

The History of the King James Bible – Part 17 – Westcott and Hort

Cardinal Wiseman, who was a RC and died in 1862AD, was the editor of the Vatican manuscript. He had a profound influence on John Newman and Edward Pusey.

John Newman took it upon himself to move secular and ministerial schools in England away from the fundamental truths of the Christian faith and back under the influence of the RCC.

Edward Pusey set about to do the same work in the churches themselves and sought to influence the ministers of the churches and move them away from fundamental bible doctrine and back to the RCC religion.

These 2 men were 2 of the leaders of what was known as “The Oxford Movement”. This movement lasted from 1833-1845AD. – They printed and distributed tracts and pamphlets throughout England seeking to influence the educational system and the religious system of the nation and move them away from the church of England and back to the Pope and the Vatican.

As a reward (when the movement ran its’ course) Newman surrendered his post in the church of England and joined the RCC, in 1845AD, for turning the church and education system in England away from bible truth and back to Roman Catholicism. – The Pope made Newman a cardinal.

“John Henry Newman, in the early 1840s, wrote a series of pamphlets entitled “Tracts for the Times” in which the name for the Romanising movement was derived. He argued that the Church of England should adopt RC liturgical practices such as burning incense, using candles and brightly coloured vestments, reading the service with the back to the congregation and so on...The Tractarian movement (or Oxford Movement) had a tremendous influence on the Church of England and on English culture in general.

In 1830, when Newman began his work, there were 434 RC priests in England. By 1860 there were 1242 RC priests in England. In 1830 there were 16 convents training nuns and in 1860 there were 162 convents in England. In 1844 there were 7044. Newman was made a cardinal in 1847 after formerly going over to Rome in 1845. He wrote from Rome to cardinal Wiseman from Ireland proposing a new translation sanctioned by the Pope, based on the Latin Vulgate, to be published and distributed in England. An article in the “Edinburgh Review” published in 1853 entitled “Church Parties” estimated from a sample of 500 ministers at that time that 18,000 in the Church of England were high church, 6500 low church and 3500 were broad church. The high church party were those that were adhering to Newman’s teachings. The low church was evangelical which was mostly orthodox and the broad church was liberal.”

When Newman finished his course, pretending to be Church of England, of 16000-17000 churches in England only 2500 were fundamental and conservative in Christian doctrine.

Just a few men can bring down a whole nation! How we need a few men with such righteous influence that would turn our nation back to God!

2 Timothy 3:1 “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.” – V13 “But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.” What is the antidote for this time and the wickedness therein? – V14-15 says we should continue in the scriptures to obtain salvation from this present evil world!

The instruction in 2 Timothy 3 is to be perfect and so how can we be perfect if the scriptures and instruction we have are less than perfect?

Westcott and Hort led the movement away from the scriptures in England. They were disciples of Newman and products of the Oxford Movement and ended up heading the revision committee which gave you a version in place of the KJV based on the Vatican manuscript, which had been edited by Cardinal Wiseman.

These men produced a bible that was true to the RC religion.

Westcott and Hort are 2 men that you must know something about. – They were more anti-bible than men that came before them (Tischendorf etc...).

Westcott did not believe in creation and said Genesis 1-3 should not be taken literally and he accepted and embrace Darwin's "Origin of Species" book and believed faith in God, evolution, and a rejection of the creation account in Genesis were compatible.

Westcott did not believe the bible was historically true. – He thought Moses and David were poetic characters who never existed as real people.

Westcott wrote in "Life and Letters of Westcott" Vol 2, P69 "No one now suppose holds that the first three chapters in Genesis give a literal history. I could never understand that anyone reading them with open eyes could think they did. So, it is probably elsewhere. Are we not going through a trial for use of popular language for the literary subjects like that which we went not without sad losses with regards to popular language on physical subjects? If you fell now that it was to speak humanly necessary that the Lord should speak of the sun rising, it was no less necessary that he would use the names Moses and David as his contemporaries use them. There was no critical question at issue. Poetry, I would think, is a thousand times more true than history. This is a private parenthesis for myself alone."

Westcott also said that "David is not a chronological but spiritual person." – This man did not believe the bible at all but that it was a collection of fairytales used to teach moral lessons.

Thirdly, Westcott did not believe in the biblical account of miracles "I never read an account of a miracle, but I seem to feel instinctively its' improbability and discover somewhat of evidence in the account of it." – Now why would you embrace and accept a bible like the revised standard version, NIV, NASV that is the result of the so called "biblical scholarship" of a man like this?!

4th, he did not believe in the literal, physical 2nd coming of Jesus Christ and wrote "As far as I can remember I said very shortly what I thought to be the Lord's coming in my little book on the historic faith. I hold very strongly that the fall of Jerusalem was the coming which first fulfilled the Lord's words and as there have been other comings I cannot doubt that he is coming to us now." – So, he believed the 2nd coming of Christ was any event which had a spiritual impact on someone's life.

