

The King James Bible – God’s light in the “Silent Centuries”

Psalms 138:2 - The modern versions give dual authority to God’s name and His word – This is why those that read these versions are led by feelings, subjectivity, and not the sure word of God!

John 12:44-48 - States His words have the final authority Jesus came not to judge but to save the world (V48) - Despite Jesus having love for the lost on the last day at the great white throne judgement His word will have the final say on their eternal destination!

Revelation 19:13 says Jesus Christ “...is called the Word of God.”

The authorised bible we have today was made possible by collecting, studying, and comparing what are called manuscripts.

Whiteboard Information to refer to in sermon.

Determining Age of Manuscripts

- **Papyrus and pen** – 1st century
- **Papyrus codices** – 4th-12th century
- **Vellum and parchment** – 4th-8th century
- **Flax and paper** – 8th-13th century
- **Linen paper** – 13th century – present.

Style of Script Age

Uncial – Used up to around 10th century AD – Compressed uncials used up to 9th century – Minuscules up to around 6th century.

Clauses - As materials became more readily available men began to have spaces between clauses (verb & subject) – This constitutes a complete thought and aided the reading of the scripture. This shows up at around up at approximately 300 AD.

Spaces – Words having a space between them show up approximately 5th century.

Full stops – Dots to end sentences show up in 5th century.

Commas – Jerome in 420 AD comes up with the comma.

Colons and semi-colons – 7th century.

Accents and breathings – 8th century.

Question marks – 10th century.

Text division

Text division first enters the gospels in 1st century – The Eusebian canons divided into sections writings (e.g. 4 gospels into one canon, epistles of Paul in another). This first shows up in the 4th century.

Paul’s epistles further divided into separate letters in 458 AD by Euphalian.

Acts and general epistles divided in 590 AD.

Silent Centuries

Critics of the NT speak of the silent centuries – This is reference to the years of the completion of the original autographs and the early 4th century AD in which the early NT manuscripts are dated.

The argument is how do we know that the completed NT manuscripts, completed 300 years after John wrote Revelation in 90AD, were recorded accurately?

Isa 8:19 asks where we should go for truth? To those with familiar spirits, wizards, the dead or God? – V20 says if they have not THIS word we have no light and dwell in darkness! ***“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”***

Here is what the so called “theologians” say about the NT “The Apostle passed on what they knew to the best of their ability verbally to the early church. These in turn passed on the story to others and oral traditions were collected and written down to form the basis of the NT”. – This of course strips the bible from all authority!

If we just have “the general idea” then it does not matter that we have all these different versions where they all disagree with one another!

To counter that we have the witness through history that spans from John to what are called the oldest complete manuscripts in 400AD.

So, what do we have in this period that the KJV rests upon?

Harry Rimmer (an unknown of the great champions of our bible) – He wrote book called “The Patristic Chorus” (referring to the church fathers) and he collected and chronicled the references and the writings of Christians who lived from John through to 400AD .

He chronicled what they said to a chapter or verse of the bible – From this collection the entire NT could be assembled from quotes from letters to sermons from preachers except for 11 verses! And all in the 2nd century!

This shows that God’s word was being circulated far and wide.

Dean Burgon also went through the writings of the church fathers and collected all the material they quoted that matches verses or chapters in the bible and when finished he collected sermons from 100s, 200s, 300s AD, letters, commentaries, books written and from that pulled all quotations from a verse or chapter in the NT. This ended up with 16 volumes with 86,489 quotations! That’s 1000s of quotes for every chapter in the NT!

Isn’t it amazing, therefore, that a theologian stands in a seminary classroom teaching girls and boys that there is no proof of the NT before 400AD?! He is saying “Apart from 86,489 quotes to the NT, we do not have any evidence of the NT!” – That is crooked and dishonest. How can someone quote 87,000 times from something these fools say didn’t exist?

The following is a list of some of the men quoted:

Polycarp – Born approximately 50AD in the middle of the Apostolic era. He was martyred in 155AD and said at his death he had served Jesus for 86 years and will not deny Him now. – Polycarp wrote a letter praising the Phillipians for their kindness, answers their request for epistles and in them he quoted numerous verses and phrases from 12 different NT books and mentioned by name the epistle from Paul to the Philippians and encouraged them to read and study it. – He wrote the letter in 110AD showing 20 years after John died much of the NT was known!

