

~ 1 John ~

Lesson 31- By this We Know the Spirit of Truth

We are continuing our study of 1 John, and today we will be wrapping up the first 6 verses in chapter 4, so let's begin with reading our text today, **1 John 4:1-6**.

We will start our lesson today picking up where we left off last time in the middle of 4:3. John just gave us another warning along with a command, "Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God..." And the test is whether they confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. Look at verse 3...

3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus **Christ has come in the flesh** is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

³ καὶ πᾶν πνεῦμα ὃ μὴ ὁμολογεῖ τὸν Ἰησοῦν **Χριστὸν ἐν σαρκὶ ἐληλυθότα**, ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ οὐκ ἔστι· καὶ τοῦτό ἐστι τὸ τοῦ ἀντιχρίστου, ὃ ἀκηκόατε ὅτι ἔρχεται, καὶ νῦν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἐστὶν ἤδη.

And we discovered that in verse 3, the majority of all modern translations remove a portion of this verse. When you look at other translation besides the KJV and the NKJV, you will notice that the phrase, "**Christ has come in the flesh**" has been taken out of the Bible. So why is this phrase missing? The very thing that John was making the point to show in this test... that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, was taken out. This is where we left off in our last lesson, but there seemed to be a lot of interest in this subject, so I want to spend a little more time talking about this. Specifically, about the inerrancy of our Bible and these missing verses because this is a big deal, and we want to know that we can trust our Bible.

The Gnostics, in an effort to sway people away from the Truth, began rewriting the Bible, subtly twisting Scripture to fit their own heretical agenda, and they began corrupting the Bible by removing portions of Scripture. And it resulted into what we know now as the Alexandrian Codices. These manuscripts are boasted to be the oldest and the best examples of the Greek NT. They certainly are the oldest, but far from the best. And it is these manuscripts that the majority of all our modern translations use except the KJV and NKJV.

The reason the KJV and the NKJV are the best English translations is because they use what is called the Textus Receptus, "the received text" for the basis of their translation. The Textus Receptus is the pure, uncorrupted Word of God of the New Testament in the original Greek language. And it was preserved through the centuries as God's hand guided faithful men to copy and keep safe the Greek NT in the Byzantine Empire away from the corruption of the Gnostics, and the corruption of Rome. This happened as a result of Constantine, being led by the Spirit, in 330AD moved the Roman capital from Rome, Italy to Constantinople because it was more fortified. And at the same time, there were copies of the pure Greek text of the New Testament, uncorrupted by the Gnostics, that were being preserved in Antioch. So, when Constantine moved the capital of Rome to Constantinople, he also had these texts moved as well and began having scribes transcribe the texts and make copies to preserve the pure Word of God. This was the hand of God preserving His Word, because if they would have been moved to Rome, these texts could have been destroyed when Germanic barbarians conquered Rome in 476 AD, and Latin translations would have taken the place of the Greek texts and the Bible could have been lost. But God's hand preserved His Word and for 1,200 years the pure Greek text of the NT was preserved in the Byzantine Empire.

Then in 1516, a man by the name of Erasmus of Rotterdam, led by the Spirit, used seven Byzantine manuscripts to compile the first Greek text to be produced on a printing press. So now, for the first time in human history, the Greek NT was available to anyone, bringing the Light of Truth back to the people. Erasmus issued 5 editions of his Greek NT and then about 30 years later in 1546, Robert Stephanus did the same thing and compiled 15 other Greek Byzantine manuscripts (not Alexandrian texts) and produced his Greek NT, and the result was in perfect harmony with Erasmus' Testament. Thus, showing the mighty hand of God to preserve His precious infallible Word for us. Stephanus issued 4 editions of his work, the best and most elaborate being the 1550 folio edition. Therefore, the Greek NT of Erasmus and Stephanus is what is known as the Textus Receptus, the "Received Text" of which the KJV and the NKJV were translated from.

I mentioned to you last time about the missing verses of the Bible, and there were several people that asked for a list of those missing verses. So, attached to this lesson, I catalogued some of the major missing verses in the Bible. This is not an exhaustive list because there are literally thousands of little changes throughout the NT where the Gnostics tried to change the Bible, but I wanted to show you some of the more prominent examples.

