

It's all about Jesus

I AM NOT UTTERING A FINAL PRONOUNCEMENT NOR EXPRESSING AN ESTABLISHED DOCTRINE, BUT I AM RESEARCHING TO THE LIMIT OF MY ABILITY, I AM DISCUSSING THE MEANING OF THE SCRIPTURES AND I DO NOT CLAIM TO HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT MEANING WHOLLY OR PERFECTLY, ON MANY POINTS I HAVE A PRELIMINARY IDEA.

ALL BIBLICAL QUOTATIONS ARE TAKEN FROM THE AV "KING JAMES VERSION"

BOOK FOUR

THE AMERICAN BIBLE

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The original Bible

When Pastors use the phrase ‘the Word of God’ they actually mean that the words of the New Testament version being read in church were actually dictated by God to men inspired by the Holy Spirit.

In Orthodoxy the King James Version is the product of the Bishops of the Church of England Northern and Southern Diocese, who vetted one another’s work, made changes and finally agreed on wording that was a compromise.

No writing of a Gospel has survived from the 1st century, if indeed anything was written during the 1st century at all. As far as we know, despite the fact that some 20,000 manuscripts

of the Gospels and Epistles are in our hands, none is from any earlier than 125 AD, and that is only a post-it note fragment of wording that sounds like something John might have written. Have a look at it [here](#).

We have a few pieces of Gospels from the 2nd century. Nothing of Paul during the 2nd century.

It is a sobering thought that of the 20,000 manuscripts of the Gospels and writings between the 2nd and 16th centuries all had been written by Catholics priests and Bishops. None was written by a Protestant.

All the knowledge we have of Jesus, from the 4th century to the 16th century is in the archives of the Roman Catholic Church.

Pastors may ignore Catholic authors, and pretend that ordinary men (not clergy,) received inspiration directly via the Holy Spirit and wrote the Bible, but in fact, the writers were all RC clergy. whose names and job occupations are listed in the front of the Authorized King James Version.

The Holy Spirit did inspire these Catholics, but what the Bishops wrote was meant for the benefit of the Catholic clergy.

In the frontispiece of my Catholic New Testament it states:

“The Gospels and the entire New Testament were written in the [Catholic] Church for the Church, by members of the Church. The Gospels were collected and written in the light of post-Resurrection faith. But that light was a reflection

of reality, the vividly remembered, faithfully transmitted experience of the Master ..

And that is as honest a statement as you will get about the creation of the New Testament writings.

What you choose can lead you astray

All Greek/Coptic/Latin documents when translated into English use familiar sounding phrases, even though the original language when translated literally would be quite impossible to understand. Translators use words taken from the King James Version or the Douay Rheims Bible (traditional Bibles.) as the nearest equivalent of what the original writer meant to say.

As soon as you switch to a Bible other than the traditional Bibles the similarity between what the Church fathers said and what is in your Bible vanishes, and you cannot be sure that what the writer was saying in the 4th century is the same thing that your modern Bible author is saying. In other words, the sayings don't match up with what we might read in the New International Version 1984 for instance. Whereas if we read the King James Version the phrases would agree. We can read some commentary on Origen, who wrote in Greek and Latin in the 3rd century, and we will find that the translator has taken quotations from the King James Version and even added the chapter and verse reference. But we know that chapter and verse numbers were only added to the New Testament in the 12th century, Origen never

used them. And we know that what Origen actually quoted was from Gospels written in the 3rd century, which sound nothing like our modern bibles. You can read a 4th century Bible at qbible.com, and see it is entirely different.

What we know as the New Testament was created by Bishop Jerome in the late 4th century. This ‘Vulgate’ Latin Bible was translated into English in 1525, and with some changes by the Bishops of the Church of England, became the King James Version of 1611. This English version was so well accepted by the Church that scholars quote from it all the time when making commentary on the writings of the ancient fathers.

Bibles us different words

Don't imagine that all Bibles use the same words. Bibles cannot use the same phrases by law. And don't tell me that the Holy Spirit wrote **your** Bible, and didn't write the Roman Catholic Church's Bible. Bibles are translated by men who are inspired, but no two men have understood their inspiration the same way.

Non-traditional Bibles are very suspect. They don't agree in theology with any previous Bibles, and have been written primarily to make a profit for a particular publisher, who is bound by copyright law to make each Bible use different wording than the one before.

Since 1950 more than 500 Bibles or Gospels have been printed by a hundred publishers trying to cash in on the publics

frustration with the errors in theology, which are soon discovered by intelligent pastors. After profits are taken and the public realizes that the translation is nonsense, the publishers scrap that Bible and move onto another version, which again is offered to an ignorant public. Of the hundreds of Bibles foisted on the public since 1950, only a handful have survived in church service.

