



The King's Forge

**Christ
&
The Scriptures**

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Christ & The Scriptures

As Christians, we regard the Bible as the handbook of our belief and faith. Christians have, since the inception of the faith regarded the scriptures, both Old Testament and New Testament as the word of God himself penned by men who were inspired to write what the Holy Spirit dictated to them by divine inspiration. Today believers look to the Bible for; guidance, inspiration, faith, comfort in times of distress, strength and to learn about God and God's plan for mankind as a whole and individually.

Over the course of thousands of years, the Bible texts have come under the scrutiny of some of the harshest of skepticism and has withstood the test of time being rejected by some but never haven been refuted by even the most educated of its opposition. Its critics have challenged the Bibles authority and even its authenticity with claims such as; "since the Bible is composed of the writings of men it is subject to flaw".

They similarly argue, "the Bible is subject to dated thinking relegated to a time in which the information we have today was unavailable" and "the Bible promotes the prejudices of ancient cultures". Today there is no shortage of people who attack not only the historicity of the scripture but its authority, its authenticity, its origin, and its authorship as being divinely inspired. (Bible adherents believe that while it was *penned* by different men, its authorship is divine. Its source being God)

Have you ever wondered what Jesus himself thought or taught about the scripture? How did he regard the written scripture? How did he use it? To teach? To inspire? To defend? To admonish? To convict? Surely as a Christian one would trust Jesus to be the authority on the matter. In fact, as a Christian myself, I would go as far as saying Jesus is THE AUTHORITY on any and every matter. We are followers of Christ. We sight Jesus as our exemplar in all matter of speech, conduct and deed. So let us examine how Jesus himself regarded and utilized the Scriptures.

Jesus taught the scriptures are divinely authoritative.

When tempted by Satan, Jesus corrected him by quoting from the Old Testament.

He said, "It is written, "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."".

Jesus answered him, 'It is also written: "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."".

Then Jesus said to him, 'Away from me, Satan! For it is written: "Worship the Lord your God and serve him only"" (Matt. 4:4, 7, 10).

Jesus so confidently quoted from the scriptures because he considered them authoritative. Jesus knew the words had been written by the hands of different men over a vast period of time and in fact, had been rendered from Hebrew into Greek hundreds of years before his own birth! Yet, He didn't consider them to have contained human fallibility. He regarded them as divine truth and capable of defense against a supernatural entity Satan himself!

He must have considered the Old Testament to be a source of truth in order to dismiss his most powerful enemy with it. In fact, on ninety-two occasions Jesus and his apostles supported their position by saying "it is written" (or the equivalent) and then quoting the Scriptures. Why?

Because Jesus taught that the scriptures were the written Word of God, and thus the ultimate authority for life.

Jesus regarded the scriptures as imperishable.

In the Sermon on the Mount, a passage loved by conservatives and liberals alike, Jesus claimed that not even the smallest little mark in the Scriptures—the equivalent of a dot on an “i” or a cross on a “t”—will ever perish: “Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets,” he declared. “I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled” ([Matt. 5:17](#), NKJV). Jesus could not express the imperishability of the Scriptures more forcefully.

The law and the prophets are the collective we call the Old Testament scriptures. He stated he came to fulfill the Law of God, and many teach that since Christ fulfilled the Law on behalf of man that we are no longer expected to observe its ordinances but that’s not what Jesus taught.

In fact, he stated “till heaven and earth pass away, not one jot or tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled”! What Jesus did was forgive the transgression of the law for some. He fulfilled a portion of the law that dealt with consequences from judgement of sin, by submitting to be the substitute for any and all who would accept the trade.

He fulfilled that portion of the law, but he did not abolish it entirely and he said as much. He took our place as “Judged Sinner”. The real question is, have we taken his place as “Child of the living God that represents the glory of the Father in our words and deeds abstaining from injustice, hatred, and immorality”? Was the substitution complete and do we live as if it has been?

In fact, he stated that the whole of the law (not just the ten commandments given to Moses) could be fulfilled by loving the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your mind and to Love your neighbor as yourself. Look again at the timing and precision Jesus utilized in the statement. If it were rendered into today’s common lexicon it might read; “Not one part of the law will change from this day forward until the end of the earth, until ALL is fulfilled!”

That “all” Jesus spoke of is the fulfillment of every prophesy, (the reign of Jesus from the throne of David, The Harpazo or “Rapture” of the church, The resurrection of every believer, the marriage supper of the lamb, the time of Jacob’s trouble, the conclusion of all time, the judgement of Satan and the angels that left heaven, etc.)

Jesus came to fulfill the law yes, but the detail of that statement suggests that he came to fulfill a portion and that there yet remains more to be done and until that happens the Law will remain, intact and unchanged! The law Jesus fulfilled was the law that required a sacrifice for sin, He sacrificed his life for our eternal security, the transference requires our sacrifice to live in His place. He died for us that we might live for Him!

