

The Preserved Word of God

by

dreamstime

Wayne Reynolds

at

Home Missionary Baptist Church

1999 Spring BIBLE Conference

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INTRODUCTION

God has reserved his word. Today you can have confidence in knowing that the King James BIBLE you hold in your hands is the word of God. The BIBLE says in Matthew 24:35, *“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”* In the Old Testament, Isaiah 40:8, says, *“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”* You can rest in that.

It’s amazing that people can’t make up their mind about what they’re saying. They say one thing and then they say something different the next minute. God is not that way. Whenever God says something is the way it is, guess what? That’s the way it is, and it doesn’t change! What God said back in Genesis 1, about creating the world by speaking it into existence; you know what? That is the way it is. It doesn’t make any difference who disagrees with it.

There are a lot of false translations in this world today. Westcott and Hort went back and took old polluted manuscripts that go all the way back to Origen, in 185. He is the guy who says that if you understand the scriptures just as they’re written, you’re just no good. Going all that way back, in the late 1800’s, Wescott and Hort began to produce false manuscripts. 1881, 1885, the English Revised version. 1901, the American Standard version. On and on and goes. That’s where we are today. That’s where they come from. If you do a little checking you’ll find that the King James BIBLE is the only BIBLE that has a foundation different from the modern ones.

I’ll take that old time, religion. It was good for my mama and it was good for my daddy. I’m saying that, because it was. It’s good for me, it’s good for my children. We’re living in a modern time. God’s word is going to be here.

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I love the BIBLE. I really do. This BIBLE that God has given to us is a precious book, and if we don't have a good word of God, we don't have anything. Everything we have is based upon what the BIBLE says. I'm glad that God has preserved and given us His word for now. I'd hate to do without it. Wouldn't you? I mean, I would *hate* to do without it. Look at what this BIBLE says in 2nd Timothy 3:16-17, "*All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable [I think I can put in there without doing harm to the word of God that it's still profitable. It's been here a long long time and it's still profitable.] for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: [Look at this.] That the man of God [That's what the BIBLE is good for] may be perfect, [Now that word perfect doesn't mean without sinning. It just means we can be complete.] thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*"

I have three points.

- 1) God has preserved His word.
- 2) The error of modern translations began before the New Testament was even completed. I want to do a little bit of history and just trace some of the modern translations back to the time of Christ. We can do that in the BIBLE. It's real clear.
- 3) I want to compare a few verses of the King James version of the BIBLE with the NIV. If you have an NIV, you can follow along. I hope you don't have one. I'll get into that.

Point one, God has reserved his word. Today you can have confidence in knowing that the BIBLE you hold in your hands is the word of God. You don't have to doubt that. When you read the word of God, you can know that what you're reading is the word of God. The BIBLE says in Matthew 24:35, "*Heaven and earth shall pass away, [That's pretty positive. Heaven and earth **shall** pass away.] but my words shall not pass away.*" I believe that. Heaven and earth *shall*, that means that it's going to come to an end. But

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you know, the word of God will never pass away. That's what He said. "*My words shall not pass away.*" You can rest assured today that the BIBLE that you have is the word of God.

There are a lot of passages in the BIBLE that talk about how the word of God is going to be here; it is for us and it's a help to us. It is what can give us strength, energy, everything that we need for right now. The word of God is good for us. In the Old Testament, Isaiah 40:8, he says, "*The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*" You can rest in that. I wouldn't get into politics too much, but you know what's amazing is we had a president who couldn't make up his mind what he was saying. He would say this and then he would say that. You know, God is not that way. Whenever God says this is the way it is, guess what? That's the way it is, and it doesn't change! You say, "Well, that's pretty good. You can count on that." What God said back in Genesis 1, about creating the world by speaking it into existence; you know what? That is the way it is. It doesn't make any difference who disagrees with it. Let them write their books. Do you think God is trembling? No. The BIBLE tells me that God is in heaven laughing at their calamity, because what he said was true and that's it. Amen. The word of God. You can count on it. It's good. It is good for us.