The King James Version was written by Bishops, who had to compromise on the phrases to use in order to satisfy both clergy and King. Parliament had to approve it. It has been in use for 400 years in all Anglican churches worldwide. It is the Bible most likely to be in the homes of English speaking people.

The Roman Catholic Church has its own Bible that has been in use worldwide for more

than 1500 years. In its English translation, called the Douay-Rheims, it reads very much like the King James Version. Neither of these Bibles will teach incorrect principles.

The early years before Nicaea

To consider the history of the New Testament we really must look between the 2nd century and the 5th century for evidence of how it became the traditional Bible of the catholic (Anglican, Orthodox, Roman) Church.

Between 1520 and 1800 there were really only two English Versions, one for the Roman Catholic Church in England and one for the Church of England itself.

You could read them side by side and not be able to distinguish them, because the differences in the New Testament phrases were minor.

Then in the 1800s the Americans started printing their own Bibles and began teaching their own ideas about what Religion ought to be. A dozen new Religions sprouted up in the 1830 Great Revival including Mormons, J-W, Adventists, Pentecostal and you name it, and each teaching a different method for salvation, justification and so on.

Every Religion wanted their own Bible to support their own doctrine. By the end of WW II there were hundreds of Bibles. More than 500 Bibles/Gospels have been published since 1950. Many Religious groups have tried out a dozen Bible translations in an effort to attract

more people, but all it has done is confuse people. Younger people have abandoned those churches that waffle about what is the truth.

Worldwide the Anglican Faith is booming, mostly in Africa, where there are very tight controls over what is taught to the members

When were the Gospels written?

There has been no evidence of the Gospel of Matthew Mark and Luke being written before the beginning of the 3rd century. More than 20,000 ancient manuscripts have been discovered and we have found only a small scrap from the mid 2nd century. The first examples of a complete Gospel of Matthew, Mark and Luke are from mid 4th century codices. These Greek writings are quite different from the gospels of today. They are unintelligible to even the best

trained biblical scholar. It took the greatest Latin scholar Jerome ten years to make sense of these classical Greek gospels and make them the gospels we know today.

The only document written in the 1st century was a Church Manual used for the admission of gentiles into the Faith of Jesus. It was probably written AD 70, and is called **Didache**. There are a few letters from Pope Clement (d 97.) After that we find some writings from the 2nd century by Clement of Alexandria (d 215), and of Polycarp (d 155), and of Pantaenus (d 200.) All left behind memories of the Faith but no quotations from any Gospel. So, the Gospels were not in writing during the 2nd century. Everything was an oral tradition.

Irenaeus of Lyons (d 200) wrote six volumes of arguments against the various competing

religious groups of the 2nd century, and we have those writings (written c. 180 and now available from Amazon in an English translation,) and although he mentions four Gospels as being sufficient for an upcoming New Testament, he never states which four should be chosen from the dozen or so in use by the Bishops. He never quotes anything from any gospel that matches our canonical Gospels word for word.

Irenaeus thought that Jesus had died an old man of fifty, so obviously he had not seen the final official Gospels from the Church when he was writing his six volumes c 180 AD.

We have discovered a few scraps of religious writings that are thought to be from the 2nd century, or the 3rd, but no complete Gospel from the 3rd century has ever been found.

What has been found bear little resemblance to the language of the King James Version.

Despite the vast difference between Gospels written in the 4th century and modern bibles, fundamentalists swear that what they have in their particular bible are the actual words from God.

Protestant Apologists want you to believe that the words in the King James Version are the same words that have always existed in the Gospels since Jesus spoke them! What childish nonsense is this.

There are thousands of Gospels written from the 4th century to the 16th century and no two of the them agree word for word.

A good critical text that scholars use to write new bibles, will list dozens of variation between

manuscripts. Someone has to decide which variation to use. Mostly they stick with what the Catholic Church has always said was the correct translation, but on important points they often slant the text towards whatever that denomination wants to hear.

In the case of Protestant Bibles, publishers paid for versions created by ordinary students of religion, who sometimes know nothing of classical Greek. From the list of translators of the NIV, for instance, more than a third admit they don't go to church at all. It doesn't matter to the publisher what someone actually believes – they requires only that the words in this new Bible will be different so they won't be sued for copyright infringement.

The King James Version has a pedigree

In the front of my King James Version of 1611 the translators explained the process they used to decide on which words to use in the Holy Bible. Protestants don't include those notes in their American King James Version, because it would show first of all that there are tremendous variations in manuscripts, and secondly that the choice of words came from Roman Catholic Bishops.

Protestant apologists say that the Holy Spirit was the inspiration for the authors of all the Bibles since the 4th century. Then why is the wording so different among Protestant Bibles?

If you could read the oldest Bibles, you would see that they hardly agree on the words spoken

by Jesus. The two oldest Bibles from the 4th century disagree in more than 30,000 places.

