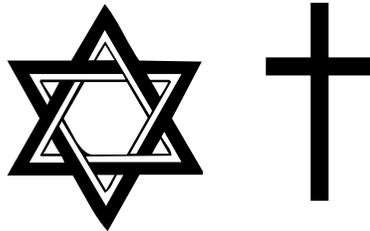


Some Observations on the King James Bible

Nonsense Verses and
Contradictions Found in
The Holy Bible KJV

John O'Sullivan



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Revelation 22:12
And, behold, I come quickly; and
my reward is with me, to give
every man according as
his work shall be.

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This book is dedicated to two
Christian preachers who spoke
blessings over me...

Matthew Ashimolowo

and

Bill Winston

Introduction

In 2019 or 2020 I decided to read the Bible from cover to cover, for the purpose of learning how to live. I started with Genesis. As I read I noticed a number of apparent contradictions and inconsistencies and I decided to write them down. By the time I got half way through Numbers I put my bible down for a while.

I picked it up again early in 2021 but this time I decided to read all of The New Testament first and then go to The Old Testament afterwards. I finished studying the NT on the 2nd February, 2022. Again, I came across a large number contradictions and inconsistencies and I wrote these down. I also made notes of the verses that I liked.

I assumed that some contradictions were perhaps errors made by the scribes who wrote or copied the original manuscripts or were perhaps errors made by the translators. But clearly the two conflicting accounts of the death of Judas Iscariot (in Matthew 27:3-5 and Acts 1:18) indicate that one account (if not both) must be untrue. But all along I assumed that, on the whole, pretty much, the Bible could be trusted.

So I read Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, I & II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, I & II Thessalonians, I & II Timothy, Titus and Philemon. I came across a number of contradictions, and a few things I did not agree with but overall I was happy and liked a lot of what I read.

But by the time I reached chapter five or six of Hebrews I was utterly dumbfounded at what I was reading. It seemed to me then and it seems to me now that many, if not most of the verses in Hebrews (particularly in chapters 9 to 12) are nonsense, many of them pure meaningless gibberish, unintelligible. And not only that but, because there are *so many* nonsense verses, it seems to me to be *deliberate* nonsense, *deliberate* gibberish, designed to deceive the reader.

I'm talking about the Standard (not 1611) King James Version of the Bible here which I suspect is a fairly literal translation of the original Greek (in the NT). Other translations (e.g. the NIV, New International

Version) try to make sense out of the nonsense in Hebrews (and other books in the Bible). I think the NIV and some other versions translators may have said to themselves regarding each nonsense verse in Hebrews and elsewhere: “well it’s not clear but he *must* mean so and so” and they then translated the verses accordingly. So Hebrews has some semblance of sense or reason in some other translations but not in the SKJV (it seems to me).

Why would someone write such a book of deliberate nonsense? And what is this book doing in The Holy Bible?

After studying Hebrews I was on the lookout for more deliberate gibberish in the Bible.

Following Hebrews is the book of James which I liked. James is my favorite book in the New Testament apart from the four Gospels. No nonsense here, plain english with plain meanings.

After James I read I & II Peter, I & II & III John, and Jude. These were not very memorable for me.

And finally, the book of Revelation. Any nonsense there? I’ll show you what I have found and you can judge for yourself.

Words in [square brackets] are mine. Quotations from the KJV Bible are in the Helvetica font and my comments are in the Palatino [this] font.

Most of the quotes from the KJV Bible are taken from this website...

www.kingjamesbibleonline.org

Sometimes, when my internet connection was down, I quoted from ...

The King James Version of the Holy Bible downloaded from www.holybooks.com

Chapter 1

The Torah (The Law)

Genesis Chapter 1

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day...

14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

God created the sun and the moon on the fourth day (verses 16 and 19). So where did the light come from on the first three days? Evening and morning (v5) have to do with the sun shining on a rotating planet Earth but there was no sun until the fourth day.

Genesis Chapter 1

29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

It seems that, from the creation, not only humankind, but all land animals as well, were on a vegan diet until after the flood of Noah (which was approximately one and a half thousand years after the creation).

Genesis 9:3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

This is God speaking here, to Noah and his sons, after they came out of the ark. It seems eating flesh is now acceptable.

Genesis 4:21 And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.

The NIV has *flute* instead of *organ*. I would love to know how Jubal tuned his instruments.

Genesis 6:3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. [120 years]

Genesis 25:7 And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, an hundred threescore and fifteen years. [175 years]

Genesis 32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

Exodus 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend...

Exodus 33:20 And he [the Lord] said [to Moses], Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

Exodus 12:37-38

37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.

At this time the Israelites had flocks and herds and very much cattle.

