

My Scripture vs. Your Scripture!

by Robert Schmid

Everybody, young and old, loves to play a game. Bible games are as popular as ever. They are great for entertainment, but also serve to educate and to act as a tool to memorize Bible verses. However, Bible games are not only played by the general public for entertainment and scripture memorization. Bible games are also played, whether realized or not, by serious Bible students, Pastors, Theologians and anybody who speaks or writes on the Bible in order to convey and prove their point of view.

But, before we consider some of these Bible games, let's define what the Bible is and why on the one hand it is the most popular book ever written and on the other hand it is the most ignored and misunderstood book in existence..

The Bible is not only **The Bible**, it is **The Holy Bible!** What makes the words in this book holy is that its author is holy. It's author, the God of Abram, Isaac and Jacob, is a **Holy God** who caused **His Holy Thoughts** to be expressed through and by **His Holy Word**. "**Holy men** of God spoke as they were moved by the **Holy Spirit**."

Then, in the fullness of time God's Holy Word became flesh, became God's firstborn son whom He named Jesus. Jesus, as the **living** Word of God, came to authenticate the **written** Word of God, i.e., the **living** Word of God was and is the same as the **written** Word of God. Just as the **Word of God** does not and can not speak anything different than what comes from the **Mind of God**, so the **Son of God** does not and can not speak anything different than what comes from **God the Father**.

However, man (kind) in his fallen nature does not and can not accept that the **Bible** is the **Word of God**. Most simply do not believe it and those who do, all too often use the Word of God, to play that most popular Bible game; "**My scripture vs. Your scripture**."

Here is how it works: Depending on where you are coming from determines what scripture you are going to use. For example: If you are a Trinitarian, you will find and use all scriptures that (seem to) support that from the beginning there was ONE God in THREE persons. If you are a Twinitarian, you will find and use all the scriptures that (seem to) support that from the beginning there was ONE God in TWO persons. If you are a Unitarian, you will find and use all the scriptures that (seem to) support that from the beginning was ONE God in ONE person.

The winner, usually, is the one who comes up with the most verses, and or knows the most Hebrew or Greek, and or who has the most convincing historical, and or linguistic information, and or is simply the more dynamic and convincing communicator.

Every doctrine and every issue in scripture lends itself for this game.

Another popular game is the "**One or the Other**" proposition. This game reduces every issue into two options with the assumption that one is right and the other is wrong.

For example: The One God Seminar held recently offered TWO options. There were those who advocated that **God was, is, and always will be ONE God and that therefore Jesus can not be God.** The opposing view was that **there were always TWO Gods and that Jesus therefore must be God.** The possibility that both options may be wrong is not even considered. But, what if they are?

How about a game of **“Lets interpret scripture”!** That’s a fun game because everybody gets to speculate about what a particular scripture means.

To be sure, most would understand that when Jesus said: “I am the door”, that He did not mean that He is a literal door. Obviously, an interpretation is required to understand the metaphorical use of the word “door”. A “door” has certain attributes and Jesus means to say that such attributes may apply to Him.

But, what about when Jesus (as the Word of God) said: “Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy”. Is the word “Sabbath” a metaphor subject to interpretation, or is the word “Sabbath”, and for that matter the whole sentence a command of God that is to be taken literally, not requiring any interpretation? Well, we all know that the great theological minds and doctrinal committees of “Christianity” teach and believe that this verse needs interpretation and so they turn **Sabbath the seventh day** into **Sunday the first day.** So much for relying on our spiritual leaders!

A real favorite of this game are the words of Jesus when He told Nicodemus: **“You must be born again”.** Theologians and doctrinal committees have debated those words in great length and have written about their possible meanings in lengthy doctrinal papers and many books. The (false) assumption is that these five words represent a metaphor that requires human interpretation. But, no metaphor is involved, only a literal command from God that requires **belief, not interpretation.**

We all know and understand that we were **born,** physically, as a human-kind, and the simple message is that we must be **born again,** spiritually, as a God-kind. 1 Cor.15 clearly tells us that first is the physical and then the spiritual and Rom.1 clearly tell us that we know God, even His deity, by the things that have been made. God made Adam and Eve and build into them the process of procreation so that we are without excuse to know what it means to be born again.

Let no one be deceived, God says what He means and He means what He says.

Lets be careful that we don’t play Bible games, **“making the Word of God of none effect by our traditions.”**