

The God Preserved Word of God

by

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at

Home Missionary Baptist Church

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INTRODUCTION

Deuteronomy 30:10-11 says, “... *his commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law. For this commandment, ... it's not hidden from thee neither is it afar off.*” What is being taught in these verses is God's written word, as written by God, was available and accessible to the people.

We have to ask a question. "Do these verses in Deuteronomy apply ONLY to the original manuscripts, or is God's word, *as written by God*, available and accessible to us today?" To simplify the question, "*Do we have God's written word, as he wrote it today?*" It has become a controversial subject even though it shouldn't be.

It is not the purpose here, to produce various types of evidence for BIBLE preservation, although there is plenty of it. There is historical evidence, various manuscripts, and translations that provide much “proof” of the preservation of God's word. However, the best way to approach any subject is from the word of God itself. The preservation of scripture is taught in scripture, very strongly.

Although valid arguments for BIBLE preservation can be presented, just like those presented as valid arguments for creation, *we don't need any of it.* The truth is this, ***GOD inspired*** the writers as they penned the scriptures and ***GOD has preserved*** the word that He so inspired.

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

In Deuteronomy 30:10 through 14, the BIBLE says, *"If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul. For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it."*

These verses establish the thought of this message. Notice in verse 10, *"... his commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law."* Verse 11, *"For this commandment,"* which refers back to what we just read in verse 10, that which is written in the book. Then notice, *"it's not hidden from thee neither is it afar off."* So what does that mean? It goes back to verse 10, *"written in this book."* The teaching is that God's written word, as written by God, and that's an important part of that statement, was available and accessible to the people. In verse 12, it is said it's not necessary to go to heaven and bring down what is written. The reason is, it's already been brought down. In verse 13, it is said there is no need to travel into foreign parts in order to find the written word of God. The reason, they had what God had written. Again, what is being taught here is God's written word, as written by God, was available and accessible to the people.

Now Paul made reference to Deuteronomy 30, in Romans 10:6-8. He made application to *"... the word of faith which we preach."* So Deuteronomy 30, is talking about the written commandments, written in a book. Then Paul makes application of it when he applies it to *"the word of faith which we preach."*

The teaching of our text is the availability and the

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

accessibility of God's written word. Therefore, we have to ask a question, "Does this, Deuteronomy 30, the verses that we read, just apply to the original manuscripts, or is God's word, as written by God, is that word available and accessible to us today?" To simplify the question, it would simply be, "Do we have God's written word, as he wrote it, do we have that today?" That brings us to our subject, **"The God Preserved Word of God."**

It has become a controversial subject even though it shouldn't be. For certain it's too vast of a subject to be dealt with thoroughly in one message. Nevertheless, there are many different ways that you can approach the subject. You can approach it from historical evidence. You can approach it from textual matters. You can approach it from the procedures and intent of the various translators and translations. It is not my purpose here, to produce historical evidence for BIBLE preservation, although I believe there's plenty of it. Nor is it my purpose to consider the validity of various manuscripts, even though I believe that too, proves the preserved word of God. Nor is it my purpose to consider the history of BIBLE translations, while, again, I believe there's evidence there that God preserves His word. I believe the best way to approach any subject is from the word of God itself. Therefore it's a matter of faith.

When approaching the preservation of the BIBLE from the word of God, it becomes just like creation, a matter of faith. You can go to the internet and read the various debates concerning the preservation of God's word. And there are many, and they almost exclusively argue from the standpoint of textual matters. When the issue came up a couple years ago in our group of fellowship, most were arguing from the position of textual matters. I made it known that, "You're all approaching it from the wrong angle. You need to approach it just like you would anything else. You need to approach it from the word of God." Therefore, that's what I want to do here.

The truth is this, the preservation of scripture is

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

taught in scripture, very strongly. Therefore, again, it is a matter of faith. We could present valid arguments, just like you can present valid arguments for creation. We could present arguments from textual matters. But the truth is this, I believe that God inspired the writers as they penned the scriptures. *And by faith*, I believe that God has preserved the word that He so inspired. Again, it's not our purpose to give historical evidence of that, though there's plenty of it. It's not my purpose to convince anyone here that we have the preserved word of God. The truth is, people either believe that or they don't, because it's a matter of faith. I want to consider several things.

