

Manuscript Evidence – Week 1

God Communicating to Man – Pre-Mosaic History

1) Introduction

a) God Communicating to Man

- i) The purpose of this course is to establish proof that God has a final authority and wants to communicate to man and that the final authority is the AV1611.
- ii) Since the beginning of time, Satan has tried to get man to doubt God's communication to him.
- iii) Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? Genesis 3:1-2
- iv) Any army knows that the key to defeat in the battle/war is to take out the communications first. This has been the approach of the devil since day one.
- v) The devil got Eve to doubt God's intention and tried to change the Word of God from the days of creation.
- vi) The devil had three tactics he established early in Gen 3.
 - (1) And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³ But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. ⁴ And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: ⁵ For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. ⁶ Genesis 3:2-6
 - (2) 1 – Satan gets Eve to add to the Word of God – “neither shall ye touch it...”
 - (3) 2 – Satan gets Eve to subtract from the Word of God – “Ye shall not surely die..”
 - (4) 3 – Satan gets Eve to consider the Word of God is a lie by questioning God's intentions – “For God doth know...”
- vii) This trend in adding to, subtracting from, and questioning God's Word continues in modern scholarship.
- viii) The scholar will tell you we cannot have God's Word in our hands.
- ix) We will attempt to show in this course how we got the Bible we hold in our hands today and how that it is truly and authoritatively the Word of God.
- x) This course will cover the Greek manuscripts used to construct the New Testament of the AV1611 and the controversy surrounding those manuscripts.
- xi) We will also cover the history of God's communication before the Jew and after the Jew in the Hebrew manuscripts.

b) Course Outline

- i) The course syllabus shows what will be covered.
- ii) The course textbook is “An Understandable History of the Bible” by Sam Gipp.
- iii) You don't need to purchase the book, but it will help to better understand the material as we cover it.
- iv) Info on where to purchase the book is included in the syllabus.
- v) The first two weeks this course are not included in the textbook.

2) God Communicating to Man

- a) The Basic Questions of Man
 - i) How did the earth get here?
 - ii) How were the animals and creatures created?
 - iii) The contemporaries of our time do not have answers to these basic questions.
 - iv) Where is God?
 - (1) Is there a being greater than we are?
 - (2) If there is a Supreme Being, he sees our helpless state in trying to figure this out.
 - (3) If he created us, he is indebted to us.
 - (4) He must have a way to communicate with us.
 - v) Communication With God
 - (1) We can try to speak to God.
 - (2) We can try to talk to Him, but the communication is only one way.
 - (3) God needs a way to communicate with us.
 - (4) This is the basic premise of Manuscript Evidence – God is trying to communicate with man and he must have a definite, clear cut way to do it if he is a just God.
- 3) The Bible Record of First Communication with God
 - a) God Communicates Verbally in the Garden
 - i) And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. Genesis 1:28
 - (1) This is the first time God communicates with man and his entire creation. The Bible uses the “said”
 - (2) Said – Declared; uttered; reported, Aforesaid, before mentioned.
 - (3) God speaks to man for the first time, and he gives a command.
 - (4) And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: ¹⁷ But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Genesis 2:16-17
 - (5) At this point man is responsible to his creator.
 - (6) When God communicated for the first time, it was through the spoken voice.
 - (7) God continues to use this method of communication for the next 2500 years of human history from 4004 BC to 1491 BC.
 - (8) The first time that God communicates in writing is on Mt Sinai with Moses.
 - (9) And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God. Exodus 31:18
 - (10) The first time anyone is shown to write something about Biblical history is in Exodus 17.
 - (11) And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. Exodus 17:14.
 - (12) This memorial book would be at the same time as Mt. Sinai or close to it. This memorial book is the start of the Pentateuch (first five books of the Bible) as written by Moses.
- 4) God Communicates Through Man in the Garden
 - a) It was man’s responsible to remember and teach it to others, as Adam taught Eve.