Think of this; notice what the BIBLE says are the things that you and I are supposed to preach. In 2nd Timothy 4:2, the first three words; preach what? "*Preach the word;*" Wait a minute, can I preach my opinion? Well, I could, but that's the wrong thing to do. I'll preach your opinion. There's one preacher you know, he found out what his people believed in then preached it with fervency. It's no good is it. We preach the word of God. Why? Because it is the first, the last, the beginning, and the end and all in between, and it never does change. We can be confident in preaching the word of God, that we are preaching the truth that is eternal,

and will never ever change. God is just saying, yesterday and forever, and it will always be the way He said that it was going to be.

I'm thankful for the inspiration of the scriptures, but I'm thankful for the preservation of scriptures. What God said, he's gonna keep. I don't mean to be sacra religious or anything, but we could say what good would the doctrine of inspiration be if there was no preservation. I believe the doctrine of inspiration is the word of God. I believe that's so, but I also believe that God preserved his word. After all, I wasn't there. I never read a copy of the original, but I got a copy of the copy. I'll guarantee you that the copy that we have is the word of God. I don't doubt that, I don't worry about it, I don't even wonder about it. I used to. When I first began to preach, there were some things that bothered me.

Somebody told me one time that the last part of Mark 16 wasn't there. I look in my BIBLE and behold, it was there. They read over there in the book of 1st John, where it says that the trinity is not there. I looked in my BIBLE, and there it was. What do you do with that? I preach the message one time out of Romans 8:1-2, there is no condemnation to them who walk in Christ Jesus. I preached that. There was an older preacher who came up to me and he said, "You know, that's not in the original." Boy, I was shot down. I was a young preacher. This older guy, he's supposed to know what he's doing. So I thought, "Well I'll be, it was in mine." I thought about it a while. I asked the guy this question, "It wasn't in the original? How do you know? Do you have a copy of it?" "Well, no, but the guys, you know, the smart guys, they tell me that." So I said, "Oh." I just figured I was just going to believe what the BIBLE says.

Here's the thing; here's what I have come to in my life, I'm going to chop it all up, then why don't I just throw it away. I believe what it says. Some of the word of God rebukes me, some of the word of God is hard on me and

some of it I don't like when I first read it. It troubles me. When I read in the BIBLE about compromise and all of that kind of thing, it troubles me, because sometimes that applies to me. What I read over there in the book of Timothy where it says it's good for reproof, it's good for rebuke. So I have to get on my knees and I have to say, "Lord you're right and I'm wrong." The word of God is pure. I mean it is. It is absolutely forever and it is absolutely good for us.

I want you to see this in the book of Deuteronomy 29:29. These these things are real precious, because when we began to look at the word of God, I just have to believe that God has preserved His word for us today. I have to believe that. But today, a lot of people don't want to believe that. I want you to get this little point in Deuteronomy 29:29, he said, "*The secret [things belong] unto the LORD our God: [That is true. I mean, it's in the BIBLE, so it's got to be true.] but those [things which are] revealed [belong] unto us and to our children [How long?] for ever;*" Look at that boy. The revealed things, how does God reveal it to us? Through His word! And they belong unto who? They belong to us, they belong unto our children forever. Why? The latter part of verse 29 says, "... *that [we] may do all the words [Not works.] of this law.* How do we know what God wants? We obey his word. He has preserved it for and there it is.

I wonder if that is what Peter believes. Let's just check out just some examples of people in the BIBLE. Did they really believe the BIBLE? Did they really believe? Did they practice what God's word says? In 1st Peter 1:24-25, he quotes from the Old Testament passage, Isaiah 40:8, and this is what Peter wrote by the inspiration of the word of God is preserved for us today, "*For all flesh [is] as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever.*" You know what Peter believed? He believed what was wrote in the Old Testament. He was

inspired of God by the holy spirit of God to write it down in the New Testament for us. He said, "... *and this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*" If we do not have the word of God, we don't have salvation. I mean we don't have anything. We don't even have the very beginning. Look what he says in verse 23, "*Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*" Now, somebody says, "Now wait a minute, verse 23 is not talking about the BIBLE is talking about Jesus Christ." All right, go back over to John 1 and just start reading a while and see what you think Jesus Christ is. How is Jesus revealed to us, except by His word. Just as sure as Jesus is forever, His word is forever and it's given unto us in the BIBLE. I mean that's one and the same. There might be some differences there, but I like believing that it is forever. I can rest on that and I can be assured that it is there.

