# THE KING JAMES BIBLE ONLY POSITION AND TRUE PENTECOSTALISM

Craig Savige

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VICTORY FAITH CENTRE P.O. BOX 863 GEELONG 3220 AUSTRALIA

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#### Introduction

The major attack on the Bible over the last century has manifested in the rise of the modern versions. The massive ignorance about this issue in the churches, even among those in the Faith Movement who claim that they follow the Word of God exactly, is a result of the devilish clouding propagated by modernist scholars. Many of today's Pentecostals have strayed far from their Traditional Pentecostal foundations with respect to the King James Bible and its accuracy, to the extent that there is now significant doctrinal weakness among them.

"If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained." (1 Timothy 4:6). The nourishment that comes from the words of faith and good doctrine cannot be from the error-filled modern versions but from an accurate Bible. The nourishment cannot come from continual doubt cast upon the very written Word of God, such as when people say, "This is better translated by ...", or, "The Greek gives it more exactly ...", or, "The King James Bible has this wrong ...". The modern versions themselves present no answers to this dilemma because they leave out verses, contradict one another, and cast doubt upon the very verses they have in their texts.

Traditional Pentecostalism arose around the early 1900s in an atmosphere of holiness and zeal with a fierce determination to hold to the written Word of God, which was almost universally seen to be the King James Bible. In this booklet, you will learn that it is important to hold to correct tradition and that much is lost when worldly ways invade the churches, specifically in false doctrines relating to the Word of God and its nature and derivation. "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." (2 Thessalonians 2:15). There is a received tradition with regard to what true Christians should hold to as the Bible. The King James Bible is the final form of the Received Text

and this can be shown to be fact. "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us." (2 Thessalonians 3:6).

Many of today's Pentecostals now have a distorted view of tradition, so much so that they are actually the ones holding to wrong modernist tradition, which makes of none effect the Word of God. "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye." (Mark 7:13).

While it is not necessary to be a Traditional Pentecostal to come to the King James Bible only position, there will be, in the future, more of an emphasis on the Holy Ghost's leading into all truth through the Traditional Pentecostal stance. This should not be neglected. Many anti-Pentecostals have most likely only seen the present day charismatic, Romanist-compromised, feelings-based false Pentecostals.

This booklet touches on the following:

- (1) Traditional Pentecostals used the King James Bible almost exclusively.
- (2) Traditional Pentecostals emphasised holiness and purity.
- (3) Although many of today's "Pentecostals" are given over to modern versions, there is still a significant amount of use of the King James Bible, indicating the godly tradition has persisted to the present day.
- (4) At one stage in the 1900s, Pentecostals listened to lies and forsook the godly Traditional Pentecostal position of holiness and usage of one pure Bible.
- (5) For there to be a reversal, there must be repentance and a return to the usage of the pure King James Bible.

#### Who were the Traditional Pentecostals?

Traditional Pentecostalism is an extension of what the early Church was, the modern manifestation starting around the early 1900s. The outpouring of the Spirit of God relates it to being the Christianity of the last days. "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh" (Acts 2:17a). It is not necessary to give a list of all the Pentecostal pioneers. Several of them are quoted in this booklet. The main emphasis was on the Holy Ghost as the one who leads into truth and empowers the people of God to witness for Christ. Thus, they were and are people of the Bible who hold this book with ardour and strength.

Smith Wigglesworth, the great Pentecostal pioneer of the early 1900s, forewarned that God would call His people out of a compromised Pentecostalism: "I can see even in this Pentecostal work, except we see there is a real death, God will say to us, 'Come out.' Unless Pentecost wakes up to shake herself free from all worldly things ... we will hear the voice of God, 'Come out' and He will have something far better than this. I ask every one of you, will you hear the voice of God and come out?" 1

With respect to knowing the Antichrist religion (and thus knowing the false type of religion), Smith Wigglesworth said, "What will make you to know it is the Man of Sin? This: Every religious sect and creed there is in the world all joins to it. Romanism you see joined up with it. Buddhism joined with it. There is not a religion known but what is joined up to it. Why that is exactly what the devil will have. He will have all the false religions joining right up and the Man of Sin, when he comes, will be received with great applause."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Liardon, Roberts, 1996, *Smith Wigglesworth: The Complete Collection of His Life Teachings*, Albury Publishing, Tulsa, USA, page 268.

The Traditional Pentecostal Church preaches the pure Word of God, and is comprised of servants of God who are obedient to God. They must come out of all compromise and stand for truth.

In his sermon *Christ in us*, Smith Wigglesworth said: "You see that Bible. I believe it from front to back. But it won't have an atom of power in you if you don't put the Bible in practice in yourself." Like all Traditional Pentecostalists, he used a King James Bible as the Word of God. Also, he believed it. This is a wonderful certainty that Christians can have when they take hold of the one Bible and put it into practice in themselves. "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep *it*, and bring forth fruit with patience." (Luke 8:15).

# Were there King James Bible roots in Traditional Pentecostalism?

Traditional Pentecostalism has historical roots in the use of the King James Bible. One should expect to see that the power of God to preserve such usage is evident historically, even to the present day. The remnant of truth amongst the present Pentecostals should indeed reflect KJB usage, despite the presence now of many modernist practices and beliefs.

A powerful type is seen in the following: "And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band *of men*; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet." (2 Kings 13:21). The "bones of Elisha" are still present in today's Pentecostal churches in KJB usage. This is confirmed in the Ellison Research study of 2000 where in the US nationwide "a representative sample of over 500 Protestant church pastors asked ministers which one version or translation of the Bible they personally rely on most for their work".

This study was very revealing as follows:

<sup>2</sup> Liardon, Roberts, 1998, *Smith Wigglesworth Speaks to Students of the Bible*, Albury Publishing, Tulsa, USA, page 259.

- (1) Across all the pastors, 34% used the NIV, 24% used the KJB and the rest used other versions this result illustrates that Protestant religion is in serious apostasy.
- (2) "Pastors of Pentecostal and charismatic churches tend to rely heavily on the King James (45%), while significant proportions favour the NIV (21%) or the New King James Version (19%)." This was the group with the highest percentage of KJB usage, so despite the Pancosmic infiltration, the traditional usage of the KJB is still strongly present.

At the very least, we can see that Traditional Pentecostalism with its emphasis on the power of the Holy Ghost has had enormous influence on keeping KJB usage. Today's Pentecostals (for all their faults) could not have this result if there were not a traditional basis from which they received KJB usage.

The Spirit of truth (see John 14:17) has been historically at work in preservation of the usage of the KJB. We can expect in the days to come to see a great reversal of the modern version usage trend as an awakening to Biblical truth is revealed.

When Traditional Pentecostals talk of the power of God, they see God as the Almighty. They should see that He is not held back by the inadequacies of sinners, devilish plans or evil philosophies. His work in the Earth is accomplished because He has declared it. This is true victory and comes from God as the source.

Do you know the Almighty God? "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." (Psalm 91:1). Then you will know that He is mighty enough to preserve His Word perfectly throughout history.

Modernists say that it is not possible that there could be a perfectly pure Bible: "It is not possible to translate perfectly from the original languages into English!" BUT do you know that it is possible for God to do it? "And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men *it is* 

impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible." (Mark 10:27). Modernists claim that the Bible must be dumbed down, so that even the simplest can understand it. BUT do you know that it is God that opens the understanding? "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures" (Luke 24:45).

Do you know the God who is control of history? "Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding" (Daniel 2:20, 21).

When people understand the fact of God's control of history, then they know He cannot forsake His words but must preserve them. Such people are on the way to seeing the King James Bible for what it is: God's very Word in the Earth today — pure, perfect, without error. Such people will agree with the Traditional Pentecostal stand.

# Why has there been backsliding from certainty in using one standard Bible?

The Christian faith must have the certainty of God's Word to have stability in doctrine and faith. "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:3). "That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed." (Luke 1:4). Many things connected with holiness deteriorate when the churches leave the use of a firm, standard Bible and start compromising with the shifting sand of many modern "bibles".

There is now a great neglect of holiness and the Traditional Pentecostals were strong on holiness in line with the power of God. The Pentecostal apostle, Smith Wigglesworth, said in 1922 in his sermon *Faith*: "We must live in the fire; we must hate sin; we must

love righteousness; we must live with God, for He says we have to be blameless and harmless amidst the crooked positions of the world."