- b) And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: ¹⁷ But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Genesis 2:16-17
 - c) There is no record of God speaking directly to Eve.
 - d) Adam had to teach Eve what God told him.
 - e) Hence, a pattern is set up at this point of oral tradition and history.
 - f) God continues to use this method of communication for the next 2500 years to communicate to man.
 - g) **Oral tradition**, or **oral lore**, is a form of [human communication](#) wherein knowledge, art, ideas and [cultural](#) material is received, preserved, and transmitted orally from one generation to another.
– Wikipedia
 - h) **Oral history** is the collection and study of historical information about individuals, families, important events, or everyday life using audiotapes, videotapes, or transcriptions of planned [interviews](#). - Wikipedia
 - i) It is hard for us to imagine communicating from generation to generation with such methods today, but this was common for most of human history.
- 5) God Communicates Through the Conscience
- a) Knowledge of God and Evil
 - i) We see that after the fall of man, God can now communicate with man's through another means than orally to individuals.
 - ii) Once man has a knowledge of good and evil, God uses the conscience to help with judgment of knowing right and wrong.
 - iii) God also uses the conscience to point to himself and show his existence to man.
 - iv) And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. ⁷ And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. ⁸ And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. ⁹ And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? ¹⁰ And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. ¹¹ And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?
Genesis 3:6-11
 - v) We see that Adam and Eve are now able to discern without God directly telling them something.
 - vi) When God asks "Who told thee that thou was naked?", we see that God is making the point that he did not communicate to them verbally. They had to get this understanding some other way. This is the conscience speaking.
 - vii) **Conscience** – Internal or self-knowledge, or judgment of right and wrong; or the faculty, power or principle within us, which decides on the lawfulness or unlawfulness of our own actions and affections, and instantly approves or condemns them.
 - viii) The conscience is something that happened after the fall of man. Prior to this, man was ignorant of good and evil, much like the animals. Man had the ability to trust his master and obey simple commandments such as don't eat from that tree.

- ix) Adam and Eve, however, did not truly understand what they were getting into and having their “eyes opened” and hence acquiring a conscience.
- b) Knowledge of God’s Existence
 - i) The conscience is also used to point us to God as creator. It gives us a sense of the existence of God.
 - ii) Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.²⁰ For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Romans 1:19-20
 - iii) The creation of the world is revealed to everyone through the conscience. If man decides to ignore this, that is his fault.
- c) Knowledge of the Heart
 - (1) The law of God is written into the heart of man.
 - (2) For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:¹⁵ Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;) Romans 2:14-15
 - (3) Here we see the mention of the heart. The heart interacts with the conscience. The conscience tells us what is wrong, the heart or soul of man is what makes the decision whether we obey.
 - (4) We see that even a lost Gentile has a heart. The heart is often in the lost where the battle begins. The lost heart is fully capable of making all kinds of excuses for wrong doing.
 - (5) A humble heart is the only heart that can admit they are wrong and changing their behavior.
- 6) The Early History of the Bible and Man
 - a) Pre-Flood History
 - i) Before the flood, man lived by conscience.
 - ii) There was no church or chosen people.
 - iii) There were two family lines that continued after Abel was killed in the garden.
 - iv) The godly line of Seth and the ungodly line of Cain.
 - v) There were likely other children born to Adam and Eve, but these two lines are the ones that are mentioned in Genesis 4 and 5.
 - vi) We also see that the line of Cain was corrupted by an ungodly line of the “sons of God”. It is not mentioned exactly where these sons of God came from, nor how they were able to reproduce, however they did. This is where the men of renown came from mentioned in Gen 6:4.
 - vii) These two lines continue until the flood.
 - viii) During this time, men were living up to almost 1000 years with a life expectancy over ten times longer than current day.
 - ix) Further, men did not start having children until much later in life. Noah was almost 500 years old when he had Shem, Ham and Japeth.
 - x) The long-life expectancy, and delay in starting families could have easily made for much longer generations. There were only ten generations from Seth to Shem over a period of

1656 years before the flood. This is an average generation of 165 years compared to 20-30 years today. This means the population growth could have been much slower than one would think.

xi) This also means that Adam's grand children or great grandchildren could have easily been alive when the flood happened.

b) Pre-Flood Communication

i) Communication about God before the flood was likely an oral history that was passed down from generation to generation

ii) The Sumerian language is the oldest written language dating back to 3100 BCE, or about 750 years before the flood, and was used in southern Mesopotamia.

iii) This indicates that Noah could like write if necessary, but we have no record of Noah having written anything.

iv) Based on Usher's chronology, Adam was born in 4004 BCE and died around 3074 BCE.

v) Hence, it is possible that Sumerian could have been in existence before Adam died and potentially used to commit some early history of God and his communication to man through the written word.

vi) It is also possible that a history of oral traditions, whereby genealogy is committed to memory from generation to generation and Noah and his sons knew everything in this manner.

c) Post-Flood Communication

i) Babel

(1) After the flood, man settled in a single area in a plain in Shinar (Gen 11:1)

(2) It was likely about 100 years after the flood that this happened.

