

King James Bible Conference

February 18-20, 2015



NAME: _____



Welcome!

I'm so glad that you are joining us on this exciting journey over the next few days. The issues that we will discuss may be ones that you are already familiar with. It may also be that these are issues you are hearing for the very first time. Whatever camp you fall into, I believe your soul will be thrilled when you see how God has miraculously preserved His Word.

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to be here. It's my prayer "**that ye may grow**" in your love for the Word of God over the next few days!

-Pastor Riveiro

Introduction

This Conference is Not:

- This conference is not meant in any way, shape, or form to be an exhaustive study on the many important issues dealing with the Bible.
- This conference is not meant in any way, shape, or form to be a mean-spirited attack against those who use contemporary versions of the Bible.

This Conference is:

- This conference is to give you a “jumping off point” for personal study and prayer on the subject.
- This conference is meant to give us an understanding of what the Bible says about the Bible.
- This conference is to help you have confidence that God has preserved His Word for us today.
- This conference is to help you explain why we take the public position that we do that the King James Bible is the Word of God for English-speaking people.
- This conference is meant to explain the basic issues and differences between the King James Bible and contemporary versions of the Bible.

The First Attack on the Word of God

Genesis 3:1-5

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

Satan’s first recorded words in the Bible were “Yea, hath God said...”

It has been Satan’s ministry since the beginning to pervert and cast doubt on the Word of God.

- Matthew 4:1-7
- John 8:44
- 2 Corinthians 11:3
- Revelation 12:9
- 2 Tim. 2:16-19,24-26

Seven Important Words About the Bible

1. **Infallible:** without error (Ps. 119:160; 2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:21, John 14:26)
2. **Invariable:** without variance or change (Ps. 119:89; James 1:17; 2 Pet. 1:20)
3. **Inexorable:** without yielding (Jn. 10:35; Matt. 5:18)
4. **Invincible:** without defeat or conquest (Jer. 23:29; Isa. 55:11; Heb. 4:12)
Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Pitch it out the window and bounce it comes back again."
5. **Inevitable:** without failure (Matt. 5:18,24:35)
6. **Incomparable:** without equal (Ps. 119:72, 160)
7. **Invaluable:** without price- Because it...
 - a. It convicts (Heb. 4:12)
 - b. It corrects (Ps. 119:9; 2 Tim. 3:16)
 - c. It cleanses (Jn. 15:3; 1 John 1:9)
 - d. It conceives (Jn. 6:63)
 - e. It converts (Jas. 1:8; 1 Pet. 1:23)
 - f. It conquers (Eph. 6:17)
 - g. It comforts (1 Thess. 4:18)

Introduction to Bibliology

There are three main areas of Bibliology (“the study of the Bible and it’s doctrines”) that we will cover in this conference:

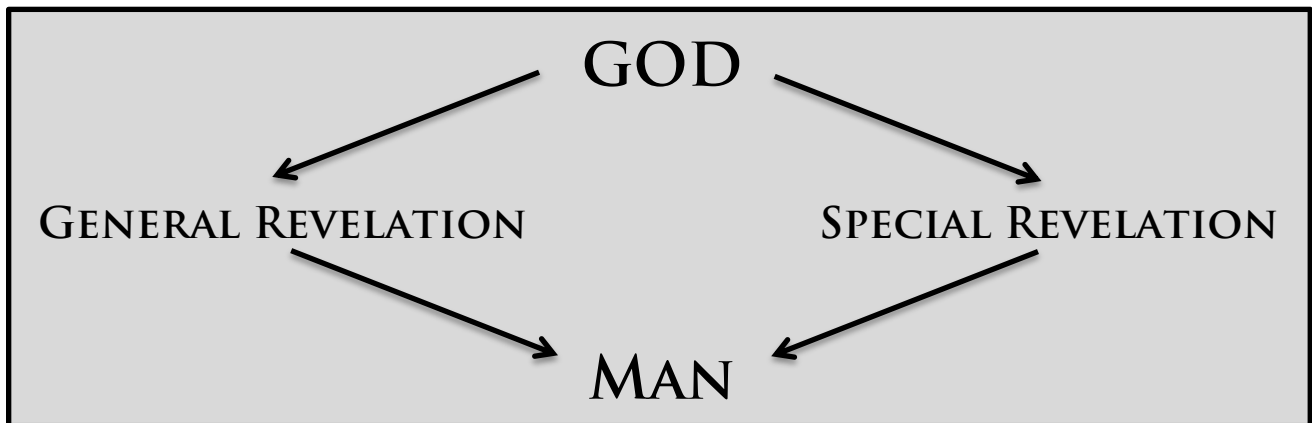
1. **Revelation:** “God’s Self-disclosure of Himself: that which could not be known if He had not made it known”- E.H. Bancroft
2. **Inspiration:** “God’s superintending of human authors, so that, using their own personalities and vocabularies, they recorded, without error, the words of God’s revelation of Himself to man”- R.B. Yeager
3. **Preservation:** “God has protected His Word from the moment that the inspired writers penned them through all time, so we can always know that we have a perfect copy of the Word at our disposal”- A.P. Riveiro