What are we to make of the apostasy we see around us today? It is that there has been a forsaking of the foundations, a forsaking of the pure, a forsaking of the holy! Now, there has been a wholesale holding onto error, such as with the modern versions, and a compromising with the world. Such is not to be for the Spirit filled Christian. There must now be a holding to the pure and holy. At one stage, Romanism (i.e. Roman Catholicism) was seen as a danger to true Christianity but now it is accepted as just one other type of Christian Church. Those with little understanding will hold to this modernist viewpoint since Romanism has been the very font from which have come the corrupt manuscripts underlying modern versions. One older Pentecostal publication stated: "Roman Catholicism presents one of the most serious of all challenges to the true Christian faith. ... It is important to achieve a clear understanding of the history of the Roman Catholic Church in order to challenge its claim to authority."<sup>3</sup>

In Rome there was once a true Church — "To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 1:7). But there came a time when there was a forsaking of what was foundational, so that Rome is now known by true believers as the place "where the whore sitteth" (see Revelation 17:15). This is a great warning and a sign for all who would forsake the truth of God for a lie (See also Romans 1:25 — indeed a prophetic statement for Romanism and all who stand with it).

"If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:3). The foundation of the pure Word of God is crucial for a life of purity, otherwise (as we have seen all around) there will be corruption and error.

<sup>3</sup> Russell P. Spittler, *The Cults*, Gospel Publishing House, 1962, p.74.

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15). The scriptures we hold to are "holy", which means they are untainted by error. Such scriptures can make people wise.

The zeal, the drive, the power of God is necessary for the Pentecostal position: "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire" (Matthew 3:11).

One example of how far the present-day "Pentecostals" (they hardly deserve to be called this now) have slidden comes from the book "A River is Flowing. A history of the Assemblies of God in Australia" by Denis and Gwen Smith, 1987. On page 42, it says: "In 1953, 66 delegates gathered in Victoria for the ninth Commonwealth Conference. ... The Authorised Version of the Bible was recommended as the accepted version of God's Word in the assemblies." [Author's emphasis].

It is clear that what was once accepted is now no longer. Although this denomination started with many correct doctrines, it now has forsaken much Biblical doctrine. "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk *therein*." (Jeremiah 6:16).

In the Australian Assemblies of God, use of the King James Bible persisted strongly until the early 1980s. By this stage the lie of the imperfection of the King James Bible was well propagated, and when the New King James Version came along, this was quickly accepted. This widespread step led to the New International Version becoming common in the 1990s.

Barry Chant comments, "because of this total commitment to Scripture, many Pentecostals continue [in 1984] to use the Authorized Version of the Bible. There used to be a general, unspoken belief that this version was somehow more spiritual than the others and that most modern versions departed from the original Word of God to a greater or lesser degree." Among the compromisers, of course, this trend changed, and there is, in fact, a correlation between modern versions and the historical "hiding in caves" of true Pentecostalism (see 1 Kings 18:4)." Those many Pentecostals are now a faithful few. (The Bible College which Barry Chant founded itself has not held onto the King James Bible.).

The commitment to Scripture is an important factor in holding to the correct Bible. Traditional Pentecostals have held to (i.e. have been committed to) the Holy Scriptures, precisely because they are holy and separate from the filth of the world. "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15). "And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness." (1 John 5:19). The taint of modern versions is as a stench to those committed to the Holy Bible.

The US General Council of the Assemblies of God 2008 in its article "Does the Assemblies of God accept more than one Bible translation?" admits that there has been a departure from the common usage of the King James Bible in their church. "Admiration and use of the Authorized Version, popularly known as the King James Version (KJV), was quite uniform until the flurry of new Englishlanguage translations began appearing in the 1940s." and "For a time, many felt that clinging to the King James Version, rather than using the newer translations, was essential to our faith." Note the words "essential to our faith", so it begs the question as to what happened!?

Pentecostal commentator, Finis Dake, in his annotations on Scripture, defended the last verses of Mark as genuine, and stated concerning

<sup>4</sup> Chant, B., 1997, *Heart of Fire*, Tabor, 1997, p. 244.

the King James Bible, "It has been the most popular and accepted version of the English speaking world from that day until now. There have been several revised versions since then, and a number of Bibles in the so-called modern English, but none have been as well accepted and as lasting as the King James version [sic] — and perhaps never will be" <sup>5</sup>

Clearly, there has been a forsaking of the godly tradition of using the King James Bible and the acceptance of a modernist tradition of using modern versions. This is a road to apostasy. "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us." (2 Thessalonians 3:6). It is time for Traditional Pentecostalists to withdraw from any compromise with modern version usage and continue in the received tradition of using the King James Bible in all areas of the Church.

# What happens to King James Bible use when church leaders forsake it?

There is every evidence that the leaders of the Pentecostal denominations made decisions to believe the lies of modernist scholars and turned to modern versions. By doing this, they have led astray many and introduced much wickedness. "If a ruler hearken to lies, all his servants *are* wicked." (Proverbs 29:12). Godly rulership in the Church would be as follows: "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine." (1 Timothy 5:17). Such elders would not listen to lies.

"Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD." (Jeremiah 23:1).

The Traditional Pentecostal will love the Bible, which is the Word of God. Such Christians will love its purity. "Thy word *is* very pure:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Dake's, 1980, page 520.

therefore thy servant loveth it." (Psalm 119:140). Thus, they will recognise that the varying, error-filled modern versions could not be something to love.

Note what Smith Wigglesworth said in the following: "Beloved it won't do. We must have something better than sand, and everything is sand except the Word. There isn't anything that will remain — we are told the heaven and earth will be melted up as a scroll as fervent heat. But we are told the Word of God shall be forever, and not one jot or tittle of the Word of God shall fail. And if there is anything that is satisfying to me today more that another, it is, '... thy word is settled in heaven' (Psalm 119:89). And another Word in the 138th Psalm says, '... thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name' (v. 2). The very establishment for me is the Word of God. It is not on any other line." (Faith, August 2, 1922).

These were the words of a preacher who loved the King James Bible and thought of it as pure. If all church leaders and ministries stood for the final authority of the Word of God, then there would not be the forsaking of truth and watering down of Biblical precepts. "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears" (2 Timothy 4:3).

## How have subtle attacks against the Bible led to major attacks?

The attacks against the King James Bible started small. There were rumblings amongst Christians in the 1800s, such as "We need to make a few updating changes to the Authorized Version of the Bible." The enemy used the project of the Revised Version as a way to create a new underlying text (hence, the many differences between the King James Bible and modern versions) than what was underlying the King James Bible. "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." (Galatians 5:9).

"Ordained men in pulpits, professors' chairs and press, are now doing more to undermine faith in the Word of God than all outside infidels. When the conscientious and strenuous faith of the Church is relaxed, she can have but little influence on the world. Our splendid intellectual and materialistic civilisation bewitches the people with a frenzy of money-making, pleasure-seeking and monumental egotism". <sup>6</sup>

The seeds of destruction had been planted against true faith in the Word of God in the early 1900s. Even though Traditional Pentecostalists continued in the use of the KJB right through the 1900s, as intellectual bewitching through modernist doctrine, methods and versions intruded, then the falling into apostasy continued.

Today, we can say with Paul, "who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth"? (see Galatians 3:1). To come out of such bewitching there must be a receiving of the love of the truth, otherwise strong delusion results. "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie" (2 Thessalonians 2:10, 11).

"Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." (2 Thessalonians 2:15). We see from this that godly traditions come from the Word of God. These are the traditions that we can wholeheartedly endorse. Traditional Pentecostalism, for example, holds to a holiness tradition, so this is refected in its early writings, including standing against Romanism (i.e. Roman Catholicism) and its doctrines.

Much of false tradition has infected modern Pentecostals, such as holding to a worldly contemporary approach in evangelism and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "Laodicea", *Redemption Tidings*, Vol. 1, No. 2, October 1924, Published by the Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland.

worship. Although many of those in the "entertainment" churches deny that they have traditions, they are completely incorrect because they hold to traditions of men. "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (Colossians 2:8). We can see, in fact, that false traditions are intimately linked to the world.

# What are some doctrinal problems that modernist Pentecostals now have?

Many attacks relate to the name of God, which is clearly revealed as "JEHOVAH" or the shortened "JAH". "That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone *is* JEHOVAH, *art* the most high over all the earth." (Psalm 83:18). "Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him." (Psalm 68:4). Men's names have incorporated God's name, such as Elijah (meaning "my God is Jehovah"), and the Son of God is Jesus (meaning "Jehovah saves").

There is no grounds whatsoever for saying that "JEHOVAH" is wrong and that "Yahweh" or other variants should be used for the name of God. This is very serious and God states this: "Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal." (Jeremiah 23:27). "Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name" (Ezekiel 39:25). This last verse indicates that God's holy name is knowable but to listen to today's modernist scholars, one could conclude that it was ethereal, unknown and hard to determine!

