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Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

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**SURVEY
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Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

A Survey of the Authorized Version

Dr. Peter S. Ruckman

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The Scripture quotations found herein are from the text of the Authorized *King James* Version of the Bible. Any deviations therefrom are not intentional.

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PREFACE

We're going to have a little Bible study, and it's going to be kind of dull for some of you. If you don't like the manna, it's going to be kind of dull; and if you long for the leeks and the onions and the garlicks, why, it won't be too interesting. But if you love the Lord and love the word, you'll get a blessing. I'm going to show you some things about your Bible tonight that you're not going to learn in any school, and I didn't learn them in any school anyway. If I'm kind of out in left field in my Bible approach, it's because the Lord got me there by myself. And I'm going to show you some things about a *King James* Bible that maybe you didn't know and that might be a blessing to you.

A Survey of the Authorized Version

We could start almost anywhere here, but let's start in 1 Thessalonians 2:13: **“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”** That is, if you're saved, this Book will work in you. But it will only work effectually in you if you believe it; if you don't believe it, it won't work in you. The Bible says when you heard the truth, you received it not as the word of men but as the word of God, and it effectually works in a man that believes.

Take your Bible now and turn to Hebrews 4:12: **“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”** I don't discern its thoughts and intents; it discerns mine. This Book is perfectly capable of judging any college professor in this town. That is, this Book is perfectly capable of taking apart and critiquing and dissecting anything you ever heard or anything you ever read or anything you ever learned. Hebrews 4:13: **“Neither is there ANY creature....”** (That takes care of you and your mother and your professor.) **“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight....”** *His* sight? Why, who's the *Him*? Verse 12: **“The word of God.”** He talked about that word like it was a person. **“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight”**—the word of God. You say, “Well, it's Christ.” No, you're wrong. When He said: **“The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword,”** it was not a reference to Jesus Christ, because when Jesus Christ comes back in Revelation chapter 19, He opens His mouth and a sharp two-edged sword goes out of His mouth. Hebrews 4:13 is not the Incarnate Word; it is the written word. **“The word of God is quick, and powerful, and,”** nothing is hid from **“HIS sight.”** This book has personality: it's like a person. A fellow told me one time, “You've got a ‘paper pope’.” Amen! Amen! That's right. At least I've got one that's infallible and sinless. That's more than some of you have.

One time a man found a fanatic out there in the streets of New York running around a hat. He was pointing at the hat in the middle of the road and yelling, “It's alive! It's alive! It's alive! It's alive!” And the crowd gathered around there because they thought he was nuts. And he kept running around that hat yelling, “It's alive! It's alive!”

The crowd kept asking, “What's alive? What's alive?”

So he went over and picked up that hat; there was a Bible underneath it. He said, “The word of God.”

Now, folks say, “Well, he's crazy.” Well, not so crazy as you are if you don't believe it.

You say, “I don’t like the way you talk.” You’re going to like it less before we get through!

Hebrews 4:13: **“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him....”** Where’s the antecedent? The antecedent is in verse 12, **“the word of God.”**

One time a Catholic said to Martin Luther, “Where is your religion found?”

And Luther said, “Where yours has never been found and never will be found.”

And the Catholic said, “Where?”

And Luther said, “In the Bible and no where else.”

One time a Catholic said to John Wesley, “Where was your religion before the Reformation?”

And he said, “Where was your face before you washed it?” (Behind the dirt!)

All right, now let’s turn to Galatians chapter 3. Here Paul is what you would call a “Bibliolater,” and that’s what scares these college professors so badly. Your Greek and Hebrew professors are scared to death somebody will think that they worship the Bible. So they try to make their students worship *them*. And instead of putting the Bible as the final authority, they correct the Bible and make you think they are the final authority. But let’s see what the greatest Christian said about this book. (Bibliolatry never bothered him a bit.) Galatians 3:7–8: **“Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing....”**

“The scripture, foreseeing”? Why, a book can’t FORESEE. To be able to foresee is an attribute of something that’s LIVING.

“And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham....” Why, there were no Scriptures when God spoke to Abraham. Did you read back there in Genesis where the Lord spoke to Abraham? *Genesis hadn’t been written at the time God spoke to Abraham.* Moses wrote Genesis about 1500 B.C. while Abraham lived back there around 1900 B.C. What do you mean, **“the scripture...preached...unto Abraham”?** Abraham HAD no “Scriptures.” Do you know who it was that said to Abraham: **“In thee shall all nations be blessed”?** Who said that to him? *Why, God said that to him.* Paul, aren’t you ashamed of yourself putting the word **“scripture”** for GOD? Tut, tut! This is what scares people, see? They say, *“You worship that book.”* Well, I don’t want to have you misunderstand me; I’m not a fanatic on it. I know you can burn this book, and you can’t burn God. I know that **“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth”** (John 4:24). I know you can put ink all over this book, and you can’t put ink on God. I’ve got some sense. I mean, I’m not making an idol out of it. But boy, it “sure do get close,” don’t it? It sure do get close! Have you ever wondered...?