First of all, consider inspiration and preservation. They're linked. This is a point I would continuously bring up with various individuals. God has written a book. He did so by inspiration. Over a time period of approximately sixteen hundred years, holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. So, a simple question, "Did God give those men the words that He wanted the people to have in that day?" The answer, of course, is, "Yes." "Did God give those men the words that He wanted us to have today?" I believe He did. Not just for the people of that time, but God, in His omniscience, gave those words for you and I. So you must believe that if a **sovereign** God gave those words, He meant for us to have, to those men, it goes without saying that, if He is a **sovereign** God, He is going to preserve those words. You have a whole other theological issue if you say, "Yes, God inspired the word of God and gave those men the words that he wanted us to have, but he didn't preserve it." Now you are calling into question the *sovereignty and the wisdom of God!*

I guess another question is, "What good is a perfect, inerrant, inspired word of God if it has not been preserved to the present day?" For decades, it goes through me, when a preacher stands up and says, "I believe in the perfect, inerrant, inspired word of God and by that I mean the original manuscripts." Well, what are you saying? Are you

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

saying that we do not have the perfect, inerrant, inspired word of God in this present day? And if we don't, why don't we? Isn't God big enough to preserve His word? When they speak of the inspiration of God's word, in the original manuscripts, first of all, you're talking about something that does not exist physically on the actual parchments today. It does not exist today.

Another question is, "Do those words exist tangibly?" Did God inspire the words that He wanted us to have today? If so, then the truth of our text there in Deuteronomy chapter 30, the availability and accessibility of God's written word applies to you and I today. That leads, again, to the preservation of God's inspired word.

A BIBLE that was inspired and then allowed to leaven with the accumulated errors of thousands of years, hardly points to a sovereign, all powerful, all wise God. Preservation is a fundamental tenet just as the divine inspiration of scripture is. It is not something that we can disagree on and maintain fellowship. That is true of the preservation of the scripture, as well. Inspiration and preservation are inseparable. There are many today that are trying to separate them. You can't separate them. They are indivisible. Consistency demands that whatever we believe concerning the inspiration of God's word, you must believe concerning the preservation of God's word. Consistency demands that.

For example, we believe in the verbal, plenary, inspiration of the word of God. What that means is, that the very *words* of scripture were given by the Holy Spirit, that *the writers were divinely directed in the very choice of words*. Inspiration demands preservation. How foolish to suppose that God would inspire His word and then allow it to be destroyed to future generations. God's inspired word will be forever preserved. A Sovereign God had the ability to inspire it and He has the ability to preserve His word in an uninterrupted chain of succession. It's just the same as church succession. Though some say they can prove church

succession by paper, I debate that. You can to an extent. But you can not prove church succession on a paper trail all the way back to Jesus Christ. But, we believe it. It's a matter of faith.

Inspiration teaches us that God has written a book. So just think about it that way. The creator of the universe, omnipotent, omniscient God, the one who can not be mistaken, the one who can not lie, has written a book. There is a book authored by God. A writing of God. The expression of God put down in writing. The communication of God put down in writing. The manifestation, the revelation of the thoughts of God, put down in writing. That's what that means when you say, "God has written a book." We all know that that book would take on the same character as God. Again, we have to ask, "Would God write that book and then allow that book not to be available or accessible to you and I today?" I don't think so.

God has written a book and like all books, was it not written with a purpose? Every book has a purpose. The author has a purpose. It may not be a good purpose, but every author has a purpose. God is no different. When He wrote a book, He had a purpose for that book. Was the purpose just for a couple hundred years, or a couple thousand years, or was it for us today? If it's not for us today, why are we here?

The purpose of God's book was to reveal Himself. The purpose of it is to give and sustain life, to promote spiritual growth and maturity, to strengthen faith and convert, to give light and guidance, to make wise, to train in God's ways, to cleanse, to protect, to produce hope, to admonish, to expose and convict of sin, to restrain from sinful tendencies, to bring comfort and to rejoice the heart. According to 1st Timothy, the purpose was, *"that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished."* If God did not preserve His word, is the man of God thoroughly furnished today? I don't think so. God preserved His word, and the man of God is thoroughly furnished. He has everything he needs in this book.