5th, Westcott did not believe heaven was a literal place "No doubt the language of the rubric is unguarded but it saves us from the error of connecting the presence of Christ' glorified humanity with place." – So, he believed heaven is a state and not a place. What heresy! – "Yet the unseen is the largest part of life. Heaven lies about us now not in infancy alone but in silent pauses for thought for recollection, for aspiration. We cannot only keep fresh the influence of that diviner atmosphere but breathe it more habitually." – In other words, Westcott thought heaven was a moment of pause in a busy day.

Why not just call yourself a pagan and not a Christian? – **DECEPTION.**

He wrote the following regarding the woman he would marry "Today I have again taken up "Tracts for the Times" by Dr Newman. Don't tell me that he will do me harm. At least today he has done me good and had you been here I would have asked you to read his solemn words to me. My purchase has already amply repaid me, and I think I should choose a volume for one of my Christmas companions." – He said "I read Newman, and he was good for me" but Newman said give up fundamental Christian doctrines and bow down at the feet of the Pope! – Westcott loved that, and this is the ma that gave you the RSV.

This comment was after Newman defected to Rome, so Westcott saw good things in an infidel.

The teaching of Newman changed the attitude of many towards the bible by allegorising etc...The influence of Newman and these men were, as Origen of old. Newman contending that God never intended the bible to teach doctrines. – 2 Timothy 3:16 warns us that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine..." – Westcott bought the deception that we were to go the vicar on earth and not the bible for doctrine.

Westcott was also a socialist and believed that if all the money of working people earnt was given to the poor you would have heaven on earth and Christ may come. – Ever since the KJV was given up the nanny state has increased to rob more and more workers of the hard earnt money!

Westcott heard a sermon once condemning the adoration of the Pope and said of Mr Oldham's meeting (preacher) "I think they are not good in their tendency, and nothing can be so bad as making them the vehicle of controversy. We seem to have lost all form of pity. Should not our arm against Rome be prayer and not speeches, the efforts of our inner most heart and not the display of secular reasoning." – The KJV translators made clear Rome was a daughter of the great harlot, so they did not see eye to eye on their opinion thereof.

Westcott's bent toward Rome can be seen in:-

1. His faith in baptismal regeneration – He said "We have no right to exclaim against the idea of the commencement of a spiritual life condition from baptism any more than we have the right to deny the commencement of a moral life from birth.
2. Prayers for the dead – He said "I considered very carefully a conference with other bishops of large knowledge and experience and the attitude of our church with regards to prayers for the dead. We agree unanimously that we are, as things are now, forbidden to pray for the dead apart our whole church in our public services but no restriction is placed upon private devotions."
3. Purgatory – The bible says, "in my father's house are many mansions...." But Westcott's RSV says "In my father's house are many rooms..." – Westcott and the revision committee said of the John 14 passage, that referred not to a final future state but intermediate stations in the future before the final one.

Westcott was also a communist and supporter of the communist movement of his day.

His most troubling position was on Mary. – He wrote a letter to his fiancé Sarah Futard after visiting a monastery and said "After leaving the monastery we shaped our course to a little oratory which we discovered on a summit of a neighbouring hill. Fortunately, we found the door open. It is very small with one kneeling place and behind the screen was a statue of the Virgin. The size of life. A virgin holding a dead Christ. Had I been alone I could have knelt there for hours."

Westcott's affection for Mary is also indicated by his son Arthur who writes of his father's reaction to the painting "The Sistine Madonna" "It is smaller than I expected, and the colour is much less rich. The virgin is unspeakably beautiful. I looked to the lips and did tremble with intensity of feeling. It would not be possible to say whether these feelings were awe or joy or hope. Humanity shrinking before the divine or swelling with its' conscious possession. It is enough that there is intensely deep emotion such as the mother of the Lord may have had."

This man is an idolator! You mean to say that you are going to trust the NIV when Westcott was pivotal in its' translation? – No wonder it watered down and removed verses on hell.

Westcott's prejudice against the *textus receptus* was tremendous and both he and Hort resented pre-eminence given to the KJB and its' underlying Greek texts.

They believed the Roman manuscripts (Vaticanus and Sinaiticus) were better simply because they were older. They believed this even though Hort admitted that the received text was equal in antiquity to the old Egyptian manuscripts which they used.

Hort said "I had no idea until the last few weeks of the importance of the text having read so little of the Greek New Testament and dragged on with the villainous *textus receptus*. Think of the vile *textus receptus*, it is a blessing there are such early manuscripts." – This man hated your bible!

Hort's position was that the KJB was another example of prose writing that had been corrupted through transmission down through the years.

He said "I am inclined to think that no such place as Eden ever existed. Adam's fall in no degree differs from the fall of each of his descendants."