Jesus spoke Aramaic. This was a spoken language for which there was no written equivalent. Like the written Hebrew, written Aramaic has no vowels, so cannot duplicate spoken words. There are a few Aramaic writings - the book of Daniel for example, but it wasn't until the Greek written language became popular, that anyone was able to write down what The Father had revealed to man through Jesus. Greek thoughts were translated into languages that could contain these ideas, such as Coptic, an Egyptian language, and Latin.

The earliest manuscripts were in Greek, Coptic and Latin. The oldest Gospels were written in Old Latin, even before the written Greek Gospels, but they are not the same

wording as the Greek used for the first New Testament. In fact the Latin Gospels were so different that Jerome was given the task of cleaning them up. He wrote the Vulgate classical Latin Bible from which all Bibles have taken their format.

Jerome's Bible was translated into English by Tyndale in 1520. This became the basis for the English language Bibles which led to the King James Version of 1611.

The New Testament written in the 4th century was meant to be an aide memoire, something to remind Priests who already were fully aware of the teachings of Jesus, about what they should teach illiterate and uneducated men women and children about Jesus, and ***The Father***. Jerome who wrote the New Testament in the 5th century never expected that non-

clergy would ever read his Bible. What Jesus taught the Apostles was so all encompassing that John the Evangelist said there were not enough books in the world to hold all his instructions, so *practically* everything Jesus taught the Apostles was left out of the New Testament, to be passed on verbally and demonstrated through religious practice.

Though much of Jesus's instruction *had been* documented, those writings were kept in the archives of the Church until quite recently. Since Vatican II in the 1950s many of these writings have been made available to scholars for study. Protestants, of course, have mostly ignored these books, because Protestant Religions have their own story quite apart from what the Catholics understand.

Catholics emphasize the need to do the Will of God. Belief alone is not going to get you very far. Passages in the King James Version that stress the need to work your way to Eternal Life have been edited-out of Evangelical Bibles.

Pastors don't teach Protestants about doing good works for The Father. Mostly when they ask people to do something it is for the benefit of the local church. Protestants carry their Bible around with them because it, and only it, has the words of God, not the Pastor, not the teacher, and certainly not the Catholics. The text of the Bible contains the 'infallible words of God,' they say.

How the Bible was made

The King James Version Bible was the officially sanctioned Bible in every church I have attended. I always read from the Authorized Version 1796 printed in the U.K. with its 80 books. An English edition is printed by both Oxford and Cambridge presses, and these are available at Amazon. The English language **New Testaments** printed in America contain the same books in the same order as traditional bibles, but the actual words differ from Bible to Bible because each publisher is limited in the number of words that can be copied from some other Bible.

Every new Bible must have different phrasing to the previous Bible to avoid the publisher

being sued for copyright infringement. ¹ But whichever Bible you choose, the books, chapters and verse numbers will agree with one another. So, the average reader can be forgiven if he thinks that all Bibles are alike.

Bibles are actually so different that a Protestant would never read a Catholic Bible.

The English Bibles are based on the work of two men, St. Jerome, and the Rev. William Tyndale. Both were Roman Catholic Priests, one from the 5th century, the other the 16th century. Jerome had been tasked with writing a Bible for The Pope in the ‘vulgar’ language of

¹ Only two Bibles in the Christian world are free of copyright restrictions: the 1611 King James Version and the 1582 Douay-Rheims version.

the people, in classical Latin, and he became a hero. Tyndale was forbidden to do such by his English Bishop, and he was strangled to death and his body burned for his disobedience.

It is commonly thought that Tyndale was executed because he wrote the Bible in English, but that was not the case. A hundred years before Tyndale the Bible was in English. The first English version was that of Wycliffe (1382). This was followed by the Great Bible (1538 Henry VIII) which was so huge it was chained to the pulpit. Afterwards the Bishops' Bible (1572) was produced which was very expensive and only affordable to a few of the 10,000 + churches in the Church of England.

Tyndale was determined to make a pocket sized New Testament (1526) so that any educated Englishman could afford

one. Tyndale's idea for a small personal Bible was eventually adopted by Parliament and in 1611 the King James Version Bible was printed. The cost was enormous—a weeks wages for an ordinary laborer (about \$400 today.) Only 5,000 were printed in the first run, and two more runs brought the total to 15,000 which was only enough for two bibles per church, and the cost was so great that many churches would not buy one, and had to be forced with fines.

When you realize that in 1600 AD almost every person in England Wales and Scotland was a member of the Church (some four million members,) even 30,000 Bibles would reach less than one percent of the congregation. To the English of the 17th century a personal Bible was just not important. Church attendance was mandatory in England, and in the course of a

year anyone could hear most of the Bible read in English from the Prayer Book.