Some apostate fundamentalist says, “Well, what he’s talking about there is *the originals.*”

Who told you that? You’ve never read that in any Bible.

Where did you ever read in any Bible that somebody said, “The originals said, the originals said”? Isn’t it strange how non-Christian some Christians talk? Here’s a man standing up and saying, “A better translation should be....” He didn’t learn that from God, and you didn’t read it in any Bible you ever read.

The faculty members say, “It’s unfortunate it is this way, and a better rendering should be such and such.” Did *Paul* ever talk like that? Did *James* ever talk like that? Did *John* ever talk like that? Did *Matthew* ever talk like that? Did *Moses* ever talk like that? Did *David* ever talk like that? Did *Jesus Christ* ever talk like that? Then why do you listen to men who do?

You know what I think? I think that way down somewhere under that veneer which some of you have, you’ve got a kind of desire to judge that Bible yourself and be superior to it; so that kind of stuff appeals to you. These egotistical critics get up there and begin to correct it and correct it. And you say, “Well, I can do that. I can study. I can get the brains to do that, and then I’ll be the final judge.” See? You never in your life heard a Christian in the New Testament talk that way or say, “The originals said, the originals said....”

We’ve just got a good start! Romans 9:17: **“For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up....”** The **“scripture”** said to Pharaoh? Why, in the book of Exodus *there were no Scriptures around when Moses talked with Pharaoh*. Moses wrote the book of Exodus *after* those events took place. The Scripture didn’t say it to Pharaoh. Who said to Pharaoh, **“Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee”**? Who said that? Why, the *Lord* said it. Paul is kind of careless, isn’t he? The idea of putting the word **“scripture”** for the word “God”! Isn’t that kind of careless? Paul must have been a Bibliolater.

One of our young men was downtown, and this other young man said to him, “You’re a Ruckmanite. You’re following a man.”

Our student asked, “Whom am I following?”

“You’re following Ruckman,” came the reply.

“I’m not following Ruckman. I’m following this book. I believe this book doesn’t have a mistake in it.”

“Ruckman taught you that; you’re a Ruckmanite. I believe it has mistakes in it.”

To which our student replied, “*Who taught you that?*”

Strange, isn’t it? Did you ever notice how these fellows say, “You’re following a man. You’re following a man.” *And every man that says that is following a man*. Isn’t that peculiar? Listen, I’ll tell you, if you can find a mistake in that book, you’re not following me because I don’t teach there are any mistakes in it. And I’ll tell you something else: You’re not following the Lord!

Anyone of you fellows care to tell me that God Almighty or the Holy Spirit showed you a mistake in that Book—that God showed it to you. Tell me! Tell me! Every time you thought that 1 John 5:7 shouldn’t have been in there and that Ahaziah’s age contradicts in Chronicles and Kings, you got it out of another book, didn’t you? Didn’t you? Yes, you did.

All right, Romans 9:17, **“For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up.”** The *Scripture* foresees. The *Scripture* raises people up, and Paul used the terms interchangeably.

This is a strange Book that I have in my hand. They say this Book is not “scientific.” They say this Book is outdated, it’s outmoded, it’s archaic. They say it needs to be “updated.” They say it was written by men who didn’t have the “scientific world view” and who knew nothing about the “inductive method.” Let’s see how these men did with the limited knowledge that they had. Luke 17:30, **“Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.”**

“In the day”? Verse 34: **“I tell you, in that night....”** Oh, come on, Lord; it can’t be day and night at the same time! Verse 30 says, **“in the day”**; verse 34 says, **“in that night.”** Well, come on; it can’t be day and night at the same time, can it?

You say, “Why, sure!” But how did Luke know that? Until A.D. 1500, people thought the earth was flat. How do you explain the fact that Luke recorded something there that scientists didn’t know about until 1500. How come he knew it could be day and night at the same time? Did you ever try to explain anything like that? Do you know who thought it was flat in 1500? The scientists and educators.

All right, take your Bible and turn to Isaiah chapter 40. Luke not only knew that it could be day and night at the same time, but Isaiah—and he lived at least 800 years before Christ—said this in Isaiah 40:21–22: **“Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he that sitteth upon the circle [the circle—the circle!] of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers.”** The Bible says that the earth is round. You know what the scientists said for fourteen, fifteen, and sixteen centuries? They said it was flat; they said it was square.