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

God has written a book, and like all books it would have a subject. The subject is God's will, God's plan, God's council. It's all about what pleases God. It's about the way to God. It's about the way of salvation, the glories of Jesus Christ. The promises and prophecies of God. It's a book about the character of Satan. It's a book about the methods of Satan, the character and ways of the world, and the character and the ways of man. It's a book of historical accounts for our learning. It's a book with a subject. Would God write such a book and it not be available and accessible to you and I today?

God has written a book, and when He did He placed a very high value upon it. So much so that He gave warning concerning adding to or diminishing the words of the book. In Psalm 138:2, David, speaking of the Lord said, "*... for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.*" If God put that much value on His book, did He not preserve it?

God has written a book. A book authored by God, highly valued of God. Again, I guess the question is, "Do we have that book today? *Does the book authored by God still exist?*" It doesn't on the original parchments. So, does it still exist? Some would say, "Well, yes, it exists in some monastery." What good does that do us? None. That raises another question, "*Is it still available to us today?*" Inspiration and preservation go hand in hand. Whatever you believe on inspiration, you must believe on preservation. Both are equally important.

Secondly, we read the declaration of the scriptures concerning the preservation of the word of God, in Psalms 12:6 and 7, "*The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace ... seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them [pure words] from this generation for ever.*" There are several things we see in those two verses.

First of all, you have the extent of inspiration, or the extent of preservation. "**Words.**" When someone tells me they believe in inspiration of scripture, that's not good

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

enough. I want to know what do you mean by that? Do you mean that just the ideas were inspired, or do you mean that the words were inspired? We see here in Psalms 12:6, the extent of preservation is the **words**.

We also have the agent of preservation. This is very important. **"Thou."** God is the agent of preservation. Any other agent will result in failure. God is the agent.

We also see the period of preservation. **"For ever."** This means that we can be confident that we have the same words all the way back to the original. A chain link succession.

There are several scriptures that declare that the word of God is preserved, that it will live on, it will survive, it will continue, it will remain. Psalms 33:11 says, *"The council of the Lord"*, [such is in written form, may I say] *standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart* [and also in written form] *to all generations.*" In Psalms 100:5, *"... his truth endureth to all generations."* In Psalms 111:7 and 8, *"... all his commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever."* In Psalms 119:89, *"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."* In Psalms 119:152, *"Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever."* Isaiah 40:8, *"the word of our God shall stand for ever."* In Isaiah 59:21 *".... my words from henceforth and for ever."* In Matthew 24:35, we hear Jesus say, *"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."* He gives greater stability to the word of God than to heaven and to earth. John 10:35, says, *"... the scripture* [and the word scripture means the writings of God, the scripture the writings of God] *can not be broken"* That is they can not be destroyed. They can not be brought to an end. They can not be made discontinuous. In 1st Peter 1:23, the word of God is said to be incorruptible, seed, *"... which liveth and abideth for ever."* 1st Peter 1:25, *"But the word of the Lord endureth* [that very word implies opposition] *for ever. And this is the word by which the gospel is preached unto you."*

These scriptures are all very plain declarations that

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

God's word will continue on and on and on, and will remain to all generations and beyond. Remember God is the agent of such. God is the agent of preservation. Can not a God, who preserves an elect people, preserve His word as it was written? I believe the answer is, "Yes, most definitely." The preservation of the word of God is not dependent upon academia, it's not dependent upon archaeological discoveries, it is dependent upon God. Therefore, you do not need to argue the point from any other source than God, because He's the agent.

That brings us to, "What is it that is preserved?" The verses that we just referred to, in a general sense, declare that both God's word as a unit, as a whole, and as the individual words, continue on from generation to generation and forever. God is the agent. That's so important to remember, that God is the agent.

God preserves His *word* and God preserves His *words*. By that we simply mean the process by which God supernaturally, as only He can, protects His word through reproductions and translations. The idea is that God has faithfully superintended His word through the ages so that today we have the very word of God. Once again, many who speak of the preservation of the word, refer to the original transcripts in their original language. They will say, "Well, yes, the original language is preserved, but once you translate it, then it loses something." *That is a dangerous and blasphemous statement!* When I talk about preservation, I'm not just merely referring to the preservation of the original transcripts in the original Greek and the Hebrew language.