To compile this list, I used F.H Scrivener's Annotated Greek NT which makes a distinction and shows all the differences between the Textus Receptus and the Alexandrian texts. It is a great work of scholarship and a blessing that we have this available to us. In this spreadsheet, I have listed 100 verses that have been affected by the Gnostics trying to corrupt the Bible. And when you look at these verses, you find that these exclusions were not a mistake, as in some scribal error accidentally leaving out Scripture. These are pointed exclusions to blaspheme the Truth. Along with this spreadsheet, I also included an excerpt of the book I wrote on the History of the Bible describing the differences between the Byzantine and Alexandrian texts that we spoke about last week.

Now, getting back to our text in 1 John, let's finish looking at the latter part of verse 3. In verse 1, John tells us to test the spirits to prove those who are truly of God.

3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

³ καὶ πᾶν πνεῦμα ὃ μὴ ὁμολογεῖ τὸν Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν ἐν σαρκὶ ἐληλυθότα, ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ οὐκ ἔστι· καὶ τοῦτό ἐστι τὸ τοῦ ἀντιχρίστου, ὃ ἀκηκόατε ὅτι ἔρχεται, καὶ νῦν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἐστὶν ἤδη.

The test is the confession. Do they confess Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God as coming in the flesh? And any spirit that does not confess this **is not of God and is of the antichrist... which you have heard is coming and is now already in the world**. One who is antichrist, according to John, is one who denies Jesus as the Christ, **1 John 2:22-23**. John says the same thing again in **2 John 7**. John says there an Antichrist who is coming, but even now there are many antichrists that are already in the world, **1 John 2:18**. We studied this extensively in Lesson 19, and the point John is making is not focusing so much on the Antichrist who is to come who will reign with terrible power against Christ and blaspheme His name, but that even now there is the spirit that is against Christ already here. And this spirit of antichrist has one objective... to destroy and blaspheme the Truth, **2 Thess 2:9-12**.

John continues in verse 4, with an assurance of victory to those who are of God.

4:4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

^{4:4} ὑμεῖς ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐστε, τέκνία, καὶ νενικήκατε αὐτούς· ὅτι μείζων ἐστὶν ὁ ἐν ὑμῖν ἢ ὁ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ.

“You are of God, little children ...” John is speaking to his little children, teknia, **τεκνία**, to those who believe, and he gives us the assurance, the confidence that we are of God, **ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ**. This is the theme of these 6 verses, to know those who are of God.

And since we are of God we... **have overcome them because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world...**”-

Who is them? They are those who are trying to deceive us; those who are antichrist. But we have the victory because greater is He that is in you. Who is in you? The One who conquered death and destroyed the works of the devil, **1 John 3:8**. Jesus won the victory over death through the cross. And then after He was resurrected, Jesus gave us His Spirit who lives and abides in us. And His Spirit is leading and guiding us into all Truth. The Truth that we have overcome eternal death and have the gift of Eternal Life, **1 Cor 2:12**. The Father has given us the Holy Spirit so that we can know and understand our Salvation in Jesus Christ, **Romans 8:14-16; John 15:26; 16:12-13; 14:16-17; 1 John 2:20-21, 27; 3:24**. The overcomer is the one who has faith in Jesus, **1 John 5:4-5**.

John continues into verses 5 and 6. Notice how John contrasts between “they” and “we”... Those of the world and those who are “of God”.

⁵ They are of the world. Therefore, they speak as of the world, and the world hears them.

⁶ We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁵ αὐτοὶ ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου εἰσὶ· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου λαλοῦσι καὶ ὁ κόσμος αὐτῶν ἀκούει.

⁶ ἡμεῖς ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐσμεν· ὁ γινώσκων τὸν Θεὸν, ἀκούει ἡμῶν· ὃς οὐκ ἔστιν ἐκ τοῦ Θεοῦ, οὐκ ἀκούει ἡμῶν. ἐκ τούτου γινώσκομεν τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς ἀληθείας καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς πλάνης.

True believers have a desire to hear the Truth and to speak the Truth. Those who are antichrist reject the Truth, they listen to lies, and they speak deception. Unbelievers, and even so-called Christians, want to hear things that tickle their ears, things that tell them it's okay to keep living in sin. And in doing so, they turn their ears away from the Truth, **2 Timothy 4:3-4**. The antichrists and pseudo-prophet's confession is of the world because that is all that is in them, selfishness, lies, hypocrisy... The believer hears the Good Shepherd. He chooses to hear the Word of God. He chooses to hear the Spirit of Truth. And we as Christians choose to put The Truth into our soul, therefore the Truth is what comes out of our mouth. Remember what Jesus said in John 10:27- "*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*" We choose to listen to and be led by the Good Shepherd

John concludes verse 6 by saying...