You say, “Doesn’t it say over there in Revelation that they stood on the four corners of the earth?” Sure, the earth has four corners. Aren’t you up on your geography? Haven’t you ever read the *National Geographic* magazine that shows you that picture of the earth with those four bulges there at different places? You’re “up-to-date,” aren’t you? Sure you are! Folks say that the Bible says that it has four corners—north, south, east, and west. You’ve got four corners on a compass—north, south, east, and west.

A fellow said to me one time, “The Bible’s not scientific: it says the ‘four corners of the earth’.” I went down by the post office, and I saw a sign there for recruiting Marines. It said, “Marines are serving Uncle Sam in the four corners of the earth.”

Folks are funny, aren’t they? The Bible accommodates itself to you so that you can understand it; then you say, “It’s not scientific.” Then the Bible gets scientific, and you say, “I can’t understand it.” There’s something wrong with man; did you know that?

Do you know what some bird said to me one time? He said, “The Bible said the sun rose and the sun set.” He said, “Now, we know that the sun doesn’t rise, and it doesn’t set; the earth turns.”

I said, “You got a newspaper on you?”

He said, “Yes,” and took it out.

I said, “What time’s sunrise?” And before he could think, he quoted it to me. The Naval Air Station says “sunrise-sunset.” You won’t beat the Book.

All right, now turn to Ecclesiastes 1. Now, you notice that I’m using only one Book for what I’m going to show you. We’re not going to get into any of the new versions; we’ll just stick with the old one right here. Ecclesiastes 1:6: **“The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.”** But they didn’t know that back there in A.D. 100, 200, 300, 400, and 100, 200, 300, 400 B.C., that the wind has regular circuits, or paths, that it travels. Ask the aerologist out there at the airport; he’ll tell you about it. Ecclesiastes 1:7: **“All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.”** Solomon said that the water runs down into the ocean; then it goes back up to the river and comes back down the river, and goes up the river and comes back down the river. Nobody believed that for years and years and years. Then somebody began to study evaporation and condensation. Somebody said, “Well, it goes up over the water and blows back over the land; clouds come down with drops.” Yeah, but how come Solomon knew it in 1000 B.C.? Why is it that the scientists always lag 500 to 1,000 years behind the Bible? You’d think they would get caught up sometime, wouldn’t you?

For example, if I were to tell you tonight—and I wouldn’t think of telling you a thing like this—but if I were to tell you tonight that the way to learn how to make bread is out of snow, you wouldn’t take it seriously. If I were to tell you that the best substitute for blood in a human being, if you were trying to make a human being, would be water, you wouldn’t take it seriously. If I were to tell you that between here and Alpha Draconis, going north, is a body of water fifteen million times bigger than the Pacific, some of you wouldn’t believe me: and yet you’re going to go up through it when you go up at the Rapture. If I were to tell you that New Jerusalem is right up *there*, and that I could point to within three inches of it from down here, you wouldn’t believe me; but that’s because you’re too “scientific.” See? If you’d get in your Bible, you’d be so far ahead of science that they couldn’t catch up with you. So I’m not going to tell you about any of those things!

In the Dark Ages in Europe, when the Black Plague swept Europe (1300) and took off people by the millions, and there weren’t enough live people left to bury the dead people, the Jews got through with hardly a casualty. So they were blamed for the Black Death. One of the reasons the Jew got through was his dietary laws. And another reason he got through is found in Leviticus 15:13: **“And when he that hath an issue is cleansed of his issue; then he shall number to himself seven days for his cleansing, and wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in running water, and shall be clean.”** It wasn’t until late in the eighteen hundreds that the surgeons and physicians learned how to bathe their hands in running water to get the germs off them. The guy was putting his hands down in the bowl and washing and down in the bowl and washing, and the patients were getting gangrene by the score and losing arms and hands and feet by amputation. Then somebody said to let the water run over it, so now they wash them in *running water*. But don’t you think that twenty-two centuries is just a little bit slow? As a matter of fact, it’s more than that—the passage I’m reading here is fourteen centuries before the birth of Christ; it’s been eighteen centuries after his birth. Let’s see, that’s only thirty-two centuries off! You know, if you’re

a scientist, you're going to have a problem trying to keep up with what's going on. You're liable to get way out of step.