When many speak of the preservation of the word, they are merely referring to the concepts, the main idea of the book. Remember we said inspiration and preservation go together. If you believe that God preserves the concepts or the main idea of the book, then you must also believe, for consistency sake, that God inspired only the main idea and the concept. I don't believe that at all. I believe God

inspired the **words** of His book and He has preserved such.

God emphasizes **His words** throughout the scripture. In reference to the law or the word of God, the phrase "*... all the words ...*", occurs one hundred and twenty-two times in the word of God. "***All the words.***" The point is, God put emphasis on the *words*. Deuteronomy 8:3, "*... man doth not live by bread only, but by every word.*" Every word! That's what He's emphasizing. Proverbs 30:5-6, "*Every word of God is pure ... Add thou not unto His words ...*" God gave the **words** that He wanted man to have, that He wanted you and I to have. He has preserved the *words*.

Psalms 12:6 and 7 says that God preserves His pure words. His pure *words*. That' plural. So we have to ask, "To what degree does God keep His word pure? Do we have the pure word of God or not?" If it's not the pure word of God, **IS** it the word of God at all? Is the pure word of God available and accessible to us or is it not?" If it is not, the BIBLE that we hold in our hands is not the pure words of God. If God keeps it pure to any less degree than the original, it's less pure and therefore it's not the pure word of God. Considering a *sovereign God*, who always does as He pleases, carries out His purposes, does everything perfectly, *there is absolutely no reason to doubt that God could preserve His inspired words perfectly and without error.* There is no reason to doubt that. God is the agent of preservation, not man. God is the agent, not some printing press. God has written a book and it has been preserved through the centuries.

That brings us to, "How has it been preserved? How has God preserved His word?" Well, it's been preserved in written form. 2nd Chronicles 34:14-21, we read of an event that took place during the reign of King Josiah, of Judah. Now Josiah's reign followed the reigns of Manasseh and Amon, two of the most wicked kings of Judah. For fifty-seven years, these two wicked kings reigned. From 2nd Chronicles 33, we learn that during the reign of Manasseh, idolatrous high places were built throughout the land. Alters

of Baalim were built and setup. Idolatrous worship was everywhere. Idolatrous alters were even built in the house of the Lord. Witchcraft and that which was demonic, prevailed. After fifty years of Manasseh reigning, his son, Amon, reigned in his stead. He only reigned for two years and the BIBLE says, *"... he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did Manasseh his father: for Amon sacrificed unto all the carved images which Manasseh his father had made, and served them; And humbled not himself before the LORD, ... Amon trespassed more and more."* That was for the two years of his reign.

Josiah, Amon's eight year old son would follow. Josiah began his reign during one of the darkest times in Judah's history. We're told there in 2nd Chronicles 33, when Josiah was sixteen, he began to seek the Lord. When he was twenty, he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places and from the carved and molten images. When he was twenty-six, he began to repair, to refurbish the house of the Lord. While this was taking place, 2nd Chronicles 34:14, says, *"Hilkiah the priest found a book [that's written form] of the law of the LORD given by Moses."* He found it! In the midst of evil, God had preserved His word. If you read through that account, you'll notice the words, *"the book"*, *"a book"*, *"the words of the book"*, and *"all that is written in the book"*. God preserved **the whole book**. Not just portions. He preserved the whole book. What a blessing and miracle that the words of the book remained intact. Through years of wickedness, through years of evil, when the very things of God were being destroyed, the book and the words of the book were miraculously preserved.