What about Daniel? We're living in the last of the last days, right? I think everybody knows and believes that. Here is what God said to Daniel. The word of God is going to be forever. Daniel 12:4 is talking about the word of God, of prophecy. There's a lot of prophecy that's not fulfilled yet, but if the Lord carries it's going to be, and even after he comes there's going to be some more prophecy fulfilled because God said it and it's going to happen just like God said. Daniel 12:4 says, "*But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, [even] to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.*" What is He saying here? He is saying, "Daniel, the things that you've been given in prophecy, you will not see come to pass, but somebody else will. You just hold these words. You just seal them up, and one of these days somebody is going to see these come to pass." So what did He say? We have scriptures today that talk about the return of the Lord Jesus Christ and the rapture. One of these days, just as sure as you and I are sitting here in this building; I don't know

how that's going, but I just have a notion I'm going to be walking along and I'm gone. That is just what I believe. I don't know how it's going to be. But, I tell you what that's going to come to pass, because it's in the word of God. We can rest on that, we can be sure that it's going to happen just like that.

In Matthew 4:4, during the temptation of Jesus Christ, here is what He said about the word of God. Satan is tempting Christ, wanting Him to fall. He could not fall. I don't believe Jesus Christ could fall. He's God. He's not going to fall, He's not going to sin. Satan is doing that, but not going to. He's a good example for us. In verse 4, Jesus *"... answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."* I've read several scriptures here talking about the word of God and here in this place, especially He talks about that we should live by every word, that is every individual word. You know what, is it good to do word study? It is good. I like doing word study. I found out a lot of things just doing word study. Do a word study on the word church. I believe you're going to come up with the idea that the BIBLE said it's local. I think you're going to find that in the BIBLE. He's not talking here about doing a thought study or just a general idea of study. He said it's good to do word study because you can rely on every word in the BIBLE being the right word. You don't have to worry about it. You can trust that it is so. It is just exactly that way.

The word is going to continue on and on and on. It's going to be just exactly that way. Matthew 5:18, here is what Jesus Christ said again, *"For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."* The law is the word of God and He said it's not going to pass away at all. There is a continuity in the word of God from that first inspired scripture to the one we have today. There is a continuity

about all of that.

I'd like to illustrate this. I tell you what, the BIBLE that I hold in my hand is the King James version BIBLE. I use that and I believe that's the best one we have today for us English speaking people. I will quarrel with the guy that says it's not, because I believe it is, and I have some proof about it all. I do not have all the paperwork that shows that this BIBLE goes all the way back to the inspired scriptures. I don't have to have it. The word of God did not spring out of nowhere. I do not have to have a paper trail for it. I know that it's so, just as I know that when Jesus gave a promise of the church in Matthew 16:18, and He said that the gates of hell shall not prevail against it, that's good enough for me. I don't have to have a paper trail checking out every church, item by item, line by line back to the first church. I don't have to do that. Somebody might, I don't know. Brother DuVall would be the one to talk to about that. I've never done all of that. I believe what the BIBLE says, that if it looks like a church, it believes like a church, it acts like a church, it's got the BIBLE, got the authority of the church, it believes in authority. Okay, I mean I'm settled.

I tell you something else, I cannot check my genealogy all the way back to Adam, but I believe I go back that far. You know why? I got the sin of Adam. That's pretty good evidence. I mean I got the sin of Adam. I'm glad nobody said "Amen" right there, but you could have. I could not have gotten offended at all, because that's the truth. You know what, the salvation that I have right now is exactly the same kind of salvation that Adam got in the garden of Eden. I can't trace all that back. I don't have to. All I have to do is believe what the BIBLE says. We're right back to the same thing. The BIBLE is the word of God and we ought to be glad that it is. We have the very words of God. That settles it.

