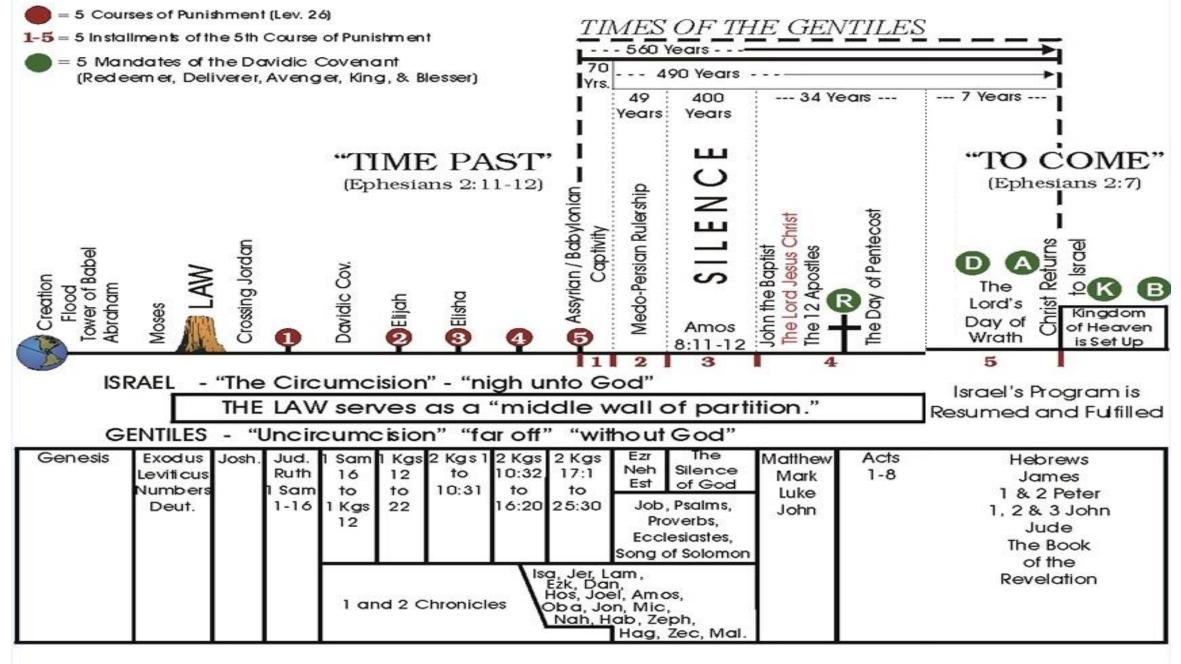
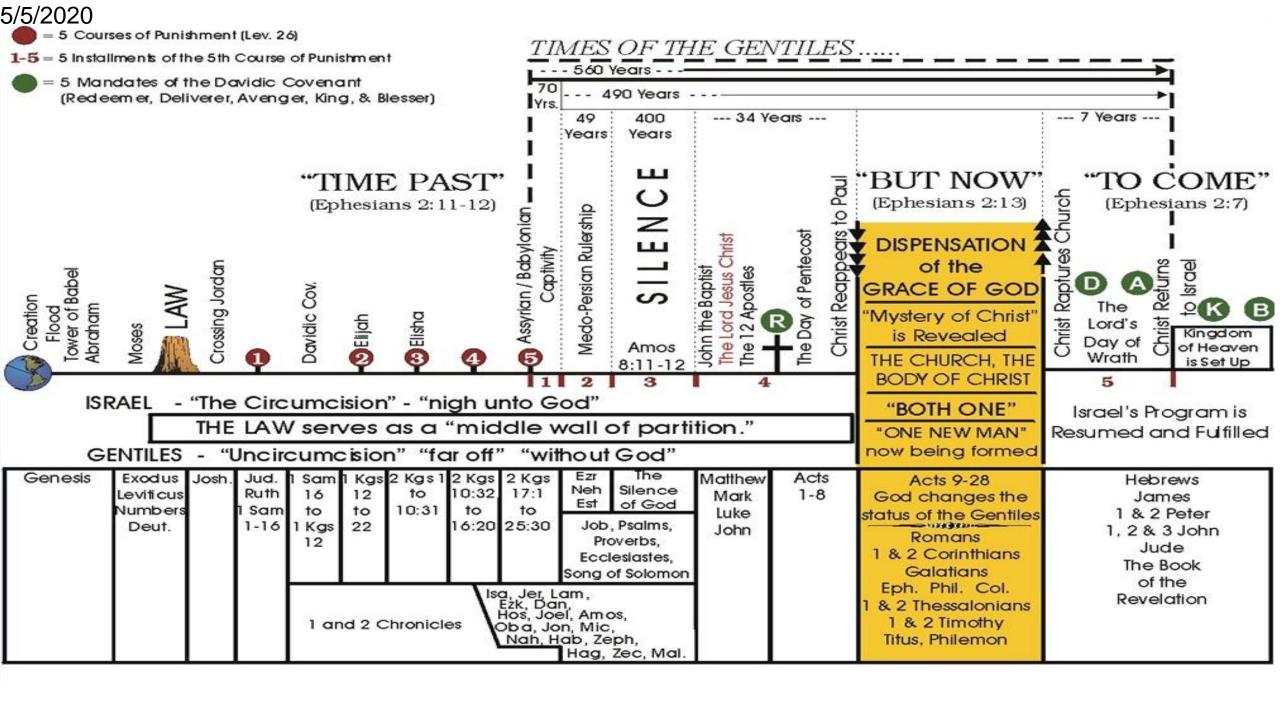
5/5/2020





