

4-23-17 MESSAGE
YOUNG CARCASSES FALLING BY THE WAYSIDE

I Kings 13:1 And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Beth-el: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense.

I Kings 13:2 And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, ***Josiah by name***; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee.

I Kings 13:3 And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This is the sign which the LORD hath spoken; Behold, the altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out.

I Kings 13:4 And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Beth-el, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him.

I Kings 13:5 The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

I Kings 13:6 And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Entreat now the face of the LORD thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God besought the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before.

I Kings 13:7 And the king said unto the man of God, Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a reward.

I Kings 13:8 And the man of God said unto the king, If thou wilt give me half thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place:

I Kings 13:9 For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest.

I Kings 13:10 So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Beth-el.

I Kings 13:11 Now there dwelt an old prophet in Beth-el; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Beth-el: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father.

I Kings 13:12 And their father said unto them, What way went he? For his sons had seen what way the man of God went, which came from Judah.

I Kings 13:13 And he said unto his sons, Saddle me the ass. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon,

I Kings 13:19 So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water.

I Kings 13:20 And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came unto the prophet that brought him back:

I Kings 13:21 And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee,

I Kings 13:22 But camest back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place, of the which the LORD did say to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers.

I Kings 13:23 And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, to wit, for the prophet whom he had brought back.

I Kings 13:24 And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him: and his carcase was cast in the way, and the ass stood by it, the lion also stood by the carcase.

I Kings 13:25 And, behold, men passed by, and saw the carcase cast in the way, and the lion standing by the carcase: and they came and told it in the city where the old prophet dwelt.

I Kings 13:26 And when the prophet that brought him back from the way heard thereof, he said, It is the man of God, who was disobedient unto the word of the LORD: therefore the LORD hath

delivered him unto the lion, which hath torn him, and slain him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake unto him.

I Kings 13:27 And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And they saddled him.

I Kings 13:28 And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.

I Kings 13:29 And the prophet took up the carcase of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back: and the old prophet came to the city, to mourn and to bury him.

I Kings 13:30 And he laid his carcase in his own grave; and they mourned over him, saying, Alas, my brother!

I Kings 13:31 And it came to pass, after he had buried him, that he spake to his sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones:

I Kings 13:32 For the saying which he cried by the word of the LORD against the altar in Beth-el, and against all the houses of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass.

Intro: Why did the Lord allow all this to happen to this prophet?

Imagine a great bold young prophet is tragically killed, and all because an old prophet decides to lie to him, deceiving him, and getting him to stray from the Word of God. First let us look at the details of this account:

1. Note: the dramatic and bold, display on the part of this young prophet

I Kings 13:2 And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, **Josiah by name**; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee.

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I Kings 13:5 The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD.

2. Note: the admiration of this young man on the part of this old Prophet:

I Kings 13:11 Now there dwelt an old prophet in Beth-el; and his sons came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that day in Beth-el: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them they told also to their father.

I Kings 13:12 And their father said unto them, What way went he? For his sons had seen what way the man of God went, which came from Judah.

I Kings 13:13 And he said unto his sons, Saddle me the ass. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon,

I Kings 13:14 And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak: and he said unto him, Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah? And he said, I am.

I Kings 13:15 Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread.

I Kings 13:16 And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place:

I Kings 13:17 For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

3. Note the deception on the part of the old prophet in order to gain the respect of this young man:

I Kings 13:15 Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread.

I Kings 13:16 And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place:

I Kings 13:17 For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

I Kings 13:18 He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him.

I Kings 13:19 So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water.

Note it says, BUT HE LIED UNTO HIM! how sad it is that this old prophet resorted to lies in order to gain the respect of this young man.

He lied about receiving revelation from the Lord, the Lord never spoke to him. He made up the whole story.

Do highly respected men lie in order to gain the respect of their colleagues? YES.

Example: Missing link, Piltdown man.

Piltdown was an archaeological site in England where in 1908 and 1912 fossil remains of human, ape and other mammals were found. In 1913 at a nearby site was found an ape's jaw with a canine tooth worn down like a human's. The general community of British paleoanthropologists came to accept the idea that the fossil remains belonged to a single creature who had a human cranium and an ape's jaw. In 1953, Piltdown 'man' was exposed as a forgery. The skull was modern and the teeth on the ape's jaw had been filed down.