It's amazing isn't it, that an uninspired man, I'm talking about me, an uninspired man can preach God's word,

and God take that word and make it alive. Hey, God does that. I mean, it is His word and His Holy Spirit takes that word that's preached by a person that's just saved, or maybe even a person that's lost, could preach the right way of salvation and the Holy Spirit take that word and poured into the heart of a lost person and bring them to Christ. I tell you what, that's the power of the word of God. It is there and I am so very glad that it's there. I was twelve years old when the Lord saved me. I tell you what I couldn't get away from it. It's amazing. I would go to church. I would hate to go to church. I would hate not to go. I was afraid not to go. I would go to church and I would sit anxiously awaiting the pastor to call out his text. I was always glad when he was going to preach to saved folks. Boy, when he started preaching us folks that were lost, I didn't care for that much. I wanted to go, and I wanted to hear it. Isn't that something? That was that power of the Holy Spirit of God, using His word to draw me onto Himself. I'm thankful that it's that way. I really am thankful that it is that way.

I want to read this one scripture before I go to the second point. In 2nd Timothy 3:15, we see the word of God is good for Timothy. Here's what was written, *“And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”* I just want to say right here, that the scriptures that Timothy had is a copy and that doesn't bother me one bit. I got one, too, okay? Don't you worry about it and say, “Well, I don't have the originals.” You don't have to worry about that. God preserved His word and you can just rest on that and be real glad for it.

Point two. In this section, I want to start in the book 1st John 2 and trace the history of, the foundation of some of these false translations of the BIBLE back to the time of Christ. Beginning in 1st John 2:18, the BIBLE says, *“Little children, it is the last time: [If it was the ‘last time’ then, I know it is now.] and as ye have heard that antiChrist shall*

come, even now are there many antiChrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would [no doubt] have continued with us: but [they went out], that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us." The antichrist kingdom has been working on development for many many years. It did not start just in 1999, it's been going on for years and years and years. Even before Christ it was there. I want to give you just a little bit of history; some things that I have found out that's been a blessing to me about where these false translations come from. There are a lot of false translations in this world today.

Back in the year 185, there was a man born whose name was Origen. This guy is one of the greatest pagan philosophers that there is. This man was a very prolific writer. As a matter of fact, his friends say that he was so prolific, that he wrote about everything, and by reading what he wrote, you couldn't figure out what he believed. And this guy is good? What he tried to do was to reconcile paganism and Christianity. That's what he tried to do. He said this about the BIBLE, "The scriptures are of little use to those who understand them as they are written." He said what? This man said, "The scriptures are of little use to people who understand them as they are written." In other words, he said, if you understand what the BIBLE says, you're no good. Well now, that guy's nuts. But he was taken as a great philosopher. The man Jerome who was born about 340 AD loved Origen. You know, Jerome is the great Catholic historian. Anybody who knows anything about that, knows that is so. Jerome took his BIBLE, wrote it down in five columns and tried to interpret all the various words and it didn't work out well at all.

Time rolls on and we get down to about the year 300 AD, there was a fellow named Constantine who came along. You know how Constantine saw the sign of the cross, and he put it on all of the shields of his men in his army, pagans and

Christian alike, and he went in and had the victory. Now what Constantine had on his mind, what he wanted to do, was to reconcile his kingdom, because in his kingdom he had all kinds of religions and he wanted to have just one. So, he looked up a fellow by the name of Eusebius. Constantine wanted Eusebius to make fifty bibles so that everybody will believe the same thing. Eusebius was a great admirer of Jerome, and so he went and made up fifty bibles and that's what Constantine used.

Years roll along, and in the year 1481, lying dormant on a shelf of the Vatican library, there was a volume discovered, the Codex Vaticanus. That was in 1481. In 1844 they were cleaning out an old monastery down at the base of Mount Sinai and they discovered a part of the manuscript, and they called it Codex Sinaiticus. Then they found a complete volume in 1859. You say, "Well, what's that got to do with anything?" It has to do with everything. Years roll along and in the year 1853, you've heard of Westcott and Hort. Uh huh! They went back and took those old polluted manuscripts that go all the way back to Origen, the guy who says that if you understand the scriptures just as they're written you're just no good. Going all the way back that far and he began to produce false manuscripts. 1881, 1885, the English revised version. 1901, The American Standard version. On and on and goes. That's where we are today. That's where they come from. If you do a little checking you'll find that this King James BIBLE right here, is the only BIBLE that has a foundation different than the modern ones. This BIBLE, right here, is the only one that has a different foundation. You know why? Because God preserves His word. He preserves His word.

Point three, comparisons between the King James (KJV) and the NIV BIBLES. The NIV is one of the most popular versions of the BIBLE. There are a lot of people reading it, a lot of preachers preaching from it. We got four or five of these passages we want to do like this. I want you

to see the difference. This is great.

