

Turning Scripture On Its Head

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Though the word of the Lord is “For ever...settled in heaven” (Ps. 119:89) and “...the scripture cannot be broken” (Jn. 10:35), many today are turning Scripture on its head. Let me give you some examples. These either have an inverted Bible or a perverted position!

1) **Good And Evil.** Ever since Eden’s garden when the devil presented evil as good (Gen. 3:1-6), many have turned good and evil upside down. We are taught: “Depart from evil, and do good...” (Ps. 34:14, 37:27). “....Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good” (Rom. 12:9). “...I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil” (Rom. 16:19). “...eschew evil, and do good...” (1 Pet. 3:11). In a time like Isaiah’s day, when there are those “... that call evil good, and good evil...” (Is. 5:20), one might think the Scriptures teach depart from good and do evil; abhor good and cleave to evil; be wise unto evil and simple concerning good; eschew good and do evil! Lest we forget, “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” (Prov. 15:3) and “...God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret

thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil” (Eccl. 12:14). The Scriptures set the standard as to what is good and evil!

2) **Marriage And Fornication.** The Bible teaches, “Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body” (1 Cor. 6:18). Further, “Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband” (1 Cor. 7:2). How do you read this? Many today have it backwards, as the trend is to ‘shack up’ together without marriage! Does your Bible teach you — to avoid marriage, let every man and woman commit fornication?

3) **Husbands And Wives.** The book that I read says, “Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife...” (Eph. 5:22-23). How does your book read? Husbands submit to your wives? For the wife is the head of the husband? This does not mean that the woman is man’s slave or that a husband is to be abusive to his wife. Not at all!

Husbands are taught, “...love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it” (Eph. 5:25) and “So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies...” (Eph. 5:28). There is a divine order to be observed and respected. “...the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God” (1 Cor. 11:3). If woman is the head of man, then is man the head of Christ and of God?

4) **Christ And The Church.** One inversion often leads to another. As folks have inverted the husband-wife relationship, they have turned the relationship between Christ and the church upside down. The word of God states, “...even as Christ is the head of the church...as the church is subject unto Christ...” (Eph. 5:23-24). Instead of Christ being the “one lawgiver” (Jas. 4:12) and the church doing all by His authority (Col. 3:17), men have sought to turn the church into a law-making body and put Christ into a place where He is subject to their whims and wishes! Remember, “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God....” (2 Jn. 9).

5) **Parents And Children.** The Scriptures teach, "Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:1-4). Some have turned this around in such a way that instead of parents commanding honour and obedience of their children, parents ask the children and the children order the parents! The Book still says, "A wise son heareth his father's instruction..." (Prov. 13:1).

6) **Persuading Men And Pleasing God.** The word of God stresses the importance of

pleasing God and persuading men. 1 Thessalonians 4:1 records, "Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more." 2 Corinthians 5:11 states, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men..." (2 Cor. 5:11). Paul wrote the Galatians, "For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ" (Gal. 1:10). Some have it backwards, trying to please men and persuade God to accept them as they are.

7) **Faith, Baptism, And Salvation.** Jesus taught, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved..." (Mk. 16:16).

The divine order is faith, baptism, salvation. The religious world has turned this Scripture on its head. The Universalist says, "He that believeth not and is not baptized shall be saved." The Roman Catholic says, "He that believeth not and is baptized shall be saved." The Protestant says, "He that believeth and is not baptized shall be saved."

Never forget the fact that "...the word of the Lord is right..." (Ps. 33:4). As Paul declared, "...yea, let God be true, but every man a liar..." (Rom. 3:4). If we are upside down with the Scriptures, we need to change our beliefs to fit the Bible instead of trying to change the word of the Lord to suit what we believe.

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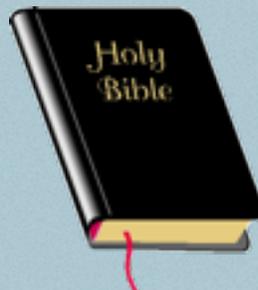
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