

The Bible Doctrine of Preservation

Psalm 12:6-7

The doctrine of bible preservation is a neglected topic in most bible schools and seminaries because the men who teach in those schools do not believe that we have the perfectly preserved words of God in our bible today. But the bible does contain the doctrine of preservation, therefore we can be certain that we are reading God's very words for man every time we open the pages of the Holy Bible.

Psa 12:6-7 **"The words (plural) of the Lord..."** New bible versions change this to the singular, "word" of God. By so doing, they cleverly erase the doctrine of preservation in these verses.

"...are pure words...purified seven times." There is nothing impure about God's words. All impurities have been perfectly purged out.

"Thou shalt keep them, Oh Lord...forever." God is the one preserving His words—forever.

I. The Importance of Preservation As a Work of God

A. He Preserves All Creation (Nehemiah 9:6)

- All things consist (are held together) by Christ Jesus (Col 1:17).

B. He Preserves Jerusalem and the Jewish People (Isaiah 31:5)

- God did not promise to preserve any other race of people on this Earth.

C. He Preserves the Saints (2 Timothy 4:18, Jude 1, 1 Thessalonians 5:23)

- Christians are preserved in Jesus Christ.

D. He Preserves His Word (Psalm 12:6-7)

- If God is the One preserving His words, it doesn't matter if man tries to get rid of them through burning or through corrupt bible versions. No one can get rid of the words of God (Eccl 3:14).
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II. The Place of Preservation in the Transmission of God's Word

- **The transmission:** the way the original writer (God) delivered His words to us today so that they remain inerrant and pure.
 - God is high and holy (Isa 57:15, Rev 4:8, Isa 55:9).
 - Man is low and corrupt (Psa 14:1-3).
 - If God were not the one keeping His words, man would not have them.
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Four Great Doctrines: Revelation, Inspiration, Preservation, Illumination

A. Revelation (Deuteronomy 29:29, Amos 3:7, Hebrews 1:1)

- God giving man truth which otherwise could not be known.

B. Inspiration (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21)

- The means by which God gives man His holy words without error.

C. Preservation (Psalm 12:6-7)

- God keeping His words and preventing error from creeping in.

D. Illumination (1 Corinthians 2:12-14)

- God opening our understanding to receive His truth.
 - The secret things belong unto the LORD our God (Deut 29:29).
 - God's knowledge is too high and wonderful for us (Psalm 139:6).
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III. The Need for Preservation Because of Man's Corruption

A. Corrupted Commands

1. The pure words of God (Genesis 2:16-17)
2. The corrupted words (Genesis 3:1-5)

B. Corrupted Truth (Romans 1:25 KJV, compared with corrupt NIV, NKJV)

1. Ungodly men **changed** the truth of God into a lie. This is a gradual process, done over time so people might not notice.
 - I. In NIV, NKJV men "EXCHANGE" the truth of God "FOR" a lie. An exchange is an instant trade. Nobody would be fooled into giving up God's holy bible that way.

C. Corrupted Words (2 Corinthians 2:17, 2 Corinthians 4:2, 2 Peter 3:15-16)

1. Men corrupt the word of God, handle the word of God deceitfully, and wrest the scriptures.
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CONCLUSION

- The Holy Bible teaches that men will corrupt and change God's words.
- The Holy Bible also teaches that God will preserve His words forever for all generations.
- God's words can be found in our generation today. It is our responsibility to seek and find them and know where they are today.
- You don't need to change God's words. Let God's words change you!