"...**By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.**"- By that which we hear and confess... by this we know. John gives us another "by this we know" statement, but this time it is slightly different. Instead of saying, "ἐν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν"..., here he says, "ἐκ τούτου γινώσκομεν", out from this we know... out from which we hear and confess with our mouth.... Out from this we know the Spirit of Truth and the spirit of error.

God's Word is perfect and pure, and there are no errors in it. It is the infallible, inerrant Word of God, and if you allow His Word to abide in you, and you continue to abide in Him, this allows the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of Truth to sanctify you, to separate you from sin and guide you into all Truth, keeping you from error.

Listen to David's exultation of God's Word...

⁶ The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver tried (proven genuine, dokimazo, δοκιμάζω), in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times. ⁷ You shall keep them, O LORD, You shall preserve them from this generation FOREVER.

Psalms 12:6-7

Significant Omissions of the Alexandrian Texts

Matthew 1:25; 5:44; 6:4, 6, 13, 18; 9:13; 15:8; 16:3, 4; 17:11, 21; 18:11, 35; 19:20; 20:7, 16, 22, 23; 21:12; 22:13, 30, 37; 23:14; 25:13; 26:28, 60; 27:24, 35; 28:9

Mark 2:17; 3:15; 5:13; 6:11, 34; 7:8; 7:16; 9:44, 46; 11:26; 12:30-31; 13:14, 33; 14:22, 24; 15:28; 16:9-20

Luke 4:4, 18; 7:28; 9:55-56; 11:2-4, 29, 44; 17:36; 22:19-20, 43-44; 23:17, 34

John 3:13, 15; 5:4; 7:53; 8:1-11; 16:16

Acts 2:30; 8:37; 9:5-6; 10:6; 15:34; 18:21; 24:6-8; 28:29;

Romans 8:1; 11:6; 13:9; 14:21; 15:29; 16:24

1 Corinthians 11:28;

Ephesians 3:9, 14; 5:30;

Philippians 3:16; Col 1:2, 14; 2:2, 11; 3:6

1 Timothy 6:5;

2 Timothy 4:22;

Hebrews 2:7

1 Peter 1:22; 4:14;

1 John 1:7; 4:3; 5:7-8, 13;

Revelation 1:19; 5:22; 20:9

Also, 62 places where the name of Jesus is removed and 38 places where Christ is removed

A Selection of Corrupted Verses by the Gnostics

Category	NKJV	ESV	NIV
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 1:25- ²⁵ and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.	Matthew 1:25- ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son (omits the article). And he called his name Jesus.	Matthew 1:25- ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son (omits the article). And he gave him the name Jesus.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 6:13- ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.	Matthew 6:13- ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.	Matthew 6:13- ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 17:11- ¹¹ Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.	Matthew 17:11- ¹¹ He answered, "Elijah does come, and he will restore all things.	Matthew 17:11- ¹¹ Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 18:11- ¹¹ For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.	Matthew 18:11-	Matthew 18:11-
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 20:22- ²² But Jesus answered and said, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? " They said to Him, "We are able."	Matthew 20:22- ²² Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able."	Matthew 20:22- ²² "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" "We can," they answered.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 20:23- ²³ So He said to them, "You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but <i>it is for those</i> for whom it is prepared by My Father."	Matthew 20:23- ²³ He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."	Matthew 20:23- ²³ Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father."
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 21:12- ¹² Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.	Matthew 21:12- ¹² And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons.	Matthew 21:12- ¹² Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 22:30- ³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.	Matthew 22:30- ³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.	Matthew 22:30- ³⁰ At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 22:37- ³⁷ Jesus said to him, " <i>'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'</i>	Matthew 22:37- ³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.	Matthew 22:37- ³⁷ Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 25:13- ¹³ "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.	Matthew 25:13- ¹³ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.	Matthew 25:13- ¹³ "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 26:28- ²⁸ For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.	Matthew 26:28- ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.	Matthew 26:28- ²⁸ This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Matthew 27:24- ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather <i>that</i> a tumult was rising, he took water and washed <i>his</i> hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to <i>it</i> ."	Matthew 27:24- ²⁴ So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."	Matthew 27:24- ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!"
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Mark 3:15- ¹⁵ and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:	Mark 3:15- ¹⁵ and have authority to cast out demons.	Mark 3:15- ¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Mark 6:34- ³⁴ And Jesus , when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.	Mark 6:34- ³⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.	Mark 6:34- ³⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