Exodus 16:3-4

3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no.

It seems that at this time they were hungry (had no food to eat). So the flocks and herds and cattle must have been consumed or lost.

Exodus 17:3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?

Now they are thirsty but it seems they have cattle again.

Exodus 20:24 An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee.

Thy Sheep and thine oxen.

Exodus 35:2 Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a sabbath of rest to the LORD: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death.

Numbers Chapter 15

32 And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day.

33 And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation.

34 And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him.

35 And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp.

36 And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the LORD commanded Moses.

A man stoned to death for gathering sticks on the Sabbath. What would Jesus have done? I think Jesus would have forgiven the man.

Leviticus Chapter 14

14 And the priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and the priest shall put it upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot:

15 And the priest shall take some of the log of oil, and pour it into the palm of his own left hand:

16 And the priest shall dip his right finger in the oil that is in his left hand, and shall sprinkle of the oil with his finger seven times before the LORD:

This doesn't sound quite right to me.

Leviticus Chapter 14

49 And he shall take to cleanse the house two birds, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

50 And he shall kill the one of the birds in an earthen vessel over running water:

51 And he shall take the cedar wood, and the hyssop, and the scarlet, and the living bird, and dip them in the blood of the slain bird, and in the running water, and sprinkle the house seven times:

52 And he shall cleanse the house with the blood of the bird, and with the running water, and with the living bird, and with the cedar wood, and with the hyssop, and with the scarlet:

53 But he shall let go the living bird out of the city into the open fields, and make an atonement for the house: and it shall be clean.

And this doesn't sound quite right either.

Chapter Two

The New Testament

Here is one of the most well known contradictions in The New Testament, the differing accounts of the end of Judas Iscariot...

Matthew Chapter 27

3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.

5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.

Compare these verses with the account in Acts...

Acts 1:18 Now this man [Judas] purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

Which, if any, account is true? It can't be both.

Matthew Chapter 5 The Sermon on the Mount

1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Something not quite right about verse 11. ...Blessed are ye, when men...persecute you...for my sake... Can you see it? It doesn't say "they persecute you because you believe in me" or that "you suffer persecution for my sake" but rather "*they* persecute you... for *my* sake".

And verse 10... Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake. Can you spot the confusing phrasing? "persecuted for righteousness' sake" It doesn't say they are persecuted because they are righteous but rather that they are persecuted for *righteousness' sake* which doesn't make sense. These are mistakes (in verses 10 and 11) any writer could make. I wouldn't have pointed them out but for the fact that I see similar *mistakes* in numerous places all over the New Testament. The NT seems to be riddled with them. I've only read the first three-and-a-half books of the Old Testament but I have spotted a few similar *weird phrasings* there as well.

Look at chapter 5 verses 1 and 2 above. Is Jesus addressing the multitude or just his disciples? Matthew 7:28 indicates that he was addressing the multitude...

Matt 7:28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine

Now look at Matthew chapter 5:11-14...

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

He is telling *the multitude* that they are the salt of the earth, the light of the world. It seems to me that he is saying that *all* of them are the salt of the earth, *all* of them are the light of the world. *All* of them? Are *all* of the multitude heaven bound? Sounds unlikely to me.

Matthew Chapter 6

7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is

the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

In verse 7 Jesus warns against using vain repetitions when praying. Then he gives us The Lords Prayer (The Our Father) which presumably we are to repeat every time we pray.

Matthew Chapter 7

13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Strait is an archaic term for *narrow*.

Matthew Chapter 8

(two people possessed with devils)

28 And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.

29 And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

30 And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding.

31 So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

32 And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.

33 And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.

34 And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.

Compare with Mark 5:1-17...

Mark Chapter 5
(one man possessed with devils)

1 And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes.

2 And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit,

3 Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:

4 Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.

5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.

6 But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him,

7 And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.

8 For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.

9 And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many.

10 And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country.

11 Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding.

12 And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.

13 And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.

14 And they that fed the swine fled, and told it in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done.

15 And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

16 And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine.

17 And they began to pray him to depart out of their coasts.

It seems to me that Matthew 8:28-34 and Mark 5:1-17 are two different accounts of the same event. But in one account there are two demon possessed people and in the other account only one. Perhaps as the story was passed on from person to person it got confused before it was written down. There are many Christians who believe that the bible is the inerrant, infallible, perfect word of God. They believe that the two accounts above describe two different events that happen to have a few similarities. I don't.

Matthew 26:34 Jesus said unto him [Peter], Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

Matthew 26:74 Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew.

Matthew 26:75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.

Compare with...

Mark 14:30 And Jesus saith unto him [Peter], Verily I say unto thee, That this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice...

Mark 14:71 But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak.