God tells us that the true name of God would be known in His pure Word, which must be available to Christians today. "Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath

established all the ends of the earth? what *is* his name, and what *is* his son's name, if thou canst tell? Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." (Proverbs 30:4–6).

Interestingly, the account of Jesse Duplantis, who is a present-day, faith Pentecostal (though not Traditional Pentecostal), reported in his book *Heaven: Close encounters of the God Kind* that he was taken to Heaven, and he did not hear angels or saints refer to God as "Yahweh" or other blasphemous, anti-Biblical names. This coincides with other Pentecostal visions (such as those related by Kenneth Hagin in his books) that the Biblical language used by Jesus or in Heaven coincided exclusively with that of the King James Bible.

How has it got to the stage where modern Pentecostals (and other Christian groups) have forsaken their traditional sure foundations for foundations of sand?

"Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." (1 Corinthians 12:3).

The danger of modernists is that their doctrine blasphemes the Lord Jesus Christ. The modern versions err by giving Christ an origin (eg. Micah 5:2), taking away His titles and denying His deity. Such versions cannot have come from the Holy Ghost. Thus, men and women who prophesy or preach or testify concerning Christ must be very certain that they are not following a spirit of error in using modern versions. Yes, many use such "bibles" in ignorance but the light of God's Word will be such in the future that there will be no excuse — the King James Bible will be seen as the only Bible. Whereas whole churches and movements have forsaken the King James Bible now, the reverse will be the case as many repent of listening to the spirit of error and lying spirits.

"We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." (1 John 4:6). The light of truth will increase and darkness will be dispelled. The spirit of error is of darkness. "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6).

The Pentecostal linguist, Dr Charles Taylor, noted the following: "[W]e might even be suspicious of old manuscripts, especially if they contain many errors. This suggests they'd have been rejected as master copies anyway."

Present day Pentecostals must now wake up if they are ever to regain their heritage. They need to be suspicious of the various modern version philosophies, such as "The oldest manuscript is the best." For example, the old manuscripts, the Sinaiticus and Vaticanus, that underlie modern versions are highly suspicious and show tampering, holes in wording, and contradictions — they only lasted because true Christians avoided them, so they were generally unused and unworn.

"And as they were afraid, and bowed down *their* faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?" (Luke 24:5). "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life." (John 6:63). "For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12).

When we talk about believing God, the question naturally arises about what we believe. Modernist scholars would try to confuse the people with the modern versions of doubt. In these, are accusations that Bible verses are not complete, such as when the NIV says in a

<sup>7</sup> Taylor, C.V., 1988, *Bibles with Holes?* Assembly Kingswood Press, Underwood, Queensland, p. 35.

note to Mark 16:9–20 the following: "The most reliable early manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do not have Mark 16:9–20." This footnote, like the scholars who concocted it, is telling a complete lie. Read Dean Burgon's book *The Last Twelve Verses of Mark* for a full defence.

One of the Traditional Pentecostal pioneers, John G. Lake, said in his 1910 sermon *Divine Healing* the following concerning the verses of Mark 16:14–18, which modern versionists attack.

"These signs are God's eternal trademark, issued by the Son of God, and sealed in His own blood. The devil has tried to rob us of it by telling the preachers that these verses are an interpolation, and not found in the Sinaitic manuscript of the New Testament. The Sinaitic manuscript was, however, only written in the fourth century. That these verses are authentic has been proved from the writings of the Church Fathers, which were written prior to the Sinaitic manuscript, and less than two hundred and seventy years after Christ. This is a matter of history. ... Have you noticed how frequently church officers and members say: 'Oh, I don't believe this or that portion of God's Word!' Why don't they? How could they when the Word of God is continually twisted out of its original sense and meaning by those whose vocation should be to guard it as a sacred deposit? This wresting of the Scriptures is responsible for the unwarranted belief that the gifts of the Holy Ghost have been withdrawn."

We can see from this that the pioneer Traditional Pentecostals did indeed see the beginnings of the modernist version attack against the King James Bible. They held to the King James Bible in belief, even when there were many gainsaying their position. The first thing for Traditional Pentecostals to recognise concerning the war for men's souls is that the devil wants to substitute falsehood in place of truth and does this through deceptive positions.

Believing truth is very important and if we are not assured that every verse in the Bible is truth (e.g. that Mark 16:9–20 is correct and true

and should be part of our Bible), then we will be in a very dangerous position. "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (John 17:17). If we know the Bible is true (and all Traditional Pentecostalists should be able to point to the pure Bible!), then believing is the clear result and the possibilities in God are open. "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things *are* possible to him that believeth." (Mark 9:23).

It is staggering to think that many of today's Pentecostals can so easily swallow the modern version lies about Mark 16:9–20. These verses indeed uphold the traditional doctrine of Pentecostalism. Now is the time for repentance for believing lies concerning the Bible. Now is the time for a return to the complete truth as shown and preserved in the King James Bible.

## What is the real message for today's Pentecostals?

Pentecostals have historically claimed that they listen to the Spirit of truth, who is the Holy Ghost. The message for Pentecostals today is to again listen to the Spirit of truth. The Spirit and the Word of God will not disagree. It is ludicrous to be as some are in saying "Well, you have to get into the Spirit and not be a Pharisee." as though knowing the Bible places a person in the Pharisee position. This is because many calling themselves "Pentecostal" have actually gone away from the Word in much of their words and actions.

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13a). What is the truth that the Spirit guides people into? It must be the Word of God.

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (John 17:17). "Thy word *is* true *from* the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments *endureth* for ever." (Psalm 119:160). The true Pentecostal position, therefore, will be that of the Spirit empowering and guiding a person into truth. Since the Pure Cambridge Edition of the King James Bible is on Earth for all to see, then the guidance will be

towards this perfect Word of God. The fact that many have gone astray through modern versions shows that the position they are in is one of forsaking guidance into truth.

"And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not." (Isaiah 58:11).

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come." (John 16:13).

The Traditional Pentecostal aligns with the Spirit of truth in revealing the direction of God. God's guidance is into pure truth and so we can see that the modern versionists are allying themselves with another spirit — "And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that *spirit* of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." (1 John 4:3). Hence, it is not a coincidence that the modern versions both attack the deity of Christ and minimise it by taking out His titles and changing words.

The Spirit of God has a teaching role and this must be realised by King James Bible only believers. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14:26). This was not just for the Apostles but also for Christians today. Traditional Pentecostalism emphasises that the Spirit teaches believers truth, so the Holy Ghost will not go against His Word but will be in full agreement with it and open it up to those who diligently seek God.

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." (Psalm 119:130). The Spirit opens a person's heart, so that entrance is given to the Word of God. Without this operation of the Spirit to open people's eyes, there will be continued blindness and this includes holding to false doctrines. Those who persist in rebellion to God will have their understanding darkened because God will not allow such in His presence. "They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; *and* their hearts, that they cannot understand." (Isaiah 44:18).

"Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?" (1 Corinthians 14:6). The operation of the Spirit is thus to give people understanding. The Traditional Pentecostals know this and their doctrine of the baptism with the Holy Ghost is all about bringing people into greater understanding of God's ways.

Also, the message for those anti-Pentecostals who are King James Bible Only is that they should understand that the leading of the Spirit will clarify the proper King James Bible Only position for consistent evangelism of the whole world in the last days. The fullness of this leading is through the Traditional Pentecostal position.

Some modernist Pentecostals say, "The modern version issue is a diversion from preaching Christ. The Spirit of God can lead people through many different versions."

However, those who say this are on very shaky grounds and neglect the Bible itself with these statements. We must remember that the Holy Ghost speaks and has put down the exact words of God in that speaking — to disregard this is to disregard the work of the Holy Ghost in bringing the Word of God to mankind. "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (2 Peter 1:21).

The Holy Ghost speaks through the Bible given: "... as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness" (Hebrews 3:7, 8). "While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation." (Hebrews 3:15).

Questions need to be asked of feeling-led "Pentecostals":

- (1) How does the Holy Ghost speak today? It must be through the very Word of God (and men speaking in accordance with this). The Holy Ghost agrees always with the Word of God preached and acts as faith comes through the Word of God received. "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word." (Acts 10:44).
- (2) Do we need the exact Word of God? The warning is clear not to compromise: "And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book." (Revelation 22:19). The fact is that tampering with the Word of God has drastic consequences for all who would partake of this. It is the reason why false converts are filling many places. There are many hard hearts where the Word is stolen from men's hearts and a pure Bible does not have weeds unlike the devilish modern versions. "And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts." (Mark 4:15).

