense of awe, of excitement also that enabled him to turn his back on the real but temporary pleasures of sin that Egypt offered.

Moses was no fool; he knew such a decision would be filled with suffering and hardship, but he treasured, valued or *esteemed* such shame and suffering in the name of Christ because he knew for himself who Christ Jesus truly is, the

LORD God Almighty. Moses understood that only the promises of God are everlasting and so he trusted in the reward assured unto him by God and valued it far more desirable than anything that Egypt could muster.

The message is the same today to each of us. That we may be called to leave behind all manner of worldly security (remember that Egypt is often used as a picture for 'the world' in Scripture), whether it be financial, health or family, in service of Him. However there is a reward promised to us. A life unending, filled with days resplendent in the light of Christ Jesus, as we enjoy a glorified body like unto His, whilst we sit and talk with those who have gone before us and we long to see again. We shall stroll along streets of the purest gold, enjoying the most delightful of foods, gazing upon a Creation restored to its perfection as we rest knowing that pain and sadness will never trouble us again. Do you hold this promise with the same awe and reverence that Moses did? It is likely that you do not, it is a common failing in many Christians today. It is why they struggle to walk away from what they hold dear in the sinful world. Why they are ineffective as witnesses for Christ. All because they do not understand or hold dear the promises of Christ. Oh how they grieve the Spirit in doing so, for He would have you enjoy His promises and be excited by them! We are to be as children, excited by the promise of adventure and treasures yet to be discovered! Do you remember those days? Well they are there awaiting you every hour, and they are found in the pierced hands of Jesus Christ. So go and be animated by this most wondrous of hopes and be faithful witnesses unto the world so that others might come to enjoy that same certainty of hope. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

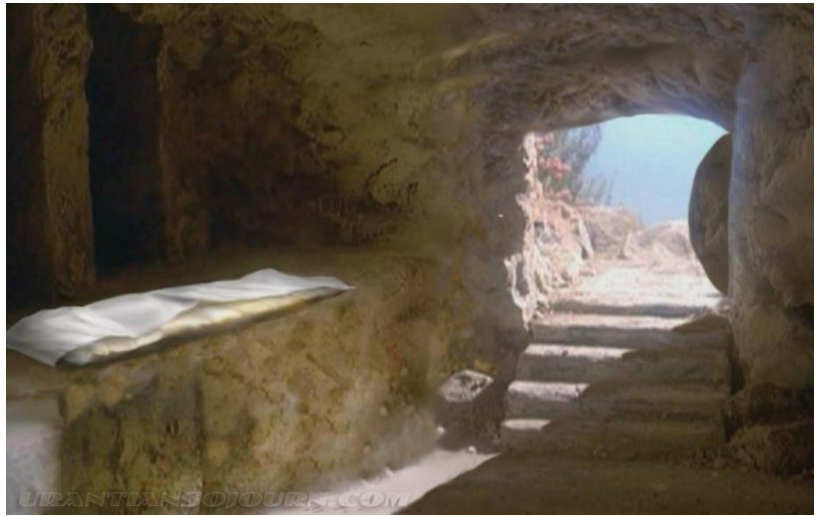
## All Hail!

**8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.**

**9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. *Matthew 28***

Our scene is the setting of the greatest victory ever experienced in all Creation, the triumph over death in the resurrection of Jesus Christ that blessed Sunday morning 2000 years ago. The historicity of the key points of this staggering event of history are not debated by anyone, even the most vehement of critics of Holy Scripture. No serious scholar or respected academic argues with the reality that Jesus was a real man, lived in Judea two thousand years ago, died on a cross by crucifixion and that three days later, His tomb was empty. What is hotly contested (well the theories to dismiss the fact that the tomb was found empty can all be easily rebutted, heavily erodes the notion of a 'contest' on the issue) is how the tomb came to be empty. Well in any unresolved case, any competent detective or Judge would put a significant degree of weight in the report of an eye witness on the case in question. What we have in the Holy Bible, is just that, eye witness accounts of that miraculous morning. Yet our quest this day is not to validate the eye witness accounts, many excellent works have been conducted on this matter already. Our quest is to see and indeed remind ourselves, how the events of that blessed morning are to be the very source of our great hope as believers in Christ Jesus. Namely that because He is Risen, so shall we be, come that day known only by the Lord.

In our passage we have the not long prior mournful women, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James and Joses and Salome, now filled with such utter joy and happiness at the news of the resurrection of their Lord and Master, that they are running earnestly to inform the grief-stricken disciples. Their speed is heightened by the evidence displayed before their own eyes, that they for themselves saw the emptiness of the sepulchre; that very same mournful grave that would've been carved into their hearts and minds just three days earlier. Their bursting hearts of joy ushered on to the share the news by the earnest encouragement of the angel they gazed upon, as he sat with a triumphant nonchalance atop the mighty stone placed to keep the King of Kings buried in the heart of the earth. That angel's ease of posture relayed that peace of triumph that all heaven witnessed, as the heavenly host gazed on in wonder at the victory won by their Lord and God. Now this same angel delighted in sharing the most joyful of all news to his fellow servants of Christ, the dear women gathered at the empty tomb that Sunday morning.



Yet even this joyful news, relayed by a mighty angelic being, was not the great climax of triumph experienced that blessed morning. For as the women ran to fulfil the command to tell the disciples of the wondrous news of Christ's resurrection, the Lord Jesus Himself appeared before them and exclaimed in joyful victory and celebration, "All hail." This salutation was used to greet someone from a distance; such was Our Lord's utter joy in seeing His dear friends after His victory of death that His heart declared His deep love for them even from afar with this happy greeting! Think on how truly happy, how full of celebration and joy Our Lord's heart is at this moment towards those who were not so long before enslaved to sin (consider Mary Magdalene, one possessed by seven devils!) and at war with Him. How His tremendous grace towards we ignorant sinners in this tender and happy greeting to His beloved!

Whilst this was no doubt the most happy of all dawns that this world has ever seen, this happy greeting given to the women that morning was not reserved for just them. The scope of the words chosen and spoken by Christ are deliberate and powerful for they are a greeting filled with heavenly, eternal joy delivered to all those who know His voice! These two words, 'All hail', are a most staggeringly concise and eloquent declaration of the eternal greeting and salutation Our Lord gives to all His own throughout the corridors of time! That blessed morning was a happy one no doubt, but the eye of God sees far beyond just one, isolated joyous communion. He saw through the ages that glorious dawn and revealed the fullness of His heart to all that search after Him just as the women did that morning two thousand years ago!