Category	NKJV	ESV	NIV
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Mark 14:22- ²² And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke <i>it</i> , and gave <i>it</i> to them and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.”	Mark 14:22- ²² And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.”	Mark 14:22- ²² While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take it; this is my body.”
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Mark 14:24- ²⁴ And He said to them, “This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many.	Mark 14:24- ²⁴ And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.	Mark 14:24- ²⁴ “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many,” he said to them.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Mark 16:9–20- The Great Commision Vv. 9–20 are bracketed in NU as not in the original text. They are lacking in Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus	Included but with disclaimer... [SOME OF THE EARLIEST MANUSCRIPTS DO NOT INCLUDE 16:9–20.]	Included but with disclaimer... [The earliest manuscripts and some other ancient witnesses do not have verses 9–20.]
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Luke 4:4- ⁴ But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘ <i>Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.</i> ’ ”	Luke 4:4- ⁴ And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’ ”	Luke 4:4- ⁴ Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’”
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Luke 4:18- ¹⁸ “ <i>The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;</i>	Luke 4:18- ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,	Luke 4:18- ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Luke 9:55–56- ⁵⁵ But He turned and rebuked them, and said, “ You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. ⁵⁶ For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them . ” And they went to another village.	Luke 9:55–56- ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ And they went on to another village.	Luke 9:55–56- ⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then he and his disciples went to another village.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Luke 11:2–4- ² So He said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven , Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. ³ Give us day by day our daily bread. ⁴ And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. ”	Luke 11:2–4- ² And he said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread, ⁴ and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.”	Luke 11:2–4- ² He said to them, “When you pray, say: “ ‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.’ ”
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Luke 22:19–20- ¹⁹ And He took bread, gave thanks and broke <i>it</i> , and gave <i>it</i> to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me. ” ²⁰ Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.	Included but with disclaimer... Some manuscripts omit, in whole or in part, verses 19b–20 (which is given ... in my blood)	Included but with disclaimer... Some manuscripts do not have “given for you ... poured out for you.”
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Luke 22:43–44- ⁴³ Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. ⁴⁴ And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.	Included but with disclaimer... Some manuscripts omit verses 43 and 44	Included but with disclaimer... Many early manuscripts do not have verses 43 and 44.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Luke 23:17- ¹⁷ (for it was necessary for him to release one to them at the feast).	Luke 23:17-	Luke 23:17- ¹⁷
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	John 3:13- ¹³ No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, <i>that is</i> , the Son of Man who is in heaven.	John 3:13- ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.	John 3:13- ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	John 3:15- ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.	John 3:15- ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.	John 3:15- ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	John 8:1–11- The Adulterous Woman “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more. ”	Included but with disclaimer... [THE EARLIEST MANUSCRIPTS DO NOT INCLUDE 7:53–8:11.]	Included but with disclaimer... [The earliest manuscripts and many other ancient witnesses do not have John 7:53–8:11.

Category	NKJV	ESV	NIV
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	John 16:16- ¹⁶ “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.”	John 16:16- ¹⁶ “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.”	John 16:16- ¹⁶ Jesus went on to say, “In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me.”
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Acts 2:30- ³⁰ Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,	Acts 2:30- ³⁰ Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne,	Acts 2:30- ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Acts 8:37- ³⁷ Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”	Acts 8:37-	Acts 8:37- ³⁷
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Romans 15:29- ²⁹ But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.	Romans 15:29- ²⁹ I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.	Romans 15:29- ²⁹ I know that when I come to you, I will come in the full measure of the blessing of Christ.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Romans 16:24- ²⁴ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.	Romans 16:24-	Romans 16:24- ²⁴
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Ephesians 3:9- ⁹ and to make all see what <i>is</i> the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ ;	Ephesians 3:9- ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things,	Ephesians 3:9- ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Ephesians 3:14- ¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ ,	Ephesians 3:14- ¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,	Ephesians 3:14- ¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father,
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Ephesians 5:30- ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.	Ephesians 5:30- ³⁰ because we are members of his body.	Ephesians 5:30- ³⁰ for we are members of his body.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Colossians 1:2- ² To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ <i>who are</i> in Colosse: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.	Colossians 1:2- ² To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.	Colossians 1:2- ² To God’s holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ: Grace and peace to you from God our Father.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	Colossians 1:14- ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood , the forgiveness of sins.	Colossians 1:14- ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.	Colossians 1:14- ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	1 Peter 4:14- ¹⁴ If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed <i>are you</i> , for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.	1 Peter 4:14- ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.	1 Peter 4:14- ¹⁴ If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	1 John 1:7- ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.	1 John 1:7- ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.	1 John 1:7- ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.
Blasphe­me Jesus and the cross	1 John 4:3- ³ and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the <i>spirit</i> of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.	1 John 4:3- ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.	1 John 4:3- ³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