Hort said "I agree with the author of "Essays and Reviews" (John Newman) in condemning many leading specific doctrines of the popular theology. Evangelicals seem to me perverted rather than untrue. There are, I fear, still more serious differences between us on the subject of authority, especially the authority of the bible." – **The bible was not his authority.**

What do you think you are going to get when a man like this puts out a version of the bible? – He did not believe the bible was infallible and was not even sure it came from God!

Hort said in writing to his colleague Westcott "Have you ever read Darwin? How I should like to talk with you about it. In spite of the difficulties, I am inclined to think it unanswerable. In any case, it is a treat to read such a book!"

A man that was proud to associate himself with Darwin and trusted him more than Moses in Genesis is the man that gave you the modern translations.

Hort fell under the influence of Samuel Coleridge who was a college drop-out and his opium addiction began with a use connected with rheumatoid pain.

Hort said he found no truth in Revelation but did so in Greek philosophy "You seem to make Greek philosophy worthless to those who receive Christian revelation. To me, though in a hazy way, it is full of precious truth of which I find nothing and should be very much astonished and perplexed to find anything in Revelation."

Hort said the Coleridge taught him out of a literal belief in a literal Satan.

Regarding hell Hort said "I think Maurice's letter to me sufficiently showed that we have no sure knowledge respecting the duration of future punishment and that the word eternal has a far higher meaning than the merely material one of excessively long duration. Extinction always grates against my mind as possible. Certainly, in my case it results in no personal dread which I have been living when I have been living mostly godlessly. I have never been able to frighten myself with visions of distant future, even while I once held the doctrine." – Hort said he'd been living an ungodly life, and he is not afraid of hell so there must not be one!

So, what do we have when we pick up a modern version? A bible without hell in it.

He said he couldn't dismiss the RCC purgatory and the idea of repentance and second chances after death.

So, Westcott and Hort did not believe in creation, hell, heaven, the Devil, the second coming of Christ, the inspiration of scripture and you want a bible produced by these men because somebody said they were scholars?

Horts view on the atonement "The fact is I do not see how God's justice can be satisfied without every man suffering in his own person the full penalty for his sins." – He flat out denies the blood atonement of Jesus Christ for sins!

This means if you have a revised version you have a book produced by a man who was not saved.

Hort said "Certainly nothing can be more unscriptural than the modern limiting of Christ's burial of our sins and suffering to his death but indeed that is only one aspect of an almost universal heresy." – This is why "redemption through his blood" is not in the modern bibles as the author didn't believe it was enough for our redemption!

Hort said "I confess that I have no repugnance to the primitive doctrine of a ransom paid to Satan though neither am I prepared to give full ascent to it, but I can see no other possible form in which the doctrine of a ransom is at all tenable. Anything is better than the notion of a ransom paid for the Father." – He said if Jesus died, he did it for Satan and didn't do it for God the Father.

Hort also believed in baptismal regeneration. – Jesus dying for us will not pay for our sins but a man splashing us with water will pay for it according to this wicked heretic.

2 Timothy 3 says in the last days men would appear “Having the form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.” And that when they appear “...from such turn away.” – Depart from the teaching and influence of such men as Westcott and Hort Christians! – They have not and deny the power of God!

Such men are “Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

In V8-9 names the names of false power and influence in Jannes and Jambres and make it known that we are to expose such false teachers to make clear the path of righteousness and truth.

The only way to stop the corrupting influence of Westcott and Hort modern versions is to expose the wicked, false teachers behind those perversions.

What did they believe? Then you will know why hell goes, repentance goes, Christ’s deity etc... is gone, attacked and power of God departs the churches.

Ghostly Guild Society

Hort quoted “Westcott et al and I have started a society for the investigation of ghosts and all supernatural appearances and effects. Being disposed to believe that all such things exist and ought to be discriminated from hoaxes and mere subjective delusions we should be happy to attain any good accounts well authenticated with names. Westcott is throwing up a series of questions. Our temporary name is the “Ghostly Guild”.

They do not believe Genesis, hell, the second coming, Satan are literal, but they are out looking for ghosts.

Satan pulled off a master stroke when he convinced many that an infidel learned in book reading could be more trusted than a country preacher filled with the Holy Ghost. – The lie that education equalled intelligence was bought and the whole thing started to go down the drain.

You know why the professors at the seminary schools won’t present this truth? Because it wasn’t presented to them by those men they looked up to and trusted. – So, the pattern continued and the reason nobody listened and do not listen to those that lift up their voice against modern versions today is because they are little nobodies in little churches with a believing remnant serving the Lord.

Pride is getting in the way at this point from men listening to a KJV-only preacher as men who promote false bibles have “credentials” and he is a “scholar”. – If a man has loyalty to his education and not his God then there is no hope of revival to such.