

The Text of Scripture and the Biblical Hook

The Text of Scripture

I. Inaccurate quotation.

- A. Edgar Cayce: Jesus said, "I will bring all things to thy remembrance."
(Jn. 14:25-26)
- B. Edgar Cayce: Jesus said, "The whole Gospel is [the Great Commandment]" (Mt. 22:37-39)
- C. Maharishi Mahesh Yogi: "Be still and know that I am God."

II. Twisted translation.

- A. Jehovah's Witnesses.
 - 1. Denial of Trinity (Col. 1:15-17; Jn. 1:1, Phil 2:6, Titus 2:13, 2 Pe. 1:1, Rev. 3:14, Prov. 8:22).
 - 2. Altered text to conform to their own beliefs (eisegesis).
- B. Mormons ("so long as it is translated correctly").
 - 1. The Bible plus:
 - a. Book of Mormon.
 - b. Doctrines and Covenants.
 - c. Pearl of Great Price.
 - 2. The Bible was corrupted and needed to be corrected.
 - a. Book of Mormon came down from heaven on golden tablets, kept for two years, then returned to heaven.
 - b. No historical manuscripts to support Book of Mormon.

Scripture as Rhetoric

III. The Biblical Hook.

- A. What is it?
 - 1. Definition: Using a Bible passage to get someone's attention.
 - 2. Examples:
 - a. The Bible says...
 - b. Jesus said...
 - 3. To gain instant credibility.
- B. A pretext (or hook) on which to hang one's own ideas.
- C. Mormon example.
 - 1. Teen age Joseph Smith confused about different churches.
 - 2. Came across James 1:5 (If anyone lacks wisdom...).

3. Went to the woods and was praying for wisdom.
 - a. Two personages appeared to him.
 - b. One pointed to the other: This is my beloved Son, hear him.
 - 1) Another hook.
 - 2) Mk. 9:7 on the Mountain of Transfiguration.
4. Revealed to him that all the churches were corrupt.
5. Found the golden tablets.
 - a. Written in Egyptian hieroglyphics.
 - b. Translated with a seer stone.
 - c. The Book of Mormon.
 - d. Returned them to the angel Moroni after translation.
6. If you pray and ask God to tell you if the Book of Mormon is true, He will confirm it in your heart. (Moroni 10:3-5).
7. The missionary concludes by declaring that God and Jesus are separate and distinct persons, each having a glorified and perfect body of flesh and bones.

Responding to such nonsense.

IV. Know the Bible and ask questions.

- A. Inaccurate quotation.
 1. Where does it say that?
 2. What does it mean in the historical and textual context?
 3. How did you get from that quote to your claim?
- B. Twisted translation.
 1. What justifies your translation over standard translations?
 2. JW: C.T. Russel claimed to know Hebrew and Greek but was proved to be a liar in a libel trial in 1913.
 3. How do you know the Bible is corrupted? Where?
- C. The Biblical Hook.
 1. Recognize what is being done to you.
 2. The context of "the hook."
 - a. Biblical wisdom is using knowledge in a practical way.
 - b. Smith's wisdom is subjective revelation from God.
 3. What the Scripture says.
 - a. Gal. 1: 8-9 ... any other Gospel...
 - b. Acts 17: 11-12 Bereans searched the Scripture.
 - c. Mt. 24:11 ...many false prophets will arise...
- D. To be hooked on Scripture is to be hooked on Truth.