O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds thy hands have made I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Chorus:

When through the woods and forest glades I wander And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

Chorus:

And when I think, that God His Son not sparing Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing He bled and died, to take away my sin!

Chorus:

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart Then I shall bow in humble adoration And there proclaim, my God how great Thou art!

Chorus:

Why I'm Not KJVO (Pt. 1)

The Basic Principle

Eph. 1:5

So, why, most fundamentally, am I NOT KJVO—a perfect and inerrant translation of God's Word in English? It is very simple:

BECAUSE IT OBVIOUSLY ISN'T TRUE!

ex. Eph. 1:5—not adoption of children; adoption of SONS; Gospel of John—not miracles; signs.

To pretend otherwise isn't true faith it is just wishful thinking.

So, what is the REAL-WORLD way God preserves His Word?

- 1. Possible preservation passages:
 - a. Mat. 5:18—Every jot or tittle (referring to written text) of the Mosaic Law will be fulfilled.
 - b. Mat. 24:35—the prophetic words Jesus just spoke about regarding end time events: They will all come true.
 - c. Is. 40:8—God promises to fulfill all His promises to Israel that will restore her as a great nation in the land will be come to pass with certainty.
 - d. Ps. 119:89—His Word is sure and settled because of His faithfulness.
 - e. Jn. 10:35—God's Word cannot be broken or set aside because of human tradition (Mk. 7:13).

2. Based on these and other verses like them, the question is not "DID God preserve His Word/s" (yes, He did!), but "HOW He preserved His Word/s"?

- 3. KJVO says He did this by creating a single inerrant translation, the KJV. But in the real world, this would be the worst kind of preservation. One that provides assurance, but only the lowest level of assurance of accuracy, truth, correctness and reliability.
 - a. A single event is never the best witness to something. A single event may just be fluke, coincidence, accident, an anomaly, misperception and not true at all. Single reports are usually anecdotal (like most of the things you read on the internet) that assume connections that upon closer evaluation don't really exist.

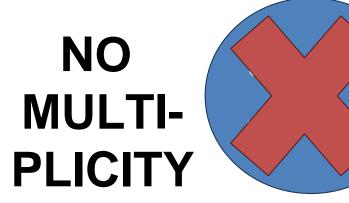
- b. A woman knew someone in New York who put on OFF Insect Repellant and soon after had a heart attack. Therefore, she concluded, OFF causes heart attacks and stopped using it.
 - --The irony is that the woman and her husband stopped using OFF, and soon after he had a heart attack!
 - --The point is that single events and anecdotal accounts are never the best way to ensure the revelation and preservation of truth and accuracy. This principle holds true not just for the secular realm but the biblical realm as well.
- 4. Rather the best way to preserve the truth, definitively ensuring and guaranteeing its accuracy and reliability, it is far better for it to be established not by a single event but by a multiplicity of events and a preponderance of data.

- 5. This is called the Principle/Rule/Law of Multiplicity, and it operates in the whole created realm, including the biblical. Let's look at some examples:
 - a. Secular Law—detectives, policemen, lawyers, etc. The best form of evidence is not the account of one witness. It is hard to convince a jury based on one event or account, because one account might be incomplete or an anomaly, or a misperception, etc., and the defense attorney will win—the prosecuting attorney and the police will lose.
 - --But what the lawyer needs to ascertain and ensure truth is multiple witnesses and overwhelming evidence. With that the jury is easily convinced of the charges, and the prosecuting attorney will win—the defense attorney will lose.