The men who conjured up the lie were all older distinguished English men. The world of academia would never have thought them to lie! Yet they did!

Charles Dawson, was an amateur archaeologist who brought in the first cranial fragments from Piltdown;

Tielhard de Chardin, theologian and scientist who accompanied Dawson and Arthur Smith Woodward (Keeper of Geology at the British Museum Natural History in 1912) to Piltdown on expeditions where they discovered the mandible; W.J. Sollas, a professor of geology at Oxford; Grafton Elliot Smith, who wrote a paper on the find in 1913;

Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes; and Martin A.C. Hinton, a curator of zoology at the time of the Piltdown hoax. A trunk with Hinton's initials on it was found in an attic of London's Natural History Museum. The trunk contained bones stained and carved in the same way as the Piltdown fossils.

4. Note: How God, ironically enough, speaks through the old prophet to tell the young prophet of his punishment.

I Kings 13:20 And it came to pass, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came unto the prophet that brought him back:

I Kings 13:21 And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee,

I Kings 13:22 But camest back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place, of the which the LORD did say to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers.

5. Note: How the young prophet is killed by a lion in the way:

The lion is satisfied to kill the young man, but he doesn't eat him.

I Kings 13:28 And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.

Why did God allow a lion to kill this young man?

Obviously, it was supernatural, because the lion did not eat the man.

A lion does not kill to kill, and in fact the lion would much rather eat the donkey than the man.

The whole incident was obviously not natural, and people took note of it as being supernatural.

WHAT ARE THE SPIRITUAL LESSONS WE SHOULD LEARN FROM THIS ACCOUNT?

I. THE SPIRITUAL CARCASS OF MANY A YOUNG MAN HAS FALLEN BY THE WAY SIDE BECAUSE THE ROARING LION HAS GOTTEN PERMISSION TO ATTACK HIM..

I Kings 13:28 And he went and found his carcase cast in the way, and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass.

SATAN AS A ROARING LION SEEKETH WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR, AND HE WILL USE EVEN SO CALLED MEN OF GOD TO ACCOMPLISH HIS PURPOSE.

I Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

How does Satan get permission to destroy many a young prophet?

He is called the accuser of the brethren:

Remember who this young man is: He was a prophet, and the prophets represented the dedicated ones, the ones who loved God the most, the ones who were the spiritual leaders.

AND WHO ARE THE SPIRITUAL LEADERS IN THIS DISPENSATION?
WHAT IS THE SIN THAT GOD WARNS SPIRITUAL LEADERS ABOUT???

1. THE SIN THAT GIVES SATAN POWER OVER A SPIRITUAL LEADER MORE THAN ANY OTHER SIN IS FOUND IN I TIM. 3:6.

I Timothy 3:6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

PRIDE. PRIDE. PRIDE.

What is pride? Pride is the sin of the devil which he invented. It's when we want to magnify ourselves above God, and there are two forms of pride.

Satan was the originator of the sin. He invented it and he has the patent on it. There is no one that can spot it more than he can.

He can spot even the smallest speck of pride in our person.

There is pride that comes from within when we magnify ourselves.

And there is pride that comes from without when we accept flattery that we do not deserve.

The warning is given in I Tim. to spiritual leaders, the modern day prophets. If we be lifted up in pride we will fall into the condemnation of the devil.

A. WHAT IS THE ESSENCE OF PRIDE?

It is in our sinful nature to want to magnify men above the word of God! God is no respecter of persons, and in fact God will often use the most unlikely people because He wants to get the glory.

Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

Pride is when we take credit for something that God deserves credit for.

When we accept man's opinions or lies as authoritative above God's word we in essence flatter men, and take away from the glory of God and give it to another.

Many a young Prophet has been slain of Satan through the subtle deception of Pride:

Many years ago I had lunch with a preacher who was bragging about his ministry his Church. He had a T.V. & Radio ministry. Bragging about doing a funeral for a rich man in Halstead who "He said practically owned the town" Within one year I heard how this same big shot preacher fell into sin with a woman in the Church. He actually fell when he first flirted with pride..