All right, take your Bible and turn to Job 37:6. Job was written in 1800 B.C.; it's the oldest book in the Bible, written probably before Moses was born. Job 37:6: **“For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain, and to the great rain of his strength.”** God takes care of snowfall and rainfall. When the snow comes down, every snowflake is different. I've heard them say of a snowfall of eight or nine feet up there in Canada, that you can't find two of them alike. That's a strange thing. Boy, you know, if you're a Darwinian, you'll sure have a time with that one, man! I don't know how you'll get through *that*. You'd think He'd mess up once, wouldn't you? All right, verse 7: **“He sealet up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work.”** How do I know it's God doing the work and not Mother Nature and not Darwin? By my hand. God seals up my hand so that I can know His work. How do I know His work? I look at my hand. My fingerprints are not like yours. Fingerprints are just as different as snowflakes. The One that made the snowflakes made my hand. **“He sealet up the hand of every man.”**

Like a fellow said one time, “My daddy got put in jail for something he didn't do.”

And they said, “What's that?”

He said, “He didn't wipe his fingerprints off the safe.”

Some smart aleck drove the police officers and the sheriffs nuts for about a year trying to figure out that he'd open safes with his toes.

I don't see how in the world a man can be an evolutionist when he knows that snowflakes come down different and hands come up different. They're saying now that not even two sets of teeth or toes are alike. And yet there's a bunch of kooks saying that all the races are alike. Why, the *individuals* are not even alike, man, let alone the *races*. There are not even two *individuals* the same. They get this idea, “Well, it just came from a kind of indiscriminate mongrel mass and just gradually evolved into a kind of spontaneous dust cloud that swirled until the chemicals broke off,” and all that stuff. Why, man, you've got to have *faith* to believe that nonsense! I haven't got that much faith. I never had very much faith. It's a lot easier just to say, “Well, God did it,” than to go through that mess.

I want to read you one of my favorite poems. You may not appreciate it, but this has always been one of my favorite poems.

Upon a rock yet uncreate,
Amid a chaos incohere,
An uncreated being sate.
Beneath him rock
Above him cloud,
And the cloud was rock,
And the rock was cloud.

The rock then growing soft and warm,
The cloud began to take a form,
A form chaotic, vast, and vague
Which issued in the cosmic egg.
Then the being uncreate
On the egg did incubate.
And thus became the incubator,
And of the egg did allegate,
And thus became the alligator.
And the incubator was potentate,
But the alligator was potentator.

Now, Psalm 75:5, **“Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck.”** There isn't a voice instructor in the world that doesn't know that's good advice. And whoever that fellow was that wrote that, he knew that you'd mess up your vocal chords if you spoke with a stiff neck. And if you're going to speak or sing, it's got to come from the diaphragm, and the throat has to be loose. **“Speak not with a stiff neck.”** But there were people in 1800 and 1900 who didn't know that. If they had had a Bible, they might have been able to save their voices.

All right, take your Bible and turn to Psalm 119:70. **“Their heart is as fat as grease.”** Did you ever hear of fat around the heart? He says over there in Genesis 42:28 that Jacob's sons' hearts failed. Did you ever hear of heart failure? In one place over in the Psalms, He says wine for this and oil for this, but bread for a man's heart. They just found out in the last sixty or seventy years that Vitamin E in whole wheat bread is good for your heart muscle. If they would read their Bible, they would keep up with things a little better, I think.

Look at Nahum 2:3. **“The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men are in scarlet: the chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation.”** In the day when the Lord comes back or in the preparing for His coming, **“the day of his preparation,” “the chariots shall be with flaming torches.”** Verse 4: **“The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings.”** What do you suppose that is? Could it be any clearer? Somebody speaks up, “Well, you know, ‘chariots’.” Yeah, but if the Lord had said, “Ford V-8's and Mustangs and Barracudas,” who would have understood it? See? In plainer words, when the Lord writes, He writes so that any fool can get it.

A fellow said, “Well, it ought to be up-to-date; it ought to be scientific.” Why, if the Lord had just said, “The Buicks will bang against the Chevrolets,” who in 1800 could have understood it?

Take your Bible and turn to Isaiah if you think I stretched Nahum by putting his words on automobiles. Whoever wrote Nahum and Isaiah knew something that nobody knew in 1900. Isaiah 9:5, speaking of the battle preceding the Second Coming of Christ: **“For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but [watch it!] this [this battle] shall be with burning and fuel of fire [!].”** How do you explain that? A fellow said, “Just coincidence.” We’ll see about those “coincidences” in a while.