Now notice in Jeremiah chapter 36, we read of an event that occurred during the reign of Jehoiakim. In verse 1, we read that, *"... word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD."* In verse 2, Jeremiah is instructed, *"write ... all the words [notice what He says write all the words, He didn't say, write the basic idea] that I have spoken."* In verse 4, Jeremiah called Baruch, *"... and Baruch wrote from the*

mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, ... upon a roll of a book." All the words. Baruch was then told to go into the house of the Lord and read the words unto the people. One of the people that heard the words that day was one of the king's men, Michaiah. He returned to the king's house and went into the chambers of the scribes. The scribes, by the way, are simply copiers of the law. It was their job to write down the word of God. Michaiah told the scribes what he had heard and they demanded that Baruch come and read from the book to them. When he did, it was declared in verse 16, they heard all the words. Notice the emphasis "all the words". They were astounded.

They asked Baruch how he wrote such a book. Notice verse 17 and 18, *"And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, How didst thou write all these words at his mouth? Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book."* God delivered it to Jeremiah, Jeremiah delivered it to Baruch, and Baruch wrote all the words in the book. And Jeremiah was careful to *pronounce* **all the words**.

The scribes then told Jehoiakim, the king, about the book. He, of course, sent Jehudi to get the book and come before him and read it. As Jehudi read the words before the king, we know the story, Jehoiakim took his pen knife and cut out what he did not like and cast it in the fire. Then notice verse 27 and 28, *"Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words [there it is again the words] which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying, Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned."* Though the book was burned, **God preserved not just the idea, not just the concepts, God preserved His words**. How did He do it? He just had them written again. In the midst of unbelief and rejection, God miraculously preserved His word.

God has written a book. It has been preserved in written form. In Deuteronomy 17:18-19, there's instruction

for the land of Canaan, *"And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy [a copy] of this law in a book ... And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: ..."* **A copy.** God preserving His writings through what? Copies. "Well, we don't have the original!" You have a copy. And God keeps His word pure. That's how God preserved His word, through copies.

Joshua 8:32, speaking of Moses, we read, *"And he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel."* God preserving His written word through copies. Proverbs 25:1, *"These are also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out."* God preserving His word through copies. In Ezra 7, Ezra is identified by the fact that he was a scribe. Again, a scribe is a copier of the manuscripts. How many time in the word of God do you read of scribes. They were the copiers of the manuscripts. But notice here in chapter 7:6, concerning Ezra, *"... he was a ready scribe in the law of Moses, which the LORD God of Israel had given."* How did he copy it? He copied it as the Lord God had given it. Then notice verse 10, *"For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments."* The later part of verse 11, *"even a scribe of the words"* Why doesn't it just say a scribe of the commandments? Because God is particular. He is a scribe of the *words* of the commandments of the Lord and of His statutes to Israel. Verse 12, *"... a scribe of the law of the God of heaven ..."* So, Ezra was a copier of the manuscripts. God preserving His word through copies.

That God's word was preserved, is seen from the fact that, ninety-three times in the Old Testament we read the words *"... as it is written ..."*. It does not say, *"it is written"*. It says, *"AS it is written."* There's a big difference. Huge difference. As it is written. It is not *"was"* but *"is"*. It's still written. We still have it. It's been preserved. How did God

preserve His word? One way He did so was through copies. The Old and New Testament manuscripts were compiled from copies. God in His sovereignty led in and oversaw the coping of His word. I believe that with all of my heart.

As Christianity spread, the Bible would be translated into other languages, other than the original. God would preserve His word. God is the agent. God in His sovereignty led and oversaw the translation of His word. Some will say, "Well, what we have is a translation." That's true. We all know that. We don't want to disagree with that statement. However, I do disagree with the conclusion that many come to. What they conclude is simply this; with translations we are left to trust the translators. I've heard men say that. Don't forget Psalms 12:6-7. Who's the agent of preserving His word? God is. I'm never left to trust the translators. I trust God, that He preserves His word through copies and through translation.

I believe God is enough God to have authorized and empowered translators to reverently handle a text, thus preserving His word. Remember, who's the agent of preservation? God. Not the translators. You can read the history of the King James translators. In fact, it's probably in the front of most of your BIBLES. It's very good and to me it proves the preservation of God's word. But I don't need that to prove the preservation of God's word. God's the agent. He preserved His word through translation. It's not dependent on academia, it's not dependent on discoveries. God has preserved His word through copies and translation.