Mark 14:72 And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept.

So in Matthew's account Peter denied Jesus before the cock crowed but in Mark's account it was before the cock crowed *twice*.

Matthew 8:5-13

5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

8 The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

10 When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

13 And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Compare the above with Luke 7:2-10...

1 Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum.

2 And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.

3 And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.

4 And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:

5 For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.

6 Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof:

7 Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.

8 For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

9 When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

10 And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

In Matthew's version the centurion came directly to Jesus (Matt 8:5) but in Luke's version the centurion sent elders of the Jews to ask Jesus to heal his servant (Luke 7:3).

And look at Matthew 8:11-12. Verse 11 says that *many... shall sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven*. But then verse 12 says that *the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness*. The children of the kingdom of heaven? Maybe he's talking about a kingdom other than the kingdom of heaven. The kingdom of Israel maybe. How does that sound? *The children of the kingdom of Israel will be cast into outer darkness*. All of them? This doesn't make any sense to me.

Matthew 15:11 Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.

I disagree. When I became a vegetarian (stopped eating flesh) sometime around 1989 I noticed that I felt better. I used to be a heavy smoker. I quit smoking in October 2012 and began to feel the benefits not long after. Early in 2020 I quit drinking beer and that made a difference as well. Early in 2021 I embarked on a vegan diet and this made a big, and positive, difference to my well being.

So for me, what does or does not go into my mouth is extremely important.

In Matthew and Mark's accounts of the crucifixion of Jesus both of the thieves crucified on either side of him reviled him. In Luke's account only one did. The other asked Jesus to remember him when he comes into his kingdom. Some Christians reason that in Luke's account one of the thieves must have reviled Him first but later "changed his mind".

Luke 20:34-36

34 And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage:

35 But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:

36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

So it seems there are no married couples in heaven.

Matthew Chapter 20

29 And as they departed from Jericho, a great multitude followed him.

30 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David.

31 And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David.

32 And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you?

33 They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened.

34 So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.

Compare with...

Mark Chapter 10

46 And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.

47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me.

48 And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.

49 And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.

50 And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.

51 And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.

52 And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Matthew Chapter 21

1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples,

2 Saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me.

3 And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.

Compare with...

Luke Chapter 19

30 Saying, Go ye into the village over against you; in the which at your entering ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat: loose him, and bring him hither.

31 And if any man ask you, Why do ye loose him? thus shall ye say unto him, Because the Lord hath need of him.

Matthew 27:54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

Compare with...

Luke Chapter 23:47 Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man.

Matthew Chapter 4

18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

Compare with...

John Chapter 1

40 One of the two which heard John [the Baptist] speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

John Chapter 2

1 And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there:

2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.

3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.

4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

5 His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.

6 And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.

7 Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.

8 And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it.

9 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine,

and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,

10 And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.

I have read that the greek word for wine (oinos) can mean unfermented grape juice or regular alcoholic wine. Some Christians who have zero tolerance for alcohol of any kind suggest that Jesus turned the water into grape juice. In verse 10 the governor says that the inferior wine is usually served after men have 'well drunk' the good wine. My (and I presume many others) interpretation of verse 10 is that when people have consumed the 'good' alcoholic wine and are a little bit 'merry' they don't notice that the alcoholic wine served later on is inferior. The *grape juice* scenario seems highly unlikely to me.

John 5:22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son [Jesus]

John 12:47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I [Jesus] judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

John Chapter 20

1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.

Compare this with...

Matthew Chapter 28

1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:

4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

10 Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

Romans Chapter 4 (Paul's words)

3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Compare with...

Revelation 22:12 And, behold, I [Jesus] come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

For me works are much more important than faith. See James 2:17-19...

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Romans Chapter 14

2 For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs.

3 Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him.

At the time of writing (8th February, 2022) I have been on a vegan (plant based) diet for about a year. I feel great and I don't think I will ever go back to consuming flesh or dairy products. I eat honey occasionally which is not strictly a vegan food. And I don't like the "another, who is *weak*, eateth herbs" part.

1 Corinthians Chapter 14

34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.

35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

I like to think that women and men are different but equal. If I was in charge of a church I would have no problem with women speaking.

Galatians Chapter 1

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

These are interesting verses. The apostle Paul is claiming that the Gospel (good news) he preaches was not received from (ordinary) men but from Jesus Christ Himself. Remember that if the Biblical narrative is accurate Paul had no communication with Jesus until *after* His death, resurrection and ascension into heaven.

Galatians 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Sounds good to me. The Golden Rule.