Take your Bible and turn to Job 25:5. **“Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not.”** It doesn’t? Doesn’t the song say, “Shine on, shine on harvest moon”? **“Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not.”** Does the moon shine? No, it reflects light. When did you find that out? They didn’t know it in 800; they didn’t know it in 900; they didn’t know it in 1000; they didn’t know it in 1100; they didn’t know it in 1200; they didn’t know it in 1300; they didn’t know it in 1400. How come they didn’t read Job? Job was written 1800 years B.C. You’d think a fellow would get caught up somewhere, wouldn’t you? (That’s why the Bible says beware **“of science falsely so called,”** over there in 1 Tim. 6:20.) The gods of this country are sex, money, and education. Any time you take sex, education, or money and put them ahead of that Book, you are in the wrong pew. You say, “What about Christian education?” Yes sir, Christian education too! Many times higher Christian education is not Biblical education in any sense of the word.

The modern, apostate Fundamentalist says, “Well, I believe the fundamentals.”

So did the Council of Nicaea, A.D. 325. So what? Do you know what? If I had time, I could take *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop and open that thing, and I could show you every “fundamental” of the Christian faith being taught in pagan religions before Christ was born. Good people, the only thing that makes your religion different from other folks’ religion is not the number of things that you profess to believe out of this Book, but that you have an authoritative Book on which you can bet your soul. And it doesn’t make any mistakes. Why, Tammuz dies, he’s buried, he comes up from the dead. Apollos dies and goes to the underworld and comes back up (Eph. 4; Matt. 27). And they had other “virgin-born” people over there (Alexander and all kinds of folks) long before Christ shows up. The fact that makes our religion different from pagan religions is that we have the truth out of all those other religions stuck right here in this Book without any error or admixture of error in it.

Job 38:19, **“Where is the way where light dwelleth?”** Why didn’t he say, “Where is the *place* where light dwelleth” like the corrupt NASV says? Because nobody yet has been able to determine a location for light: it’s always moving. So he said, **“Where is the way...?”** How did Job know that light was always moving? Einstein spent a lot of time trying to prove that.

Job 38:22: **“Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail.”**

A fellow said, “That’s just figurative.”

No, it’s not. Dr. Schutt says that a two-foot snowfall has \$8.14 per acre in nitrates, ammonium, and albuminoid.

Job 38:24: **“By what way is the light parted, which scattereth the east wind upon**

the earth?” By a spectroscope. But who knew that before the time of Christ?

Job 38:35: **“Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are?”** Ben Franklin did. He got to messing around with lightning and a key, and somebody got to messing around with electricity, and Alexander Graham Bell picked up a phone and said, “Here we are.” How do you account for that? How do you account for the fact that Job said that lightning could talk? Nobody else knew that till after the Protestant Reformation.

Revelation 22:19, **“And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city.”** It says: **“And if any man shall take away from the w-o-r-d-s”;** not the “message,” not the “fundamentals,” not the “truths”: THE W-O-R-D-S!

Let’s see if that’s good, solid Bible doctrine. Somebody said, “Well, you couldn’t have the words to the original because the words to the original are in Greek, and you lose a lot in translation.” Yeah, and you can gain a lot too!

Do you mean that you can lose a lot of the exact force of the original?

Some fella says: “Yes.”

Maybe the Lord doesn’t want you to have the exact force of the *original*. Maybe he wants you to have the exact force of the *English!* Did you ever think about that? I told a fellow one time, “If I had the originals right here in my pulpit tonight, I wouldn’t teach them to you”—and I meant it.

If I was over in that room and an angel of the Lord came down in that room and said, “Here are the original manuscripts.” Do you know what I’d teach you when I came over here tonight? Just what I’ve got on the table.

A fellow says, “Whoooooaa!”

Do you know why he’d say, “Whoooooaa!”? Because he’s the idolater. He worships the paper on which the words were written. Yeah, that’s it! A lot of this old, superstitious reverence about “the original, the original, the original” is just a cover-up for rejecting what God gave you. You had better watch that stuff.

John 5:46, 47, **“For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?”**

John 3:34, **“For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.”**

Now, I realize that this is rather dull to some of you, and I’ll tell you why that is: You don’t have a proper estimation of the word. You don’t have a proper estimation of the Book. You’re so soaked and shot through with *Time* and *Life* and *Look* and *Saturday Evening Post* and *Newsweek* and *The Caine Mutiny* and *Gone with the Wind* that you don’t know where you’re “at” just about half the time. God has put into your lap the greatest Book this world has ever seen, and you underestimate it. Why, if all the dust were knocked off all the closed Bibles in Florida, there would be a dust storm that would smother the crops. John 14:23: **“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words.”**

You say, “I don’t think it’s that important.”

All right, let’s see where you are. Let’s see if we can get your number. Haven’t you ever noticed how nervous this Book makes people? You get out this Book, and they begin to shift and squirm around and get restless. You walk through an air terminal with one of these things, and they will look at you like you were a three-headed monster, man. A fellow said, “How do you know the Bible’s the word of God?” By how nervous it makes folks.

