

# Has The Bible Been Changed?

You may have heard it said, “The Bible has been changed.” This is a bold statement for anyone to make; one in which they should be sure about what they are saying. Let us take a look at what the Bible says about itself.

If you were writing an autobiography you would probably try to present yourself in the best light possible. However, the Bible frequently shows people as they really are. David was a great king and a man who loved God. The Bible also says that he committed adultery and that he tried to cover up his sin by having the husband of the woman killed in battle. He was successful but his sin was found out (2 Samuel 11-12). Noah was a man who followed God’s command and built an ark to save his family (Genesis 6-8). Yet, Noah got drunk. (Genesis 9:21). He sinned against God. Peter was a disciple who boldly declared that he would follow Jesus wherever he went. When Jesus was arrested Peter lied by denying that he knew Jesus three times (Matthew 26:69-75). These examples are just the tip of the iceberg of people in the Bible who have sinned. Surely, if the Bible were changed, it would have made its heroes look better. The Bible tells things just the way they are even if it is about people of faith.

Jesus had absolutely no problem quoting the scriptures. He quoted the scriptures when Satan was tempting him (Matthew 4:1-11); while talking to the Pharisees (Mark 12:35-37); the crowds (Matthew 5:21, 27, 31, 38); and his disciples after his resurrection (Luke 24:32). Jesus had a high view of scripture and had no problem using it. We shouldn’t have any problem with using the scriptures.

The Bible has thousands of manuscripts show its authenticity. Through all of this the message of the Bible remains the same. God has a plan to redeem this broken and sinful world and God would accomplish this by sending his Messiah.

It’s worth noting that the Bible has many translations so that readers can understand it in today’s language. The various translations don’t mean there are different Bibles or that it’s been changed. The message of the Bible is still the same. Any interested student can study the original languages to ensure its meaning is on par with the modern translations.

Even Muslim scholars believed that the Bible had not been changed. People such as Ali al-Tabari, Amr al-Ghakhiz, and Al-Ghazzali all accepted the gospel texts. It was in 1064, Ibn-Khazem, first charged that the Bible had been corrupted and falsified. His argument was not based on any evidence or historical facts but only on his personal faith, reasoning, and desire to safeguard the Quran<sup>1</sup>. Al-Ghazzali who lived after Ibn-Khazem, rejected his claims. My friend, you can plainly see that this charge was created to prevent people from engaging with the Bible.

There is simply no evidence that the Bible has been changed. If someone says “The Bible has been changed,” you might ask, “Who changed it and when was it changed?” “Do you have any external evidence that the Bible has been changed?” If there is no factual evidence then this claim can be dismissed. Any just accusation must have substantial proof or it is merely hearsay. The same questions poised to the Bible should also be poised to the other books such as the Qur’an. The Bible shows people as they are, Jesus quoted the Bible, it has thousands of manuscripts, it has a unity of message, and any student can study the original languages of the Bible if they want to. So has the Bible been changed? We would emphatically say no! So we want to encourage you to consider Jesus because all of the scriptures are about him and his great redeeming work for humanity.

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<sup>1</sup> [Answering Islam](http://www.answering-islam.org/Bible/jrwhy.html). “Why do Muslims believe the text of the Bible has been corrupted?” <http://www.answering-islam.org/Bible/jrwhy.html>