Galatians Chapter 5

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Ephesians Chapter 2

1 And you hath he quickened [made to live], who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation [way of life] in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

I have thought for many years, and still think, that 'works' (what we do or don't do) are much more important than 'faith' (what we believe) but maybe I'm wrong. Maybe right faith will produce good works. But as James said "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." (James 2:17).

Ephesians 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Compare this with...

Titus 3:1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

Paul is (supposedly) the author of both verses.

Ephesians Chapter 6

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Philippians 2:12 ...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Amen

1 Timothy 3:2-3 A bishop then must be blameless,... not given to wine...

So, no wine for bishops.

1 Timothy 3:8 Likewise must the deacons be grave,... not given to much wine...

The implication in verse 8 (it seems to me) is that drinking wine in moderation (not *much* wine) is acceptable (for deacons at least, but not for bishops). He is clearly not talking about grape juice: "not given to much grape juice" doesn't sound right. And look at...

1 Timothy 5:23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

If Paul was referring to alcoholic wine in 1 Tim 3:3 and 1 Tim 3:8 he was probably referring to alcoholic wine in 1 Tim 5:23, if he wasn't he should have clarified his meaning.

What I take from this is that moderate consumption of wine is acceptable which is good news for me because I drink, and enjoy, wine.

2 Timothy Chapter 3

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of

God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

Many Christians take this to mean that all scriptures (Old and New Testaments) are inerrant, infallible. This is clearly not the case, look at all the contradictions, inconsistencies and nonsensical verses I have highlighted in this book.

Titus 3:1-2 Put them in mind... to speak evil of no man...

Compare with...

2 Timothy 4:14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works

Paul (it seems) is the author of all three verses.

Now we're at Hebrews. Studying this book changed my whole perspective on the Bible. In the first few chapters I noticed quite a few verses that seemed nonsensical to me but by the time I got to chapter five or six there were so many of them that it was a joke. It was clear to me that such an amount of nonsense could not be an accident, the nonsense must have been deliberate. This caused me to have doubts about the bible as a whole.

As I said in the introduction, I am referring to the Standard King James Version of the Bible. Other bibles translate Hebrews differently and some translators try to make sense of the nonsense in Hebrews and translate accordingly.

Hebrews 2:8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.

There are so many verses like this in Hebrews, you have to read them several times to try and make sense out of seeming nonsense. In the verse above the last sentence seems to contradict the first.

Hebrew 2:10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

Make Jesus perfect through sufferings? I thought he was always perfect. Maybe the *captain* is referring to someone else, if so I would like to know who.

Hebrews 4:12 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.

I have always thought that the soul and the spirit are the same thing. I have heard explanations of how they are two distinct "things" but I don't believe them. So the "*dividing asunder of soul and spirit*" sounds strange to me. If the writer (definitely not Paul in my opinion) had said "*dividing asunder of body and soul*" or "*of body and spirit*" that would make sense to me.

And look at "*dividing asunder... of the joints and marrow*". *Dividing asunder the marrow from the bone* would make sense to me. As would *dividing asunder the shinbone from the thigh bone* but *dividing asunder the joints and marrow* is nonsense to me. Maybe I'm wrong but my understanding is that there is marrow in bones but not in joints. A joint is where two bones meet.

There are a lot of strangely phrased verses like this in Hebrews as we shall see.

While I'm at it Hebrews 4:12 contains this... "the word of God is quick and powerful... and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart". So the word of god must be a sentient being: the *word* is Jesus according to the gospel of John. Now substitute "Jesus" for "the word of God" and we get...

For [Jesus] 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.

No matter which way you look at it this is nonsense, gibberish.

Hebrews Chapter 5

8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience" Jesus could not have ever been disobedient to his Father if He was a perfect man who never sinned.

"And being made perfect" I thought that Jesus was *always* perfect.

Hebrews Chapter 6

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

3 And this will we do, if God permit.

“leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection” this one speaks for itself.

Hebrews Chapter 6

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

There was a time when I would have thought that these verses applied to me. Not any more.

And how can you put Christ to an open shame? If Jesus is who the Bible says He is He could never be put to shame.

Hebrews Chapter 8

6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

So the first covenant (the Law) had one or more *faults* and yet it was

made by God.

Hebrews 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts

Hebrews 16:10 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them.

Hebrews Chapter 9

8 The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

9 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;

Looking at the preceding and subsequent verses for some kind of context you could try to make some semblance of sense out of these two opaque verses but you have to work really hard to do it. The same is true of so many other verses in Hebrews (in the King James Version). There is very little *plain english* with *plain meanings*.

Hebrews 9:15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

My understanding is that *transgressors* can be redeemed, not *transgressions*.

Hebrews 9:23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

The *patterns* of things in the heavens should be purified [with animal sacrifices?] But the *things themselves* should be purified with better sacrifices? How do you purify a *pattern*? Gibberish.