The King James Bible is the only Bible that is pure, despite the attacks levelled against it. Hence, it is the one Bible that the Holy Ghost will back to the end of the world. This is something Pentecostals must know today.

# What is the destruction that comes through forsaking the King James Bible?

"As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned

and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." (2 Peter 3:16).

In his sermon *Living Faith*, preached February 1935, Smith Wigglesworth stated: "You must believe that God will not deny Himself, for the Word of God cannot be denied." He was talking about complete agreement with the Bible (specifically the King James Bible, which he used). How can there be complete agreement with the Bible unless it is a pure book without error? God has brought this book into our hands and we should take it as precious and put its words into our heart. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom" (Colossians 3:16a).

There has been destruction of the witness of the churches to the lost. The question has been asked: "Can people be saved through modern versions?" This question has everything backwards. It is as though the questioner is pleading for modern version usage and begging them to be allowed, thinking that without their usage fewer would be saved. The fact is this: with modern version usage fewer people get saved. Why is this? It is because God works only in agreement with His Word and where that is absent, then He will not deny Himself. If a person is saved through someone witnessing to them with a modern version, it is only because (1) agreement with the pure Bible has been present, and (2) God is very gracious. In fact, there are more false converts in the churches than ever before and this is directly attributable to the apostasy manifested in agreement with modern versions and the like.

There has been destruction of unity in the churches. Traditional Pentecostals preach from the pure Bible because this will ensure maximum agreement with God. Praise the Lord for this! We pray for the increase of all King James Bible only believers. "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). Agree with God! Agree with His pure and perfect Word! This is how people can walk in faith perfectly.

There has been destruction of proper Biblical teaching about the authority of the Word of God in the churches. The seeking out of acceptable words is not a never ending search. "The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and *that which was* written *was* upright, *even* words of truth." (Ecclesiastes 12:10). There must be present on the Earth today the words of truth that have come directly from God and are ready for the preacher to preach. Obviously, those who align with a Protestant heritage will not want to preach words that come from the Catholic font, nor will they want to deviate from what has been acceptable according to godly tradition. This godly tradition is one of certainty that resides in the reception of the King James Bible. The Traditional Pentecostals followed along this Protestant line.

Today, the modernists cannot find "words of truth" because they are of the following category: "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." (2 Timothy 3:7). The ever learning scholarship of the modernists is useless in seeking out the acceptable word of God

# What was Smith Wigglesworth's end time prophecy about Pentecostalism?

On 23 December 1922, Smith Wigglesworth prophesied of the last days Church in his sermon *The Words of this Life* the following: "I want you to see that in the early church, controlled by the power of the Holy Ghost, it was not possible for a lie to exist. The moment it came into the church, there was instant death. And as the power of the Holy Ghost increases in these days of the Latter Rain, it will be impossible for any man to remain in our midst with a lying spirit. God will purify the church; the Word of God will be in such power in healing and other spiritual manifestations, that great fear will be upon all those who see the same."

This shows that the final Church on Earth cannot be full of modern versions and their heretical doctrines. The lying spirits behind the modern versions will be driven from the midst of the Church, so that

there is a restored purity along the lines of Traditional Pentecostalism. Those who have been open to error and delusion have let in the lying spirits. "Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee." (1 Kings 22:23). This has been the judgment of God upon a disobedient people. God is now leading people to repent for not believing His truth.

God will purify the Church through His Word, namely the King James Bible. "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word" (Ephesians 5:26).

Some gainsayers say that there are no lies in the modern versions. "They all say the same thing. There is no error." Such people are deluded. Look at the following example (out of thousands of possible examples) to once and for all see that lying spirits are at work in the modern versions. Note that the King James Bible says exactly the opposite to what the NIV says in Isaiah 9:3. Can both be from God? A choice must be made — either for the pure traditional Bible (the KJB) or the modernist words lying to men.

"Thou hast multiplied the nation, *and* not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, *and* as *men* rejoice when they divide the spoil." (Isaiah 9:3, King James Bible).

"You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder." (Isaiah 9:3, NIV).

Smith Wigglesworth spoke of "the biblical standard of the Word of God" in his August 1927 sermon *God's Treasure House*: "If you have held anything on a human plane, no matter how it has come, **if** it is not according to the biblical standard of the Word of God, let it be weeded out. If you do not get it weeded out, there is a time coming that wood, hay, and stubble will be burned and the gold, the

silver, and the precious stones will stand the fire." [Author's emphasis].

With the King James Bible as that standard, then we can measure things against it. This means the modern versions can be measured against it. There are whole sections of so-called Pentecostalism that needs extensive weeding because the biblical standard has been forsaken for another word. It has been Satan's strategy to take away the Word of God from the people and the churches: "And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts." (Mark 4:15).

The authority of the Bible is very important. If a Christian cannot rely totally on what the Bible says, then there are cracks and fissures for the enemies of God to take advantage. A firm foundation relies on an authoritative Bible, which must, of necessity, be a pure Bible. "Thy word *is* very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it." (Psalm 119:140). A pure Word of authority relates completely to loving the things of God and loving God Himself — this must not be forgotten.

"We must not measure ourselves by ourselves, if we do we shall always be small. Measure yourself by **the Word of God, the great measurement that God brings to you**. Don't be fearful. He wants to make us strong, powerful, stalwart, resolute, resting upon the authority of God. It is on this line that I can only speak, and shall we not equip ourselves like men?" (Smith Wigglesworth 1925 sermon *Faith*, Author's emphasis added).

Like Smith Wigglesworth, we can only speak along the lines of an authoritative Word, that great measurement that God brings to us. Praise the Lord that the foundation has been given, laid down and preserved providentially, so that as we take the King James Bible as authoritative, we will be firm in our future state. "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken

him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock" (Matthew 7:24).

In his sermon, *The Deliverance of Multitudes* — *How?*, Smith Wigglesworth said: "God has established truth in His Word. Men have tried to bring it to nought. God has His Word in the earth, it is also settled in heaven. If you are on the Word, you are eternally fixed. God has said it, it is established, the Word of God abideth forever. Men pass away, things change, but God's Word abideth forever."

Smith Wigglesworth touched on a very important point, namely that the Word of God is fixed, even though other things change. If a person at the time were to ask him where the Word of God was, he would have pointed to his King James Bible. Those who are Traditional Pentecostals should do the same. The final form of the Bible is here and fixed. If we are to be fixed, we must have a firm, fixed Word. We must have an authority we can point to, not something that changes each year according to the whims of man.

To have a fixed heart Christians must have a fixed Bible. "He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD." (Psalm 112:7). Christians trust in the Lord by trusting in His Word. This is clear. "Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who *is devoted* to thy fear. ... So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word." (Psalm 119:38, 42).

"IF there is no foundation in the Scripture of Truth for the teaching on the affirmative side of this question, then whatever men may say, and however honest they may he, the teaching must he condemned: Is there such a foundation? Without answering this question, let us examine The Word. And there we find —

- (1) Prophecy of the events which occurred at Pentecost.
- (2) Promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

(3) The declaration of the fulfilment of the prophecy and promise, and statements of the effects of that fulfilment."

The foundation of the doctrines of the Church must be the Bible. If doctrines, such as salvation, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, the deity of Christ etc, are not found in the Bible, then they cannot be foundational. Traditional Pentecostalists use the King James Bible as the foundational Scripture of Truth. Thus, searching of the Scriptures for the truth is something that will be evident in such churches. There will be a forsaking of trust in man's words and way and a holding onto truth as given by the Holy Ghost in line with the Bible.

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (1 Timothy 3:15).

## What was John G. Lake's prophecy about a Standard of Truth?

The Pentecostal pioneer John G. Lake prophesied, "Now dear ones, the thing that the Spirit of God is laying deeply upon my own heart these days is the need of a settled, established state in the Lord Jesus Christ, and the movement of the Spirit worldwide is to bring into unity the children of God who will raise A Standard of Truth for the World. Now listen! This come-together call of the Spirit is not an isolated movement. ... So God is moving in these days on a certain line. The man who has a settled, established faith in God has got that faith based on the eternal declarations of the Lord Jesus Christ and is moving in harmony with the revealed plan of God as outlined for this hour in God's Church Plan."

It is no coincidence that this prophecy came just after the final edition of the King James Bible — the Pure Cambridge Edition — had come. The providence of God has been to herald what He does and those

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *The baptism of the Holy Spirit*, Redemption Tidings, Vol. 6, No. 1, Jan 1930, Published by the Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Building on a firm foundation, March 1, 1914, Author's emphasis added.

who believe can move forward in His purposes. "And I took the little book out of the angel's hand ... And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings." (Revelation 10:10, 11). Thus has gone forth the proclamation of a Standard of Truth for the world.