When some of you fellows were around eight, nine, and ten years old, you’d carry your *King James* Bible to public school. Then you got up around junior high, and you quit, didn’t you? Do you know why you quit it? Too much pressure. Do you know why you had the pressure? Because you had the right Book. And I’ll tell you if you had carried *Life* or *Look* magazine or *Good News for Modern Man* around there, nobody would have ever bothered you. But you carry along that old black-backed sixty-six and see what happens?

All right, John 8:44–47, **“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in THE TRUTH, because there is no TRUTH in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. And because I tell you THE TRUTH, ye believe me not. Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say THE TRUTH, why do ye not believe me? He that is of God heareth God’s words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.”** Mmmmmmm, Mmmmmmm! You know something? Those verses say that if you love the Lord, you’re going to keep His *words*. And if His *words* aren’t available, you don’t have any proof that you even love Him. Do you think that the God Almighty, Who inspired that Book and gave it to us, was so weak and so impotent and so tired out that He couldn’t preserve it? Do you think He lost it on the way someplace and just gave it up as a bad job? I’ll tell you, if He had the power to inspire it, He must have had the power to preserve it. The very idea of God Almighty reaching over the battlements of heaven and pulling me out of the dance bands and the army camps and the barrooms where I used to hang out and saying, “Go preach the word,” and then He couldn’t give it to me to preach! *Brother, I’ve got it! I know where it is.* It’s right here in my hand!

Somebody said, “That’s a reference to the originals.”

You old liar; where did you get the authority for saying that? I read a book one time about how our Bible (the original manuscripts) was inspired, and every quotation the guy gave in it he gave from a *King James* Bible. Now, that’s a weird thing. How do you figure that out? If your proof that the original is inspired is this *King James* Bible, how come you’re quoting *this*. This isn’t the *original*. Folks are funny, aren’t they?

Let’s take another look at this Book. This binding has seven bands around the back because Revelation 5:1 says there was a seven-sealed book **“written within and on the backside.”** Take your Bible and tell me something: Have you got red around the edges? All right. It’s a bloody Book, so they put red on it. How many of you have a black Book? They say, “Put it down in your little black book.” That’s the Book. All right, how many of you have gold or gilt edges. Gold covered all the tabernacle furniture, so it represents deity. Back in the old days when you opened one of these *King James* Bibles, it had a little

book here in the frontispiece with seven seals on it. Some of you don't have that, but I'll tell you what you've got. There are one, two, three, four, five, six, seven lines around the back of that Bible. And if you've got five—one, two, three, four, five—you've got six coming across *the bottom* and seven going across *the top*. Isn't that a "cohinky-dinky," huh? How do you explain that?

A fellows say, "Well, the publisher...."

The publisher doesn't even know what I just said. If you went to Oxford and Cambridge and asked those fellows why they did that, they couldn't tell you. It's a strange Book. And the more you study it, the stranger it gets. For example, this Book in the Epistle Dedicatory says, "To the most high and mighty Prince James, defender of the faith." Some of you don't have that dedicatory in your Bible; you ought to have it, though. "To the most high and mighty Prince James...by the grace of God..." Do you know where the word James comes from? Do any of you fellows know what the Greek word or the Hebrew word for James is? The Greek word is from the Hebrew word for Jacob. *God waited until He had a king on the English throne with the name James and then put that thing in there:* "To the most high and mighty Prince Jacob." Why, Jacob was a prince in Israel.

This is a Jewish Book. Every writer in it is a Jew. God wouldn't turn out a perfect Book when Elizabeth was on the throne or when George was on the throne. He had to get James, and there is no power in a Bible unless it is the word of a KING (Eccl. 8:4).

Did you ever stop and think about this: That thing says "*King James*," nine letters. "Holy Bible," nine letters. Do you know what nine is in your Bible? Well, when old Abraham was ninety and nine, he bore that fruit and got that seed. And in Genesis 9:1 the Lord said, "**Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth**" with that fruit. And there are *nine fruits* of the Holy Spirit over there in Galatians (which just by wild coincidence happens to be the *ninth book* in the New Testament). Merely "coincidence"; nothing to it, nothing to it! But I'll tell you something: If you want to bear fruit, that's the Book to use. And back in the old days when those fellows preached that Book, they thought that it was God's word, and they preached it like they thought it was God's word, and they got the fruit. And the Bible says, "**By their fruits ye shall know them.**"

You say, "I've got an *ASV*."

What are the fruits?

You say, "I've got an *Amplified*."

What are the fruits?