Category	NKJV	ESV	NIV
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	1 John 5:7–8- ⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸ And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.	1 John 5:7–8- ⁷ For there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.	1 John 5:7–8- ⁷ For there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	1 John 5:13- ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may <i>continue to</i> believe in the name of the Son of God.	1 John 5:13- ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.	1 John 5:13- ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Revelation 1:11- ¹¹ saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,” ...	Revelation 1:11- ¹¹ saying, ...	Revelation 1:11- ¹¹ which said: ...
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Revelation 5:14- ¹⁴ Then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.	Revelation 5:14- ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.	Revelation 5:14- ¹⁴ The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.
Blasphe me Jesus and the cross	Revelation 20:9- ⁹ They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.	Revelation 20:9- ⁹ And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them,	Revelation 20:9- ⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them.
Blasphe me Prophecy	Matthew 16:4- ⁴ A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.” And He left them and departed.	Matthew 16:4- ⁴ An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.” So he left them and departed.	Matthew 16:4- ⁴ A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah.” Jesus then left them and went away.
Blasphe me Prophecy	Matthew 27:35- ³⁵ Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: “They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.”	Matthew 27:35- ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.	Matthew 27:35- ³⁵ When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots.
Blasphe me Prophecy	Mark 13:14- ¹⁴ “So when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not” (let the reader understand), “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.	Mark 13:14- ¹⁴ “But when you see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not to be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.	Mark 13:14- ¹⁴ “When you see ‘the abomination that causes desolation’ standing where it does not belong—let the reader understand—then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.
Blasphe me Prophecy	Mark 15:28- ²⁸ So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And He was numbered with the transgressors.”	Mark 15:28-	Mark 15:28- ²⁸
Blasphe me Prophecy	Luke 7:28- ²⁸ For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”	Luke 7:28- ²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”	Luke 7:28- ²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”
Blasphe me Prophecy	Luke 11:29- ²⁹ And while the crowds were thickly gathered together, He began to say, “This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.	Luke 11:29- ²⁹ When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, “This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.	Luke 11:29- ²⁹ As the crowds increased, Jesus said, “This is a wicked generation. It asks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah.
Blasphe me Prophecy	Luke 17:36- ³⁶ Two men will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left.”	Luke 17:36-	Luke 17:36- ³⁶
Blasphe me Prophecy	Luke 23:34- ³⁴ Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” And they divided His garments and cast lots.	Included but with disclaimer... Some manuscripts omit the sentence "And Jesus ... what they do"	Included but with disclaimer... Some early manuscripts do not have this sentence.

Category	NKJV	ESV	NIV
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Matthew 9:13- ¹³ But go and learn what <i>this</i> means: ‘ <i>I desire mercy and not sacrifice.</i> ’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance. ”	Matthew 9:13- ¹³ Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”	Matthew 9:13- ¹³ But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Matthew 18:35- ³⁵ “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses. ”	Matthew 18:35- ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”	Matthew 18:35- ³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Matthew 20:7- ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive. ’	Matthew 20:7- ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’	Matthew 20:7- ⁷ “ ‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Matthew 20:16- ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.	Matthew 20:16- ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first last.”	Matthew 20:16- ¹⁶ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Mark 2:17- ¹⁷ When Jesus heard <i>it</i> , He said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call <i>the</i> righteous, but sinners, to repentance. ”	Mark 2:17- ¹⁷ And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”	Mark 2:17- ¹⁷ On hearing this, Jesus said to them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Mark 6:11- ¹¹ And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them. Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city! ”	Mark 6:11- ¹¹ And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.”	Mark 6:11- ¹¹ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.”
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Mark 7:16- ¹⁶ If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear! ”	Mark 7:16-	Mark 7:16- ¹⁶
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Mark 11:26- ²⁶ But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses. ”	Mark 11:26-	Mark 11:26- ²⁶
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Mark 12:30–31- ³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. ³¹ And the second, like it , is this: ‘ <i>You shall love your neighbor as yourself.</i> ’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”	Mark 12:30–31- ³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”	Mark 12:30–31- ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Romans 13:9- ⁹ For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there <i>is</i> any other commandment, are <i>all</i> summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”	Romans 13:9- ⁹ For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”	Romans 13:9- ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Romans 14:21- ²¹ It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor <i>do anything</i> by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak.	Romans 14:21- ²¹ It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble.	Romans 14:21- ²¹ It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall.
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Colossians 2:11- ¹¹ In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,	Colossians 2:11- ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,	Colossians 2:11- ¹¹ In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ,
No accountability for sin and denying Judgement	Colossians 3:6- ⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,	Colossians 3:6- ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming.	Colossians 3:6- ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