Hearing the triumphant salutation of their Lord, the women raced to Him and grabbed Him by His feet. A humble act of adoring worship indeed as they placed themselves beneath the awesome presence of their risen Lord and Saviour. As they humbled themselves at the feet of their Lord and God, they would've looked directly at the wounds of the nails still upon His feet. So they would see the eternal cost of their salvation still worn by their Saviour, who bore those wounds so willingly in His love towards them. Thus their hearts would've been moved from faith to faith, from adoration to deeper adoration of Him, as they witnessed for themselves how eternally He loves them and just how much He took upon Himself so that they would not have to. The humble in heart thus sees the glories of God and sees the halls of eternity unfold before them when they gaze upon the risen glory of Christ Jesus. It is a potent reminder for us in our proud age that if we are to overcome the universal fear of death and the troubles of our immediate days, we are to see with the spirit. The surest and most tender of ways to receive this grace of heaven is to gaze upon the wounds suffered by Our Lord in our place and see that we truly have nothing to fear for He has truly overcome the world!

Let us look also with the eyes of heaven, looking for that city afar off, just as Abraham did, knowing that come that happy day when we are called home at long last, Our Lord will also come to greet us just as He did to the women that blessed dawn. However how much more blessed we shall be than they, for we shall not gaze upon Him with weak, fallen eyes, but with the eyes of a body as Our Lord's own, having obtained a better resurrection in Christ Jesus. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

## Knowledge of God Amongst Pagans?



A common and understandable challenge put towards Christians regarding the goodness and mercy of God is the thought that how can God condemn those who have lived in times and nations where the Gospel has not been preached? This is, as we have noted, an understandable query and one that has caused some Christians to stumble under such a challenge. However, if we dive into the pages of history, we can be reassured that the goodness of God does indeed extend to all peoples throughout all the ages and that every soul has an innate witness to the fact that there is a Creator God.

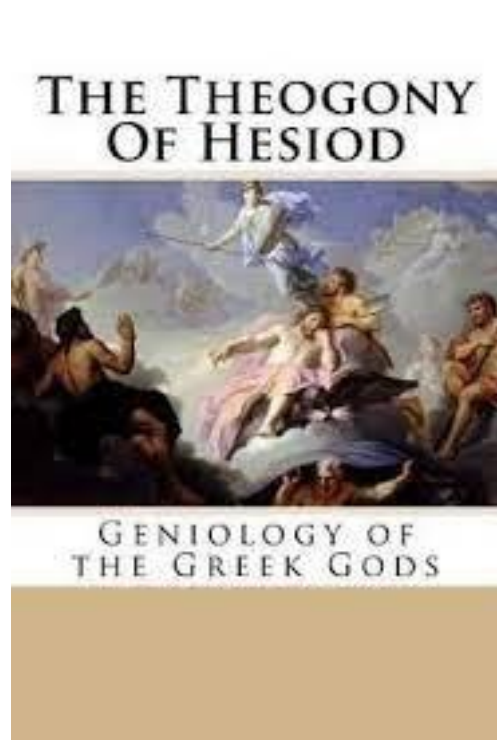
Venturing to the exotic lands of Ancient China, and exploring the as far back in history as the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC, we come across the writings of the Taoist *Lao-Tzu*. Lao-Tzu lived long before the birth of Christianity, indeed during the times of the Babylonian Captivity of Israel, thus rendering the notion that he gained the following insights from Christian missionaries completely moot. Lao-Tzu commented the following:

**“Before time, and throughout time, there has been a self-existing being, eternal, infinite, complete, omnipresent...Outside this being, before the beginning, there was nothing.”**

Doesn't this statement, from an ancient Chinese Taoist, sound remarkably familiar in its observations to the commencement to the Book of Genesis?! What prompted this observation within a man who lived thousands of miles away from the cradle of Christianity that is Judea? Something deep within the heart of Lao-Tzu was witnessing to him that there is a Creator God who exceeds the bounds of space and time.

Now let us travel thousands of miles to the west, to Ancient Greece, the birthplace of atheism and humanism. In a culture world famous for its philosophical approach to the great questions of life, there was long before the musings of Socrates, an awareness of a Supreme Being, a Creator God, that mirrored the observations made by Lao-Tzu. In the **Theogony of Hesiod** (8<sup>th</sup> century BC, even earlier in history than Lao-Tzu), we read this interesting statement by Hesiod:

**‘First of all the Void came into being...next Earth...Out of the Void came darkness...and out of the Night came Light and Day...’**



Whilst Hesiod's view of the Supreme, Creator God is not reflective of the God of the Bible (his rendition is of a God that behaves like a tyrannical mortal man, much like the writings of Homer in *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*), what cannot be missed is the depiction of the beginning of the universe in a manner like unto the Book of Genesis.

Now let's travel across the warm Mediterranean Sea and arrive at the mighty shores of Ancient Egypt. The ancient world's super power; a culture rampant in mysticism and paganism, yet amidst all this heathen dross, there was still a deep, undeniable awareness that above all the pretender gods, one Supreme Being, unnamed but very much known, was in eternal existence. An ancient text from Heliopolis, Egypt testifies in this manner:

**‘I am the creator of all things that exist...that came forth from my mouth. Heaven and earth did not exist, nor had been created the herbs of the ground nor the creeping things. I raised them out of the primeval abyss from a state of non-being.’**

A fascinating statement from an ancient pagan culture isn't it! The opening of the statement is particularly interesting as it begins with **I am**. Who else declares himself to be **I AM** but the LORD when he met with Moses at the burning bush? (Exodus 3). Consider also how the writer of this text observes how it was from the **mouth** of this Creator God, just as how the Scriptures reveal that God brought all things into existence through the **power of His Word**. How incredible it is that an ancient pagan, could somehow know such deep and profound truths as to how the LORD God uses His mighty power!

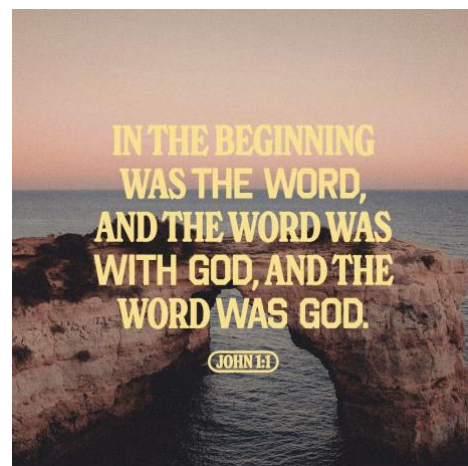
Furthermore, as Bill Cooper, the author of the fascinating book, *After The Flood*, observed that, “it would not be overstating the case to say that the Egyptian concept of a divine creation of the universe was so strongly held that throughout Egypt it governed every sphere of thought and action, political, educational, philosophical and so on. And it is also noteworthy to consider that there is **no record anywhere amongst the vast amount of literature to be recovered from ancient Egypt, that suggests that this view was ever challenged.**”

Building on this important consideration highlight by Bill Cooper, we must also be mindful of a crucial historical fact. That fact being that the mass populace of the ancient world was focused around the Middle East. Even secular historians are beginning to agree with this assertion, as scholars now label the Indus Valley of Mesopotamia the birthplace of civilisation. Thus the vast majority of the earth's population would've been under the influence of such thought that there exists a Supreme, Creator God. This is the **actual** application of the goodness of God that good historical study reveals and proves a powerful defence against the challenge we posed at the opening of the article, how can God condemn those who have no knowledge of the Gospel?