"**By their fruits ye shall know them.**" The greatest missionary and evangelistic period of church history the world has ever seen was between 1600 and 1900. And that's the Book they used. "**By their fruits ye shall know them.**"

Explain this to me: Isaiah has sixty-six chapters; the Bible has sixty-six books. In Isaiah there's a division after chapter thirty-nine, and it's so obvious that anybody could see it. As a matter of fact, the scholars see it so much that they think two different men wrote Isaiah, and they talk about Deutero-Isaiah. All right, there's a split in Isaiah after chapter 39; there's a split in the Bible after the thirty-ninth book. Tell me something: How

did Isaiah know where to divide his book so it would match the canon when the canon wasn't yet complete?

A fellow said, "Well, they fixed that up later."

They did? Well, let me ask you this: The first book in the Bible begins **"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."** Isaiah 1:2 says, **"Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth."** The last book in the Bible says, **"I saw a new heaven and a new earth"** (Rev. 21:1). Isaiah 66:22 says, **"For as the new heavens and the new earth... shall remain before me, saith the Lord..."** Pretty good guess work, wouldn't you think? Let me ask you this: If they just fixed it up later, how come the first book in the New Testament, the fortieth in the Bible, says: **"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"** (Matt. 3:3); and Isaiah 40:3 says: **"The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."** Pretty good "guess work," wasn't it? I mean, if you lay that thing out so that the first chapter matches the first book and the last chapter matches the last book and the split in the middle is at the right place with the right material on both sides, you're doing pretty well. You're doing pretty well considering the fact that the Book wasn't complete yet.

Someone may say, "Well, the same thing is also true of the other books."

You old liar—you ought to be ashamed of yourself. It isn't true of any other books. A Hebrew Old Testament wouldn't have that phenomenon because the Hebrew Old Testament of the Orthodox Jew doesn't have a New Testament—it doesn't have sixty-six books.

Somebody said, "Well, the *King James* Bible set up its order of books after the *Septuagint*."

No, it didn't. The Septuagint had apocryphal books in the Old Testament. So the *King James* is not laid out according to the Old Testament Hebrew or to the Septuagint. What's it laid out after?

Good question! Let's see what it's laid out after. Have you got a Bible there somewhere? Did you ever notice the order of books in your Bible? Take your Bible and turn to 2 Chronicles. In 2 Chronicles, the last chapter, at the end of that chapter, those Jews are in captivity. That captivity takes place right there. They go into captivity, and then He tells them to go back and rebuild. Look at the next book after 2 Chronicles, Ezra—they go back; they return. Look at the next book, Nehemiah—they rebuild. Look at the next book, Esther. Look at the next book, Job. Look at the next book, Psalms. Shall we try it? Let's try it. Second Chronicles: They go into captivity like they went in A.D. 70. Next book, Ezra: They go back like they went back in 1914. Next book, Nehemiah: They rebuild like they did in 1948. Next book, Esther. Look at Esther and notice in the first chapter there's a wedding and a party in the king's garden *seven days and seven nights*. Look at the next book, Job. In the book of Job, Job is on the ground *seven days and seven nights* being persecuted by the Devil. Do you know how many chapters are in the book of Job? Forty-two, for the Great Tribulation. Right on the money—right on the money. Do you know what happened in the book of Job? The Devil persecuted Job, but at the end of that book the Lord **"turned the captivity of Job"** just like He'll turn the captivity of Israel. That

isn't all. At the end of that book old Job gets those kids back: *There's a resurrection*. And that isn't all. Look at the next book, Psalms. In the Book of Psalms up shows David. Christ is a type of the son of David to reign on this earth. How do you explain that? That isn't the order of the *Hebrew text*. That isn't the order of the *Masoretic text*. That isn't the order of the *Septuagint*. That's the order that God gave you in this Book that's superior to the originals, brother. That isn't in the originals. That's in this Book. That's some "layout" of books you've got in a *King James*, isn't it?

A fellow said, "If we only had the originals—"

If you only had the originals, you'd still be as blind as a bat. You couldn't find out anything. Revelation is not conditioned on scholarship.

All right, let's take our Bibles and look at it just a little bit further. (Old Paul said, "**I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me**" (Acts 27:25). "**God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?**" [Num. 23:19])

Somebody said, "You're a Bible believer."

Yes.

"You're a Bible fanatic."

Yes. That doesn't speak badly of me; that speaks badly of you. You ought to be too.

"You put that Book in too high a place."