Category	NKJV	ESV	NIV
Prayer	Matthew 17:21- ²¹ However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.	Matthew 17:21-	Matthew 17:21-
Prayer	Mark 13:33- ³³ Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.	Mark 13:33- ³³ Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come.	Mark 13:33- ³³ Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.
Walk by the Holy Spirit	Romans 8:1- ¹ <i>There is</i> therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.	Romans 8:1- ¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.	Romans 8:1- ¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,
Walk by the Holy Spirit	Philippians 3:16- ¹⁶ Nevertheless, to <i>the degree</i> that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.	Philippians 3:16- ¹⁶ Only let us hold true to what we have attained.	Philippians 3:16- ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.
Walk by the Holy Spirit	1 Peter 1:22- ²² Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,	1 Peter 1:22- ²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,	1 Peter 1:22- ²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.

Alexandrian Codices

These “early” writings have much persuaded our current translations of the English Bible. The discovery of the Alexandrian Codices, namely the Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus, have deceived many scholars into thinking these were the most accurate copies of the original authorship of the New Testament, merely because they were the oldest manuscripts found to date, being dated sometime in the 4th century. But the key element being misunderstood, just because it is the oldest doesn’t mean it is the best. In fact, these early manuscripts are blasphemous and incomplete. Written by the Gnostics in Alexandria, they were used to persuade and deceive the world. They used the written Word of God for their own selfish motives; removing many verses of the New Testament to stimulate their own doctrine. For instance, the last 12 verses of Mark 16:9-20 and Acts 8:37 are two examples of text purposely removed. The elimination of these specific passages, among many others, shows their deceptive agenda to denounce Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God. The early date of these manuscripts entrap many scholars into thinking they must be more accurate. However, even though there are no earlier dated manuscripts that contain these missing verses, we have proof of these Scriptures from the writings of the Church Fathers. These writings were recorded before the Alexandrian Codices, and we can see evidence of these verses being quoted. For instance, we find, contained in the writings of Irenaeus in 180AD, the text of Mark 16:9-20. Solid proof that these verses were truly a part of the original Gospel of Mark.

Therefore, these present day scholars who eliminate verses of the Bible, merely because they do not exist in some of the earliest Codices are falling into the Gnostic trap. The removal of these Bible verses from our modern translations started with two Greek scholars who were not believers, and influenced greatly by the Gnostic heresies. Their names were Brooke Foss Westcott and Fenton John Anthony Hort. They denied the deity of Jesus Christ and opposed the Bible literally concerning atonement and salvation through Jesus. They began work in 1853 to reissue a revised edition of the Greek New Testament. Up until this time, the received text of Erasmus, the Textus Receptus, was the standard for our Bible. In 1881, Westcott and Hort published a revised New Testament eliminating these precious verses of our Bible, thus forcing the Gnostic heresies into the Christian Church again. These missing texts of Scripture, affecting hundreds of verses, show the underlying topics of Christianity, namely, the deity of Christ, His atonement, and His resurrection. The Gnostics did not believe in these fundamentals; therefore, this explains why these verses are missing. Also, knowing that the Gnostics headquarters were in Alexandria, the same location as these early Codices, proves that these are heretical and corrupted forms of Scripture and should not be considered.