The need for a Commentary

The Anglican and Catholic Church agreed that it was unnecessary for the public to own a personal Bible because whatever was needed for their salvation was read to them in Church. The Church never intended a lay person to hear the King James Version without an accompanying commentary written by the Bishops.

Without commentaries, the meaning of the King James Version was impossible to understand, and such is the case today. Homilies (as many as nine a day) were read by

the Priest to explain the text. These were taken from the writings of various Anglican Divines or Bishops.

Englishman went to church regularly and didn't need a Bible at home. The same was true for Roman Catholics. I never met a Catholic who carried a Bible around with him. Without a commentary/homily from the Priest, the Bible is impossible to understand. ²

Protestants who rely only on their own inspired understanding of the Bible, can hardly explain anything that Jesus taught the Apostles. A local Baptist Pastor I have listened to admits

² Rabbis say something similar about the Old Testament: they say 'without the Mishnah no-one can make any sense of the Old Testament.'

he doesn't understand the parables of Jesus. He says 'I don't understand it, but I believe it.'

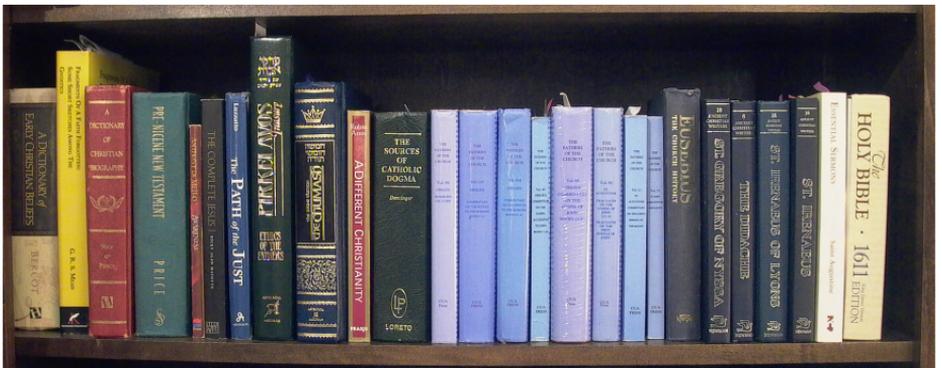
Sermons and Homilies

A **sermon** 'takes the form of a lecture or discourse given for the purpose of providing religious instruction or inculcating moral behavior.' The sermon is a talk on any aspect of Christian doctrine. It may or may not relate to the readings. But a **homily** is a commentary that follows the reading of Scriptures. The homily is a scripturally-based reflection.

'Since Origen's time, homily has meant and still means, a commentary on some part of Sacred Scripture, the aim being to explain the literal, and evolve the spiritual, meaning of the Sacred Text.' [Catholic Encyclopedia]

You can find homilies by Origen, Clement, Gregory of Nyssa, and St. Augustine from Amazon and Kindle Books or on the web.

The books I study.



You could buy these books for around \$800 max, and have all the material you need for understanding Jesus. My library has 400 books and probably cost \$10,000. I wouldn't want to give away any of them, but they are not

necessary to understand the basic teachings of Jesus.

One thing you should realize is that while *The Holy Bible KJV Appointed to be read in churches* is good enough for a member of the Church of England to be saved, it is not sufficient to know **what to do to be rewarded with Eternal Life.**

The *KJV Appointed to be read in churches* was written by Roman Catholic Priests and Bishops specifically for members of the English Catholic Church, and specific phrases in that Bible supports the Dogma of the Church of England only, and not any other church. It disagrees with the teaching of most Protestant religions, and is not a suitable Bible unless you are an Episcopalian. The Baptists use it, but they mis-interpret the text. In fact they

don't actually discuss the meaning of the text in church. They don't know that 'faith in Jesus' is not even mentioned in the text.

Faith of Jesus

In The King James Version

- It does not say: You will be made righteous by faith in Jesus
- It does not say: You will be justified by faith in Jesus
- It does not say: You will receive grace by faith in Jesus
- It does not say: You will be forgiven your sins by faith in Jesus
- It does not say: You will live by faith in Jesus

- It does not say: You can have access to God by faith in Jesus
- It does not say: You will be saved by faith in Jesus

What it does say is that we *are* saved by the Faith **OF** Jesus. And this Faith comes from the entire teachings of Jesus, of which only a small portion is described in the New Testament text.

Jesus taught that salvation comes from obedience to the Will of The Father, repentance for past sins, reception of the Holy Ghost from The Father, all of which are the responsibility of the Bishops to make happen. And salvation is made effective through following in Jesus's footsteps, which every good person tries to do.

The King James Version teaches that Eternal Life is **the reward for Good Works**.

If you don't read the commentaries of the Bishops of the Church of England you will not understand much of the King James Version.

