Bible verses that warn us not to add/subtract from Biblical Revelations

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Introduction

One common tactic that Satan uses to deceive people is to claim new revelations that aren't in the Bible. His bag of tricks includes written "revelations" like the <u>Book of Mormon</u>, the <u>Urantia</u> book and the <u>Koran</u>. It also includes direct spiritual revelations like the alleged <u>Marian apparitions</u>. These extra-Biblical revelations are often very seductive because they offer alleged secret knowledge that wasn't revealed in the Bible. Books like the Urantia book are even more seductive because of their elaborate, in-depth expose of the spiritual world and the alleged universes beyond our own.

Know your enemy and your own limits

What most people who get caught up in these cults don't realize is who they're matching wits with. Most of us like to think we've got reasonably good instincts and that we're pretty good at spotting a phony. We probably can do a pretty good job when matching wits with most other people. Perhaps that gives us a false sense of security that we mistakenly think also applies to matching wits with the spiritual world.

The problem is that when we try to match wits with Satan, he's going to win almost every time if we try to go it alone. It is vital to remember who Satan is. When he was created, he was number two in Heaven, second only to God Himself. It was because of his amazing, in-depth knowledge and power that he became prideful and foolishly believed he could be an equal to his

creator. When Satan was ejected from Heaven, the Bible didn't say that God took away all that knowledge or his ability to engage in supernatural activities. The truth is that Satan.

Be sober, be **vigilant**; because your **adversary** the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 1 Peter 5:8

is a master deceiver and story teller. He knows what ingredients he must weave into his story telling to make them alluring to unsuspecting, and uninformed people. His goal is to seduce us away so that we will follow him willingly, even cheerfully. He's not going to have near the success if he tries clobbering us over the head with obvious demonic doctrines and he's smart enough to know that. He mixes just enough truth in with his lies to sneak the lies past us, under our radar.

He and other fallen angels and demons understand the intense **curiosity** that humans posses and plays to it by spinning elaborate tales that dazzle and amaze us. Their ability to engage in razzle-dazzle would make even the best Hollywood special effects artists blush. They play on our **fears** by soothing us with lying reassurances that Hell does not exist, or by focusing only on God's love and mercy while distracting us away from God's judgment and wrath. They exploit our **pride** and or desire for **power** by telling us we too can become gods. They focus on our desire to **trust** by false reassurances that these extra-Biblical revelations are in harmony with the Bible. They exploit our desire to be **loved** by mixing in strong messages of love with the poison that will ultimately lead to our spiritual death in Hell. They play on a variety of **lusts** including sexual. An example would be the 72 virgins promised to Islamic men in heaven. Their ability to deceive would make the combined Psychological Operations units of all the world's military's seem like childish amateurs. The Urantia book is an excellent example of his masterful story telling abilities. It is rich with alleged details about the spiritual world, and exploits virtually all of the human emotions listed above.

For those who lack a solid biblical foundation about how Satan and other fallen angels operate, and what Biblical doctrines they normally attack, the demonic realm can play them like a fiddle. These deceived people will often experience a false sense of peace that comes from the new "enlightenment" they believe they've received from the extra-Biblical revelations, whatever they happen to be. They may go to their graves thinking all is well, and looking forward to an eternity in heaven, only to discover the ugly truth when it's too late. They will learn in the next life that like sheep to the slaughter, Satan and/or other fallen angels had been leading them around by the nose the whole time with his tall tales, signs and wonders and clever deceptions.

It doesn't have to be this way. The good news is that God did not leave us defenseless against this kind of trickery. He gave us *everything* we need in the Bible to enable us to separate the wheat from the chaff. The bible verses that follow represent only a tiny fraction of what God revealed to us that enables us to see through even Satan's best efforts to deceive us. For a more complete look at what God revealed to us on this topic, see our Cults and False prophets link at:

Sadly, many of these deceived people will never turn to the Bible for the lifesaving guidance it can give them. They avoid the Bible for a variety of reasons. Some do so because of sin in their life they're afraid they'll have to give up if they fully submit to God's authority in the manner God demands it of them in scriptures. Others won't turn to the Bible because Satan has already thoroughly deceived them into not trusting it. Others will turn to the Bible but because they are members of liberal churches who engaged in what could only be described as highly tortured Bible interpretation, they won't find the truth even though it's right under their noses. The bottom line is this.

You can't trust someone else to do Study to shew thyself approved unto your thinking and studying for you. You have a personal responsibility to God to earnestly seek the truth, and to not ignore God if you sense He's calling you

God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15

back to the Bible to find His truths there. In the end, you will be judged on Judgment Day for how well YOU put forth effort to discover His truth, not how well others did your thinking for you. Do not squander an eternity of unimaginable happiness and joy in the presence of your God and creator just to avoid some sacrifices and self-denial in this short life, which is a mere flicker of time by comparison.

