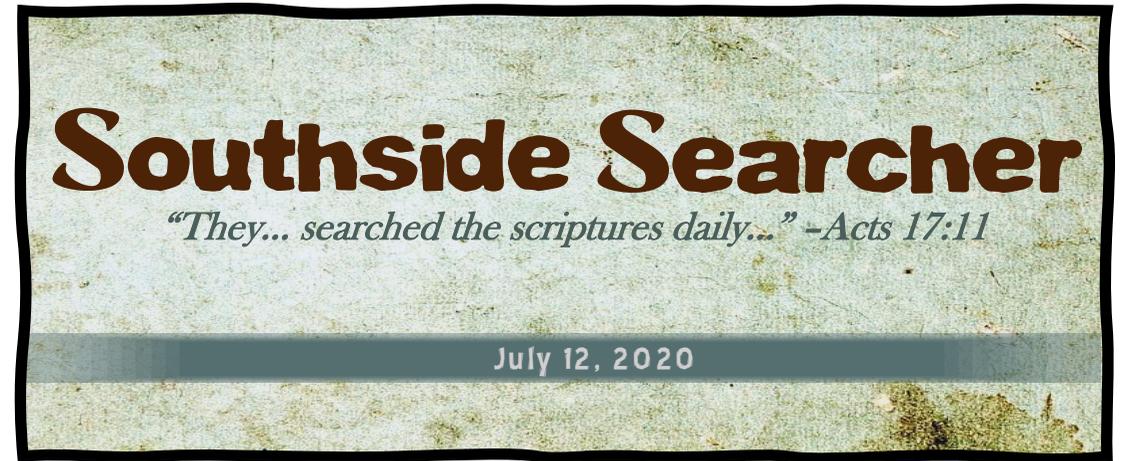


<p><b>DUTY LIST...</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY MORNING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Announcements.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Scripture Reading...TBA Reading: Psalm 22:14-18</li> <li>➤ Song Leader.....TBA</li> <li>➤ Opening Prayer.....TBA</li> <li>➤ Lord's Table: Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve.....Eli Todd Serve.....</li> <li>➤ Closing Prayer.....TBA</li> </ul> <p><b>SUNDAY EVENING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scripture Reading... Reading:</li> <li>➤ Song Leader.....</li> <li>➤ Lord's Supper.....</li> </ul> <p><b>WEDNESDAY EVENING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Song Leader.....</li> <li>➤ Invitation.....</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Plan of Salvation</b></p> <p>There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <u>Hear the Gospel:</u> Romans 10:17</li> <li>➤ <u>Believe:</u> Mark 16:16; John 8:24</li> <li>➤ <u>Repent of Sin:</u> Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30</li> <li>➤ <u>Confess Faith:</u> Romans 10:9, 10</li> <li>➤ <u>Be Baptized:</u> Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21</li> <li>➤ <u>Remain Faithful:</u> Rev. 2:10</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Obey Today!</b></p>
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## Has The New Testament Been Tampered With?

There are some who claim that the New Testament Scriptures were written so long ago and copied so many times that they cannot possibly have retained their original meaning. They would have us believe the New Testament has been tampered with. However, Jesus promised: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Matt. 24:35). His promise is borne out by the weight of the evidence.

1. **The King James Version.** In 1604 King James I of England authorized the making of a new translation of the Bible into English. This new version was completed in 1611. The King James Version has been widely used for nearly 400 years. Interestingly, nothing that would substantially change our faith or any command of God has been changed in the many revisions that the King James Version has undergone. Therefore, we can be sure that the New Testament can be, and has been, preserved for the last 400 years.

2. **The Latin Vulgate.** A translation of the Bible from Greek to Latin was made around A.D. 150 and came to be known as the "Old Latin" version of the Scriptures. In A.D. 382 the scholar Jerome was commissioned to revise the Old Latin version. He undertook the task and completed his work around A.D. 400. His revision is known as the Latin Vulgate, which means, "common Latin".