NOTE: At this point, Brother Adams reads from the NIV, while those in attendance follow along in their KJV BIBLE. For ease of comparing the texts, both versions will be included here. Additionally, it appears that the NIV has been revised since this message was given. Therefore, the quoted NIV texts from the sermon may not match the current version of the NIV.

Luke 9:56: KJV “*For the Son of man is not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save [them]. And they went to another village.*”

Luke 9:56, NIV: “*And they went to another village.*”

You say, “Wait a minute!” Yeah, you see what they left out? Now why would they want to leave that out? They don’t like that. I got news for you. Has anybody ever heard of the New World Translation? Yeah! Jehovah’s witness. Let me read to you what the New World Translation says in Luke 9:56, “So they went to another village.” I want to tell you, I have done almost three hundred comparisons of versus between the King James and the NIV. I have done less than a hundred to the New World Translation. In every case, ***in every case*** that I have found, what the NIV says, the New World Translation says. There may be some that it’s not that way that I’ve not found. I’ve done less than a hundred comparisons. When people take their NIV and they say, “I can understand this better,” they are wrong. You’ve heard of the Fleisch–Kincaid thing and you do it in your computer as you check out the readability of a document. Grade level 4.8 can understand the King James. It takes an 8.5 to understand the NIV. I need something simple.

Matthew 18:11, KJV *“For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.”*

Matthew 18:11, NIV (Not there)

The NIV says [nothing], it's not there, it's omitted. So why would they want to leave that out? You just read the verse. It says, *“For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.”* Jehovah's Witnesses don't believe Jesus came to save anybody. You think about it.

It's scary when you think about what's going on in the religious world today, because people are going to all these other versions. What does need to believe what the BIBLE says and I can have confidence and knowing I got the word of God. I can have confidence in it.

Look at this in Matthew 9:13! You just look here!

Matthew 9:13, KJV *“But go ye and learn what [that] meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”*

Matthew 9:13, NIV *“But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”*

The NIV BIBLE puts the period after “sinners”. “To repentance” is not there. I'll tell you what, when you begin to look at this you'll almost come to a place that you say, “The NIV believes in universal salvation. You just about come to that place.

In Acts 8:37, Philip was called down to preach to the eunuch.

Acts 8:37, KJV *“And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I*

believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

ACts 8:37, NIV (Not there)

You know what this is teaching? Baptism without repentance, baptism without confession. That way they can get babies baptized and it's all OK. If somebody tells you, “Why, all those BIBLES are the same.” You could say, “Whoa, wait a minute. I don't think so.” They're not the same. When they were talking about polluted they mean stinking polluted. I mean it's terrible. There's a lot more.

Look in Galatians. There's three here in the book of Galatians.

Galatians 3:17, KJV *“And this I say, [that] the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.”*

Galatians 3:17, NIV *“What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise.”*

You see what was left out? You're looking at me like, “Did he read the right scripture?” Galatians 3:17 ... I read the right scripture. You're looking like you didn't see it. “In Christ” is left out, right? Okay, I was hoping I was on the right one. They left out “in Christ.” Why would they leave that out? Was the covenant in Christ? Yeah. I'll tell you what, if it wasn't for Christ, we wouldn't have anything. And there it is.

Galatians 4:7, KJV *“Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”*

Galatians 4:7, NIV *“So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.”*

I don't believe this is an accident. Left out is *“through Christ”*.

Galatians 6:15, KJV *“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.”*

Galatians 6:15, NIV *“Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation”*

They left out, “For in Christ Jesus”. Isn't it amazing? It is amazing. I'll tell you what, the first time that I ever heard anybody come up with thought that we should use the King James BIBLE, because it is a good version, I mean it is, I didn't know what the guy was talking about. That was about thirteen years ago now, but I've had a lot of time to look at and study it. I've come to the conclusion that I can trust this word of God. I can trust his BIBLE. I'll tell you what is good for me and it's good for my kids. It's like this, I'll take that old time, religion. It was good for my mama and it was good for my daddy. I'm saying that, because it was. It's good for me, it's good for my children. We're living in a modern time. God's word is going to be here. All I want to do is be where God has his word. That's all.