"Thus saith the LORD; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain." (Zechariah 8:3).

The Zechariah prophecy points to a time when "Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth". This means that all leading by God is towards truth for mankind. This also means that there must come a time of end for modern version use since modern versions are in the opposite direction of truth. "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." (2 Timothy 3:7).

There must be a standard of truth for Jerusalem ever to be called a city of truth. The King James Bible is the demonstrated standard. "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (John 17:17). Without an error-free standard there will be no city of truth but the reality is that that standard has been established in history. For the Traditional Pentecostal, the power of God to change a city must be that the city conforms to the truth of God through the Spirit of truth.

#### What is the Biblical dilemma for Faith Movement Pentecostals?

Many modern Faith Movement Pentecostal preachers are either turning completely to modern versions or criticising the wording of the King James Bible (e.g. saying that the word "wish" is wrong in Romans 9:3; 2 Corinthians 13:9; 3 John 2). This presents a major problem or dilemma for them whether they acknowledge it or not.

Faith is based on the Word of God, so that Word must, of necessity, be pure for an unadulterated faith to be the result. "So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17). "But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." (Hebrews 11:6).

Since faith pleases God, then this crucial area of a pure Word as the basis of faith should not be discarded. We know that Traditional Pentecostals hold to the King James Bible and so have a simple believe the Word approach. "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." (2 Corinthians 11:3).

The simplicity that is in Christ is anti-corruption, so a firm foundation is very important for the Traditional Pentecostal. "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:3). A foundation is firm and fixed.

Jesus identifies the foundation for believers to build on. "Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock." (Luke 6:47, 48).

Jesus identifies jot and tittle accuracy for His Word. "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." (Matthew 5:18).

Jesus is building His Church (see Matthew 16:18) and it must be spotless through the Word of God: "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Ephesians 5:25–27).

The false scholarship of man has destroyed the faith of many. The antichrist wields this ugly sword of the false word against the souls of men to get them away from purity of faith (see Revelation 6:4). The Papal antichrists undermined the Bible by substituting their Romanist manuscripts (eg. Sinaiticus and Vaticanus) for the true and thus the filth of modern versions persist even to this day.

Such Romanist scholarship deserves an answer and it is the Traditional Pentecostal who should be equipped to give this answer. Smith Wigglesworth once said, "Let us get away from going into libraries and filling our minds with human theology. Not that I want to discourage anybody, but it would pay the best man here, I don't care who he is, to go home and set fire to his library." (*Ye are our epistle*, August 23, 1922). It is clear that this warning has not been heeded. This is the warning against man's theology and false scholarship. By not heeding this warning, many Traditional Pentecostals of yesteryear forsook the King James Bible and accepted the idea of "bibles" that could never be perfect or exact.

Though he failed to go far enough to connect present day apostasy to modernism and use of modern versions, the Pentecostal teacher, Kenneth E. Hagin, did have roots in Traditional Pentecostalism and made the following correct statement: "The Lord went on to say to me, 'Some of the old-time Pentecostals knew something about that deeper move of the Spirit. The modern Pentecostals — this new generation of Charismatics — know little or nothing about the move of My Spirit. Charismatics know a little about praising Me, but they know nothing at all about true worship.' You see, when you talk about worship, there is a spirit of reverence that goes along with it." <sup>10</sup>

I am convinced that the Holy Ghost has spoken to many even today about the error of the present Pentecostals, yet there has been a resistance to heeding the warning. "The highway of the upright *is* to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul." (Proverbs 16:17). For there to be true reverence and awe of God and

<sup>10</sup> Kenneth E. Hagin, *Plans, Purposes & Pursuits*, 1988, pp. 109, 110.

His Word, there must be repentance from the error of modernism, a forsaking of the words of modernism (as seen in modern versions), and a return to the traditional paths (the true Bible — the King James Bible). "While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation." (Hebrews 3:15).

Like Kenneth Hagin, others amongst the modern Pentecostals have noticed problems with modernism in their churches. Dr Charles V Taylor, linguist and author, wrote a book entitled *Bibles with holes*, which, although inaccurate in its final analysis, did touch on problems with modern versions — strange (or perhaps not so) is the fact that this book can hardly be found at all now, even second hand.

Dr Taylor wrote of the modernist problem of a low emphasis on Biblical preaching in an article called *Tradition* in the Australian Assembly of God Evangel magazine dated August 1994: "Many Pentecostals rightly rejoice in Acts 2:4. But how many of us rejoice as much in Acts 2:42? If we are to continue in the faith as true Christians, our churches must hold to the traditions set out in Scripture. ... it's foolish to omit the 'tradition' of preaching just because we live in the late twentieth century. God's Word stands for all time, and we are not to lose our roots, but to continue in the traditions handed down through the scriptures."

Indeed, Dr Taylor saw a problem that has only worsened in the last decade but he did not go far enough. The warning is for there to be a return to the old paths with the old Bible. "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk *therein*." (Jeremiah 6:16).

As we examine how the Traditional Pentecostals of yesteryear gave up their godly tradition to let modernism invade Pentecostal churches, we note that there were key deceptions that came into their thinking. An illustration of this is seen in Kenneth E. Hagin's statement as follows: "The word atonement doesn't appear in the New Testament. The word translated atonement is actually redemption. Atonement is an Old Testament word which simply means to cover the sins of Israel while the sins were borne away by the scapegoat." <sup>11</sup>

Well might we ask what makes normally intelligent people say absolutely foolish statements like this. When Hagin says, "The word atonement doesn't appear in the New Testament.", he is immediately contradicted by the Bible itself, which says, "And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement." (Romans 5:11). He has clearly bought into the modernist philosophy that says we can change clear readings of the King James Bible to what suits us by saying that it is translated incorrectly! This modernist trend actually undermines the foundation of Biblical faith doctrine because uncertainty of the true readings (i.e. what is actually in the King James Bible) is introduced into the minds of people.

Unfortunately, Hagin never even looks at the fact that both the words "atonement" and "redemption" are found in the New Testament of the King James Bible, so the appropriate thing is to believe that God has superintended providentially the translation of His Word into English and wants us to see that we must accept the Scripture and "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15). This is a great pity because people like Hagin should have known better, having been warned of God of the modernist problems in modern Pentecostal religion.

Hagin's error of adopting the modernist "it's translated wrong" philosophy is now rife in the modernist churches and is to be repented of. Although many things that Hagin says is right (he was a King James Bible preference man), there are some areas that are object lessons to true Traditional Pentecostals of today, namely that

<sup>11</sup> Kenneth E. Hagin, "The present day ministry of Jesus Christ", 1982, p. 7.

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we must accept the King James Bible for what it says and become learned, rather than going into devilish wisdom that propagates modernist philosophy.

### Is there an ordered way in God for Traditional Pentecostals?

God's way is ordered, not confused. He has a way that He determines and it is a blessed way. "For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." (1 Corinthians 14:33). "The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way." (Psalm 37:23). "Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me." (Psalm 119:133). Thus, the chaos of modern versions cannot have come from God and the Traditional Pentecostal will know this because the way of truth is ordered, not confused. The King James Bible is the one Bible for mankind and contradicts the modernists on every level.

The result of correct received tradition is that we believe and hold the King James Bible to be true. "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." (2 Thessalonians 2:15).

It is not hard to understand that God wants us to have words of certainty. "That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?" (Proverbs 22:21). "That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed." (Luke 1:4). There are those against the truth who are unreasonable: "And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all *men* have not faith." (2 Thessalonians 3:2).

The very chapter that says God is not the "author of confusion" also speaks of Pentecostal doctrine, especially that of the gift of tongues. It is a great irony that the Pancosmics have adopted the modernist way, yet the ordered way is explained in 1 Corinthians 14. The Traditional Pentecostals know that God is mighty and powerful and

the Spirit gives order and beauty to the Christian believer who is open to Him. "Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying *serveth* not for them that believe not, but for them which believe." (1 Corinthians 14:22). The unknown tongues (unknown to the speaker) are a sign to "them that believe not" because it shows that God is in control of all language — the positive conclusion that man can come to is that God can easily preserve His Word perfectly throughout all history, regardless of the opposition!

Many anti-Pentecostals know nothing of the Traditional Pentecostal way, so come to false conclusions. This hinders their opening to revelatory paths in speaking to the world the knowledge that there is indeed only one Bible! If the anti-Pentecostals make the wrong judgments, it is detrimental and must be repented of: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death." (Proverbs 14:12).

"Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues." (1 Corinthians 14:39).

Those who are deliberately anti-Pentecostal have to gloss over Scriptures to get to their unspiritual position. The command "covet to prophesy" shows that God wants believers to strongly desire what He has to offer. The command "forbid not to speak with tongues" shows that God has a way that the natural man cannot work out. There must be the faith acceptance of God's way, which is the way of the Holy Ghost and His leading. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Corinthians 2:14).

Many will not submit to the Word of God that has been put into the Earth, namely the King James Bible. They use all types of reasonings that seem right to them but, in fact, are utterly wrong. The Spirit of God shows the way but if people use only their natural reasoning,

then they will never arrive at the truth. There must be submission to God, even to accepting the hard things that God may reveal. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death." (Proverbs 16:25). The ordered way of God is always according to His Word.

God is calling now for believers to come out of the false Pentecostals (i.e. the Pancosmics). He is also calling people to be Pentecostal in the pure way, namely an acknowledgement that God wants His people empowered to do the great work of evangelising the Earth and standing for the one true Bible.

Do not be ignorant of what God has for His people. "He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost." (Acts 19:2).

"No ministers need discernment between frivolity and joy more than Pentecostal ministers ... The joy of the Lord is our strength, and its expression attracts, revives, and leaves lasting sanctification and enrichment of character. Mere frivolity in religion, though it may bear a superficial resemblance, is a purely psychic thing, and always leads on to a deadly reaction that leaves the soul much worse than if it had never been acted upon by such unworthy methods." <sup>12</sup>

Traditional Pentecostals know that frivolity in religion is abandonment of purity. "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion *is* vain." (James 1:26). Clearly, godly religion and the words coming out of a person's mouth are related. The modernists in their frivolous attitudes have taken on "vain words" (see Ephesians 5:6) for a vain religion. This is directly related to adoption of Romanist books purporting to be "bibles" — such books are filled with deception and vanity, which feed the frivolity of the Pancosmics.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "Frivolity and Joy", Redemption Tidings, Vol. 12, No. 2, January 15, 1936, Published by the Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland.

Where is the power of God to purify the hearts of men for "pure religion" (see James 1:27) but in the perfect King James Bible with pure words (see Hebrews 4:12)?

"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." (2 Timothy 3:5).

"Let all things be done decently and in order." (1 Corinthians 14:40).

In Traditional Pentecostalism, there is order. This is order in the operation of the gifts of the Spirit of God, as well as order in the Christian walk. The command is for "all things" to be done the right way. Along the lines of order, there is purity and holiness, and without such things, the order of the Christian will deteriorate. The wholesale adoption of modernist versions and doctrine has done much to undermine order since error is backed by chaos and the spirit of error. The confusion of modern versions does nothing for the ordered life that God desires for His people. "For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." (1 Corinthians 14:33).

If God is not the author of confusion, then there must be another who is backing the error of today. These are the lying spirits and the spirit of error, who are directed by Satan himself. Although observation would lead godly people to the conclusion that there is something greatly amiss with the modern version plague, there is much clouding through blindness and confusion. Ignorance has set in for many, despite the warning signs.

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." (2 Corinthians 2:11). Paul the apostle warned the people of God and today there are many warnings for those with ears to hear: modern versions are not of God! God has providentially preserved His Word in the Earth and the call is for His people to recognise it as the King James Bible. After all, this is the Bible that has the hand of God upon it throughout history.

"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears." (Acts 20:29–31). This prophecy has indeed come to pass and it must be reversed in these last days.

"Let all things be done decently and in order." (1 Corinthians 14:40). It is clear that God is orderly, not along the lines of confusion and error. God's orderliness is supremely shown through His Word, which has been preserved historically through His providential care.

# What do Tradition Pentecostals love about the King James Bible?

Traditional Pentecostals love the following about the fact that there is only one Bible, namely the King James Bible:

- (1) It gives certainty: "a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us" (Luke 1:1a) and "That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed." (Luke 1:4).
- (2) It is a sure foundation for faith. "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 11:3).
- (3) It is not subject to change like a modern version newspaper story. "For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever." (2 John 2). God's Word is the truth (see John 17:17). "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." (1 Peter 1:23).
- (4) It is a powerful weapon against error. "For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12).

Traditional Pentecostals also love the truth with all their heart. They recognise the source of error as from Satan, not God. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:4). One of the gifts of the Spirit is "discerning of spirits" (see 1 Corinthians 12:10). This gift can operate in a Pentecostal believer to discern or judge whether or not a spirit is of God.

It is clear that the gift of discerning of spirits is sadly missing from the modernist churches of today. If it were present, then there would be no problems whatsoever in discerning the spirit of error behind modern versions. "We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." (1 John 4:6). Also, it would not be hard to discern the spirit of truth, which has agreed with the King James Bible and its lineage for centuries.

Here are some facts that Traditional Pentecostals know:

- (1) The spirit of error backs error (i.e. mistakes, lies, falsehoods) in false bibles.
- (2) The spirit of truth backs truth (i.e. purity, honesty, integrity) in the Holy Bible it agrees with holiness, which has no corruption or darkness in it.
- (3) Satan is the author of the spirit of error, so modern versions cannot have originated from God. "Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." (John 8:44).
- (4) Modern versions and the King James Bible are opposites and cannot be mixed because the spirit of error and the spirit of truth are complete opposites. "Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet *water* and bitter?" (James 3:11).

## Does pure religion have a pure Bible?

Traditional Pentecostalism is associated with pure religion. Thus, it is right and proper to have the pure Word of God, which is unspotted from the world.

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1:27). Those who are religious in the correct sense have a mouth that gives voice to pure words: "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion *is* vain." (James 1:26). Vain religion is connected with impure words — this is what modern versions has led to. Holiness, of necessity, demands the Holy Scriptures.

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15).

It should be evident that only the Holy Ghost could have produced the holy scriptures, which is attached to pure religion. Since that which is holy is undefiled and pure, then it is indeed a significant mystery how those who claimed to have the doctrine of the Holy Ghost could have come away from a position of absolute purity with respect to the Holy Bible, specifically the King James Bible.

"Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good." (Romans 7:12). "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation" (1 Peter 1:15). If God has called us to holiness in conversation (word and action), then it is clear that nothing less that the "holy scriptures" should be acceptable for the Christian, so a forsaking of erroneous modern versions and a holding to the King James Bible should be the standard.

The only way to know the difference between true religion and false (including whether purported miracles and revivals are true) is to see whether they match against the true Bible. "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light in them." (Isaiah 8:20). Sadly, many don't match up and thus are in the following category: "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). We thus ask as Jesus does, "Are you doing what God says?" and "If you say you are, then by what authority (i.e. what Bible) do you say this?"

One would think that those calling themselves Pentecostals would be especially interested in understanding the implications of Luke 6:46 because the Scripture describes the false type of Pentecostals clearly in Matthew 7:21–23.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matthew 7:21–23).

Hence, prophesying, casting out devils, and doing wonderful works do not prove holiness. Jesus will ask: "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). The Traditional Pentecostal will be very wary not to vary from both the purity of God's Word and the obedience of what is in the Word of God. How utterly important it is, therefore, to have an absolutely pure Bible! If this one realisation ever dawned on the modernist Pentecostals, there would be a mass exodus away from any trust in modern versions and a complete return to the old ways of holiness. True Christians must know for sure the things that Jesus says. The King James Bible is of utmost importance for the future of true Christian witness in the Earth.

In his sermon *The moving breath of the Spirit* dated August 1925, Smith Wigglesworth said of the Bible: "All our hope is in the Word of the living God. The Word of God abideth forever. Oh, the glorious truths found therein. **Never compare this Book with other books.**This is from heaven; it does not contain the Word of God, it is the Word of God. Supernatural in origin, eternal in duration, value, infinite in scope, divine in authorship. Read it through, pray it in, write it down." [Author's emphasis].

The Traditional Pentecostal has a high view of the Bible. Smith Wigglesworth was talking about the King James Bible, the one he had in his hands and preached from. This Bible outstrips all other books in value, including modern versions (which should not be categorised as Bibles). We praise the Lord. We praise His Word. All praise to God for what He has accomplished in getting His pure and perfect Bible into our hands today, despite sin, despite devils, despite false judgments, despite false scholarship. "In God will I praise *his* word: in the LORD will I praise *his* word." (Psalm 56:10).

Pure Christian religion has a high view of the Bible. The low view of the Bible (i.e. that it has errors or can never be perfectly translated into English etc.) is also a low view of God. It is saying that God is not powerful enough to preserve His Word throughout history. True Pentecostals must avoid this particular view at all costs because it causes people to go astray and not agree with God. This is a travesty and a tragedy.