- b. This is true in every aspect of life. A multiplicity of evidence always supersedes and overrides single pieces of evidence.
 --Science.
 - --Claims of charismatics: Anecdotal evidence of single accounts of individuals who claim to have been miraculously healed. But when the data for millions of charismatics is evaluated, the truth is that they get sick and die at the same rate as everyone else.
 - c. In short, a one piece of evidence never provides the assurance of truth as a multiplicity of evidence does.

- d. This is also true for the biblical world.
 - --The Law of Moses: One witness wasn't enough to prove truth. There needed to be at least 2 or 3 that agreed with each other, and the more the better. (Deut. 19:15; Mat. 26:59).
 - --The resurrection: More than 500 witnesses (1 Cor. 15:6)

6. The best way to preserve the truth, definitively ensuring and guaranteeing its accuracy and reliability, is not from a single event or account but from a multiplicity of events and accounts, from a preponderance of data and evidence.



Received Majority Text/Textus Text Receptus (M) (TR) 5600+ 100s of manuscriptsnanuscripts **EXCESSIVE** MULTICPLICITY

- 7. The textual expert Dean Burgon in the 1800s said he defended the KJV because it represented the M. Since then:
 - a. Some understand this representation in the sense that the Greek manuscripts behind TR are an across-the-board representation of M, an exact picture of M in miniature.
 - b. Others understand this representation in the sense that TR is not an across-the-board representation but more like a best-of M. Not an exact picture of all M manuscripts but a picture of the best-of M manuscripts.
 - c. Since the collators of TR probably didn't know of, let alone have access to all 5,000+ M manuscripts, (b) is probably the best option. They took what they had on hand, which Providentially turned out to be the best of M.
 - d. Whatever option you prefer the key point is <u>MULTIPLICTY</u>. --BOTH TR and M have WILDLY EXCESSIVE multiplicity.

 Because we know the multiplicity of M (5600+) more closely than TR (certainly 100s), I will use M to demonstrate the Rule of Multiplicity in this presentation. But the same holds true for TR as well.

9. I think the proponents of KJVO would at least generally agree with the Principle of Multiplicity when it comes to the KJV. I have heard and read many of them use it in one way or another.

- a. But what they miss is that the same Rule of Multiplicity that ESTABLISHES the TR/M and rules out the critical text (with its only 1-2 manuscripts), also RULES OUT the notion that the best way to provide assurance of preservation of God's Word in translation is best done with just one English translation, the KJV.
 - --It may be an excellent translation (and it is); it may provide assurance of preservation (and it does) but because it lacks multiplicity, it cannot provide the BEST assurance of preservation.
- b. They themselves betray the truth of this by the numerous times they refer to the underlying Greek, to Greek to Eng. translation helps and even to the NKJV!

- 10. Just as it is the multiplicity of witnesses that provide manuscript support for ensuring the preservation of God's Word and guaranteeing its accuracy in Greek, so too ensuring the preservation of God's Word in translation and guaranteeing its accuracy is BEST accomplished not in 1 faithful translation in English (as good as that is!), but in at least 2-3 faithful translations: AND THE MORE THE BETTER.
 - --With the advent of the printing press, making copies is no longer the issue. Rather translation into other languages is the issue, which is a far more complicated task.

- --While one account can be good and even the best and all we have at times, having many multiple faithful accounts is always better.
- --This is just common sense and KJVO betray this when they use other translations and Greek and Hebrew translation helps. In other words, those who claim to be KJVO aren't really KJVO. They inherently recognize the value of having a multiplicity of witnesses to ensure truth and accuracy. The Rule of Multiplicity is a simple fact of life that no one can deny, and if we do, we do so at our own peril.
- --The main thing is consistency. You can't just apply the Rule of Multiplicity when it is convenient when it works with us and then throw it away when it is not and works against us! That would be dishonest, and we would be cheating.

- 11. If God provided assurance and preservation:
 - a. In the Mosaic Law by at least 2 or 3 witnesses who agree ...
 - b. In Jesus countless people, God, and the Scriptures, testified of Jesus Christ ...
 - c. In the 500+ witnesses with regard to the Resurrection by ...
 - d. Then, we can have absolute confidence and assurance in the preservation of His Word provided through hundreds and thousands of witnesses.
 - --This is carried through to us through faithful translations into English, and the greater the multiplicity, the better.