(3) It is known that at this time, there was a single language that they communicated with that likely came from Noah.

(4) God confounds the single language into multiple languages.

(5) God also scatters man across the face of all the earth (Gen 11:8)

(6) At this time, people groups likely worked together based on language and settled in a certain spot.

(7) It is also likely at this time that for man to be scattered across the entire earth that all the land mass was likely still connected post flood.

(8) This is referred in geology as Pangaea or a super continent. The concept of Pangaea was discovered by Alfred Wegener in 1924. Science is just catching up to the Bible once again.

(9) Once man was distributed across the face of the earth, the continents then likely broke up.

(10) After the continents are formed and there are multiple people groups with multiple languages, communication would continue based on any oral history that existed before Babel.

(11) Every known civilization has oral tradition with regards to the flood.

ii) Abraham

(1) Almost 300 years after Babel, we see that God calls out one person and one particular people, the Jews.

(2) And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there. Genesis 11:31

(3) Abram was likely a Sumerian.

(4) The city Ur was in of the Chaldees.

(5) Ur was a Sumerian city. It was a city devoted to the good Nannar (Moon God, Sin of Akkadian). Abraham's father, Terah, was a high priest of Nannar.

(6) The Sumerian's lived in what is now modern-day Iraq and Iran.

(7) Though Abram moved from Ur to Haran, with his father Terah, Terah died in Haran before God called him out.

(a) Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: ² And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: ³ And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. ⁴ So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran. ⁵ And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came Genesis 12:1-5

(8) It would make sense, that though Abram was a heathen that God called out of Ur, he still had the language, both written and spoken, at the age of 75.

(9) God spoke directly to Abram in Gen 12:1.

(10) Abram likely had a knowledge of the pre-Adamic flood, as this was only 400 years after the flood.

(11) He also had the ability to record his own history going forward and likely continued to pass that down the line.

(12) Abram lives until 1800 BC.

iii) Isaac to Moses

(1) Abraham continued to pass things along to Isaac, Isaac to Jacob, Jacob to his sons.

(2) There were likely several generations between Joseph and Moses over a course of 400 years in Egypt.

(3) The Word of God, as they knew it before the law, was likely passed down the line verbally or in written form.

(4) We see that Moses learned the ways of God from his mother at an early age and did not forget it, even while living in Pharaoh's temple.

(5) He somehow learned about God at a young age, much like all the Hebrew children.

(6) There was no law at this time but still the Word of God was communicated.

(7) Moses, before he died, penned the entire first five books of the Bible (Pentateuch) in what was likely 1400 BCE, which is the end of the book of Judges.

(8) It is likely however, that Moses knew much of the history of these five books and would have been very familiar with them as he wrote them.

(9) It is also likely that Sumerian that Abraham would have spoken, transitioned into Akkadian which is the precursor to Hebrew and Aramaic.

iv) Job

(1) The book of Job was written 120 years before Moses wrote the Pentateuch in 1520 BCE.

(2) Job was from the land of Uz.

(3) Uz was south of Edom, west of the Arabian desert and extended to Chaldea.

(4) It is unclear what language Job would have been written in.

7) Conclusions

a) God communicated to man through conscience until the law was given and written down by Moses.

b) Man communicated to man through a history of oral tradition and oral history before the Word of God was penned and written down.

c) God still expected people to believe his words, even before they were written down.

d) We are blessed to have a written Bible we can always refer to any time we want.

Manuscript Evidence Syllabus

1. God's Communication to Man – Pre-Mosaic History of the Bible
2. Moses and the Jew - The Development of the Hebrew Old Testament
3. Inspiration and the Bible – The Ground Rules
4. The Hundred Year War – The Battle for a Final Authority
5. The Localities – Alexandria Egypt vs Antioch Assyria
6. The Witnesses – The Greek Manuscripts, Good and Bad
7. The Enemies of the AV1611 – From the Satan to Modern Scholarship
8. Wescott and Hort – The Start of Modern Scholarship and Destruction of the Authorized Version
9. The History of the Authorized Version
10. Modern Greek Texts and Recent Changes – Nestle's 26th Edition
11. Recategorization of Greek Manuscripts – When you can't win, just cheat.
12. Final Thoughts

Course Text: An Understandable History of the Bible, Samuel Gipp, Fourth Addition, Daystar Publishing

Available from:

Daystar Publishing (www.daystarpublishing.com) - \$36.33 including shipping and tax

Bible Baptist Bookstore (<https://store.kjv1611.org>) – \$30.40 including shipping