Who are these men saying we didn’t have the NT until 400AD? It was available but just not all 27 books bound in 1 neat package for anyone to have.

Barnabus – Wrote an epistle in 98AD and quoted Matt 22:14, Acts 4:32, John 3:14, John 6:38, John 8:58, John 13:34 and 2 Peter 3:8. – How is this man quoting from NT epistles not in existence?

Ignatius – Martyred in 95AD – He was Bishop of Antioch and was sentenced to die in Rome but allowed to tarry in the cities in which he passed on the way to the arena and was able to preach and teach and make converts.

He wrote just before his death to the church at Ephesus, showing gratitude for their kindness bestowed upon him and quotes from the book of the Ephesians and several other NT books. – These bible believers are writing to one another quoting the word these professors say did not exist.

Irenaeus – Great scholar of the Western church – Much of his time was spent in Smyrna and he was a pupil of Polycarp. He wrote extensively up to the time of his death in 157AD. – He quoted from Paul and John's epistles and all of Matt, Mark and Luke. He was of the first commentators of the NT scripture and said "This is what John wrote..." and commented on it – "This is what Paul wrote..." and commented on it. It is simply not possible to make comments on the NT that did not exist, and it certainly was not oral tradition!

Those that teach none of the above are wizards muttering and peeping in the dark and want you there without the light of God's word. Irenaeus' comments of the scripture form almost an entire summary of the NT and this is all in the 1st century and not the 4th – In his comments he provides summary teachings of each of the books that make up the NT.

Justin Martyr – Died for his faith in Christ – He wrote ,up to approx. 150AD, volumes after volumes, quoting John chapter 1, collection of essays on Jesus Christ being God based on verses from John 1. How was this so if he did not have these words available? If the NT were only put together in 400AD it would not be possible.

Justin, in one of his writings, mentions the book of Revelation by name. He also quoted Matthew, Luke, John, 1 John and six Pauline epistles.

Tertullian – He picked up where Justin Martyr left off. – He wrote and taught from 190-211AD. He was the son of a Centurian in Africa, born of heathen parents and taught Greek philosophy. He was steeped in the culture of Carthage.

He became a leader when converted in the NT Christian church and put together a canon for the NT (collection of books) and his canon has Luke plus ten Pauline epistles (11 in total). – More proof of books that supposedly didn't exist.

Clement of Alexandria – Successor to Tertullian and a prolific writer. In his writing 'Stromata' he speaks with reverence of the writings of Peter, James, John, and Paul. He quotes from the entire old and new testaments. – In the NT he quotes from every book, with the exception of James, Philemon and 2 Peter.

He wrote these books and letter from 211AD.

Origen – He was a mess! No evidence he was ever saved though his parents were Christians. – In 219AD he began a book of commentary on John which was considered his masterpiece. – He finished commentaries on all 27 NT books.

In seminary schools they will be bragging about "the great Origen" whilst criticizing your faith in the words of God as "there weren't any words of God in a book until 400AD!" – This is how we know they are being dishonest. – You cannot praise Origen and not know he wrote commentaries on all NT books before the time you say they even existed!

Athanasius – Lived between 293-373AD and started to write in 318AD. – He was a great fighter against the Arian theory that said Christ was just a man. – He quoted John 5 times, Matthew twice, Romans 3 times, Hebrews 3 times and 1 John once.

Notice Athanasius is not quoting "oral tradition"! - If you translate his quotations of the NT into English they would match the KJV.

Hippolytus – Student of Irenaeus and born around 170AD. – Lived much of his life in Rome and Origen heard him preach. – He wrote from 198-236AD.

He was a prolific writer who wrote "Refutation of all Heresies" in Greek. He said quote "Do not build your arguments on isolated texts but upon the entire NT." – This was an amazing thing to write for a man who died in 236AD! He said study all of the NT so it must have been written.

Cyprian – Wrote from 248-258AD – Saved late in life and quoted many NT books by name. E.g. "...as we read in the book of Ephesians..." – Not only did we have the entire NT by mid-200sAD, but men were showing a working understanding of what God had written.

Basil the Great – Born in 330AD and quoted Byzantine manuscripts. This era up to 400AD was not silent at all!