I don't put it in a high enough place, and I'll show you. Nehemiah 9:5 (watch it carefully): "**Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Stand up and bless the Lord your God for ever and ever: and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.**" Blessing here. Praise a little higher. And His name exalted above all blessing and praise. Philippians 2:10–11, "**That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, ... And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**" Psalm 138:2: "**I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word [small w] above all thy name.**"

Now, what are you apostate fundamentalists going to do with that? You've got a whole generation of Christians who just take that in, yawning, who don't think anything about it. If you pray in the name of Jesus and talk about worshipping Jesus, that Book says that He has magnified that *word* above His name. What do you know about that Book? If I had you stand up right now and give me four verses on marriage and divorce, could you give them? (Some of you have been through it.) If I asked you to give me five verses on eating, could you give them to me? They're in there. If I asked you to give three verses on sports, could you find them? (Some of you fellows are doing them.) Boy, I'll tell you, if you didn't know that the Devil had this thing under control, you'd know it by that, wouldn't you? Here are a bunch of folks who are saved and who profess to believe that Book, and God has already told you that that Book is above the name of His Son, and what do you do with it? What do you know about it? Nothing. If some of you folks had to stand up tonight and give me five verses on making money and saving money, you couldn't do it if your

life depended upon it, and you know it! But you've made money; you're in business.

Now, there are 31,101 verses in a *King James 1611, AV*. Do you know what the middle verse is (*All About the Bible*, Collett)? Psalm 118:8. The middle verse in a King James Bible says: **"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."** All right, count the words. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen. You can't get a center word in fourteen; it's an even number. You've got to get *two* center words. What are the two center words? **"The Lord."** How do you account for that? There is only one Book in the world where the center two words are **"the Lord."** There's only one: I've got it in my hand. That's not true of any Greek text, and it's not true of any Hebrew text.

You say, "It's true of the *New American Standard Version*."

No, it's not, because it took out more than 4 verses. The *NASV's* middle verse would not be Psalm 118:8. What do you think of that? Just show me anything like this Book I hold; I'll trade it in. Just show me any Book in the world that has 31,101 verses in it, and then when you bust the thing down the middle, the center two words are **"the Lord."**

You say, "It's just coincidence."

You're out of your mind. You can't do anything like that, and neither can your teacher! You mean to tell me those fellows counted all that stuff and counted all those words out and busted that thing down and did that thing on purpose? I don't believe it. You don't believe it either.

All right, one more shot. I want to show you something about you and the Lord and that word. Turn to 1 Samuel chapter 3, and whenever I say "the word," you know what word I'm talking about. I'm talking about this Book. Like I told you, if I had the original here, I wouldn't fool with it. I have taught Greek, and I have taught Hebrew. I've got Kittel's *Old Testament Critical Apparatus* and Nestle's *New Testament Critical Apparatus*; and I know all about Tischendorf, Tregelles, Lachmann, Griesbach, and all that stuff. If I had that stuff right here on the table, I'd just give you *this*. This Book is the bread which the Lord thy God hath given thee. (Wouldn't I be a fool to stand up here and preach that stuff? Imagine a fellow getting out in the street like I do and preaching—I preach out in the street in my hometown—and getting up there on top of that bus and hollering, "I want to tell you that in the locative ending the circumflex accent is on the penult! Glory to God!")

All right, 1 Samuel 3:1: **"And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. [watch it!] And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision."** It was hard to get the word. Amos said that there is going to be a famine some day. Watch 1 Samuel 3 carefully, verse 7: **"Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, [how come?] neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him."** Verse 19: **"And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground."** Verse 21: **"And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by THE WORD OF THE LORD."** And do you know why some of you saved people, saved and going to heaven, don't know the Lord like you should know Him? Because you don't know that Book like you ought to know that Book. And I'll tell you something: When the Lord reveals Himself to you, He'll

reveal Himself through this Book. The verse said He did. It's like the old catechism said: "Ignorance of this Book is ignorance of Christ." I don't make them identical, see. I've got better sense than that; but, boy, they sure are *close*, aren't they? I mean, Christ had two natures; so does this Book. Christ can save you; so can this Book. **"Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls"** (James 1:21). They're both living. They're both loved. They're both hated. They're both incorruptible. They sure are *close*, aren't they?

Let's have a word of prayer.

Father, bless Your word. We know that Your word is settled forever in heaven and that heaven and earth shall pass away, but Your word shall not. Father, we have great confidence in Thee and in this Book. We've seen it work, and we know what kind of Book it is, and we know, Heavenly Father, that this is the Book that is hated and cursed and despised. This is the Book that Conservatives and Fundamentalists sneer at sometimes right along with Papists and Atheists and Infidels. And we know that no book could be hated like this one is and be an ordinary book. Help us to love it; help us to read it; help us to learn it; help us to hide it in our hearts; help us to preach it; help us to teach it; and Father, if we have to, help us to die by it. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

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