B. REMEMBER THAT PRIDE IS THE EXALTATION OF MAN OVER GOD..

Paul said it clearly:

I Corinthians 3:5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

I Corinthians 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

I Corinthians 3:7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

WHEN WE EXALT MAN'S WORD OVER GOD'S WORD THIS IS A FORM OF PRIDE...
The devil will sniff this pride out and destroy us!

2. THE OTHER SIN THAT GIVES SATAN PERMISSION TO DESTROY US IS DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD.

The old sin of eating the forbidden fruit. The forbidden fruit of disobeying the word of God. The wages of sin is death.

God told the priests not to drink any wine or strong drink when they ministered in the Tabernacle. WHY?

Leviticus 10:9 Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations:

When did the Lord give this command? He gave it when Nadab and Abihu were killed while offering up strange fire to the Lord.

Leviticus 10:1 And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not.

Leviticus 10:2 And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

The Lord held a higher standard for His priests and if they disobeyed that standard He punished them.

Satan like a roaring lion seeks whom he may destroy. What is his great device to do this? It is none other than accusing us of sin! He entices us to sin and then when we sin he seeks permission to punish us. He is both the tempter and the prosecutor. He is said to have the power of death. Where does he get that power? He gets it from this truth: THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH. So the more men sin the more power he gets over men.

II. THE SPIRITUAL CARCASS OF MANY A YOUNG MAN HAS FALLEN BY THE WAYSIDE BECAUSE OF BEING DECEIVED BY MEN WHO LIE:

Romans 3:3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

Romans 3:4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

How many men are liars? The only truth there is is God's word. Only as our mind and words are conformed to the Word of God do we cease to be liars.

LET GOD BE TRUE AND EVERY MAN A LIAR.

WHEN WE DO NOT AGREE WITH THE WORD OF GOD WE ARE LIARS.

Why are we shocked that even distinguished old men can lie and do lie when they substitute their ideas and words as authoritative in place of the word of God?

1. HOW DO YOU DISCERN A LIE?

A LIE IS ANYTHING THAT IS CONTRARY TO THE KNOWN WORD OF GOD.

The young prophet would not have been held accountable if he did not know the truth and had not heard the truth. God spoke to him directly, there is no greater revelation than direct revelation. This is why his punishment was so severe. The greater the knowledge the greater the accountability. To whom much is given much is required. He should have recognized the lie because he had the truth. Anything contrary to the truth is a lie.

2. HOW DO WE DISCERN A LIAR?

Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

When we substitute our opinions and ideas in place of the Word of God, we are liars and everyone that follows a liar will ultimately be hurt.

I John 2:21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

I John 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

I John 2:23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.

Anyone who does not know Jesus Christ is bent on believing a lie. Because Jesus said:

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

There can be no agreement between believers and non believers. We are totally opposed.

II Corinthians 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

II Corinthians 6:15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

II Corinthians 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Why are we surprised when non believers lie? The father of all liars is the devil. Those who are of the devil will be liars!

2. WHY ARE GOD'S PEOPLE DECEIVED SO OFTEN?

Because of our sin nature, we want to magnify men above God.

So we have this older more distinguished prophet who wants to impress this younger prophet and how does he do it? He does it by making up some new revelation.

Watch out for those who are always finding new things that disagree with the fundamental truths of the Bible. They can offer up all kind of arguments why you should believe them. But remember the lesson from this young prophet.

III. WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THIS ERROR AND DECEPTION?

I Kings 13:14 And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak: and he said unto him, Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah? And he said, I am.

I Kings 13:15 Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread.

I Kings 13:16 And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place:

I Kings 13:17 For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

I Kings 13:18 He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him.

What was the last command God gave this young prophet?

I Kings 13:17 For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

1. IT COULD BE LIKE ELIJAH OF OLD THAT HE WAS THROWING A PITY PARTY FOR HIMSELF.

I Kings 19:4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

This young man wanted another commission and wanted another command. He desired comradry and probably was wishing for something to eat.