We have seen from just this brief sample of ancient texts on the existence of a Supreme, Creator God, that this view was commonplace across the ancient world, no matter the distances involved! Yet the truly joyful news has not yet been discussed! If we turn to the Book of Genesis once more, and chapter 15 verse 6 in particular, we read intriguing declaration by the Word of God:

**“And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.”**

This declaration as to the righteousness of Abram is undeniable and unequivocal; God imputed His righteousness to Abram because of one simple action, Abram believed God. This amazing statement by God towards Abram came after God had told Abram that he was to be father of many; so many in fact that the sheer number of them would be as the number of stars in the heavens. Now Abram was not a young man at this point, he was entering what many would determine to be the twilight years of their life, and he was without any child. Upon hearing such a declaration by God, the vast majority of us would at the very least raise an eyebrow at such a thought as fathering a great and numerous people at such an advanced age. Yet we read that Abram simply believed what God had decreed. The truthfulness of the Word of God was enough to convince Abram that all that had been said would take place, God would ensure would indeed take place, no matter how implausible on human understanding. No degree in Theology was needed to be gifted the righteousness of God; Abram's likely great education under the Chaldean system was not required or even useful; no great works of charity or pious religious practices were demanded; only faith in the Word of God was required to obtain righteousness in the eyes of God. What a great joy it is then to remind ourselves of just **who** is titled **The Word**, the Lord Jesus. Just re-read the opening to the Gospel of John, and see for yourself what Abram saw, namely that the truthfulness of everything God has decreed to be good and worthy is bound up not in a philosophy, ethos or mystical force, but in a person! That person being the Lord Jesus, **The Word**. Do you see it? Abram believed the word of God in all His promises towards him, and word of God is fully bound up and held in **The Word** that is Jesus Christ, the one who made the promise to Abram in the first place! Abram's faith, though peering ahead dimly through the veils of time, was placed on the Lord Jesus, just as yours is and mine!



Under this powerful consideration, let us now remind ourselves of how prevalent the belief in a Supreme, Creator God was all over the ancient world. The ancient world was not at all far removed from the knowledge of God. In fact, it could be argued that they were considerably closer as a whole than modern man is with our rampant humanistic/atheistic culture! If the ancients were well versed in a knowledge of an all powerful Creator God, then all that would be required to obtain the righteousness of God as Abram did, was to follow that knowledge and awareness of an Almighty Creator God and seek after Him. Then in that following of Him, to simply believe that He is who He has revealed Himself to be in all Creation, something that has already been ascended to by the mind at the beginning of the search after the Supreme, Creator God. Thus the path to glory has been open and clear for any who believe on Him ever since the earliest days of humanity and the method has not altered one jot, simple faith on the Lord Jesus, The Word!

Let us be further strengthened in our assertion on this important matter by studying Scripture further. In Romans 4:3-5 we read:

**<sup>3</sup> For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.<sup>4</sup> Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. <sup>5</sup> But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.**

The Lord has spoken once more, this time to fulfil all that He declared to Abram millennia prior to these words written in the New Testament. The Gospel message of saving faith in Jesus Christ through His wondrous, eternal grace has not shifted or altered at all ever since He first gave hope to Adam and Eve in Eden (Genesis 3:15). And if ancient man the world over was aware of the Creators existence, then the next step to securing salvation is not that far away!

However with that being said, in the pride and sinfulness of man, whilst the step from awareness and acceptance of God's existence is clear to all who would but look humbly upon Creation, trusting and believing in all that He has said and who He has revealed Himself to be in Jesus Christ is another matter altogether. What we are confronted with at the end of the day is not the lack of evidence, for that is all around us every minute of everyday, but a matter of pride. It is does not harm the pride to assent to the existence of some great Supreme Being. Such a nameless, person less being can be pushed away with ease and thus poses no threat to how we view ourselves at our most intimate and fundamental of levels. However to acknowledge that the Supreme Creator God is not some distant force or emotionless, disinterested deity, but is instead a personal being that loves so intently, so deeply and eternally that He stepped into history in the flesh of a man so that He might provide salvation for sinners such as we. This message cuts to the very bone of any who hear it, and how it is acted upon by the hearing ear is a matter of the pride of the heart.

Thus we come to the crux of the issue of our opening challenge, how can God punish people who have never heard the Gospel? Well history, even in it's most ancient of days has shown that there is a deep awareness of the existence of God within the heart of every person. God, in His mercy, has provided a literal universe filled with evidence to point towards His existence so that deep awareness is appealed to in the most tender and gracious of ways. The manner of His appeal is universal but personal also; it is universal in how we all gaze upon the same immense universe as even the ancients did, and in this we obtain the awareness of His existence. His appeal is personal also though, and each redeemed heart knows this to be true. His appeal to us is by name as He moves through our days through unique circumstances and events that we are at a loss to explain without acknowledging His movements in our days. If the heart is humble and sensitive to these tender appeals, then the step from awareness to belief comes with a joyous exaltation of hope that even someone as insignificant as I is eternally loved by my Creator God. This is faith! This is the imputing of Christ's own righteousness unto me in a way that is no different to what Abram or Noah expressed, long before the Gospel was first declared many centuries after their days came to a close.

So we have a most beautiful and powerful answer to our opening challenge. There is enough evidence in all the universe to make us acutely aware that there is a Creator God. Furthermore, if we truly reflect on our days, all the amazing moments that are beyond our explanation such as how a sinner such as I came to be blessed with the love of my youth when I was at my weakest in all ways; then we are led so lovingly to the unavoidable conclusion that this immense Creator God is indeed personal and desires that I am to know and enjoy Him, not for His good but for mine. This eternal love and it's acceptance by the humble, repentant heart is the fire that forges saving faith as we bow before the gracious throne of Christ Jesus. So to those reading this and as of yet do not know Jesus Christ as their Saviour, listen to His words, for they are simple yet eternity shaping, those words..."Follow me".

By Jonathan Badger

## How Many Great Bible Scholars Has The Roman Catholic Church Had?

She is very involved with seeing all the modern bibles go out and they all have to fall within a certain 'biblical' remit. She has her workers on every committee and panel and is increasingly controlling acceptable versions of the scriptures according to her corrupting work. Of course there is one Bible on this earth she has always hated and still does, it has caused her more headaches and souls getting to heaven not purgatory than any book on earth, yes the A.V Bible. The foundation on which that book rests has been solid for two thousand years and still is despite what you may be told by countless con agents who work for bible outlets and lecture for some of the deadest theological colleges on earth.

