

Articles and Sermons :: The Jefferson Bible

The Jefferson Bible - posted by proudpapa, on: 2012/9/25 22:46

The Jefferson Bible

We must reduce our volume to the simple evangelists, select, even from them, the very words only of Jesus, paring off the amphibologisms into which they have been led There will be found remaining the most sublime and benevolent code of morals which has ever been offered to man. I have performed this operation for my own use, by cutting verse by verse out of the printed book, and arranging the matter which is evidently His, and which is as easily distinguishable as diamonds in a dunghill.

So wrote Thomas Jefferson about his project of purging the Bible of misconceptions and false interpretations given by the writers of the four Gospels themselves. By the time he was finished with his razor (yes, he literally used a razor to cut and paste together the sections he wanted!), Jefferson had successfully eliminated any reference to angels, genealogy, prophecy, miracles, the resurrection, and the divinity of Jesus. The final words of The Jefferson Bible are, "Now, in the place where he was crucified, there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus. And rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed."

A Bible without a resurrection! Thomas Jefferson picked and chose what he wanted to believe. He wanted a Bible stripped of everything not directly related to Jesus.

Percival Everett tells what really happened:

He decided that the rules of the club to which he wished to belong were not the rules he wanted to play by. So instead of changing clubs, he changed the rule book by literally cutting and pasting together only the sections that he found relevant to his interpretation.

Did you catch that? Instead of creating a Christocentric Bible, Thomas Jefferson created a Jeffersoncentric Bible!

While none of us probably literally take a razor to our Bibles, do we in our minds? Do we strive to change the rules of the club (the kingdom of God), or do we seek to change clubs (be born into the kingdom by the power of the Holy Spirit)? ~

<http://www.ephramministries.org/remnant-2011-05-Jefferson-Bible.a5w>

Re: The Jefferson Bible - posted by Lysa (), on: 2012/9/25 23:37

Quote:
-----proudpapa wrote:
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YES, we are all guilty in one way or another to take a razor to the parts that we don't like or don't agree with (either in our minds or not) and then argue to the death over it! ;)

There are denominations that do this every day and individuals; and then teach others the same. God have mercy on us all. But we need to pray for ourselves that we RECEIVE the LOVE of the truth that we might be saved (2 Thess2.10).

Here is a great sermon on that topic:

Lovers of Truth by Zac Poonen

<https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid=4268&commentView=itemComments>

God bless,
Lisa

Re: The Jefferson Bible - posted by ccchhhrrriiisss (), on: 2012/9/25 23:47

I mentioned this in a couple of previous threads on this topic, but the "Jefferson Bible" is a myth. You can access the book -- including the forward -- at some libraries and even on Google Books.

Jefferson wanted to gather together a collection of quotes, axioms and sayings of Jesus from the Bible so that they could be presented to Native Americans. He took those sayings and included them in THE LIFE AND MORALS OF JESUS OF NAZARETH.

In addition to the axioms taken from the Gospels (and the first chapter of Acts), Jefferson included simple explanatory teachings about Salvation through the Cross, Heaven, Hell, Satan, Noah and the Flood, the Second Coming of Christ and even the Period of Wrath/Tribulation.

Regardless of what we may believe about Jefferson's motives, we should be careful and studious before we repeat something that suggests that he was constructing a Bible as he wanted devoid of the Cross or the supernatural. In essence, Jefferson was attempting to make an "easy to understand" evangelical "tract" for Native American tribes of his time.

Re: The Jefferson Bible - posted by Lysa (), on: 2012/9/26 4:26

here it is at the Smithsonian:

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/jeffersonbible/>

Re: - posted by UntoBabes (), on: 2012/9/26 11:45

By looking at the link Lysa provided it seems he began his bible with the 2nd chapter of Luke to avoid the angel's visit to Mary, the virgin birth of Christ by the Holy Ghost or anything that would refer to His deity in chapter 1.

He includes verses 1-7, then jumps to verse 21 to avoid the angels appearing to the shepherds in the field.

From verse 21 he jumps to verse 39 to avoid the story of Simeon of whom it was said in verse 27: "He came by the Spirit into the temple"

It appears to me that whatever gospel Jefferson came up with was not the gospel of Christ.