Aristides of Athens – A Greek philosopher converted to Jesus Christ under the preaching of Justin Martyr. – Eusebian said he was the friend of men who had been the companions of Jesus. He continues to wear his philosopher's robe in order to attract a crowd and preached to them Christ!

He knew the Apostles personally. – In 117AD he wrote in defence of the Christian faith to the Emperor Hadrian. He began his appeal by referring to the noble lives of the Christians and pleaded for the protection for such gentle and worthy citizens from the oppression and persecution inflicted upon them. He contrasted the godly lives of the Christians with the gross errors and evils of the pagan writings.

In this appeal he pointed toward the NT scriptures and summed up the chief doctrines of Christianity in these words (117AD) "Now the Christians reckoned their race from the Lord Jesus Christ and He is confessed by them to be the Son of the most High, having by the Holy Ghost come down from heaven. Having been born of the Hebrew virgin. Having completed His wonderful dispensation, He was pierced by the Jews and after 3 days revived and went up to heaven. Of the glory of His coming again **thou canst read O king, which is called by them the evangelistic scriptures of the New Testament.**"

In 117AD this man not only lays out the truth of the gospel but says we get this truth from the written word of God called the NT! – Lies are abounding in these indoctrination seminary schools.

Justin Martyr – Addressed his first apology to Antonius in the year 138AD. – He refuted the charge against Christianity of 3 specific errors:

1. Atheism
2. Immorality in conduct
3. Disloyalty to government

Justin put forward in written refutation the true facts of Christianity, establishing the pure morality of the teachings of Christ, constructed to the vice of heathen practice. He then proceeded to show that the noble doctrines of Christianity are based on the revelation of God made in the OT, specifically the virgin birth. He stated "They meet every Sunday to praise God and worship by reading the Old Testament and the Memoires of the Apostles and disciples. Then after prayers and thanksgiving the address was delivered by the president by which they had communion and were quietly dispersed to their homes." – This man says in 138AD the Christians got together and studies the memoires of the Apostles which is what they wrote down!

Attack on the Virgin Birth

Luke 2:33 **"And Joseph and his mother..."** Carefully preserving Christ not being born of a man. – The NIV says in V33 "The child's father and mother..." – **Joseph is NOT the child's father! God is.**

Isa 7:14 "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." – The RSV says "...Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear son..." – Many young women conceive and give birth but no virgins!

Ancient Version

Proverbs 30:5-6 – If we say that we believe every word then it IS pure and not WAS pure. – “Add though not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.” – Do not add your opinion, critique to God’s word but leave them alone lest you be found a liar and corrupter of His word *(2 Cor 2:17)

Revelation 22:18-20 - The one testifying in V18&20 is Jesus Christ and in V19 He says do not add to or take away from His word!

In scripture, every person who set himself against the word of God was not saved. Why? It is this book that brings you to repentance in turning to God! Men will have subjective opinion, but the bible will condemn you and outline your condition.

Diatessaron

This was written by a Greek philosopher converted under Justin Martyr and called Tatian. – He examined the OT writing and found it far superior to philosophical writings and believed in the God of Israel. Justin Martyr then gave him greater revelation in Christ unto salvation.

Tatian compiled the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in 1 wide parchment and parallel columns and named it the Diatessaron.- This work was finished in 150AD.

It was preserved in the Eastern language and the Arabian and Syrian saints copied it extensively. – Notice how often Syria shows up in preserving God’s word. This is not taught in seminaries as it does not support the curriculum in line with the “400 silent years”.

Didache

This document has been known since 1885 by scholars and often quoted. – It is also known as “The teachings of our Lord through the 12 Apostles to the Gentiles”. Compiled by an unknown author/authors in approx. 80AD. – Written in the Greek and a general summary of the teachings peculiar to Christianity.

The Didache was likely read by John the Apostle before his death and quoted oft by the church fathers. – It is evident that the writers were familiar with the writings of the NT. – Examples are 25 direct quotations from Matt, Mark, and Luke. – How is this so if they did not exist? Clearly this was not oral tradition but physical reference to physical writings. – Again, the supposed silent years were not so silent.

The Syriac Translation

This appeared at Antioch about 50 years after John the Apostle died. 150AD as a complete translation of the NT! – It agrees with every major detail to the KJV.

Coptic Version

Translated for the church of Egypt and the church of Syria in 150AD and a complete copy of this was found in the White Monastery 150 miles north of Cairo, Egypt.