Hebrews 10:1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

So the law had a *shadow* of good things to come but not the very *image* of the things. What is this supposed to mean? More nonsense.

Hebrews Chapter 10

26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

These verses are similar to Hebrews 6:4-6, see my comment there.

Hebrews 10:35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

Recompense and reward mean the same thing. So, the writer is saying “your confidence which has great recompense of recompense” or “reward of reward”.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

I've tried and tried but I can't find any meaning or usefulness in this verse. To me it is more gibberish.

Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Even more gibberish.

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

I thought that *God* condemned the world, not Noah, when He sent the flood.

Hebrews 11:11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Women do not *conceive seed*. They conceive children. Seed comes from men.

Hebrews 11:26 [Moses was] Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

The *reproach of Christ* could mean Christ's disapproval of Moses which

is unlikely. The *reproach of Christ* could also infer what Christ suffered at the cross. Either way the verse is saying that Moses would prefer either of these to the treasures in Egypt which makes no sense. You could argue that Moses would prefer to suffer what Christ suffered *in order to attain salvation* than to have the treasures of Egypt but that is not what the verse says. You really have to work hard to make sense out of the nonsense.

And how could Moses know what the reproach of Christ was if Christ wasn't going to appear for at least a thousand years after Moses' death? Maybe God told him.

And again we see "the recompense of the reward". Recompense and reward have the same meaning. The reward of the reward.

Hebrews 11:27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

Hebrews 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

A better resurrection? I thought you were either resurrected to life or you weren't. I didn't know that some resurrections were better than others.

Hebrews 12:1 ...and let us run with patience the race that is set before us

Run with patience? If the writer had said run with endurance or perseverance or speed that would make sense. How do you run patiently? The NIV (New International Version) translators used the word 'perseverance' instead of 'patience' which makes sense, but is it an accurate translation?

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

My understanding is, if the gospel accounts are to be trusted, Jesus endured the cross because it was His Father's will and/or because He loved us. I doubt that he did it *for the joy that was set before him*.

Jesus *despised the shame*. What does this mean?

Hebrews 12:13 And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

Let *what* be healed? The words 'that' and 'it' imply a thing, not a person. Maybe 'that' and 'it' refer to a human's lame leg. If so, we get: *lest [the lame leg] be turned out of the way*. More gibberish.

Hebrews 12:28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

Let us have grace? As if we could choose one way or another. It is not for us to decide whether or not to have grace. That is up to God. Maybe we could *earn* grace, or *pray for* grace, but we certainly cannot switch it on or off at will.

Hebrews Chapter 13

1 Let brotherly love continue.

2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

5 Let your conversation [way of life] be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

There is something very strange about these verses, I noticed it as soon as I had read them. Why are they strange?

Because every sentence is in plain english with plain meanings. No confusion, no vagueness, no ambiguities, no contradictions. We don't have to bend over backwards to try to find some 'hidden' meaning. The meanings are plain to see and understand. This doesn't happen very often in Hebrews, especially in the latter chapters.

After studying Hebrews, James was a breath of fresh air.

James Chapter 2

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

These are some of my favorite verses in the Bible.

2 Peter 1:16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

It seems to me that Hebrews and Revelation are *cunningly devised fables*. And there are plenty other verses, both in the New Testament and the Old that I have serious doubts about.

1 John Chapter 2

7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

...I write no new commandment unto you...a new commandment I write unto you...

1 John 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time...

Exodus 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.

Chapter Three

Revelation

Revelation 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me...

Obviously you cannot *see* a voice. One would think that the writer *meant* to say "I turned to see who was speaking" which makes sense. This could be a simple mistake that any writer could make. I only draw attention to this verse because there are *so many* errors like this in Revelation, too many to be an accident, it seems to me.

Revelation 1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

I looked up paps in a dictionary: a woman's breasts or nipples.

Revelation 2:9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich)...

If the speaker meant that they were financially poor but spiritually rich it would have been nice if he had made that clear.

Revelation 2:19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

He says "thy works" twice and concludes with "the last [works?] to be more than the first". A strange verse.

Revelation 2:23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

“I will kill her children with death”, the “with death” part goes without saying.

And what about “I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts”. Searcheth the *reins*? The NIV translation is “I am he who searches hearts and minds” which makes sense, but is it an accurate translation?

Revelation 3:2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

“strengthen the *things* which remain, that are ready to die”. *Things* that are ready to die? People maybe, or even animals, but not *things*. This doesn’t make sense to me.

