

WAS THE BIBLE TAMPERED WITH?

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A friend ranted at me, “The Bible is a load of rubbish. It certainly does not include what God said and the Church has tampered with the Bible to suit their own purposes. It is all man made fiction. God does not speak to people. Jesus Christ was not born of a Virgin and is not the Son of God. We are all sons of God. The only prophecies that are true are those made by spiritualists and mediums. The so-called prophecies in the Bible are all garbage and if there are any that are true they were inserted by the Church to make themselves and the Bible look good”.

Consult my article on [*The Virgin Birth*](#).

The Bible is fiction made up by the Church. Really?

The Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered between 1946 and 1956, include nineteen copies of the book of Isaiah written 700 years before Christ. There were also 25 copies of the book of Deuteronomy and 30 copies of the Psalms as well as parts of the prophecy of Ezekiel. The actual scrolls have been proven to be dated about 200 BC and, therefore, pre-Christian and before there was any Christian church. They have been irrefutably proved not to be fake or a hoax and yet efforts have been made to counter this. As soon as there is another proof of the Bible, the Bible haters try to disprove it by using all sorts of devious methods.

As Isaiah was 700 years before Christ and the Church was not then in existence, what Isaiah has to say is vital.

Isaiah foretells the coming of the Messiah who would be born of a virgin and, as an adult, would be despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief who would bare our sins and sorrows, that He would be beaten up, severely wounded and flogged and as a lamb brought to the slaughter. He would not defend himself when taken from prison to His Trial. He would die and be buried in the same area where many wicked people would be buried, but be victorious over death and bring comfort and healing to many. He would save and preach the glad tidings, the Gospel, and this would be preached to the Jews and then to the Gentiles

This things came true although spoken 700 years before Christ and the Dead Sea Scrolls date from 200 years before Christ. To summarise it foretells the Virgin Birth, the preaching and healings, His sufferings and death and His resurrection.

And in our Bibles today we have the same facts unaltered and untampered with by the Church or anyone.

Many of the Psalms prophesy about the Lord Jesus Christ accurately and they were written 1000BC and the Dead Sea Scrolls were written 200 years before the birth of Christ and therefore not altered or tampered with by the Church or anyone else. There are also prophecies of the Christ in Dueteronomy.

And you may complain that this is all Biblical evidence. Is there any secular evidence?

Yes. Flavius Josephus was a Jew born around 37AD and in the employ of the Romans. He was a Pharisee, very particular about Jewish law and narrow minded, and would have been against the teachings of Jesus who died four years before he was born. Josephus was not a Christian or disciple but would have know many of the Lord's disciples and encountered many who were miraculously healed by Jesus. Josephus was a meticulous historian and his book Antiquities of the Jews was written over a long period of time but appeared complete in 94 AD. He wrote about Jesus who performed miracles and was crucified under Pontius Pilate but appeared alive after three days. Now Josephus was a Pharisee and employed by the occupying Romans. He would not have written these things had they not been true for fear of his own safety and continuing employment. In his book he gives a history of the Jews which agrees with the Old Testament.

It must also be remembered that secular and official writings of the time confirm details of the miracles, life

and death of Jesus and how the Roman emperors wanted all Christians to be put to death to destroy all the eye witnesses to His resurrection. The Romans need not have feared the Christians as they were not a militant group or bellicose.

The facts of three thousand being converted to Christianity on the Day of Pentecost as set out in Acts 2 is confirmed by secular records as are many of the acts of the apostles, and so the Church has not made this up or tampered with the Bible.

At the crucifixion the disciples were afraid of their own lives and went into hiding. A few weeks later there were courageous and unafraid, preaching the Gospel and that Jesus was risen from the dead. What changed them? The records, including the secular ones and Josephus, state that they had been with the Risen Christ and been empowered.

The Bible contains prophecies include the world wars, the decline of the church, an army of millions from the Far East, a nuclear explosions with its mushroom clouds, the emergence of the nation of Israel after 2,430 years, the Treaty of Rome which set up the Common Market in the mid 1950s and so on.

Look at the secular records again. Saul of Tarsus was, like Josephus, a Pharisee and had official authority to arrest and imprison any Christians. He was full of hate for these gentle people and yet something happened. He changed. He was converted and became a Christian and a missionary preaching in many countries. Conversion is a miracle and Saul, who became Paul, was the result of a miracle.

Does God speak today? Yes, but not in what would be regarded as conventional ways. I am an ordinary person and God has spoken to me many times. He has also answered my prayers and worked miracles in my life and in the lives of others I know.

This is not garbage. This is fact and the Bible records how God has spoken to the prophets and a prophet is someone to whom the God of the Bible speaks. There are false prophets and psychics and spiritualists are examples of these since God only speaks to His own.

Now there are many translations of the Bible which do contain errors such as the RSV, Good News Bible and the NIV but they do not alter the basic facts including the basic facts set out in this article.

What cannot be gainsaid is that for 2000 years millions of lives have been changed and for the better because people have been converted to Christ. The Bible is still the best seller in the world.

The Bible teaches life after death. For the Christian eternal life in Heaven, God's dwelling place, but not so for the non-Christian.

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