So he was drawn away of his own lusts, in contradiction to the Word of God.

2. More people get in trouble seeking something more than what God has for them.

God made His will known, go back but don't go back the same way you came, don't look back and return a different way, don't stay in Bethel, and don't accept any food or even water there.

So now he is hungry and thirsty, resting sitting under an oak, I Kings 13:14. The bread of idleness, breeds many sins.

It starts with our own discontentment. When we want something else besides what God wants for us. This is our sinful human nature. There is safety in complete obedience to God's will for us in this life.

Often we believe a lie because we want to believe in a lie. Maybe the young prophet was a bit lonely and wanted something else in his life.

3. *The best way to avoid temptation is to busy yourself with the things that you know you should be doing.*

I remember in my Bible College days, I was a deacon and minister of music in a local church. There was a Church split. I had no time to get involved. While they were idle under the oak tree, I kept walking the path that God directed me, and got in less trouble,

While you are sitting under oak trees feeling sorry for yourself, that is when the false prophet catches up to you.

Application:

Their are many young carcasses falling by the wayside today.

Maybe you are a new Christian. Satan wants to devour you.
Maybe you are one of the spiritual leaders. Satan wants you.
Maybe you are a young person. Satan wants you.
Bible College student. Satan wants you.
Sunday School teacher.
Faithful member.
Mom & Dad.

That can be your spiritual carcass that the devil wants to rip apart.

Your best defense is to obey the known Word of God in your life and busy yourself about doing it, and don't look back and don't turn back.

God never leads backwards.
Our God is a God of victory, he says move on.

God never led Israel back to Egypt.

Press forward in faith.
And don't look back.

When the devil tempts you to look back remember the lesson of this passage.

Invitation:

Satan, the roaring lion, is trying to destroy your faith.
False prophets would have you believe that the Bible full is full of contradictions: I say no, men are full of lies.

Romans 3:3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

Romans 3:4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

Satan would be so happy to devour you and destroy your soul..

EVENING SERVICE 4-23-17
EXAMPLE OF LYING PROPHETS TODAY
BUT HE LIED!

I Kings 13:14 And went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an oak: and he said unto him, Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah? And he said, I am.

I Kings 13:15 Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat bread.

I Kings 13:16 And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place:

I Kings 13:17 For it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way that thou camest.

I Kings 13:18 He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him.

I Kings 13:19 So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water.

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I Kings 13:21 And he cried unto the man of God that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee,

I Kings 13:22 But camest back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place, of the which the LORD did say to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcass shall not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers.

I Kings 13:23 And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, to wit, for the prophet whom he had brought back.

I Kings 13:24 And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him: and his carcass was cast in the way, and the ass stood by it, the lion also stood by the carcass.

I. BUT HE LIED: There are some who do not even believe the Bible but pretend to be ministers of God:

Bucks county community college, humanities class.
Advocates of Christ Humanity opposed His deity.

Clergyman with a big cross got up and lectured about how he knew Hebrew and Greek and had studied the original languages and nowhere in the original language did Jesus say that he was God. These liars always like to wave their credentials before they lie. The lying prophet said, "I AM A PROPHET LIKE YOU AND GOD SPOKE TO ME."

Here we have the expert the honorable and respected clergyman telling these college students that he is the authority.

No student can win against the teacher, by virtue of the fact that when you take a class in his classroom he is the authority and you are not.

It is his platform and not yours.

So in a situation like this you cannot win.

II. BUT HE LIED: There are those for the sake of position or job refuse to preach on certain subjects for fear of offending those who do not believe the Bible:

I have known many of a denominational Pastor that knowingly skirts around certain truths for fear of losing his position or large salary. I recall when I was a younger preacher conflicting with a Pastor whose salary was more than our whole church budget.

There are a lot of things in the Bible that you can preach that everyone agrees on and avoid other things that would divide you from others.

Billy Graham doesn't say anything wrong, but you will never hear him preach a message about the errors of the Catholic Church, or liberal Baptists, or World Council of Churches.

Could you imagine Bill Hybles doing what Nathan the prophet did to King David, to President Clinton, or Obama on moral issues. Would Nathan the prophet hold his peace if King David was trying to have equal rights for the Sodomites, and Homosexuals in Israel in his days?

III. THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE JUST MIMICKING WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT AND ARE TRUSTING THAT THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT RIGHT:

This is a subtle form of error that prevails in our day.

Most people in this case are those who have sat under a preacher who has sat under a professor who has learned from another professor, remember if you can't research it for yourself than I would put the matter on hold.

Area of textual criticism this is much of what takes place.

Simplify matters, 2 different greek Bibles,
Some significant differences,

Example 1

KJV

I Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

NIVI Tim 3:16

Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great: He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

Example 2

KJV

Revelation 22:19 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.

NIV

And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll.

Example 3

KJV

Acts 8:36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

Acts 8:37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Acts 8:38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

NIV

Acts 8:36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" 37 c

Acts 8:38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

(note how verse 37 is left out with a footnote saying: Acts 8:37 Some manuscripts include here Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The eunuch answered, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.) (c)

Note the contrast between these two versions and then think of the multiple variations with the proliferation of translations. It would be like cherry picking what God really said.

I believe that old Satan is casting the carcass of many a young person by the wayside because of the confusion over this matter.

Psalms 119:89 {Lamed.} For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

Psalms 12:6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

Psalms 12:7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

Matthew 5:18 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.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Proverbs 30:6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

If in this account this prophet was so severely punished just because he failed to obey a little detail of the command, and allowed himself to be deceived by the old lying prophet, don't you think for a moment that all these little changes that are being made in the Greek manuscripts is a minor thing. it is not.

It is evident that someone has tampered with the text and not for good reason.

Known fact that the two main editors of the Greek Bible used to translate all these new Bible versions were unbelievers and denied the deity of Christ, the virgin birth, rejected a literal creation as accounted of in Genesis 1,2, 3, and were out right doctrinal heretics. But they were

well educated and respected so their Critical text gradually replaced the Greek Bible that was used to translate the King James Bible.

So the old prophet lies and the young prophet suffers for it.

I wonder how many spiritual carcasses have fallen by the wayside because of the confusion brought on by Wescott and Hort.

IV. THERE ARE SOME MEN WHO ARE PURPOSELY MANIPULATING PEOPLE INTO FOLLOWING THEIR LEADERSHIP BECAUSE THEY WANT TO BE POPULAR.

There is a way to preach that encourages people to magnify the preacher more than the savior.

We are in an entertainment-oriented society and people today want to have their ears tickled. People today enjoy being entertained and love when men exalt themselves and entertain them.

II Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

II Timothy 4:3 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;

Men want to exalt men because it makes them feel better about themselves.

Jeremiah 5:30 A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land;

Jeremiah 5:31 The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?

In the life of Paul we can see a great example of what happens when you seek to magnify Christ rather than self.

Acts 14:11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

Acts 14:12 And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker.

Acts 14:13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

Acts 14:14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

Acts 14:15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

Acts 14:16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

Acts 14:17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

Acts 14:18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

Acts 14:19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

Acts 14:20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

Note how if Paul was willing to receive the glory and exalt himself inordinately then he would have been received. However because he told the truth and restrained the people later he was stoned. II Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. People love to exalt men rather than God.

Conclusion:

Remember the lesson of the young prophet, and we each need to take heed that we are not enamored with the word of men over the word of God.

This is one of the devices of the serpent, old Satan, to try and get you to be influenced by the ideas and opinions of men over the Word of God.

Remember that Satan used the Serpent to get Eve to sin and then uses here to influence Adam. What more subtle way is it to get men to sin then to use men who are smart and distinguished to misrepresent the word of God.

Didn't Moses loose the privilege of going into the promise land for this very reason? He failed to obey the Word of God. A small detail! What's the big deal some would say, so he smote the rock rather than speaking to it.

Those who follow the liars would have you to believe that it is only a small thing, and God will not be upset about it.

That Old Prophet could have said, it's only a minor detail that God said don't eat in this place. Small detail we might say, that God told Eve don't eat from the fruit.

So today we are still reasoning away the commands of God.

Don't be deceived, because ultimately it is you who will get hurt!