Revelation 3:7-11

7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

In Chapters 2 and 3 John is told to write to the *angels* of seven churches which existed at the time of John's writing. So, apparently, each of the seven churches had its own angel. To each angel is addressed the words "I know your works". Each of the seven angels is either praised or admonished or a bit of both. We are talking about angels here which seems strange to me because it seems like their salvation is dependent on their "works". I've never read about angels being 'saved'.

A prominent Christian evangelist uses the word 'pastor' instead of 'angel' and this makes much more sense (the seven *pastors* of the seven churches). But is *pastor* an accurate translation of the original Greek word?

In verse 9 "I will make them to come and worship before thy feet" At first glance it seems that the synagogue of Satan will worship this angel (or pastor) but this can't be right because, if I understand correctly, angels (or pastors) are not to be worshiped, only God is to be worshiped.

Reading verse 9 again... "worship before thy feet". One would think this means either "worship you" or "bow down before thy feet". Another strangely constructed phrase. It could mean "worship *God* before thy feet" which is nonsense.

Verse 10 "thou hast kept the word of my patience". You really have to work hard to make some sense out of this phrase. How about "you have kept my word with patience". No, I don't think so, it doesn't quite fit. "thou hast kept the word of my patience" is more nonsense like what I saw in Hebrews, it seems to me.

Revelation Chapter 4

2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.

3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

So, the one [a male] on the throne looked like a jasper [stone] *and* a sardine stone. Stones, not statues. How can a man look like two precious stones?

And a rainbow that looked like an emerald? More nonsense.

Revelation 4:5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Revelation 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

Rev 4:5 says: The seven lamps of fire are the seven Spirits of God.

Rev 5:6... A Lamb with seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God. Are the seven horns *and* the seven eyes, the seven Spirits of God (one horn and one eye each)? Or just the seven eyes on their own are the seven Spirits of God? And what about the seven lamps of fire in Rev 4:5? It seems these are the seven spirits of God as well.

Revelation 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

Vials full of odours? Vials full of *perfume* or *incense* would make sense, but odours?

Revelation 6:13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

The stars of heaven falling to earth are usually interpreted as a meteor shower. As regards the fig tree I thought that fruit does not fall from a tree easily unless it is *ripe*. Verse 16 says the fig tree casts her *untimely* (unripe) figs when shaken of a mighty wind. This doesn't make sense. *Timely* works, but not *untimely*.

Revelation 7:4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

Verses 5 to 8 list the twelve tribes of Israel but omits the tribe of Dan and mentions Manasses instead. Manasses was the eldest son of Joseph and Joseph was one of the twelve sons of Israel (Jacob).

Revelation 7:10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

This is exactly the kind of thing I've been talking about. *Salvation* to our God? And to the Lamb? I was unaware that God or Jesus needed salvation. I thought they were above all that. This verse is ridiculous. More nonsense.

Revelation 8:12 And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.

The third part of the sun was smitten. An eclipse maybe. And the third part of the moon was smitten. Another eclipse? You cannot have an eclipse of the sun and the moon at the same time. And the third part of the stars was smitten. Clouds?

“The day shone not for a third part of it.” It doesn’t say the daylight was only at two thirds brightness but rather “the day shone not for a third part of it” which means there was around four hours of darkness. If a third of the sun was eclipsed the light would be at two thirds its usual brightness. There would *not* be four hours of darkness. (A day is around 12 hours long near the equator). “and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise” Days (and nights) do not *shine*. The *sun* shines, and the *moon*.

Revelation Chapter 9:7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

Locusts shaped like horses.

Revelation 9:14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

In the river Euphrates? In the actual water? The NIV has “*at* the great river Euphrates” which makes sense but is it an accurate translation of the original Greek?

Revelation 9:16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

And the number of.. the horsemen were 200,000,000. What horsemen? There is no mention of any horsemen in this chapter or the preceding two chapters. Verse 7 mentions locusts shaped like horses but there is no mention of these having riders.

Revelation 9:17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone...

Breastplates of fire could mean brass or bronze breastplates that shine like fire in the sun. But we are not told this explicitly, we have to work the (possible) meaning out ourselves, like so many other verses in Hebrews and Revelation and elsewhere in the Bible. Literally, "*breastplates of fire*" makes no sense. And breastplates of jacinth (a precious stone) and brimstone (sulphur) look dubious to me as well.

Revelation 10:1 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:

Feet that look like *pillars*? This looks like *deliberate* nonsense to me. *Legs* like pillars would work, but it doesn't say *legs*, it says *feet*.

Revelation 11:1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.

Measure the temple and the altar and *them that worship therein*? Measure the *worshippers*? More *deliberate* nonsense.

Revelation 12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

The woman which was ready to be delivered. Surely the *baby* was about to be delivered, not the woman.