The difference in knowledge about Jesus between the Anglo-Catholics and many Protestants is mind boggling. Because in the catholic faith (Anglican, Catholic, and Orthodox) there are hundreds of books you need to read to begin to understand Jesus.

The Doctrine of the Anglican-Catholic Church that I belonged to was based on the teachings of every book written by the Fathers during the first five centuries, and from the doctrine established at the Ecumenical councils during that same period.

As I have said many times: less than one percent of what Jesus taught was released to the public in the canonical New Testament, the rest was, until the 50's kept within the Church.

Jesus's teaching was demonstrated to people by the clergy who followed an exemplary life of good will and charity to their parishioners.

So, if you are depending of the King James Version to educate yourself about Jesus, you are working in the dark. You are reading a book that was only intended as a reminder to the clergy of what subjects to teach. The actual instructions to the priests were learned through a hands-on apprenticeship program.

The Book of Prayer

In Anglican and Catholic Churches around the World, the central authority for the liturgy or public worship service, is the prayer book which contains instructions and homilies to explain Jesus's teaching. The Breviary, describing the services for each day of the year, and for various service times during the day, is 2000 pages long, and requires 500 hours of listening. Compare this with the New Testament which can be heard in ten hours, and everything Jesus said in just two hours. If you are a devout Anglican and attend all the services for three years, you will hear most of the important scriptures together with perhaps a thousand homilies explaining the scripture. In addition if you attend every Sunday School, you will hear about thirty presentations on the meaning of

scripture readings every year. In three years or so you should have a good understanding of what the New Testament means. In Catholicism, the church is open every day before 7 AM, and services take place. A man would have to attend church every day in order to hear all of the scriptures and homilies. What Protestant would devote this much time to learn about Jesus? None that I have ever met. And truthfully, I know very few people who attend daily services of instruction except Priests, and young Mormons who attend seminary each day.

Of course many people have no interest in knowing **what Jesus taught the Apostles about The Father**, or even who *was* The Father.

But I care, and you should want to know.

Choosing a Good ‘Rules Book’

Every hobby has a **rules book**, and if you want to get really good at your hobby, you need to know the rules by heart. Rule books don’t tell you how to do your hobby. Sports rules books don’t tell you how to play the game, only what the constraints are while you are playing the game.

Let’s pick a Bible that is a good ‘rules book.’ Indulge me on this, it will help to put the Bible into perspective.

You might be surprised, after all the criticism above, that I choose the ***KJV Appointed to be read in churches*** as my favorite Bible.

The King James Version can be thought of as a *rules book* that was specially written for Anglicans, which helps them to learn what they

should do or not do in order to be called a **Good** person.

It is not just about personal salvation. It is a book of rules describing what is considered to be honorable human behaviors towards others. It is meant to guide two or more people on how to live with one another.

This rules book was what the English people used to educate the rest of the world about good government. The language of the Book has brought English to the forefront of all languages. English is the language of diplomacy and of computer programming. And it all started with the King James Version.

During the period 1600 through the 20th century, the King James Version Bible was the primary tool for learning English, also for

artist's inspiration and writing like Shakespeare's (d 1616.) In his plays he even used the language of Tyndale (d 1536) whose writing was the basis of the King James Version. Almost every commentary on scripture since the 2nd century has been translated into King James English, so that if you are familiar with the King James Version you will be familiar with what any theologian of the early Church is explaining.

***The KJV Appointed to be read in churches* is a rules book for Anglicans.**

Let me say that again

The *KJV* is a rules book for Anglicans. It is not a rules books for Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists nor Mormons. All of those Religious groups try to make it fit, but to make it fit, they

have to interpret the text in a way never intended by the Catholic Bishops who wrote it.

To understand what the Bishops meant for this Bible, you have to read their commentaries, or you have to attend the English language Liturgical services at an Anglican or Catholic Church. It's no good reading the commentaries of other Churchmen who are not Anglican nor Catholic, because those commentaries disagree with what the original writers meant.

People who are ignorant of the history of the King James Version say that the Holy Spirit wrote it, or that men under the influence of the Holy Spirit wrote it, and that 'God' directed the writing so that the text contains the actual words spoken by 'God,' so it didn't matter who put pen to paper, the writer only wrote what 'God' told

him to write. If that were so, which it isn't, then surely 'God' would have explained the text.

What happened is that dozens of fallible men did the work the best they could. They supplemented the Bible with their other writings to explain why they picked those particular ways of saying things.

In the front of my King James Version the names and titles, occupations of the translators is included and an explanation of how the work was divided into three teams who compared and edited their work from comments by colleagues and how the final decision on what to say was

determined by an editorial team. ³

³ They made lots of mistakes, so did the printers. Over the period 1611 - 1739 the printers tried to correct all the errors but they introduced new errors each printing until finally the government and the Monarch cried 'stop' and the last version ever was the 1769 'Blaney' version which we all read today in the English printed King James Version.

