

- Introduction
- Prayer

Jn 4:43-54

- Jesus goes from Samaria into Galilee, He goes to past Nazareth onto Cana because, ...
“a prophet has no honor in his own country”
- Man comes humbling himself; he is an official and walked from Capernaum.(which is no the sea of Galilee)
- Jesus questions him and the man shows Jesus faith...it isn't about signs and miracles it is about his sons life, “...come before my child dies.”
- Ok then Jesus says, he is healed. The child is healed because of the fathers faith.
- Now I got on Google maps and measured Cana to Capernaum, 10 miles as a bird flies. So max 20 miles on a curvy road, couple of hills...
John tells us that the incident happened at 1pm.
If my kid was dying I am kicken it home. 1pm a good stroll is 12-15 min mile 20 miles.
 $15 \times 20 = 300$ $300/60=5$ hours. That is 6pm. Ain't no biggy.
- “Yesterday” The man spent the night before he headed home. He knew.

What a witness. 1Pm, oh ya, that's when Jesus told me my son would be healed so I stopped by the inn oh he makes gooood mutton there.

And his whole house believed.

- Compare Nic, Samaritan woman, and Official.
 - Nic new the Torah but missed the spirit of God in the Torah. He should have known better. He needed a serious talking to. He needed it to sink into his head that is wasn't about the action it was about getting a new spirit.
Note: Last week I said Nic was prob not saved...I gotta take that back
See Jn 7:50, 19:39 we find Nicodemus at Jesus grave.
 - Woman needed some leading to show her there were answers other than the hole she had dug. She needed to know that there was life in God not rules.
 - Official showed faith and was rewarded immediately.
- Now lets take a quick look at the beginning of chapter 5.
Jn 5:1-6

Specifically, I am curios about verse 4, what does vs 4 say.

- But where is 5:4? (KJV, NASB...) So why is this verse in some Bibles and not in others?
- Let me start with this, is this a holy object....No it is not. That is the object itself is just a pile of papers bonded at the back. On the papers is just ink.

We need to focus on the spiritual value of God's word not just the text.
What do I mean by that? Jesus rebukes some Jewish authorities.

Jn 5:39-40 You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

In other words these Jewish leaders hold the Scriptures holier than Jesus. They study the scripture so intently that they make up the Mishnah and Talmud, rules to the rules to the rules in scripture. But they did not know them well enough to recognize Gods son. Which is the main thread.

- Koran example
I befriended a professor's son just after I was in college. He had an internship where I worked and we were playing basketball together a lot. This was a time that I was really in a searching mode. I had the quest to seek truth placed in my life and so I was asking a lot of questions. I was reading existentialism, Kant, Hegel looking into Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism asking about Hinduism and ...Islam.

This friend happened to be Muslim and so in my curiosity I asked him for a Koran. He said he would be glad to ask his father if he could. He returned with a pamphlet about the pillars of Islam but he could not give me a Koran. See it was a holy book and I did not know the rights and rituals of reading it. I had to wash my hands before touching it; it could not go into the bathroom, etc...

- This is called Biblio Idolatry
Making the book an idol. Holding the text higher than the message behind it.

The Bible is a God's communication to us about His personality, His guidance for us to live better lives, and His wish for a relationship with us...

It is not a holy artifact. It is an invaluable tool. Use it don't worship it.
As James says in his letter he distributed to all the 12 tribes,

Jas 1:22 But be sure you live out the message and do not merely listen to it and so deceive yourselves.

James by the way was actually named Jacobus.

I have been told that KJ had Jacobus translated as James, though I find James in the Bishops Bible of 1568...so I am not sure when/why it happened.

- That takes us back to the same question Jn 5:4 lets also look at Jn Chapter 8. (7:53-8:11)
I bring these scriptures up because of truth. It is my search for truth that brought me to a relationship with Jesus and my believe in the **definitive** truth of the Bible; but I think it is **dangerous** to not understand that the Bible has been put in the hands of man and is not perfect...

As a matter of fact it is in the Liferoads purpose statement.

The purpose of all creation is to worship God, the creator of the universe. Jesus has given us, as His children, a special purpose; which is to spread the Gospel and make disciples. Liferoads believes that this is done by teaching and modeling the **definitive** truth of the Bible wherever we are.

Well Kylan doesn't that contradict itself?

- The Bible being definitive and the Bible being imperfect?

First let's look at the word "definitive": clearly defined, authoritative, final or conclusive.

God's word is clear, authoritative and final.

It is the compass which guides us, the yard stick which all is compared.

| [Mat 24:35](#) Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. |

But imperfect?

| [2Pe 1:20-21](#) Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. |

| [2Ti 3:16-17](#) All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. |

You have probably even heard the Bible is inerrant; meaning without error or contradiction. We have quite a problem on our hands.

The definitive, inerrant word of God, but here we are looking at Jn 5:4 sneaking into some Bibles...or slipping out of some Bibles. We have Jn 8 that isn't found in the oldest manuscripts we have.

Here is the resolution to this dilemma.

God's inspiration is perfect, but Mans translation is not.

Some even say that the original autographs are perfect, but our copies are not.

What do I mean by the original autographs?

- This will bring us into a little history.

The autographs are the original papyrus that Matt, Mrk, Lk, Jn, Paul, Peter, Jacobus wrote on.

| Augustine in the fifth century declared, "None of these (scriptural) authors has erred in any respect of writing." |

The ink of these pages were God breathed, they were inspired by God. Now there are two ways of looking at that statement.