Revelation 12:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

They should feed her there 1,260 days. Who is *they*? We aren't told.

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The remnant of her seed. *Seed* comes from *men*, not *women*.

Revelation Chapter 13

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

For me these three verses were, for a long time, the most significant in the book of Revelation. Did you know that there are three sixes encoded in most barcodes? Here's how it works...

When you buy a product in a supermarket, or a book in a bookshop, there will be a barcode printed on the packaging or on the back cover of the book. The barcodes are composed of vertical lines. Some lines are thin, some are thick and some are in between. Also some lines are very close together and some are far apart. The scanner at the checkout desk *reads* these lines and translates them into numbers. The first and second lines correspond to a single digit number. The third and fourth lines correspond to a single digit number. The fifth and sixth lines... and so on. Every pair of lines correspond to a number. I see on the barcode on one of my published books that a pair of lines consisting of a thick line and a medium thickness line, close together, corresponds to the number 7. The corresponding numbers are printed below each pair of lines

except for the first two lines, the middle two lines and the last two lines. These three pairs of lines are slightly longer than the others. These pairs are always two thin lines close together and, as I said, no numbers are printed below them.

What number corresponds to two thin lines close together? Sometimes a different encoding is used on the left half of a barcode but on the right half of a barcode a pair of thin lines close together *always* corresponds to a six (6). On the particular barcode I mentioned above, A thin line and a very thick line close together (on the left half of the barcode) also corresponds to a six, a different encoding to the right half of the barcode.

So, if we use the right hand side encoding, then the left-most pair of lines, the pair of lines in the middle and the right-most pair of lines correspond to sixes. In other words: 666.

A cashless society is not a new concept. I have read that it is possible to have *invisible* (to the eye but not to a scanner) tattoos of barcodes on the backs of our hands. When shopping, to pay we just pass our hands over the barcode scanner and the appropriate amount will be automatically deducted from our bank accounts.

I can see this being implemented in my lifetime. If we are all compelled to have a 'mark' on our right hands or foreheads, and we can't buy or sell without it, and this 'mark' turns out to be a barcode then it looks to me like this is *the mark of the beast* which the bible tells us not to take.

But this prophecy occurs in Revelation and Revelation is a book that I no longer trust. But it could still be true.

Revelation 14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

The vilest verse in the New Testament. "*These are they which were not defiled with women*". The connotation is clear: that women are *unclean*.

Revelation Chapter 14

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

Revelation 14:19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

I thought that the harvest (the vine of the earth) was of *saved* souls, not the wicked. *This* harvest is cast into the winepress of the *wrath* of God.

Revelation 14:20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

A winepress is a device. *Grapes* are trodden underfoot, not winepresses.

Revelation 15:4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

worship before thee. It's either worship thee, or, bow down before thee, not worship before thee.

Revelation 15:5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:

What is the *temple of the tabernacle*?

Revelation 15:8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.

poured out his vial upon the sun?

Revelation 21:11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

I looked up jasper on the internet. It is an opaque (not transparent), colored gemstone. I can't see how a jasper stone could be *clear as crystal*.

Revelation 21:18 And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.

Since when did pure gold look like clear glass?

Revelation 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

"Every gate was of one pearl". These pearls must have come from *very* big oysters.

Revelation 5:5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

The Lion here is Jesus. Jesus was descended from David so Jesus could not be the root of David, David was the root of Jesus.

Revelation 21:25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

The gates shall not be shut by day, because there shall be no night.

Shall not be shut by day suggests that they *will* be shut by night, but there shall be no night. More nonsense.

Revelation 22:2 ...and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life...

No comment needed here, the nonsense is obvious.

Afterword

Take a look at the first two verses of the first book of The Old Testament: Genesis (SKJV)...

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

God created... the earth. And the earth was without form, and void.

So, before the earth became a sphere it was without form (not a sphere? Not any shape at all?).

And the earth was...void.

I looked up *void* on the internet: it means *completely empty* (adjective), or, *a completely empty space* (noun). From Google's English dictionary provided by Oxford Languages.

Without form, and void, means *nothing*. So when God created the Earth, it was *nothing*. This looks to me like more meaningless nonsense like I discovered in Hebrews and Revelation and elsewhere.

Because of the large amount of nonsense I found in Hebrews and Revelation I no longer trust the New Testament. I haven't read all of the Old Testament yet (just the first three-and-a-half books) but I have found enough nonsense verses there to have serious doubts about it (the OT) as well.

I am not telling you, the reader, not to believe the Bible. You can believe whatever you want. I'm just saying that I have serious doubts about the dependability of the whole thing.