Who knows what errors are in the American versions because there is no central authority for the printers in America who are not authorized to even print it — the copyright laws of England don't extend to America, so anyone can print a King James Version with impunity.

In England Cambridge Press which is one of only two printers authorized to print the King James Version, produced a corrected version called the Cambridge

How to be a good Christian

The King James Version does not tell you what to do to in order to become **Good** at being a Christian, it only states what is good for Anglicans.

Just because you know the rules doesn't mean that you will be a good Anglican. Only four percent of Anglicans in the U.K still go to Church every week to hear the Liturgy which is where the meaning of the text is made clear.

Of course, to be saved you don't need any sort of a rules book.

Just because your Pastor says you are 'saved' doesn't mean you are a **Good** Christian.

Many people say ‘I am a Christian,’ meaning I don’t belong to a particular religion but I have accepted Jesus and been baptized.’ But do they say ‘I am a **Good** Christian?’ Never.

Until America was colonized in the 16th century, nobody except clergy even opened the rules book. The rules were passed on by parents, by school teachers, and by the local Pastor through the Liturgy and through Sunday School. Salvation was ‘guaranteed’ if you obeyed your Pastor, accepted the existence of the Father and of His Son and then were baptized. This is how most people in the world have been saved.

Since the time of Jesus more than [100 billion people](#) were born and died without reading any Bible.

Some theologians, including Origen, and Pope Francis hint that **everyone will be saved** one way or the other, even if they never read a Bible.

There are probably less than half a billion people who actually carry around a Bible and make a habit of reading it every day. That suggests that less than 6% of the population actually read a Bible.

So, you might wonder **what is the primary purpose of the Bible**, if people are saved whether they read it or not?

As I said, The King James Version can be thought of as a *rules book* for Anglicans, which helps to establish what they should do or not do in order to be called a **Good** person. For example: in Matthew 5, 6, 7, and 8, Jesus lists

all the types of behavior that bring you closer to The Father to become a **Good** person, more like Jesus. The more you are like Jesus, the more you will be rewarded by The Father.

Jesus taught his Apostles that the reward for being like Him, was Eternal Life in this life, and everlasting life with the Father in the world to come.

Jesus said “Come blessed of my Father to the place that He has prepared for you since the beginning of time” There is no judgement call for those people already living in Eternal Life now.

Sure, everyone who is doing good gets to go to heaven, but the reward they get depend on the good works that they do in this life. The

ultimate reward is to be with the Father and The Son in this life.

Not many people I have met understand Eternal Life, and when they find out that it comes from being ‘good’ they aren’t much interested. They say that they are saved regardless of how much they try to be like Jesus, and any failings of theirs will be forgiven as long as they try to be their best with what limited understanding they have. Whether they stay on the straight and narrow or not, they will still enter heaven, isn’t that so, they say.

What then, is the point of trying to become like Jesus? They ask.

Why, Christians, do you read the Bible, except **to be more like Jesus?** The New

Testament has plenty of instructions by Jesus on how you can begin to be **Good**.

A person **who follows the rules that Jesus has laid down**, will feel much better about life, and this attitude will impact everyone he comes into contact with. Read my other books *In Praise of Good Works*, and *The Least Commandments* or the *Thirty Commandments of Jesus* to see what the rules are.

Clergy already know the rules.

The Covenants ignored

I wouldn't bother studying the Old Testament to learn what to do, because those rules were written strictly for the Israelites (read the Ten Commandments following to see what the Jews understand by them.) Jesus has chosen which rules a **Good** Christian needs.

If you completely neglected the Old Testament you can still be a **Good** Christian.

Jesus told the righteous men that: if they were observant Jews and living under the existing Covenants of Abraham and Moses, they was obliged by this 'contract' with Hashem to continue life as an observant Jew, and Jesus was

not going to try to talk them out of it – He couldn't legally do it. ⁴

Israelites not under those Covenants, were free to follow Jesus.⁵

Pharisees argued that the unrighteous were not going to inherit the world to come unless they cleaned themselves of their infirmities and observed the purity laws of Judaism. They argued with Jesus about this. Pharisees knew

⁴ In some religions Jesus is Jehovah who made the law with Moses, so how could He go against His own law? Regardless, Jesus would not advise any man to break a Covenantal agreement.

⁵ But Mormons, and Messianic Jews believe they are under the Covenant and must observe Old Testament commandments.

nothing about any Father who had a different set of rules for poor people.

Gentiles are under a different rules book to Pharisees/Jews.

For gentiles, the Old Testament is interesting, but not required reading for non-Jews.

Ten Commandments

You may think that the ten commandments of Moses apply to gentiles. You can see a display of those ten commandments in chapels as a reminder of what ‘God’ has written in stone.