Deuteronomy 4:2

Ye shall not **add** unto the **word** which I command you, neither shall ye diminish [ought] from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

This is the first verse we'll examine that makes the case that there will be no further written revelations from God beyond the Bible. The book of Deuteronomy was written in 1410 BC. Note the emphasis on not adding or subtracting from God's "word". As Matthew Henry's commentary states, this was God's written Word, that had been revealed to them up to that point in history.

Matthew Henry commentary on this verse:

http://bible.crosswalk.com/Commentaries/MatthewHenryComplete/mhccom.cgi?book=de&chapter=004

John Gill's commentary on this verse:

http://www.gospelcom.net/eword/comments/deuteronomy/gill/deuteronomy4. <u>htm</u>

Deuteronomy 12:32

What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

Proverbs 30:5-6

Every **word** of God [is] pure: he [is] a shield unto them that put their trust in him. **Add** thou not unto his **words**, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Revelation 22:18-19

The previous verses quoted were from old testament books. The final book of the Bible was the book of Revelation. It is physically the last book in the Bible, but it was also the last book written in the Bible (90 AD). Revelation **begins** with these verses:

The Revelation of **Jesus Christ**, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must **shortly come to pass**; and he sent and signified [it] by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed [is] he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, **and keep those things which are written therein: for the time [is] at hand**. Revelation 1:1-3

Revelation **ends** with these verses:

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall **add** unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall **take away** from the **words of the book of this prophecy**, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book.

POINT #1. The first thing to note about the book of Revelation is that the revelations in it came directly from Jesus to John. So it has the highest possible authority.

POINT #2: The <u>Urantia society</u>, for instance, teaches that the Bible was for the people who lived during Biblical times, and that the Urantia book's additional revelations are for today. But Revelation 1:3 clearly states that the revelations in this book are for all who will live from that time forward, including those who will live in the last days, just prior to Jesus's second coming. There are many other verses in Revelation that support the idea that it is a book that is focused heavily on the events that will affect those who are living in the last days. We know that in the case of Revelation 1:3, it too is meant for those in the last days because of the phrase "which must shortly come to pass". Now if you're thinking hey wait a minute, this verse says "shortly come to pass", and it's been almost 2,000 years since these words were written. "Shortly" sounds like something pretty imminent, not 2,000 years later.

Before jumping to the conclusion that the prophecies in Revelation are not for today, you must approach your interpretation of this verse using sound Bible

interpretation principals. One of those principals is that you must look at everything the Bible has to say about a particular issue before you can accurately judge the meaning of many verses. In this case, one must consider what God tells us about His perspective on time itself. Remember, he created time. He can operate within or outside its boundaries. Here's a pretty good clue from God about His view of time:

But, beloved, **be not ignorant** of this one thing, that one day [is] with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 2 Peter 3:8

So from God's perspective, "shortly" could easily mean a few thousand years and He tells us not to be ignorant of that fact. It is also important to pay attention to the fact that many Biblical prophecies about the "last days" are coming true today, thousands of years after they were predicted. An interesting video about end-time prophecies is available on-line. It may be viewed in its entirety at this link:

http://creationists.org/countdown to eternity/english.html

Among those prophecies is the fact that "angels" (demons) would lead many away from the truth about the Bible's message of salvation through faith in Jesus through false "doctrines". In other words, extra-Biblical false revelations would come directly from spirits claiming to be from Heaven. Books like the Urantia book or book of Mormon claim such authorship. *That fact alone should immediately set off major red flags about their contents*.

Galatians 1:6-12

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any [man] preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught [it], but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

John Calvin's commentary on Galations 6-9:

http://www.ccel.org/c/calvin/comment3/comm_vol41/htm/iii.iii.ii.htm

In these verses we see a) that the Gospels of the Bible are revelations by Jesus Himself and b) that God warns us about a different gospel message from an *angel from heaven*.

There are no verses anywhere in the Bible that state there will be additional written revelations after the book of Revelation. Since Revelation deals with

events clear up to the very last days, no additional revelations are needed. On the flip side, as we saw above, there are explicit warnings not to add or subtract anything to the last book of the Bible, Revelation. Additionally, several old and new testament books in the Bible do predict additional false revelations from Satan, demons and human false prophets including in the last days.