Even though the price was paid to forgive murderers, we don’t encourage others to commit murder for this is sinful and against the law of God and we wouldn’t be loving our neighbor if we encouraged him to sin. Similarly, we don’t encourage our brothers to be deceitful, to be hateful, to be unjust, to oppress, to steal or to be immoral because the law of God is clear, and we identify ourselves as his followers by observing his ordinances, precepts and commands.

So too do non-believers identify Christians by those practices. The sad fact is, there are many who have lost sight of this very concept and they provide a poor witness to those who look at the behavior and the life of some who profess to live for Christ.

Jesus’s sacrifice paid the price for breaking the law, but it didn’t make the law of no effect! It’s the conundrum of free-will at play here. We are free to do anything. Anyone, at any time, can choose to do anything but we know every choice comes with consequence. We choose to be obedient to the law of God neither out of fear of death nor the wrath of God, for god poured his wrath for sin upon Jesus for those that will accept his substitution for their own, but we observe the ordinances of God to testify to the truth of Jesus and his sacrifice.

Those who don't accept the sacrifice of Jesus God says, will see "His wrath and the Great and terrible day of the Lord!" and those who die in their sin shall be cast into Hell for eternal separation from God.

The Bible states that Jesus "paid the price once for all sin"(Hebrews 7:27). If then all sin was paid for, why are some destined to be punished for it? The answer is the faith factor. There will be people who do things defined as good and wonderful but will still receive the penalty for their sin because they never became a Christian and accepted the sacrifice of Jesus.

There are some who profess that if people who follow Christ commit sin, they will be forgiven and well, this is true! However, there is a dangerous perversion of this teaching in many circles amongst many believers.

There are some that say that since you're a Christian you can commit any sin you want and just go to heaven and bypass consequence altogether. But why would a Christian *want* to commit sin? Jesus said "Follow Me" Jesus taught that a believer would be able to be identified as one of His followers not only by believing that Jesus was God's sacrifice for sin (that settles the sin debt with God alone) but also his or her efforts in following Jesus's ways, teachings, methods and actions.

This is exactly the point James was making in (James 2:18) "*But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.*"

Christians are called upon to be examples of God's ways, to be ambassadors of the Kingdom of Heaven, to bear fruit of the Spirit, to be doers of the word, not hearers only and to disciple others.

Jesus taught that the scriptures are infallible.

In [John 10](#), Jesus was about to be stoned for blasphemy. To get himself out of this jam, Jesus cited the Old Testament and declared, “the Scripture cannot be broken” ([John 10:35](#), NKJV).

In other words, when his life was on the line, Jesus referred to an infallible authority that cannot be broken—the Scripture. Furthermore, he later affirmed the truth of the Scriptures when he prayed for the disciples, “Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth” ([John 17:17](#)). Who’s word? Jesus himself declares here that the scriptures are not the words of men but of God! Furthermore, he declares them to be infallible truth!

Jesus taught the scriptures are inerrant.

When the Sadducees tried to trap Jesus with a question, Jesus said to them, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God” ([Matt. 22:29](#)). The implication, of course, is that the Scriptures are inerrant. It wouldn’t make any sense for Jesus to say, “You are in error because you don’t know the Scriptures, which also err!” If the texts had error the Sadducees would have had a justifiable excuse for error but Jesus Himself points out that saying, doing, being or acting in a way against what the scriptures declare as lawful and appropriate is sinful and to commit error.

Jesus taught the Scriptures are historically reliable.

In addition to declaring that the Old Testament is divinely authoritative, imperishable, infallible, and inerrant, Jesus affirmed two of the most historically disputed stories in the Old Testament: Noah ([Matt. 24:37–38](#)) and Jonah ([Matt. 12:40](#)). Jesus spoke of those stories as being historically true. And why wouldn’t they be true? The miracles associated with Noah and Jonah are child’s play for the all-powerful God who created the universe. With our limited intelligence, we build great ships and keep people alive for months underwater. Why couldn’t God do the same?

Jesus also affirmed other aspects of the Old Testament that some critics deny. Jesus taught that Daniel was a prophet ([Matt. 24:15](#)) while many critics say Daniel was merely a historian. (The critics claim a later date for Daniel, because surely he couldn't have made all those predictions. Their anti-supernatural bias is revealed again.)

Furthermore, Jesus specifically quoted different sections of the book of Isaiah (e.g., [Matt. 7:6-7](#); [13:14-15](#); [Luke 4:17-19](#)), never once suggesting that there were two or three Isaiahs as many critics claim. In fact, Jesus's words when referring to two separate passages from Isaiah were "That same Isaiah said..." establishing the authorship Himself, to say otherwise is literally to impugn the honor of Jesus by insinuating he's either ignorant or a liar.

Jesus demonstrated that the Scriptures are scientifically accurate.