Of course to attack the A.V. like Rome does one would assume they must have had access to some truly fine scholarship. Well actually no. In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries she made good use of 'Protestant' bible scholars who were pro-Catholic e.g. Westcott and Hort to push her long terms aims and still has plenty of loyal troops today in non-Catholic institutions who work with determination to take a sound Bible from your grasp. It is interesting that has Rome has always claimed to be the true Church of God on this earth that she has never had any truly proficient and mighty men in the scriptures. Why don't you ask God why?

Now, I know there are those who will say well she has her Jesuit academics but they couldn't put together a sound Sunday school lesson. Imagine them handling a full biblical exposition of Romans. You would be hard pressed today to get that in a non-Catholic Church. Let me tell you a fact, the Roman Catholic Church is a non-biblical body that has no relationship to New Testament Christianity and never has had. She is very good at corrupting manuscripts, forging documents and attacking names of individuals who had nothing to do with said works etc. but faithfully propagating the



Word of God and standing for the faith once delivered to the saints? What church's history have you been reading? Do you know this Woman who sits on Seven Hills? Friend, whoever you are, go and get a real Bible (an A.V. Bible), open it up before God and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you into all truth (biblical truth).

The A.V. Bible is the ONE BOOK that no Pope, Cardinal, priest, bishop, monk or man can tell people to go and read. Why is that when they are happy to send forth some of the most corrupted perversions of God's Word that ever rolled off a printing press?

Amen.

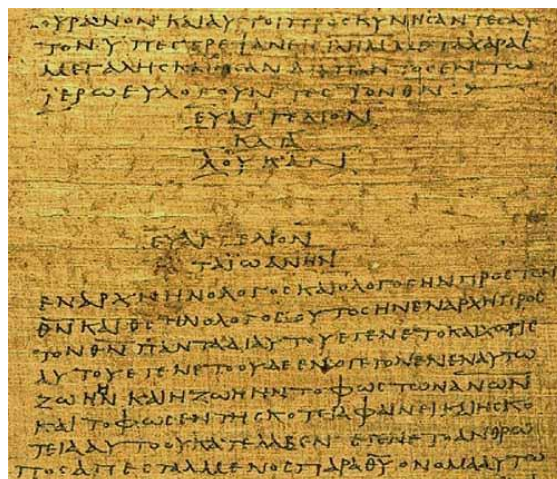
By Dr David Badger

## A Little Humility Goes a Long Way

For those who do not know me or my academic background, I have wonderfully blessed by the Lord to have experienced a wide ranging education, both in styles and subjects. From my GCSE days at a tough local secondary school, where the ability to defend one's point in a debate with ample evidence beyond one's personal interpretation of a subject; through to A-levels at one of the country's finest Grammar Schools at the time, where I studied History, English Literature and Politics. Here I learnt skills of research and how to quickly determine from a wealth of information on hand in any library or the internet, what information is actually of use to be able recall and what is unimportant personal indulgence by the writer of the piece. Furthering this came my university degree studies. I hold an Honours Degree in Humanities along with a Certificate in Humanities. In this wide-ranging degree, I covered topics such as Art, Religion and Science of Renaissance Era Florence, Siena and Padua; History of Medicine; Philosophy of the Enlightenment; Creative Writing; History and Psychology of Cinema; History of Music during the Baroque Era; Classical Greek Literature, along with other courses. Whilst some of these were challenging to a young mind, there was one course that stood head and shoulders above all other pretenders in how difficult it was to complete. What was that course? Learning Ancient Greek.

I had entered my studies in this field with a great degree of enthusiasm, as I have always held a deep interest in ancient history and had previously enjoyed my studies on the classic plays of Ancient Greek theatre. Yet when I opened my box of course materials and began to go through the upcoming work, a cold sweat soon came over me. The complexity of the language that I was about to embark on learning was staggering and I soon found myself wishing that I had listened to advice from more experienced heads that it would be easier to learn Latin first before attempting to tackle Ancient Greek!

As the months passed, I slowly began to navigate my way through the basic tenets of the language and yet I was still overwhelmed by the depth and scope of the language. It's complexity of construction and highly nuanced application demands the utmost of care in any translation of a text. So when the final exam came, and I turned over the paper to see what academic horror was about to test me, I was mightily relieved to see that the sizeable text I had to translate from Greek to English was on the Battle of Thermopylae, a battle I knew well from my fondness of ancient history and the legendary account of what took place at 'The Hot Gates'.



After all this self-indulgent sharing of my studies with you, you may be wondering what is my point in mentioning all of this? Well, it is simply one point. That as someone who has studied the Ancient Greek language at degree level, I know full well that you have to be **highly** adept at its usage to even contemplate the art of accurate translation. With that being said, it befuddles me how so many preachers, ministers, vicars etc are now 'Greek experts' and are able to provide 'better translations' of Biblical texts than what the original translators have provided us with! Most commonly, such armchair experts are so confident in the proficiency of linguistic skills that they back themselves to give a 'more accurate' rendering of the text than what the 'poor old King James Bible' can offer.

Now as we have previously noted, the art of accurate translation of Ancient Greek is a remarkable talent in itself and takes not only great natural skill but years of study and practice. So for anyone to believe that they are more skilled in

this field than the translators of the A.V/KJV Bible we're need to pause and spend some time in humble reflection and study. These translators were not weekend preachers who relied upon Google Translate to do the heavy lifting for them. They were **experts, masters** in their fields; talents of prodigious nature where many of them could speak and write in **dozens** of languages. To gain their undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, they would have to present their work orally in either Latin or Greek and then be able to defend their assertions on questioning by the university professors also in Greek or Latin! They were geniuses of the highest calibre!

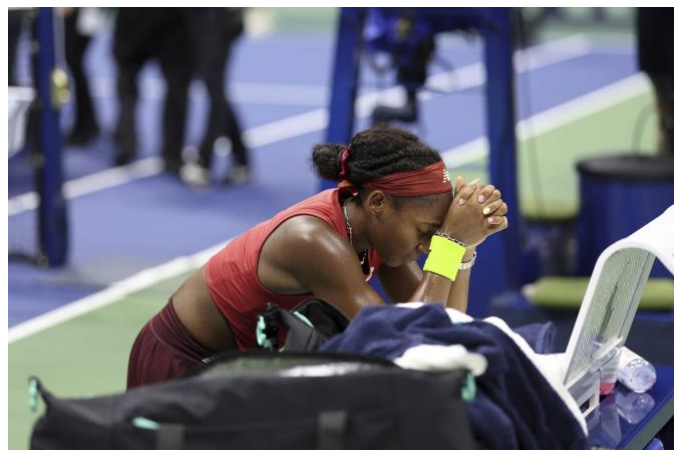
So I appeal to all preachers, ministers, reverends or vicars out there, do not succumb to pride and try and make yourself seem to be some a great and learned soul by delivering to your congregation a translation of Scripture that you believe in your very limited expertise to be 'more accurate than the King James Bible'. You won't surpass it so save your time and breath and just preach it instead. With that being said though, by all means test the mettle of the translators work if you wish but do so cautiously taking into account factors on the translation of words such as **context and grammar**, for this has a heavy bearing on language, particularly in Greek.