The purpose of these additional extra-Biblical revelations are to mislead people away from the central truths of the Bible's Gospel message of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ (as the Bible defines it). In addition to the Galatians verse above, these other Bible verses are examples of warnings about false doctrines that originate from extra-Biblical revelations and false prophets:

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the **latter times** some shall **depart from the faith**, giving heed to **seducing spirits**, and **doctrines of devils**; 1 Timothy 4:1

And many **false prophets** shall rise, and shall **deceive many**. Matthew 24:11

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Matthew 24:24

For such [are] false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 2 Corinthians 11:13-14

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall **be false teachers** among you, who privily shall bring in **damnable heresies**, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2Peter 2:1

This is an important point because books like Urantia and the Book of Mormon claim to be additional revelations. They also claim to have originated from spirits claiming to be from Heaven. In stark contrast, not one book of the Bible was authored by an angel or from a human that was being inspired to write what he did by an angel. God Himself (the Holy Spirit) directly inspired all of the human authors of the Bible or they got the information first-hand from Jesus Himself.

Proof that the Human authors of the Bible were inspired by God

It is interesting that one of the most common reasons for trying to deny the authority of the Bible is actually one of the strongest reasons for proving it's divine inspiration and authenticity. How many times have you heard that the Bible can't be trusted because it was written by mere men? It's a common straw man argument that many atheists, agnostics and cults use to try to deny it's authority and accuracy. But when considering the following facts, it's God-inspired human authorship is actually a strength, not a weakness:

1. Collectively it was written over about a 1,500 year period. It had about 40 different authors. Yet in spite of that, the old testament books are in complete harmony with the new testament books. This is quite remarkable when you consider how difficult it would have been for 40+ men to have perpetrated a hoax as complex and wide-spread as the Bible over a 1,500 year period, and the fact that furnished unto all good works. 2 many of the Bible's authors died a martyr's death because of their absolute belief in it's authenticity.

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All** scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly Timothy 3:15

2. Numerous scientific facts that modern science didn't discover until many centuries later appear in the Bible. Given the fact that jets. submarines and other modern technology were in rather short supply during Biblical times, how were mere human authors able to know these things with virtual 100% accuracy? For some examples of this scientific foreknowledge, see:

http://Creationists.org/foreknowledge.html

3. The Old Testament contains about 300 prophecies about the Messiah, Jesus. Just eight of these prophecies were examined in the book Messages from Heaven (See pages 58-61 of the book). The entire book can be read on-line at:

http://www.eternal-productions.org/PDFS/MFH.pdf#page=67

They calculated the statistical odds that just these eight prophecies would come true and it turned out to be one in 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000. That staggering number is even more amazing when you consider that there were about 290 more prophecies that also came true that they didn't factor into the equation! It simply would have been impossible for mere men to have prophesied these things or even conspired with others many centuries after they had died to somehow "make" these things happen the way they did. The authors who wrote these prophecies were clearly inspired by God to write what they did. We can be certain that demons did not feed them this information because one test of whether prophecies are from God or from demons is the 100% accuracy test (Deuteronomy 18:22). Satan can get it right sometimes, but not always. The Bible authors had a perfect record.

4. There are many prophecies about the last days. It certainly appears that a good number of them are coming true in this generation. The prophecies about Israel are especially stunning. For more information about these prophecies, see the video Countdown to Eternity at this link:

Testing the spirits - the Insurmountable Hurdle

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 1 John 4:1

Even if you could convince yourself after reading the above verses that God still might allow for additional revelations like what are in the Koran, Urantia Book and Book of Mormon, there is still one insurmountable hurdle that none of these books can overcome. They will all fail the "test the spirits" Bible tests miserably.

God clearly established the Bible as the one and only baseline to measure all other doctrines against to see if they are inspired by the spirit of God, or the spirit of demons. Here's two good links that explain how to test the spirits in more detail:

http://www.creationists.org/how-to-test-the-spirits.html

http://Creationists.org/cults.html#12

When applying these Biblical tests to the Urantia book, book of Mormon, the Koran and other alleged holy books, they are quickly exposed for the demonic masterpieces they truly are. The quickest way to expose any alleged holy book or revelation as heresy is to compare what it says about the person and work of Jesus against what Jesus reveals about Himself in the Bible. In spite of the claims of the Urantia book, book of Mormon and others that they are in harmony with the Bible on these important points, they are polar opposites. For a good overview of what the Bible has to say about who Jesus is, and why his death and resurrection were so important to us, see tape #5 at this link:

http://Creationists.org/cults.html#5

Arm yourself with this important Biblical knowledge first, and the false doctrines of demons will be far easier to spot. Those who are not armed with this important Biblical knowledge are unfortunately sitting ducks for all kinds of seductive demon trickery. For more information about this, see People who Are Vulnerable to Cults.

Related Topics

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