Note: There are other areas of Bibliology that are important, such as **communication** (*how the writers actually wrote the words*), **canonization** (*how the structure of sixty-six books came about*), and **translation** (*the Word of God rendered in a different language*), but we will not cover these areas in this conference.

Revelation

When people hear the word “revelation,” often they only think of the book of Revelation, but revelation is more than just a book.

Revelation comes from the root “reveal.” It is God revealing Himself to mankind. All revelation is supernatural in that it has God for its source and truth as its end (Deut. 29:29).



- **General revelation:** God revealing Himself through natural things. It is accessible to all men. (*Creation, history, conscience*)
- **Special revelation:** God revealing Himself through special, specific acts (*dreams, visions, audible voices, angels*)

Note: Because we have the Bible, we have no need of new revelation (*1 Cor. 13:8-10; Rev. 22:18,19; Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:6*). Beware of groups who claim a new revelation from God (*i.e., Mormons*).

Inspiration

Having revealed Himself to man, God then had His revelation recorded in written form.

- **1 Peter 1:21:** This scripture teaches two aspects of inspiration
 - *Human Penmanship*- “holy men of God spake...”
 - *Divine Authorship*- “moved by the Holy Ghost.”
- **2 Timothy 3:16:** the word inspiration literally means “God breathed.” Notice how much Scripture was given by inspiration: all.
- **1 Corinthians 2:13:** The revelation of God came in words and the Holy Spirit is the teacher (*2 Peter 3:16 identifies Paul’s words as Scripture*)

Ten Proofs of the Inspiration of the Bible:

1. It’s perennial freshness
2. The character of its teachings
3. It’s fulfilled prophecies
4. It’s miraculous power in the lives of mankind
5. It’s indestructability
6. It’s unity
7. It’s contributions to society
8. It’s testimony of Jesus Christ
9. It’s completeness
10. It’s verification by archeology

The cohesiveness of the Word of God is amazing. “The Bible was written over a period of roughly 2,000 years by 40 different authors from three continents, who wrote in three different languages. These facts alone make the Bible one of a kind”. –Tim Chaffey

The Bible is scientifically trustworthy, archeologically trustworthy, topographically trustworthy, geographically trustworthy, ethnologically trustworthy, chronologically trustworthy, and historically trustworthy! It’s many prophecies have been fulfilled through the ages. **It’s a book we can trust!**

Beware unbiblical views of inspiration:

- **Partial Inspiration:** “The Bible **contains** the Word of God.”
- **Personal Encounter Inspiration:** “The Bible **becomes** the Word of God.”

The Bible teaches it is **the very** Word of God. If it is not what it claims to be, then it is not to be trusted!

Preservation

*“Many Christians use the expression, ‘I believe in the divine, verbal, plenary, and inerrant inspiration of the **original** Scriptures’—a true statement to be sure. But, we do not have the original Scriptures in our possession, and never will! So, making such a statement without qualification can be rather convenient. Believing in the inspiration of the originals ‘lets one off the hook’ so to speak—and gives license to anyone wishing to ‘correct’ the Bible when it suits their purpose.”*

—Robert Sargent

The doctrines of inspiration and preservation must be joined together if we are to be sure that we actually can have God’s Word today.

Logically, why would God take such great care and pains to give His word to mankind, knowing that there would be a distortion of those words over time, resulting in an endless debate between pastors, theologians, and other Christians as to what the Bible is actually trying to say? **Isn’t God big enough to preserve His word?**

- **2 Timothy 3:15,16:** Consider these issues...
 - Timothy had the Scriptures.
 - Timothy did not have the “originals.”
 - The copies that Timothy had access to were called Scripture and said to be inspired.