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The Latin Vulgate was widely used from the 5th to the 15th century and is still used today. The Latin Vulgate can be used to prove that the New Testament can be, and has been, preserved substantially unchanged for 1600 years.

3. **The surviving manuscripts.** When the New Testament was first written, early Christians made many hand-written copies in the original Greek language in which it was written. These copies are known as "manuscripts". Of the approximately 5,000 known manuscripts of the New Testament in existence, few contain the entire New Testament and some are only fragments. Among the most complete are the Vatican, Sinaitic, and Alexandrian manuscripts, which were written during the middle of the 4th and 5th centuries. These early copies of the Scriptures had not yet been discovered when the King James Version was made, however, a comparison shows no substantial differences between these manuscripts and the text of the King James Version! This proves beyond all question that the New Testament has been successfully preserved for at least the past 1650 years.

4. **The early Christian writers.** These men, also known as the "apostolic fathers", lived and wrote near the end of the first century and the beginning of the second century A.D. Their writings are filled with quotations from the New Testament. We will consider the writings of only three of these men, Clement, Ignatius, and Polycarp. The writings of these three men survive from a period beginning between A.D. 96-110. In their writings we find quotations and references from 25 of the 27 books of the New Testament. The Scripture quotations of these and other early Christian writers are so extensive that the entire New Testament could be effectively reconstructed from their writings. These writers take us back to the time when the New Testament was first written, and their writings prove that the New Testament they had is the same as the New Testament we have today. There is no substantial difference.

**Conclusion.** The New Testament has not been tampered with. In light of the available evidence, the message as we have it today is the same as when it was first delivered.

-David Dann

## **“In My Distress I called Upon The Lord” 2 Samuel 22:7**

Heartaches are going to find us,  
As we are taking life in stride,  
Sorrows are going to seek us out,  
Regardless of where we hide.  
Sometimes we see them coming,  
And all we can do is wait,  
We climb out of bed too early,  
Or we are climbing in too late.  
Our sleep is so elusive,  
When our hearts are in distress,  
Our mettle is being tested,  
When we think that our life's a mess.  
(Job 5:7; 14:1; Ecclesiastes 2:23)

Sometimes anguish is thrust on us,  
With no warning; it just arrives,  
We never saw it coming,  
We were suddenly surprised.  
Regardless of how the torment comes,  
Or how long the misery lasts,  
We have to reassure ourselves,  
That this too; will come to pass.  
The only way to do this,  
Is to cry out unto the Lord,  
Lay your burdens down at His feet,  
And look for solace in His word.  
(Philippians 4:11-12; I Thessalonians 5:3; I Peter 5:6-7)

Many times, the trials seems eternal  
Like they're never going to end,  
Year after year they deluge us,  
It's a wonder that our knees can still  
bend.

Patience will have her perfect work,

When our faith is tried in the fire,  
If we'll call upon the Lord in our trouble,  
And know His comforts will never expire.  
(James 1:1-4; I Peter 1:16; 4:13, 16)

David would sing his songs of praise,  
Because the Lord was his salvation,  
No power on earth could take him down,  
Be it Saul, or an enemy nation.  
God was his deliverer,  
His fortress; his invincible tower,  
In God he would find his refuge,  
In the strong arm of God's mighty power.  
Whatever perils that David would face,  
Regardless of what they might be,  
David would always reassure himself,  
Praising God while down on his knees.  
(II Samuel 22:1-7; Psalms 18:1-50)

When your brain is about to rupture,  
From the stress of everyday life,  
Step back and reconsider,  
Just who is causing the strife.  
It's not the Lord up in heaven,  
His yoke is easy to bear,  
He wants you to bring Him your burden,  
Because your load He's willing to share.  
In one of David's darkest hours,  
The only comfort he had was God's word,  
And even though he was greatly distressed,  
He encouraged himself in the Lord.  
(I Samuel 30:1-6; Matthew 11:28-30; I Peter 5:6-7)

-Patrick Andrews

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