Byzantine Manuscripts

The origins of the great civilization known as the Byzantine Empire can be traced to 330AD, when the Roman emperor Constantine dedicated a “new Rome” on the site of the ancient Greek colony of Byzantium. Though the western half of the Roman Empire crumbled and fell in 476, the eastern half survived for another 1,000 years, spawning a rich tradition of art, literature, and learning. The term “Byzantine” derives from Byzantium, an ancient Greek colony founded by a man named Byzas. Located on the European side of the Bosphorus, the strait linking the Black Sea to the Mediterranean, the site of Byzantium was ideally located to serve as a transit and trade point between Europe and Asia Minor. In 330AD, Roman Emperor Constantine chose Byzantium as the site of a new Roman capital, Constantinople. Five years earlier, at the Council of Nicaea, Constantine had established Christianity as Rome’s official religion.¹

¹ www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/byzantine-empire

At the end of the 3rd century, Lucian of Antioch compiled a Greek text of the New Testament, that achieved considerable popularity and became the dominant text throughout Christendom. It was produced prior to the Diocletian persecution, 303AD, during which many copies of the New Testament were confiscated and destroyed. After Constantine came to power, the Lucian text was transcribed by bishops going out from the Antiochan school throughout the eastern world, uncorrupted by the Gnostics, and it soon became the standard text of the Eastern church, forming the basis of the Byzantine text.

The Greek language was still very much alive in the eastern realm of Byzantine, as opposed to the Latin language of Rome. In Byzantine, Greek manuscripts of the Holy Scriptures were continually being copied and preserved and from the 6th to the 14th century, the great majority of New Testament manuscripts were produced in the Greek language. As opposed to the western world, namely Rome, who had exchanged the universal language from the original Greek tongue to Latin.



Byzantine manuscript Gospel of Mark 10th century

Today, we have about 5,300 Byzantine texts and 24,000 fragments extant², compared to less than 10 corrupted Alexandrian texts. Textually, according to Greek scholar A.T. Robertson, these 5,300 Byzantine texts and fragments that are extant today, when compared with each other, agree up to 99.8 percent of each other. Contrasting this to the corrupted Alexandrian texts that have many errors and discrepancies even when compared to each other. God's mighty hand moved on faithful men over the centuries to copy and preserve the inspired Word of the Greek NT uncorrupted by the deceitful errors of the enemy.

Erasmus and the Textus Receptus

Then in 1516, a man by the name of Erasmus of Rotterdam, 1469-1536, led by the Spirit, used seven Byzantine manuscripts dating from the 12th to the 15th century, compiled the first Greek text to be produced on a printing press, subsequently known as the Textus Receptus, the "Received Text" of which the KJV and the NKJV were translated from. These two translations are the only modern translations that have not been corrupted by the Gnostic heresies because they are the only translations that use the Textus Receptus Greek text of Erasmus and later of Robert Stephanus, and they are preserved from the errors of the Alexandrian Codices. It was the printed Greek New Testament produced by Erasmus in 1516 that launched the Reformation and brought the Light of the Gospel to the world again after being locked away for over 1,000 years by the Roman Catholic



Erasmus of Rotterdam

² Cf. Gordon D. Fee, "Textual Criticism of the New Testament," in Epp and Fee, Theory and Method; and Appendix: The Case for Byzantine Priority Maurice A. Robinson



Erasmus Greek New Testament 1522

Church. The original Greek New Testament, the pure Word of God, was now compiled and made available for mankind to study and learn. The learned scholar, Erasmus of Rotterdam, although working under and deeply associated with the Roman Catholic Church, declared his disagreement with those who wanted to keep the Scriptures from the common people.

He said, "If only the farmer would sing something from them at his plow, the weaver move his shuttle to their tune, the traveler lighten the boredom of his journey with Scriptural stories!" Little did he know, the work he was about to produce would change the world forever. This Greek New Testament, in printed form, would become the standard of the New Testament, launching the translations of Martin Luther and William Tyndale into the world. Thus, fulfilling his dream, that all men would read the Bible for themselves in their common language. His new "study Bible" had two main parts, the Greek text and a revised Latin edition, more elegant and accurate than the traditional translation of Jerome's Latin Vulgate. Erasmus prefaced this monumental work of scholarship with an exhortation to Bible study. The New Testament, he proclaimed,

contains the "philosophy of Christ," a simple and accessible teaching with the power to transform lives.

Therefore there is no justifiable basis to doubt the integrity and accuracy of the New Testament, namely the Textus Receptus of Erasmus and Stephanus, and we can say with confidence that God's Word has been preserved for us today through the faithful translations of the KJV and the NKJV and the scholarly work of F.H. Scrivener's Annotated Greek NT to maintain and bring to us the uncorrupted pure Word of God given to us by the power of the Holy Spirit.