"But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." (1 Peter 1:25).

"Thou hast shewed thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment. Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah." (Psalm 60:3, 4).

The people of God today have been shown hard things, one of which is that many have forsaken godly foundations and have turned to devilish constructions. "The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil" (Proverbs 8:13a). The banner given to those who fear God is the banner of no compromise, staying with God's foundation, testifying of His pure Word. Note that this banner is displayed "because of the truth". God is jealous for His truth and is against those who have forsaken His truth. Traditional Pentecostals tenaciously stick with God's truth, which means no compromise with His Word: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (John 17:17). God is clear to His people today: Hold up the banner of no compromise!

## Is the Bible a perfect book for all Pentecostals?

People should ask, "Is the Bible a perfect book?" God's Word reflects who He is.

The Word of God comes from God, so must reflect who He is — truthful, pure, perfect, powerful, faithful. He is not a liar, so His Word will be completely correct. In English, the pure Bible is the Authorized King James Bible, the Pure Cambridge Edition.

Psalm 138:2 "thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name".

Numbers 23:19a "God is not a man, that he should lie".

Titus 1:2 "God, that cannot lie".

John 17:17 "thy word is truth".

2 Samuel 7:28 "O Lord GOD, thou *art* that God, and thy words be true".

Psalm 119:160 "Thy word is true from the beginning".

God is pure, so His Word will be pure.

Leviticus 19:2 "I ... God am holy".

2 Timothy 3:15, 16 "holy scriptures" All Scripture is covered, so all Scripture is holy.

Psalm 119:140 "Thy word is very pure".

Proverbs 30:5, 6 "Every word of God is pure".

When we go to modern versions, we find impurity, error and inexactness. For example, the NIV in Leviticus 11:13–20 puts a list of birds, one of which is a bat. The King James Bible uses the word "fowl", which means any winged creature. There are many examples just like this.

God is all powerful and has preserved His Word throughout history, despite the presence of sin, sinful man and devils.

Psalm 12:6, 7 "Thou shalt keep them".

Read this author's booklet *The Authorized King James Bible Connection* for a study on the value of God's words as found in the King James Bible.

God supervised His Word to be put into a single volume — the King James Bible. "And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth" (Revelation 10:1, 2).

# What is the wrong thinking about the Bible in modernist Pentecostals?

Modern Pentecostals have been programmed by false scholars to think against a pure Bible. This is illustrated by some of the wrong unbiblical philosophies that come out of their mouths.

Modernism has brought wrong thinking into the Church. This thinking is unbiblical and aimed towards adoption of error. "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (Colossians 2:8). The following are a few examples that are particularly relevant to the modern Pentecostals.

Modernist philosophy: "I am in a relationship, not a religion."

Biblical position: True Christianity is pure religion as opposed to corrupt or false religion. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1:27). People can have vain religion if their tongue is not kept in check to agree with the Bible. "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion *is* vain." (James 1:26).

Modernist philosophy: "All tradition is wrong."

Biblical position: There is ungodly tradition and there is godly, received tradition. The ungodly tradition is illustrated in the following: "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye." (Mark 7:13). The godly, received tradition is illustrated in the following: "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." (2 Thessalonians 2:15).

Modernist philosophy: "The Bible must be updated to suit contemporary society."

Biblical position: There is only one, correct Bible, not many contradictory accounts. Through the godly, received tradition, in agreement with Scripture, we know this to be the King James Bible. "Thy word *is* very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it." (Psalm 119:140). It must be a settled, not shifting, Word. "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven." (Psalm 119:89). It must be near to us, not far away or locked in the varying minds of scholars. "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach" (Romans 10:8).

Traditional Pentecostalism rejects the modernism that has arisen through the adoption of a false word as though from God. There has been a false tradition and philosophy that many have now accepted to their great detriment.

Many are captured by the thinking of a feelings religion through the false scholarship of the modernists. Smith Wigglesworth said in his August 1914 sermon "The confidence that we have in Him" the following: "We shall never get anywhere if we depend upon our feelings. There is something a thousand times better than feelings, and it is the naked Word of God."

The "naked" Word of God is open to us, so it is not mysteriously hidden in Greek meanings but in the plain readings of the King James Bible. Many have been seduced by the false scholarship that refuses to recognise that there is a final authority now in the Earth and that it is the King James Bible. This false scholarship will piously say that the King James Bible is wrong and the "Greek actually says ..." This is a prideful way and no Traditional Pentecostalist should rest in anything but an open, firm authority.

Feelings cannot be the authority because they are like changing smoke. The great clouding of the authority of the Bible is because men refuse to spiritually love the truth, namely that God has indeed preserved His Word in the Earth today and it is the naked truth! In other words, it is not hidden.

The true situation is this: God preserved His Word through preserving the key manuscripts and other sources necessary for it to then be placed into one final book, the Bible. Now that we have this one final Bible, this is the basis and authority.

# How is false scholarship and wrong thinking about the Bible connected?

False scholarship has caused much wrong thinking about the King James Bible. The false scholarship of today that strives to come against the plain wording of the King James Bible is set up to be destroyed. "As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." (2 Peter 3:16).

The false scholarship that refuses a final authority is an ever learning one. "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. ... Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." (2 Timothy 3:1, 7). This prophecy is very appropriate and fits exactly to the day we are living in where modern versionists cannot come to the exact knowledge of the truth and are in such perilous circumstances that even their very faith is in jeopardy.

Beware false scholarship: "Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered." (Luke 11:52).

The Scripture answers the modernist stand of having to "dumb down" the Bible to fit contemporary tastes. The claim is that the Bible needs to be adjusted or changed, so that it can be understood by modern readers. Thus, it is supposed that a "surfer's bible for surfers etc." is necessary. This modernist way of looking at things is a worldly way and has undermined faith in God's pure Word.

- In 2 Peter 3:16, we see why keeping to the King James Bible is absolutely necessary and why there should be no modern version foolishness. We can see the following:
- (1) If the King James Bible has "some things hard to be understood", the solution is not to change the Bible. The solution is to study the Bible and allow the Holy Ghost to guide the believer into truth. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15). It is no coincidence that modern versions alter this verse to take "study" out of it. The irony is that modern Pentecostals claim the guidance of the Spirit, yet deny Him when it comes to the purity of the Bible. "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13a).
- (2) Those "that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction". Wresting the Scriptures means changing or altering them into what they do not mean. It can only bring destruction and the undermining of faith. Trust in God to preserve His Word throughout history is the only consistent way. The received Bible is the King James Bible in English. Only the unlearned and unstable want to deny the purity of God's Word. The solution is to become learned in the things of God. Unfortunately, for many modern Pentecostals they are surrounded by teachers who open them up to the false scholarship of modern versions. The spiritual law of Proverbs 13:20 thus comes into operation "He that walketh with wise *men* shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed."

"Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in *his* talk." (Matthew 22:15).

The Pharisees talked many times of the law and tradition but refused the true law and tradition. They were false scholars. They went against the Truth-Maker Himself. Where does this put them? The fact is that today the new Pharisees have put their firm "modern version" laws in place within the modernist churches. These laws include:

- (1) No-one should say that there is a pure and perfect Bible today. This is especially the case with the King James Bible.
- (2) No-one should criticise the modern versions because then people's faith is criticised.
- (3) Do not say that God preserved His word throughout history because we can never be sure of the wording of bibles.
- (4) It is impossible to translate exactly from one language to another.
- (5) God did not superintend the translation of the English Bible. To say this is exalting English unnecessarily.
- (6) Avoid King James Bible only people because they are divisive and simple minded.
- (7) King James Bible only doctrine is unscholarly. Today's scholars are far in advance of the King James Bible translators.

There are many more such Pharisee-type laws amongst the modern version scholars. This law has been imposed upon the Pentecostals by stealth and now through ridicule if any dare question their modern version position. However, the reality is that Traditional Pentecostals do have the true law (i.e. the true Bible) and the true tradition (i.e. holiness), so should resist any adherence to the modernist scholars and their false laws.

There is a simple observation that can be made concerning modern versions, which is that they seek to turn people away from a simple faith in one, pure Bible. A warning against this type of thing is seen in the case of Elymas the sorcerer.

"But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also *is called* Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, *thou* child of the devil, *thou* enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord *is* upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a

darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand." (Acts 13:8–11).

In this, we see Elymas the sorcerer was "seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith". Paul was "filled with the Holy Ghost", so could see the reality in the spirit. Then, he asked the question that can be applied even today: "wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?"