Yet those commandments that are displayed in Christian chapels and homes aren’t exactly what God said to Moses, and the Jewish lobbies

have legislated against the display of the Ten Commandments because they are a corruption of the original. Now Christians can't show these corrupted Ten Commandments in any Federally funded building, such as schools and government offices.

What has been corrupted by Christians? Well, first they have omitted the first and most important commandment which is who the law was written for.

- I. I am YHWH thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. [meaning: all the commandments that follow, apply to you Israel only, not to other Nations.]
- II. Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

The Jews know that other Nations have always had other Gods, but for Israel there is only one God, Hashem.

The Muslim 'God' is not the Israelite 'God.' The Christian God has nothing to do with those 'Gods.' The Muslim 'god' is named 'Allah.' The Jewish 'god' is named 'Hashem.' The Christian 'god' has no name. The Christians 'god' has a Son. Neither Allah nor Hashem has a Son, and it is blasphemy punishable by death to say that Allah has a Son. Same for the Jews.

The rabbis teach that Gentiles are ignorant of Hashem, and that once the entire world becomes ONE World, and all follow Torah, then the Gentiles will have Hashem revealed to them. Until that time gentiles will remain in ignorance of their God. And you can see this in our English Bibles as there is no Jewish God

mentioned by name. All Deities in the King James Version are called LORD.

Jesus never mentions a Jewish God to His Disciples. For Jesus there is only one True God, The Father.

III. Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I יהוה thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

This means no statues of fish or birds or things long dead (like relics.) Hashem passes on

his punishment to the children of anyone who does not ‘serve’ Him.

IV. Thou shalt not take the name of יהוה thy God in vain: for יהוה will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain

Of course, Hashem is not the Christian God at all, we never call on Hashem.

V. Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as יהוה thy God hath commanded thee. Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of hwhy thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt,

and that יהוה thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore יהוה thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

Most Christians ignore this commandment. There are few Christian sects that do not labor on the Sabbath.

VI. Honour thy father and thy mother, as יהוה thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which יהוה thy God giveth thee.

Here again the God of Israel specifies which people He is addressing and it is not the gentiles. The land given was the old Canaan.

VII. 'Thou shalt not kill.'

This means, according to rabbis, that Jews shall not murder other Jews, but it is okay to kill

Gentiles and Arabs if they become a threat to Israel. That's what the rest of this law states in Talmud. But of course Christians don't write that down. They write 'Thou shalt do no murder.' at least that is what is written in English Prayer Books. This gives Christians a license to kill other Englishmen (and Americans) as long as they aren't angry or hate filled when they do the killing. To the Jews this is hypocrisy, and it is, isn't it.

VIII. Neither shalt thou commit adultery. Neither shalt thou steal.

This law in its detail only applies to Jews. In the full description of the law it say that Jews can steal from Gentiles, and it defines adultery as a Jewish man having sex with another Jew's wife, which is forbidden on pain of death. But Gentile women are all classed as prostitutes even if

married, and it is not a serious offense for a Jewish man to have sex with a gentile's wife.

IX. Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's

If you study Talmud you will find that the word neighbour applies only to Jews who share the same beliefs and purity practice. Gentiles never qualify as neighbours.

No display of the Ten Commandments

After PL 102 passed in 1991, the moral Laws of the United States were said to be based on the Talmud, not on the Christian Bible – specifically those Laws given to Noah, called the

Noachide Laws which are said by rabbis to define the moral basis for all Gentiles who wish to inherit a place in the world to come..

The Ten Commandments that Moses received were specifically for the children of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Not for Christians, not for Muslims. What little you know of these commandments come from Christianized versions of the Old Testament. If you knew what their God really said to the Israelites you would be shocked because the Commandments are really about how Jews must treat other Jews, and they give license to Jews to allow them to treat Christians badly, without fear of punishment by Hashem.

Jesus taught differently. And we Christians try to follow Jesus, not the rabbis.

When Jesus said He came to fulfill the law he meant He came to make it possible for outcasts of society to be acceptable to The Father, without having to obey the Mosaic Laws which ‘unclean’ people could not follow because they were unclean *spiritually*, Jesus made it possible for them to be acceptable to The Father, anyway.

Jesus’s followers called His Gospel ‘**The Way to The Father.**’

This ‘Way’ is briefly mentioned in the New Testament, but the **Way** itself, the methods by which outcasts were to live, **is not described in the New Testament.**

Jesus demonstrated by His example, how to live **The Way.**

The method that Jesus demonstrated to the Apostles is supposed to be shown to us by our modern day Apostles, i.e Pastors who should themselves live an exemplary life like Jesus.