- 12. The KJV is the best and most reliable translation not because God supernaturally/miraculously created inerrant, but because it is a faithful translation of a faithful representation of the multiplicity of Greek manuscripts. Let's look at how MULTIPLICITY works:
 - a. They used to say that there were 5,000+ manuscripts in M with greater than 99% agreement.
 - b. Now they say there are 5,600+ manuscripts in M with greater than 99.5% agreement.
 - c. Of the 0.5% of variants 75% are minor variations in name spellings and pronoun use. If we exclude those, it brings the whole collection into more than 99.9% agreement.

b. And this leads to the most amazing thing about Multiplicity:

IT IS SELF-CORRECTING.

- --For instance, at the 99.9% level of agreement, for every 1 manuscript with a variant, there are **999** that don't. Which are you going to go?
- --Even if we don't exclude the variations in the spelling of names, and use the more than 99.5% level of agreement, for every 5 manuscripts with a variant there are **995** that don't. Which are you going to go with?

c. The preservation of God's Word didn't come through the inerrancy of any single witness but through the multiplicity of ERRANT witnesses together whereby variants are overruled by overwhelming data and AUTO-CORRECTED by the preponderance of evidence, resulting in a *collection* that is inerrant and perfect. Multiplicity is not something to fear but something to embrace and rejoice in.

13. The Rule works the same with translations. Working with multiple faithful translations will show overwhelming agreement, and where they disagree, they begin to auto-correct each other, bringing forth a better understanding of God's Word. The English-speaking world is fortunate to have many translations that can provide multiplicity of evidence: KJV, NKJV, several Greek to English Interlinears, Greek and Hebrew translation helps, etc., that together work to strengthen our assurance and increase our knowledge and understanding of God's Word.

--In part 2 we will look at some examples of how this works.

14. To conclude:

- a. Where I think we all agree:
 - 1. Because of the Principle of Multiplicity, we can say the KJV is a good and even the best faithful translation because it is based on a faithful representation of the multiplicity of Greek manuscripts.
 - 2. In addition, because of the Principle of Multiplicity, most modern translations are not as good because they are based on just 1 or 2 witnesses that are shortened/corrupt and that do not agree with the great number of manuscripts.

- b. Where we disagree:
 - 1.Having applied the Principle or Rule of Multiplicity to assure of the preservation of God's Word through its multiplicity of Greek witnesses, we must also apply the Rule of Multiplicity to the witness of English Translations as well.
 - --Having used it when it was convenient and supported our purposes, we CANNOT throw it away when it becomes inconvenient and works against us. We cannot in one breath appreciate that God's way of preserving His Word in Greek was through a multiplicity of witnesses, and then in the next breath say that the best way for God to preserve His Word in English Is through just a single translation, the KJV! If the Rule of Multiplicity is true of the former it must also be true of the latter.

- 2. Other partial or whole translations like the NKJV and Interlinears, translation helps, can work together to establish, clarify and, yes, even correct when necessary due to a preponderance of evidence, the KJV or any other single account.
- 3. In point of fact and in reality, as we saw earlier, even those who claim to be KJVO recognize this as well. Those who claim to be KJVONLY in word are not KJVONLY in practice.
 - --As with the Greek manuscripts, God's Word is NOT best preserved through one inerrant witness, the KJV, but through a multiplicity of faithful witnesses (though errant) that function together to co-support and co-correct the group as a whole, bringing us into the full light of God's Truth.

- 4. To close the door on all other faithful translations that would increase the multiplicity of witnesses we have to God's Word is not only irresponsible but also foolish. It diminishes the assurance of the preservation of God's Word.
- 5. KJVO is an over-reaction to the threat of 1 or 2 modern critical texts that scholars put so much confidence in since the 1800s. But this threat is best addressed not through pretending God's Word is preserved only in the inerrant KJV (make -believing it is inerrant when it obviously isn't), but through the real-world—the way things really are—the way God has and always will work—in accord with the Principle of Multiplicity of witnesses.

NEXT TIME:

We will look at the biggest MYTHS of KJVO—what they resort to when they can't convince you by the facts.

I'm pressing on the upward way, New heights I'm gaining every day; Still praying as I'm onward bound, "Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

My heart has no desire to stay Where doubts arise and fears dismay; Though some may dwell where these abound, My prayer, my aim is higher ground.

I want to live above the world, Though Satan's darts at me are hurled; For faith has caught the joyful sound, The song of saints on higher ground.

I want to scale the utmost height And catch a gleam of glory bright; But still I'll pray, 'til heaven I've found "Lord, lead me on to higher ground."