Jesus made other claims that contradict those of today's critics. When asked if divorce was acceptable, Jesus cited a scientific fact out of Genesis. He said, "Haven't you read that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So, they are no longer two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let man not separate" ([Matt. 19:4-6](#)).

In other words, the nature of marriage is bound up in the scientific fact that Adam and Eve were created for a purpose. This text not only supports the biology of sexual reproduction but defines "Marriage" as being joined by God himself blessing that purpose. The offspring of a man and a woman have the genetic information of both the male and the female (The two literally have become one) the divine mystery of this union continues in that a couple can have several children all are one human being from the same two people yet they are each individual and unique!

This is one of many reasons for the Christian stance against homosexual unions as being a “God ordained marriage”. A homosexual coupling cannot bear the fruit of children which happens to be one prerequisite of marriage according to the word of God.

The institution of marriage itself was not created nor ordained by man it was created and ordained by God himself and the wicked seek to redefine or recreate it in their image. This is a perversion of God’s word. The same God who ordained that a man should cleave to his wife also decreed that “If a man lie with a man as one would with a woman they should be put to death!” God pronounced this act as an abomination.

The word “sin” is an archery term, and it means (to miss the mark). God! not man, sets the mark that we seek to hit. Sin is disobedience to God’s word and Christ has commanded his followers to break the yoke of bondage to it. He tells us to confess (admit you have done wrong before god) and repent (stop doing those things).

The folly of mankind is that we too often seek to find what God might allow rather than what God would prefer. In other words, can you be forgiven theft? Or Murder? Or sexual immorality? The answer of course is yes you can, but wouldn’t it be far better to use the power and authority of the word of God to discipline yourself to follow its ordinances (be a disciple) and confess instead the liberating power of God’s word has freed you from the bondage of sin?!

Moreover, Jesus did not accept the false idea that the Bible could tell you how to “go to heaven” but not “how the heavens go.” He told Nicodemus, “If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?” ([John 3:12](#), NASB). In other words, Jesus taught that if the Bible does not speak truthfully about the physical world that you can see, then it cannot be trusted when it speaks about the spiritual world that you cannot see.

Indeed, Christianity is built on historical events—such as the Creation, the Exodus and the Death and Resurrection—that can be tested through scientific and historical investigation. While adherents of other religions may accept a complete separation from science, Christians do not. Truth about the universe cannot be contradictory. Since all truth is God’s truth, religious beliefs must agree with scientific facts. If they do not, then either there is an error in our scientific understanding, or our religious beliefs are wrong. As we have seen, many of the claims of Christianity are affirmed by scientific investigation. Christ knew it would be this way.

Jesus taught that the scriptures have ultimate supremacy.

Since Jesus taught that the Old Testament is divinely authoritative, imperishable, infallible, inerrant, historically reliable, and scientifically accurate, you would expect him to assert that it has ultimate supremacy over any teaching of man. This is exactly what Jesus said.

He corrected the Pharisees and the teachers of the law by claiming that they should be obeying the Old Testament Scriptures instead of their own man-made traditions. He said, “Why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? You nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition” ([Matt. 15:3, 6](#)).

He then blasted them for failing to live up to the Scriptures by quoting from the Old Testament: “You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men’” ([Matt. 15:7–9](#)). Why would Jesus correct the religious leaders of Israel with the Old Testament unless the Old Testament had ultimate supremacy over their own ideas? Furthermore, how could Jesus contrast the Old Testament Scriptures with “rules taught by men” unless these rules weren’t from man but from God?

In light of Jesus' teaching, there's no question he considered the entire Old Testament to be the inerrant, written Word of God. He said he came to fulfill the entire Jewish Old Testament ([Matt. 5:17](#)), which he referred to as "the Law and the Prophets" ([Matt. 5:17](#); [Luke 24:26-27](#)). And he told the Jews, "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" ([John 5:39-40](#)).

There's no question Jesus considered the entirety of the Old Testament scriptures to be the inerrant, unquestionable, authoritative written Word of God Himself. He taught that to go against their truth and instruction was to be in error and opposition to God and, that not one mark of the scriptures would change til heaven and earth comes to an end.

Jesus came to uphold the scriptures not to abolish them. He came to live them out and asked those who believe in him to "follow" him in words, attitude, and action.

Jesus came to fulfill the Scriptures that testify of him and to designate a moment in history when God intervened again in the world to set a course correction for mankind's ultimate destiny.

Jesus came to demonstrate the truth that was hidden in the scriptures. Both in plain sight and tucked away secretly, were details of his lineage, his birth, his personage, his mission, his death, his resurrection, his deity, his salvation, his forgiveness, his eternal nature, and his desire to have mankind present with him in eternity.

In the pages we collectively call our Bible, God has demonstrated his sovereign ability to not only create mankind but to introduce a message of his plan and his invitation to not only execute that plan for us but involve us in its execution because of his love for us. Finally, The Bible declares that God himself watches over it to preserve, protect, and keep it. When we doubt all else, we can trust its contents.

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