The Apostles travelled far and wide, and demonstrated what life could be like if people would only **give up the desire for attachments** as the Apostles had done (Read my short book called ‘Stuff’.) Apostles owned nothing, and they depended on *The Father* to provide whatever they needed. I have described this Way of Life in my little book ‘Making the Divine Bread.’

If you want to know Jesus you will have to look in other books than the New Testament. You must turn to the writings of the Elders of the Church who were trained by the Apostles themselves, and to the next line of Elders who

wrote many books describing what Jesus taught the Apostles.

The New Testament was never meant to be definitive advice from Jesus, it is only a rule book; a reminder of what were the important topics for priests to teach their new students. Until the 16th century this is how the New Testament was utilized. It was only after Martin Luther started the Lutheran Church in competition with the Roman Catholic Church that the method became corrupt, and all the teachings of Jesus over the previous fifteen hundred years were discarded.

Luther hoped he would make salvation easy for simple minded people. He told his German Princes the terrifying idea that whatever they wanted to do, even murder, could be done

without fear of retribution from God, because Jesus would cover their sins and God couldn't see them. The result of this teaching was murder and mayhem in Germany and within a few years more than 100,000 peasants, Monks, Clergy, Nuns were killed by their own countrymen.

You see, with only the New Testament to go by, and without the entire teachings of Jesus people could interpret the text any way they wanted.

And this idea: that the meaning of the Bible depends on the reader's intelligence, and his/her inspiration, is prevalent today amongst Protestant churches. There is only one Faith of Jesus, yet there are 33,000 denominations worldwide who can't agree on what it is.

In my small town of 22,000 people are more than 400 churches, each with its own unique teaching about what the New Testament means, most of them trying to make sense of the New Testament without reading any of the explanation by Jerome, Tyndale and the Bishops of the Church of England who wrote it. And only four Churches are using a Breviary to instruct its people as to the meaning of the text.

If you want to know what Jesus meant, you must go to the writings of the Elders of the 2nd through 5th centuries. And if you want to know what the *KJV Appointed to be read in churches* means you have to read the commentaries of the Bishops of the Church of England who wrote it.

You must come to understand Jesus by doing, one lesson at a time, what He showed the

Apostles, You learn more about the nature of The Father by doing what Jesus showed. Only a few of these teachings by Jesus are made clear in the New Testament, but you can start with those few ideas.

Here's a good work:

Give to him that asks

If you are asked by a down-and-out person for money, give him a little. Don't judge and don't say no. What motive he has for the money is not your business, and it shouldn't affect your decision anyway. Do it and see what happens to you. You may come to realize that this is how The Father treats **you**. And you will know a little more of what is the 'goodness of the Father.'

Jesus came to show people who was their true Father and to demonstrate how much He loves them.

You will misunderstand this story if you think that your Father is the God of the Jews, Hashem, who has no love for the unrighteous.

Jobs for Jesus

Another idea of Jesus: a man who is suffering spiritually must choose his ‘savior’ carefully. He should not turn to the Law which cannot cure him, but must turn to the only neighbor who can cure him i.e. Jesus.

He tells a lawyer the story we call *the good Samaritan*. Lay people do not have the rest of the story which explains the meaning, but the

clergy do. By listening to them we discover that we are not considered to be the good Samaritan but are instead, the man in the gutter who is 'half-dead.' We must ask Jesus to become our neighbor and to cure our suffering soul.

We who are untrained in the curing of souls, must defer helping to allow Jesus to do the healing directly with the 'patient.' One of our jobs for Jesus, is to encourage each patient to ask Jesus to do the healing. The word 'Salvation' in the New Testament also means healing and curing. To be saved is to have one's soul cured by Jesus the Great Physician. This understanding comes from the writings of the Church Fathers, and the Pope.

The Widow's two mites

In the story Jesus tells the Disciples that the widow he gave all her earnings that day to the Temple treasury was justified above that of the wealthy patrons. It is not because she gave everything to the Church that she was justified but rather that she felt she had no need of money because she trusted God to provide everything. Her trust in God was the reason Jesus said she was 'justified.' The understanding comes from the lilies of the field and the birds in the air similitudes.

Freedom from the tyranny of Pharisees

We often misunderstand the parables and teach others the wrong principles. For instance

in the story of the Lost Sheep, we think we are supposed to look for ‘lost sheep’ and bring them to church, but Jesus taught the opposite. In the story of the lost sheep the message from Jesus is that the sheep must be allowed to be free to roam in green pastures under the watchful eye of the only true shepherd. If the owner of the sheep (in this story, a Pharisee) is allowed to capture it and bring it home to the sheepfold it is certain that the sheep will lose its freedom and will eventually be killed and eaten. The understanding of this story, and the warning to stay out of the hands of the Pharisees, comes from Jesus’s teaching in the Gospel of Thomas.

The next book in the series *Making The Divine Bread* has Jesus’s instructions on how to inherit Eternal Life.

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