- A) Through stream of consciences God poured his words out into the author's brain as they wrote.
- B) The authors wrote much like you and I being inspired.
 - 1) A thought, idea, feeling, concept or an understanding of something spiritual and write it down. Some comes freely some takes thought and deliberation, returning to prayer for guidance.
 - 2) Searching for the perfect word | Such as "Logos" Jn 1:1

Regardless of the way you see the autograph being formed, that is wonderful. We cant know so no one is right or wrong in these matters, there may even be more ways than what I described. The most important thing to note is that however you view these things does not have an effect on your relationship with Jesus.

And realize this, before I continue on with the travels of scripture through time, we have the most accurate and complete translations since somewhere in the 3rd century maybe, even earlier. And we have a better understanding of the scripture as a whole since then also. Let me talk about that a little later.

- People made copies to distribute to groups of people meeting and forming church.
- Pretty soon certain centers rise up that have the resources and interest to make copies.
 - We can recognize patterns that come out of these regions and we can group ancient manuscripts that have been found into “Families” of manuscripts.
- Alexandrian Library (Alexandria)
 - Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BC
 - Great library of Alexandria
 - Septuagint
 - Muslim Conquest in 642 AD
- Byzantium (Constantinople) Center of the Byzantine Empire (Basically the Eastern Roman Empire).
 - Istanbul straits between Turkey mainland and what used to be Greece
- Other families were from Rome (Caesarean), Neighboring Philistine land, Lands West of Rome, etc...
- We had several different languages out of these families the major ones are.
 - Syriac (Aramaic)
 - Coptic (Greek)
 - Latin
- Latin Vulgate 382
 - Common vernacular for the Roman empire.
 - Many were floating around but Jerome translated and compiled the entire canon.

But we find that most the manuscripts can be directed to two different styles that of Alexandrian and Byzantine.

- Gnostic Gospels
- Council of Hippo and Council of Carthage 400
 - Canonize the Bible
 - Traced to the apostles
 - Orthodoxy content
 - Agreed by the major church collections.
- Dark ages, Jihad and Crusades
- Byzantine text was much more available than the Alexandrian cut off by Islam nations. That is the family used in translation up until 1900's
- Printing press 1455 – Latin Vulgate
- Reformation 1517
- Erasmus – Textus Receptus (1516) [Received text]
 - A rushed project to beat the Polygot (Greek/Hebrew)
 - Martin Luther used T.R. to make the German translation
 - Tyndale used T.R. to make first English translation (1526)
 - Then Geneva, Bishops Bible, The Great Bible, KJV, ...
- Council of Trent 1546
 - Apocrypha (meaning hidden)
- We don't vary from the Tyndale tradition until the 1900's
 - American Standard Version (Alexandrian seeps in)
 - Revised Standard Version (mostly A) 1946-52
 - New American Standard Version (1963-71)

Now a big part of the reason behind that is because it wasn't until the 19th century that we had access to all the archeology and developed education on the culture and language.

- Now with all that history under our belts and we understand that a God allowed this differences in the Bible such that we don't turn it into a holy relic.

Let me re-address Jn5:4 and Chapter 8.

There are two major studies that go on new testament textual criticism. Internal evidence is comparing the text to style or writing of the author. The intent of the scripture being added or removed.

External evidence is comparing the other manuscripts and trying to identify the family that the discrepancy propagated from.

Jn 5:4

- Example of Internal evidence on this line:
It is very unlikely that someone committed this much text by accident.
There is little reason to purposefully commit it.
However it adds cultural referenced to why the lame are hanging around the pool
- External evidence not supported P66, P75, isn't even in the Vulgate.
Heavily propagated by the Textus Receptus

Scribal error. Margin notes to express the cultural tradition.

Jn 8: Pericope of the Adulteress

Pericope: A short passage, section or paragraph of writing.

Both Alexandrian tradition

- Internal evidence
Writing style more like Luke than John
Works with the Samaritan woman at the well
- External evidence
Non support P66, P75 (175-200)
Codex E (Sinaiticus) (450) Included it after Jn 21 with an asterisk

Also found in the end of Luke

Very possible an amendment to Luke after his Gospel was distributed.

What was the point of all that?

I think it is very important to be aware that there are discrepancies between translations and manuscripts.

I think it is even more important to comprehend that none of these discrepancies have any effect on the message God handed down to us. As a matter of fact remove all the discrepancies to be safe and you still have a coherent message of Gods plan to redeem us, sinful fallen people.

God allowed that to happen so that we don't hold it as a holy relic and so we distribute it and read it where ever we are at.

And honestly we have a better comprehension of the scripture then ever in history. Never have anyone had access to so many versions, literal translations, commentaries from linguistic scholars (people that have spent their life learning about their subjects)

For example, there is a study called Hermeneutics:
The science and art of Biblical interpretation.

Those who study Hermeneutic consider the NT better than 99% accurate to the original autographs. Interesting to compare to some other ancient text.

Author	When Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span	Manuscripts
Caesar	100 - 44 B.C.	900 A.D.	1,000 yrs.	10
Plato	427 - 347 B.C.	900 A.D.	1,200 yrs.	7
Aristotle	384 - 322 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1,400 yrs.	49
Sophocles	496 - 406 B.C.	1000 A.D.	1,400 yrs.	193
Koran	610 AD	750 AD	150 yrs	2-10
Buddhas writings	400-450 BC oral ~0BC wrtten			Not canonized
Bhagavad-gita	500-200 BC	500 AD	1,000 yrs	???
New Testament	48 - 49 A.D.	130 A.D.	80 yrs.	14,000

We are blessed people to have such an amazing text.

The more I study the history the more I see the hand of God in its compilation. It almost is like the story of the Hebrew people and the Old Testament.

And the more we understand of the Old Testament the more we see that the N.T. is just an extension of it. The more we see that the O.T. is all pointing to Jesus.

- Lets Pray