We shall close with one somewhat amusing but important historical incident to give some insight into this important issue. Not long after the King James Bible was published, a young minister was meeting with a friend and they began to discuss the new Bible that was the King James Bible. The somewhat prideful young man expressed confidently to his comrade that there was an error of translation in one particular instance and that he had a better rendering of the word in question. Unbeknownst to him however, was that at the table next to him, were a group of the KJV translators who upon hearing this bold declaration, gently leant across and said to the young man in question, 'We are aware of the point of which you have noted. However, there are thirteen other points that go against your point and make it inaccurate.' Be careful where you tread and it is always wise to remember that pride goes before the fall. So instead, be thankful for the incredible work and labour made by those remarkable men that were the translators of the KJV/A.V Bible and stop trying to impress, when all you're likely to do is confuse and dilute what was already the sure Word of God.

By Jonathan Badger

## Seizing The Opportunity

For those of you who enjoy watching/following professionals sports, many will be no doubt aware of the current Women's US Open Tennis Champion, Coco Gauff. Recently she achieved this prestigious title at the tender age of 19, becoming the second youngest ever US Open Champion.



When that happy moment came when she secured the title on court, Coco completed the usual celebrations of thanking the crowd and waving to loved ones in the stadium before she made her way back to her seat at the edge of the court. Yet instead of sitting on the chair, she gently knelt against it and lowered her head and began some time in thankful prayer unto God. Whilst it was clear to all onlookers what Coco was doing at this moment, the various sports correspondents were clearly caught out by this act of thanksgiving and so fumbled to observe that Coco was 'taking a moment to reflect' on what had just unfolded on court.

Yet Coco was not done in her visual stand for God. In the post-game press conference, a tired but happy Coco sat smiling next to her glittering trophy, and proceeded to begin the media address with an open declaration of thanks to her, "Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ". A stunned press corps sat with their cameras beaming this acknowledgment of the Lord Jesus all across the world.

Days later in a sit down interview with an American breakfast news program, a still jubilant Coco was asked about the nature of her faith along with her extraordinary focus and resolve at such a young age. The humble Coco duly responded by highlighting the upbringing she had been blessed with by her parents, who had taught the young Coco the importance of a humble heart before God along with the determination to maximise her talents to the glory of God. On this note, her parents joined her on the interview couch and sat beaming proudly next to their triumphant daughter. This happy sight of a remarkable young woman sat in union with her parents in the love and glory of God was a living testimony of the assurance given in Proverbs 22:6:

## **Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**

Being a parent is exhausting in all manner of ways, yet we have in the goodness of God a wonderful promise that if we apply ourselves in our faith so that we do train our children in the way of the Lord God, when that child is full grown and independent of your protection and daily influence, they shall hold dear the truth of God imparted to them through your training.

Though we may not raise a future tennis champion, this is not to be our aim. Our aim as parents is to teach them diligently in the way of the Lord, so that, in the grace of God, they might come to share in the greatest victory of all, knowing the victor over death Jesus Christ, as their own Lord and Saviour. This is the greatest hope of godly parents, and the fruits of your labours are to be eternal.

Yet as wonderful as this truth is for a certainty, it shall face attacks from the enemy. There are many ways the devil can seek to break the resolve of the godly parent, and one of the most painful to endure is seeing your little one suffer with severe illness. To give hope in such a dire situation we return to another real world example of faith **lived**. Once again we return to the sporting realm, as we look at the amazing case of Demario Davis, a linebacker for the American football team, the New Orleans Saints.

Demario's young daughter was busy playing one day when she suddenly went into a violent epileptic seizure. It was not the first time it had happened but enough time had passed from the previous episode that her doctors were hoping that she would soon be able to come off the anti-seizure medication (she was just a few days away from hitting this milestone). The paramedics were called as the poor girl wasn't coming out of the seizure. As the ambulance took the little girl and Demario's wife to the hospital as he followed in his car. As he drove he sought the Lord's care in constant prayer, going to Him in humble faith. Demario spoke on how at that moment he said to the Lord, 'I know this is an attack from the enemy, but Lord you are all powerful. So I ask that my daughter will be ok and not only that, but that she'll be even stronger than before.'



When Demario arrived at the hospital, he was told by his wife that their little girl had stopped breathing twice and the seizure had lasted 30 minutes! After such a traumatic event, many would rightly fear that lasting brain damage could've easily occurred. So an anxious wait began as they settled in for a long night at hospital. At around 3am, a knock at the door sounded. It was the doctor. Demario and his wife were informed that their little girl was awake and was okay. They hurried to her bedside and found that not only was their daughter okay but that she was speaking clearer and more advanced in her language than she was before the seizure! The prayers of Demario had been wonderfully answered! The dear little one was discharged the next day and her progress was so staggering that she was able to join a friend's birthday party where all that were gathered had no idea judging by her spritely nature that just 48 prior, she was very ill!

Such was the gratitude of Demario towards His Lord Jesus, that the following Sunday after his teams game against the Tennessee Titans, Demario used the post match press conference as an opportunity to give a sermon to the congregated reporters and TV crews. He spoke eloquently on how each of us receives a knock on the door of our hearts through the events in our lives and that it is Christ Jesus who seeks after us so that we might open the door and receive Him (Revelation 3:20). Through that knock on the hospital door that worrying night he had been reminded of this and we wanted to use the precious time he had on camera to ensure that others also be reminded of this important fact.

I'm sure it is Demario's greatest hope that his daughter grows up to follow the training he imparts to her in the Lord's way. Yes you will face attacks from the enemy who will seek to dissuade you from this important task but do not disheartened. Look with the spirit to see how by doing all you can to teach your children of the Lord God, and in the wondrous grace of Christ, that they might join you in paradise forevermore. Amen

By Jonathan Badger



# Discoveries in Shiloh

Shiloh holds a prominent place in pre-Temple Israel. It is the scene where Joshua gathers the tribes together to divide the Promised Land amongst them; it is the place where Hannah prayed for a son (who would be Samuel, future prophet and leader of the nation) and where the Tabernacle and Ark of the Covenant stood for approximately 400 years. So recent discoveries via a significant excavation at the site of ancient Shiloh are providing very interesting pieces of evidence to corroborate the historical record of the Old Testament.