Today we stand with these BIBLES in our hands. It is entitled, Holy Bible, King James Version. Is it the pure word of God? To what degree does God keep His word pure? There's only one right way to answer that question. If you don't answer it that way, you've got a whole lot of problems. To what degree does God keep His word pure? Holy Bible, King James Version. I believe that God has been pleased to preserve His word. I can say here today, without reservation, **This book, that is entitled Holy Bible, King**

James Version, IS the preserved word of God." If someone does not believe that it is the preserved word of God, you ought to spend the rest of your life looking for it. **Or**, you must believe that God did not preserve His word.

I do not merely believe that it is the *best* translation available today. I believe that it is ***the book*** that God has preserved in it's inspired, infallible, inerrant form. If someone doesn't believe that, then you must believe that ***the book*** does exist or doesn't. If it doesn't exist then God didn't preserve His word. If God did preserve His word, but you and I don't have it, how can you trust this book, if you do not believe that it **IS** the word of God?

There's nothing wrong with saying the Greek means this, the Hebrew means this. That's part of translation. However, it goes through me, when someone says, "A better translation would be ..." Do you realize what they've done? They've done the very same thing that Satan did in the garden. They've cast doubt on the word of God. *And people do it all the time!* I counted one time, one preacher, in a message 45 minutes long, he must have said it 30 times, "A Better translation would be." I thought to myself, "Why don't you just go get the better translation instead of telling us what the better translation would be?" You're undoing the word of God every time you make that statement. Every single time.

So, the Holy Bible, King James Version **IS** the preserved word of God. There are people who will say, "Well, yes, I believe God preserved His word in heaven." Well, I believe that too. The BIBLE teaches that he did that. But I also believe that God has preserved His word in this Godless, post modern, humanistic, pragmatic age. We have the word of God. God has preserved it. He's the agent. So, this book entitled Holy Bible, King James Version, I believe, with all of my heart, is the preserved word of God.

Therefore, everytime I stand ... step behind the pulpit, I do so with the word of God. I've asked preachers that question. "Are you telling me, that when you get up behind

the pulpit that you do not have the word of God? Is that what you're telling me?" If so, how many times do you hold it up and say, "This is the word of God." ***Now, make up your mind!*** Do you have the word of God when you stand behind this pulpit? When you sit in the pew and hear the preacher preach, are you hearing the word of God? Did God keep His word pure? I believe it's a matter of faith. I believe He has and I believe we have it today.

Therefore, I don't have to make apologies for this book. It's the preserved word of God. I'm not looking for a better translation. I believe I have the very word of God. It is correct, it is accurate, it is unwavering, it is unshakable, it is guaranteed, it is unfailing, and it is absolutely reliable. You can build your life on it. To what degree did God preserve or keep his word pure? If he didn't keep it completely pure, can you really build your life upon it? Can you really fully trust it? God keeps His words.

Therefore you and I can go forth with THIS book. I don't need any other. We can face the world with confidence. I do not have to look to the world for conformation. I do not have to look to the world for validation for what to believe. Because God has written a book, and he's preserved it. Whatever is written in this book, is what we're to believe. I'm here to tell you, if we do not have the preserved word of God you can't be sure what to believe. We either have it or we don't. And I would say to every preacher, if we don't have it, then why are you standing up preaching? Don't waste my time. Don't waste yours. It's either the word of God or it isn't.

Don't get all caught up in studying the history of manuscripts. Even though there's much evidence for the King James Bible being THE word of God, *we don't need any of it.* God said He would preserve his word, and we either believe we have it or we don't. If you don't, then you need to find it. You need to be on a daily search for the word of God.

Because it is the preserved word of God, I don't need

THE GOD PRESERVED WORD OF GOD

to know Greek and I don't need to know Hebrew. It's not necessary that I know it. Believe it or not, I did take two years of Greek, but I've forgot it all. You don't need it, because God preserves His word through translation. It's an amazing book. It's a miraculous book. I mean, inspiration is miraculous, but when you think of the preservation of the word, that's probably even more miraculous than God inspiring His word. I want to say, if someone doesn't believe that God is able to preserve His word, what would give that person the right to believe in eternal security? If God can't preserve his word, what makes you think He can preserve your soul? God preserves his word. I'm so thankful that I have confidence that this BIBLE [The King James Version] IS the word of God.