Those filled with the Holy Ghost should be able to see through the perversions created by modern versions. They should be able to see the reality of spiritual truth — "there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." (Galatians 1:7b). They should be able to recognise the King James Bible as the pure Bible for today.

There has been a great clouding in today's churches, so that many cannot see the false scholarship for what it is. "As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." (2 Peter 3:16). We can even see just from this Scripture alone that "hard to be understood" is no excuse to water down the Word of God.

#### What is the future of Pentecostalism?

It is surely one of the great mysteries of our time that Christians can purport to seek the power and wisdom of God in their lives yet deny the very things that they seek.

"The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. The law of his God *is* in his heart; none of his steps shall slide." (Psalm 37:30, 31). Note the connection between the law or Word of God in a person's heart and what comes out of the mouth. The proportion of error in a person's heart will determine how much foolishness comes out of the mouth. Thus, we find the modern

version users denying pure religion, rejecting godly tradition, rejecting God's laws, and "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:5). Yes, it is true that Traditional Pentecostals (indeed all who hold to the pure King James Bible) should turn away from modern versionists, particularly those who vehemently oppose a pure Bible stand.

"But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach" (Romans 10:8). Note that the words of God cannot get into a person's heart unless (1) they exist (2) they are available to preach (3) they are preached (4) people hear them and believe them. As for me and my house, we will not hear or believe the error of modernists. Will you take a similar stand?

The words of God provide a firm foundation for holiness in the Church or house of God. Without such, the churches become weak in the area of holiness, which affects doctrine and godliness. "Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O LORD, for ever." (Psalm 93:5).

Note that God's testimonies are sure. These testimonies are found in the Holy Bible, not in any error-ridden book. The King James Bible is the Holy Bible for today and traditional Pentecostals hold to this as sure. The colon after sure in this verse leads on into the statement about holiness, which can be seen to influence how the Church is today. **No surety in the Bible means no surety in holiness.** This is a very serious issue.

"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." (1 Corinthians 2:4, 5).

Traditional Pentecostals have made much of operating in the power of God and rightly so but it is imperative that the basis of this is "not

with enticing words of man's wisdom". Perhaps this explains the powerlessness of much of the present Pentecostal sphere as adherence to modernism and modern versions has taken hold. The trend of correcting the King James Bible, even when it is used for preaching, is an undermining trend that causes people to lack trust in the clear readings they hear preached.

Our faith does not stand in the wisdom of men but in what God has said and clear those words are! "So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17).

The term "King James Bible Only" is applied to those who believe they have the standard of God's Word in one book. It is not a term to be ashamed about, even though some use it in derision. We can ask the gainsayers: "Do you have certainty? Do you have one Bible? Do you have a standard you can point to and read and understand?"

"That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed." (Luke 1:4). God wants His people to have certainty, not confusion or uncertainty. The tradition that has come from God is one of certainty — certainty of preservation of God's words, certainty that God does not lie, certainty that the Gospel is clear in one Bible to be "preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations" (see Matthew 24:14). The Traditional Pentecostal is not a person of doubt and uncertainty but one who recognises the providence of God and His work in the Earth.

The King James Bible we have received is good and perfect and it has been given by God. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." (James 1:17). No variableness means perfect certainty, praise the Lord.

There is obviously a lack of growth in those who use modern versions. We observe the disintegration of faith, of true doctrine, of holiness, and of faithfulness to the Lord. On the other hand, those Pentecostals who hold to the King James Bible as pure and perfect grow in God at a wonderful rate, and have a great love of the truth. None of this is coincidence.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2). Just like newborn babes, Christians must have the proper desire for the sincere milk of the word. This word "sincere" should be thought about because it shows that the word from God that is to be desired must be true, pure, excellent, holy and righteous — this is sincere and not to be denied. Do you want to grow? Then partake of that which has the purity and strength of God invested in it — the King James Bible.

The Bible tells us that Christians should "stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel" (Philippians 1:27b). This can be done effectively when the one Bible is used to unify believers. The one Bible has the one gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ who is God our Saviour. Traditional Pentecostals stand for this.

Modern versions take away from "the faith of the gospel" by:

- (1) Undermining unity in the Church. How can all have one spirit and one mind when there are competing "bibles"?
- (2) Undermining the deity of Christ in many ways through the changing of words.
- (3) Turning people away from the idea that there is one true and perfect Bible, specifically the King James Bible.

With a proper view of the Bible, we can stand: "in nothing terrified by your adversaries" (see Philippians 1:28).

#### What is God's final Word?

The Biblical definition of the fear of the Lord is clear: "The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate." (Proverbs 8:13).

The hatred of evil is absolutely necessary to have a holy life, "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." (2 Corinthians 7:1). It is no coincidence that the promises of God are found in the Bible, which is likened to cleansing water. "That he might sanctify and cleanse it [the Church] with the washing of water by the word" (Ephesians 5:26). Jesus said: "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." (John 15:3).

The Traditional Pentecostal will not only live a holy life but will also have a Holy Bible to keep himself cleansed from filthiness (see also Romans 1:2 and 2 Timothy 3:15). The filth of modern versions cannot cleanse anyone from filthiness, so it is no wonder that unbelief and unholiness is characteristic of the modernist churches. Repentance is necessary. Turning to God to acknowledge the King James Bible as the Holy Bible is necessary.

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death." (Proverbs 14:12).

It may seem to many today that a contemporary, "up-to-date bible" is the way to go but this way is disastrous because it takes hold of wrong beliefs and philosophies. For example, it assumes that the Bible can be changed to suit man, it assumes that God has not put a fixed, pure Word into the Earth, it assumes that today's scholarship is the best and is continually getting better. However, the Traditional Pentecostal knows that the Spirit of wisdom is the guide, not man. "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13a). The proper tradition received is the true way. This tradition has been shown to lead conclusively to the King James Bible. To accept another way is to accept a way that comes from devilish wisdom and it is to be repented of. "This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish." (James 3:15).

Do you want to be powerful in God? Do you want to "be strong, and do exploits" for God (see Daniel 11:32). Then, you must believe God's Word utterly. You must go from the modernist trend of self-exaltation and lack of holiness and come to believe without fail the Holy Bible, which has no error or lies in it.

"I believe the Word of God is so powerful that it can transform any and every life." (Smith Wigglesworth, *Wilt thou be made whole?*, September 1927).

The forgers of lies — the modernist scholars who propagate modernist "bibles" — produce no value for a holy life. Traditional Pentecostals understand this and see what God has placed as valuable, namely His pure Word in the Earth today — it produces faith and strength, which is the very opposite of what the modern versions are doing to people today. "But ye *are* forgers of lies, ye *are* all physicians of no value." (Job 13:4).

If Christians are to have holy lives, then they need the Holy Bible that they can trust in every word. The pioneers of Traditional Pentecostalism have unequivocally pointed to the King James Bible as that Holy Bible to trust. "What is faith? That you dig into this Book and you come to God like this and you say, 'God, as far as I know, that Book is true." (John G. Lake, How to receive eternal life, 1924, Author's emphasis added). In fact, John G. Lake maintained that consecration to God rested in having: "A knowledge of the teaching of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, whose words are the final authority, the bar where every question must be brought for final decision. The words of every other must be measured, and their value determined by the statements of Jesus Christ". (John G. Lake, The Power of Consecration to Principle, 1924).

God's Word is right, and the King James Bible is the perfect book for Traditional Pentecostals. "Thy word *is* very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it." (Psalm 119:140). This is the final Word for the believer in Christ.

## HOW TO KNOW THE PURE CAMBRIDGE EDITION OF THE KING JAMES BIBLE

It is important to have the correct, perfect and final text of the King James Bible, since there are correctors (e.g. publishers) who have changed some aspects of King James Bible texts. The final form of the King James Bible is the Pure Cambridge Edition (circa 1900), which conforms to the following:

- 1. "or Sheba" not "and Sheba" in Joshua 19:2
- 2. "sin" not "sins" in 2 Chronicles 33:19
- 3. "Spirit of God" not "spirit of God" in Job 33:4
- 4. "whom ye" not "whom he" in Jeremiah 34:16
- 5. "Spirit of God" not "spirit of God" in Ezekiel 11:24
- 6. "flieth" not "fleeth" in Nahum 3:16
- 7. "Spirit" not "spirit" in Matthew 4:1
- 8. "further" not "farther" in Matthew 26:39
- 9. "bewrayeth" not "betrayeth" in Matthew 26:73
- 10. "Spirit" not "spirit" in Mark 1:12
- 11. "spirit" not "Spirit" in Acts 11:28
- 12. "spirit" not "Spirit" in 1 John 5:8