Dr Scott Stripling, leader of the excavation, spoke to the Christian Broadcasting Network in a recent interview and spoke excitedly on how much they are discovering in the dig. Firstly, they have unearthed a building that bears all the dimensions and orientation (2:1 ratio and east-west orientation) of the Tabernacle itself. Dr Stripling believes that it is likely from the era of Eli and Samuel, placing the location at the close of the period of the Judges and prior to the kingship of Saul (which would very much align with Old Testament records).



Secondly, nearby this site, which may have housed the Tabernacle, a huge animal bone deposit has been discovered. Such a discovery gives significant corroboration to the sacrificial system of the Israelites as attested to in the Old Testament. Approximately four feet of compacted bone deposits have been unearthed, bearing micro stratigraphy thus indicating that these deposits were laid down over a long period of time. This again marries up perfectly with the Biblical timeline as to the usage of Shiloh as a holy site for the Israelites before Jerusalem became the nation's capital under David and subsequent building of the Temple under the rule of Solomon.

Yet the data being discovered in this dig gets more precise in it's accordance with the Biblical record of the Levitical sacrificial system. On analysing the significant bone deposits, what was found was that there was a significantly disproportionate amount of the right side of cow, sheep and goat bones. Why is this significant? In Leviticus 7, we read that the right side of the animal sacrifice is reserved for the sustenance of the Levite priests. Thus Dr Stripling and his team have unearthed the remains of the portion ascribed to the Levite priests as attested by the Book of Leviticus!

On a closing thought, isn't it interesting how it is the right hand side of the animal remains that remained for discovery thousands of years later. Frequently in Scripture, the right side is depicted as the side of prestige, power and strength, hence why Jesus Christ sits at the right hand of the Father. The priests were allocated the right hand side of the animal sacrifice as they had no land for themselves, for Christ was to be their portion and inheritance. So whilst the other tribes had earthly substance and mighty cities were theirs to claim, what has remained and speaks today is the portion set aside for those that are called to be priests unto God.

By Jonathan Badger

## Were the Church Fathers Liars?

Irenaeus, Hippolytus, Athanasius, Didymus, Gregory of Nazianzus, Gregory of Nyssa, Basil, Chrysotom, Theodore of Mopussuestia, Theodoret, Severianus, Eusebius, Cyril of Jerusalem and Epiphanius, were all liars and defacers of the Word of God according to the self-righteous assertions of Dr Hort (one half of the dastardly duo that brought about the Revised Version on 1881, from which all modern Bible versions stem). In Dr Hort's own vaunted theory of why the Received Text (upon which comes the A.V/KJV Bible) is a "vile and villainous text", he purports that many of these patriarchs of the Early Church, conspired amongst themselves to wilfully neglect the 'oldest and best' Biblical manuscripts available for translation (these being Codex B and Aleph - platforms for modern Bible versions).

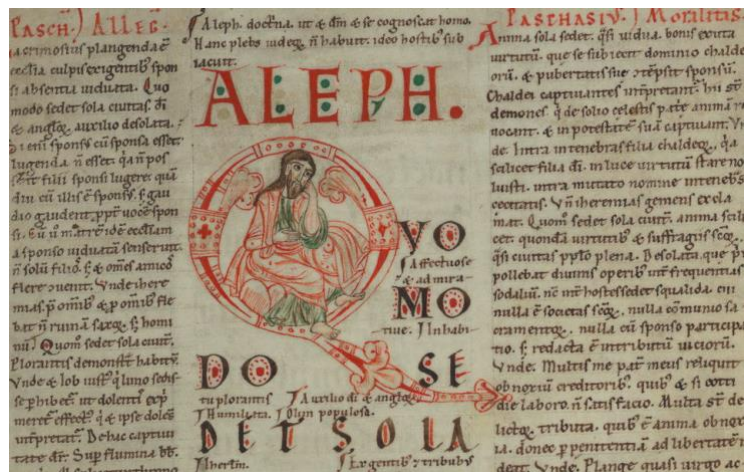
Dr Hort argued that it was an event of known history, that some of these great men and highly learned men of the Early Church, came together at two differing Councils in Antioch, Syria between 250-350 AD, and pushed aside manuscripts

that he classed as providing a text that was not “impoverished in sense and force” as the ‘Syrian’ manuscripts were and were instead nobler, purer texts that were better for, “repeated and diligent study”. A bold claim for sure! Surely one would have to think long and hard to lay such accusations at the feet of such giants of the Early Church as those listed above!

Yet Dr Hort is certain in his assertion that many of these learned and respected men, came together to correct the mass confusion that was taking hold of the churches in the East through the massive amounts of corrupted Scriptural manuscripts. Dr Hort vehemently argued that on two separate occasions, some of these same men listed above, came together to eradicate the corrupted texts and restore the Word of God to its purity. The problem however is that according to Dr Hort, as we have previously noted, these same Early Church Fathers, eliminated the use of the wrong manuscripts! According to Dr Hort, these most learned of men, removed the use of the true pure text (Codex B and Aleph) and wrongly promoted the Received Text as the true Word of God.

Well there are some problems with this assertion, and ironically they are of Dr Hort’s own making (oh what tangled web we weave indeed!). Firstly, these supposed ‘Syrian Revisions’ of the Scriptures conducted by the Early Church Fathers between 250-350 AD never happened! There is no historical, documented evidence to suggest that such a thing ever occurred! These events are purely the invention of fantasy by a man looking for a justification to submit that his own theory of why his work (the Revised Greek Text upon which the Revised Version originated from) is the true Word of God (ah humility, thy name is not Dr Hort!).

Secondly, did Dr Hort honestly think for one moment, that such immense names of the Early Church that we have opened our piece with, all giants of Christendom and highly learned men in the Scriptures and manuscript handling, **all** got it wrong but that he alone got it right as to which manuscripts were the most true to the ‘original autographs’ of the Holy Scriptures? From such a proud declaration you get a real insight into the immensity of self-righteousness and pride this man held. This then bears the inevitable consideration that how can such an arrogant individual be trusted to handle the Word of God with due reverence and care so as to bring you a true rendition of the Word of the Lord God?



Furthermore, Dr Hort suggested that following this imaginary Syrian Revision of Scripture, all manuscript copies of Codex B and Aleph (his corrupted but preferred texts) were suddenly eradicated across the globe thus explaining why so few of them exist in comparison to the enormity of manuscripts that corroborate the Received Text upon which the AV/KJV Bible is drawn. Such a theory is dubious at best and laughable at worst. The rarity of these manuscripts (B and Aleph) does not attest to any such theory as Early Church eradication (as this never happened according to documented history anyway) but instead to an awareness even in the Early Church that these manuscripts were corrupt and were thus not put into wide circulation!