- **1 Peter 1:23,25:** Notice the Word of God...
 - Is incorruptible
 - Lives forever
 - Abideth forever
 - Endureth forever

- **Psalm 12:6,7:** These verses teach...
 - The extent of preservation: “words”
 - The Agent of preservation: “Thou” [God]
 - The period of preservation: “for ever”

So that leaves us with this question: If we have the Word of God available to us today, does that mean that every book that has “Holy Bible” on the cover is actually the Word of God?

Two Different Families

There are two major Greek renderings of the New Testament from which all English versions have been translated:

- **The Textus Receptus (“Received Text”)**: This is what the King James Bible was translated from
- **Wescott-Hort Text**: First used to translate the New Testament of the English Revised Version in the 1880’s.

The Textus Receptus was compiled from copies that had stood the test of time for almost 1500 years.

Both Wescott and Hort shared a disdain for the Textus Receptus, and sought for a new Greek translation to be compiled. This was a process that took 28 years.

“I had no idea till the last few weeks of the importance of the texts, having read so little of the Greek New Testament, and dragged on with the villainous Textus Receptus...Think of that vile Textus Receptus leaning entire on late MSS; it is a blessing that there are such early ones.” –F.A. Hort (1851)

Both Wescott and Hort believed that a small amount of old copies that had been discovered were more credible than the large amount of newer copies that had been used for many years.

Consider this: what kind of copy would be better: older or newer?

The Wescott-Hort text (called *The New Testament in the Original Greek*) uses Codex Vaticanus and Codex Sinaiticus, which were totally unreliable texts with unusual histories:

- **Codex Vaticanus**

- Housed in the library of the Vatican for many years.
- Contains numerous scribal blunders and is characterized by omissions—1,491 words and clauses in the Gospels alone.
- Manifests 7,578 differences with the Textus Receptus. Omits 2,877 words, adds 536, substitutes 935, and modifies 1,132.
- Now is widely considered the most important and accurate codex available.

- **Codex Sinaiticus**

- Found in a rubbish bin of items to be burned at a Mt. Sinai monastery.
- Shows the work ten different correctors over a 500 year period.
- Shows almost 9,000 differences with the Textus Receptus.

Conservatively, there are 5,788 differences between the Textus Receptus and the Wescott-Hort version. Over 25% of those changes change the meaning of the King James Bible.

*Textual critics will point out that these differences are small considering the large amount of words in the New Testament. They also point out that there is no change of doctrine either. **This simply is not the case.***

Since the publication of the Wescott-Hort text in 1881, all versions have used this corrupt text as a basis for translation.

So, by applying these facts, the world did not have an accurate copy of the Word of God until the 1880's. However, the textual critics would say that we still do not, and never can, have an accurate copy of the Word of God.

Different Philosophies of Translation

There are several different philosophies of translation. With the KJV and versions previous, there was one method of translation. Post-textual criticism has given us several different ways to translate the Bible. Notice the differences.

- **Formal Translation:** This is the classic form of translation, where the words, the sense, the style, and emphasis of the Hebrew and Greek are not only accurately translated, but set in the proper form of the English language

For God so loved the world. That He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Note: The KJV translators were so honest with their readers, that they added italics to all of the words that they used to assist in giving the proper meaning from one language to English.

- **Dynamic Translation:** This is the translation for sense, without great concern for words. The “dynamic equivalency” method of translation attempts to put the meaning of Scripture into contemporary speech. The most famous is the NIV.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. - NIV

Note: The NIV 2011 edition does not have the verse in red letters, meaning that the translators do not believe that Jesus said the words. Understand, the red verses are not inspired, but it gives us some insight as to their thought process!

- **Paraphrase:** This is translation for ideas, rather than words. It is more of an interpretation than a translation. The Message and the Living Bible are popular examples

This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. – The Message

The great difference of philosophy from the King James translators to the modern translators is the idea of trying to discern **what God said** (KJV) compared to **what God meant** (modern translations)!

Research shows that many on modern translation committees are unbelieving textual critics. Even the first new modern translation, the English Revised Version, had a Unitarian on its board, G. Vance Smith, who denied the trinity and the deity of Christ. When some men asked for his removal, the motion was voted down. This committee also claimed both Wescott and Hort as members. This has been a common theme in translation ever since.

Questions to Ask Yourself

1. Did God promise that we could have an accurate copy of His Word today?
2. If God made this promise, and didn't fulfill it, would that make Him a liar?
3. Is every book that has the word "Bible" on the cover actually the Bible?
4. If not, what are the criteria for us to discern what is an accurate translation?
5. Can we trust the Textus Receptus? Can we trust the newer translation by Wescott and Hort?
6. Will I seek to further study this matter and pray about it in my personal time with the Lord?