I also have doubts about the three persons in the one God idea. We have God the Father (Jehovah), God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit (we aren't told His name if He has one). This looks to me like *three*

Gods, not *one*. And they're all men. No women. I'd like to see at least one female deity up there as well.

As I said, I no longer trust the Bible. I trust parts of it, but not all of it.

I had an experience about a year or two ago where something was revealed to me about Jesus. I had a direct knowing that Jesus *is* the truth. Not that Jesus *spoke* the truth, or *advocated* truth, or *represented* truth. No, I *knew* that Jesus *is* the truth, He is *all truth*. It wasn't explained to me, I didn't reason it out, I just *knew* it. I knew it *then* but I don't know it *now*. But I'm keeping an open mind regarding Jesus and what the Bible says about Him.

If the reader is concerned with his or her Salvation I can recommend two books by John Bunyan (1628 - 1688). In my opinion he was the greatest Christian writer of all time, even more important than Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, Peter or James. Here are the books...

The Pilgrim's Progress (part 1)

The Holy War

These two books are enchanting, enlightening, entertaining and easy to read. John Bunyan wrote many books and many (if not all) of them are available free (as PDFs and/or eBooks) on this website...

www.chapellibrary.org

Just type 'Bunyan' in the search field on the home page to see a list of his books. Bunyan also produced a very interesting one-page graphic document called...

Map Showing the Order and Causes of Salvation and Damnation

This is also available free on the Chapel Library website and elsewhere on the internet.

At the time of writing I am reading the Pilgrim's Progress (part 2, which is about Christian's wife and her pilgrimage) and I noticed quite a few 'nonsense' sentences similar to what I discovered in Hebrews and

Revelation. What is going on here? Either Bunyan deliberately wrote the nonsense or the text was corrupted somehow. Either way I don't recommend *The Pilgrim's Progress* (part 2).

Check out some of the Christian TV channels. There is some great content on these but you'll have to distinguish between the genuine preachers and the false.

I have a few things to say about diet. I have been vegetarian for most of my life and I never missed eating flesh when I gave it up. I did eat and enjoy dairy products: milk, butter and cheese. Early in 2021 I decided to try a vegan diet. I used to take antacids daily but when I switched to a plant based diet I noticed that I very rarely had indigestion. I also noticed that I smelled better. I also lost some weight which was a good thing as I was overweight. Early in January 2022 (about ten months in to the diet) I unexpectedly reached a point where I felt 'detoxed', cleansed and rejuvenated. I had read about 'detoxing' for years but now I really know what that word means, because I've done it myself. I am 52 now (at the time of writing) but I feel like a man in my twenties again. I have a spring back in my step.

A vegan diet is certainly bland and uninteresting compared to a regular diet but for me it was well worth the sacrifice and I don't think I'll be going back. I highly recommend it. I eat honey as well which is not a vegan food.

Genesis 1:29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

I also quit drinking beer two years ago (it doesn't suit me) but I drink, and enjoy, red wine and a natural no-sugar-added cider and I have no problem with them. Beer is made from grain. Wine and cider are made from fruit.

Finally, I have written and published eight books about a new musical tuning I came up with in 2016 which is called Eagle 53. It took me 21 years to work it out. Like regular Western music it has twelve notes per

octave but some notes are a bit higher than usual and others are lower. Eagle 53 has many advantages over regular tuning (Twelve Tone Equal Temperament). These books are all available on Amazon and some other online booksellers. If you are interested here are the details...

Eagle 53 My Ultimate Musical Tuning - ISBN 9780956649294

This book describes how I arrived at Eagle 53, the math and the rationale behind it.

John's Rules Music - ISBN 9781838121921

Rules for music composition in regular tuning, my Eagle 53 tuning, or any other alternative tuning.

The Eagle 53 Pianist - ISBN 9781838121907

Eagle 53 Jazz Chords - ISBN 9781838121914

The two books above are for players of pianos or keyboards tuned to Eagle 53.

The Eagle 53 Guitarist Lush Chords - ISBN 9781838121938

The Eagle 53 Guitarist Jazz Chords - ISBN 9781838121945

These two books above are for guitarists who have guitars fretted for Eagle 53.

The Arabian Scale in Eagle 53 - ISBN 9781838121952

This is for Eagle 53 guitarists or keyboard players. It lists 507 chords that, if I'm right, will all sound good played in *any* order.

Eagle 53 Beatless Lutes and 19EDO - ISBN 9781838121969

This is two short books rolled into one. Players of fretted and stringed instruments (e.g. guitar, banjo, ukulele, mandolin) might find book 1 interesting and people into math and tuning theory might find book 2 interesting. And some luthiers will be interested in both books.

Check out my website...

www.johnsmusic7.com

Shalom

John O'Sullivan

9th March, 2022