Dr Hort also expects his followers (users of modern bible versions) to believe that these listed luminaries of the Early Church added 2877 and 3455 words or phrases respectively to the ‘true biblical texts’ (B and Aleph according to Dr Hort); substituted between 935 (Codex B) and 1114 (Aleph) words; transposed between 2098 (B) and 2299 (Aleph) words and aggressively altered between 536 (B) and 839 (Aleph) words, along with hundreds of other alterations in tense, case, mood, number, person, etc. To suggest such a thing is to accuse these great and learned men of either gross incompetence in ‘revising’ the Word of God, or deliberate attack against the purity of the Word of God! This is a heavy crime indeed that Dr Hort is laying against such men, all without the slightest shred of evidence! What is far, far more likely is that these assembled Church Fathers recognised something that Dr Hort chose not to, that manuscripts B and Aleph are corrupt documents because they veer from the mountain of manuscripts that support the words of the Received Text as seen in the AV/KJV Bible.

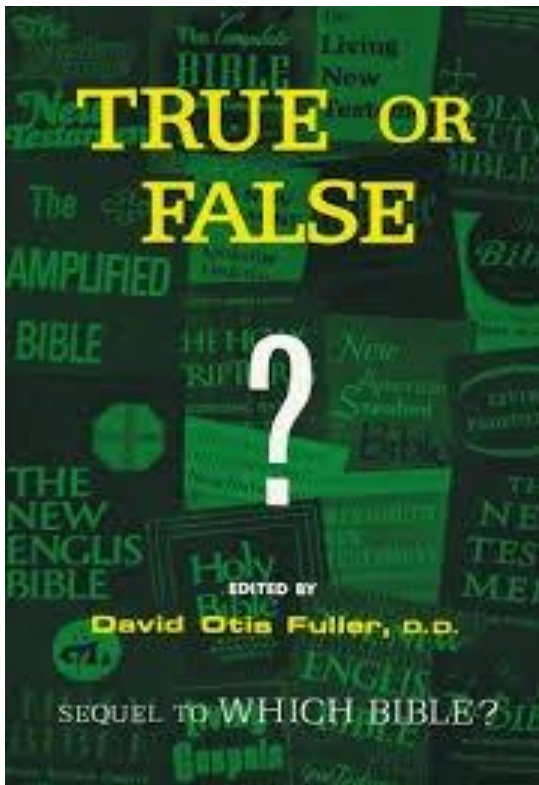
Lastly let’s bear in mind a final simple consideration in mind, namely proximity to the texts in question. Who was closer in time to the origin of these manuscripts and thus more likely to know of the truth and veracity of their contents? The Early Church Fathers who would’ve been alive at the production of many of these false texts and thus able to spot them for what they are? Or a single man who lived 1500 years after the creation of these corrupted manuscripts (B and Aleph) and thus removed by a sizeable chunk of history from primary exposure to the source of the material? Common sense

dictates that the abundance of witnesses from the era in question would know the nature of the problem far better than one individual far removed from its time.

So let's have common sense be our guide and see that in the counsel of wise men, wisdom is to be found (Proverbs 1:5), and there is no greater wisdom to be found than in the Pure Word of God; that same Word so esteemed by the Early Church Fathers who held the Received Text (AV/KJV) as the Words of God Himself. Amen.

By Jonathan Badger

## Resource Corner



### True or False? *Sequel to WHICH BIBLE?* (Edited by David Otis Fuller)

A highly recommended book for all those with questions or doubts over the issue of 'Textual Criticism'. This publication provides a concise but carefully studied and documented disassembly of the tragically poor scholarship and downright deception of two 19th century scholars, Westcott and Hort. These two men pushed a deceitful narrative that the manuscripts of the Received Text (AV/KJV Bible) were not to be trusted and 'rife with errors', thus fuelling their desires for a Revised Version (published in 1881).

This Revised Version pushed aside all sound textual research and historical evidence that massively sides with the readings seen in the AV/KJV Bible, and instead put forwards a version of Scripture based upon two of the most corrupt Bible manuscripts in existence, Codex B and Aleph. This expertly considered book exposes the deeply flawed academic skills and personal motivations of these two men and the Revised Version translators, thus highlighting the shallow and corrupt modern Bible versions that have come from the unwanted Revision of Holy Scripture.

If you want to know why this single issue is holding back the Church, then I heartily recommend this book and you can learn for yourself why the power of the Gospel seems to be dismissed and diluted in modern Christendom. It will also stir a spirit of great thankfulness unto God that there is a wealth of manuscript evidence that underpins the purity of the His Word as brought to us through the centuries via the Received Text of the AV/KJV Bible.

Available from Amazon

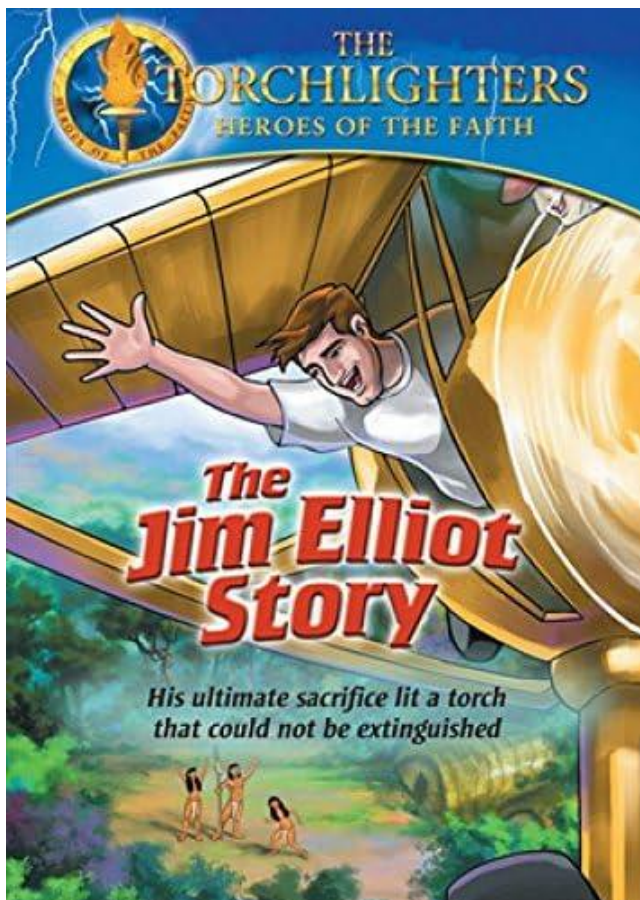
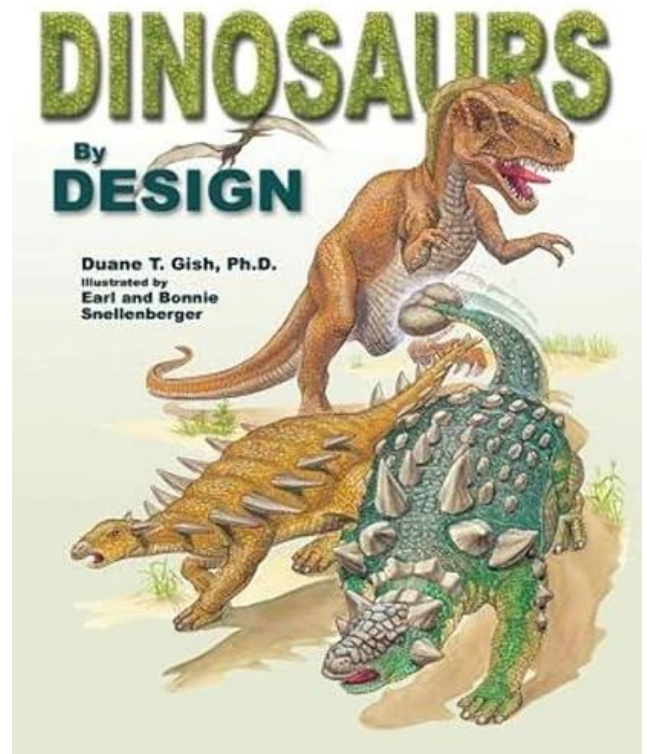


# Dinosaurs By Design

(Dr Duane T Gish)

Everyone wants to know about dinosaurs! Dinosaurs by Design takes you into the exciting world of dinosaurs to find out what they were really like. Discover how fossils are formed, dug up, and assembled for museums. Travel with the dinosaurs as they board Noah's ark and then enter the strange new world after the flood. Find out what happened to the dinosaurs and if there are any alive today. Join us on an exciting adventure to learn more about these magnificent creatures that God designed and created.

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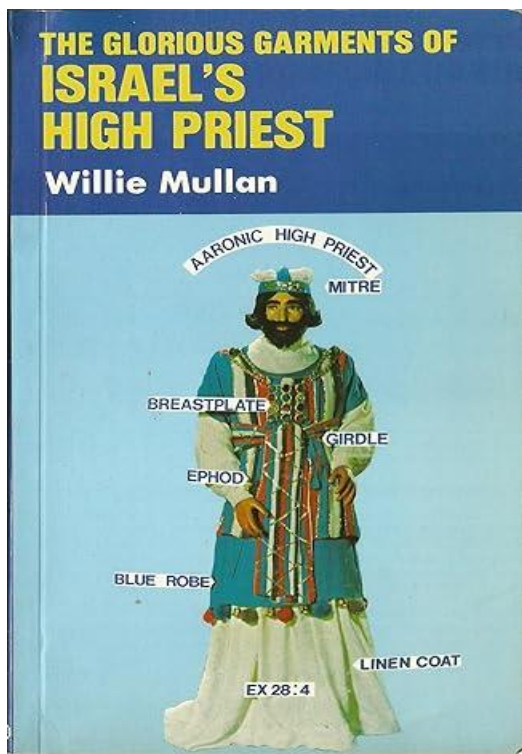


## The Jim Elliot Story (Torchlighters Series - DVD)

The amazing story of Jim Elliot and his fellow missionaries told by the new Torchlighters series. In 1956, news from the steamy jungles of Ecuador spread rapidly around the world. Five young American men had been mercilessly killed by members of the Auca (Woadani) tribe - the very same people those young men had gone to serve and befriend. That seemingly senseless tragedy has become an inspirational marvel as family members of those young men have now befriended that very same tribe! This is the story of one of the brave torchlighters who lost his life that fateful day.

Whilst an animated production, all the family will profit greatly from this informative episode and has been viewed many times by my own children

Available from Amazon & streamed by YouTube - search 'Torchlighters episodes Jim Elliot'



# The Glorious Garments of Israel's High Priest (Willie Mullan)

(From the rear cover) You will remember when our Lord Jesus was going down the road to Emmaus with the two downcast, depressed disciples, that He began at Moses and expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.

I am sure that when He came to Exodus He dealt with the High Priest's garments, because every colour, and every stone, and every thread, and the bells and the pomegranates bring forth something of the beauty, grandeur, glory, greatness, Wonder and wealth of Christ.

As we delve into the depths of this typical teaching on the glorious garments may the Lord Himself warm our hearts, quicken our paces, deepen our faith and send us on our way rejoicing. *Willie Mullan*

This truly fascinating book will have to sitting in awe at the depth of revelation of the Lord Jesus seen in the Old Testament sacrificial system as led by the High Priest.

Whilst a shorter book, it's impact must not be underestimated and it's content will prove highly profitable to all who track it down and purchase a copy. Get yours today!

Available from Amazon

## A Closing Prayer

Dear Lord and Heavenly Father, we thank you with humble hearts at the eternal treasures and wonders laid up in your Word. We thank you that you invite us all to come to you and reason with you so that we may see for ourselves the immensity of proof you have blessed our days with, that you are the Creator and our Lord God. How we thank you that you have blessed us with sound minds so that we may test the abundance of goodness you pour out to each of us daily, and see with our own eyes, how you have moved all history so that we might come to know you in all your wondrous glory.

Lord we thank you with joyful hearts that you are not a distant, aloof God, but a close and personable God who so desires that we might enjoy the fullness of life that is held in your mighty hand. How we are moved to tears of the spirit and the eye when we consider daily how in the passion of your love towards we sinners, you gave your only Begotten Son so that we might find redemption through His shed blood. Lord it is a debt we can never repay, it is a gift we can never return likewise in worth and value, so all we have Lord are our hearts. Let this be our gift to you and let the humble song of these contrite hearts come together in one accord of praise of the Son of God, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer.

Lord, though we are not all together in body to sing in great heavenly harmonies of praise yet, bring the day speedily when we are restored to those gone before us, those we miss with a heavy tear, and those who far off in distant lands, so that thy Word is fulfilled in all it's happy promises. Whilst we wait Lord on thee, we are comforted knowing that though we are removed from each other in the body as of yet, through thy Spirit, we are already bonded together in great joy and thanksgiving unto thee. Amen.





# Truth To Wonder Church

- Focus on study and preaching of Holy Scripture (KJV used)
- Singing of traditional hymns
- Free resources & lending library – something for all the family!
- Free refreshments

Come and join us at Truth To Wonder Church  
11am Sundays

Iford Scout Centre, Iford Lane, Bournemouth, BH6 5NE