

version has words in it that weren't in the original version. These words were added by the translators because they felt that this would clarify the meaning. These words are usually written in italics. Also, the titles of some of the books were not in the original version.

Read each passage with and without these words to see if they really make the meaning clearer, or if they distort the meaning.

Also, don't assume that the beginning or ending of a verse or chapter is the beginning or ending of a statement. This may or may not be the case.

The original Bible was not divided into chapters and verses. These were added by scholars (sometime in the 13th century, I believe) in order to make it easier to find or make reference to any specific passage.

So, in order to get the true meaning of a verse or verses, be sure to read the entire statement in which the verse or verses are found; and do not assume that the statement begins or ends with any particular chapter or verse. Read several verses before and after the one in question until you are sure that you have read the entire statement in which the verse or verses are contained.

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The author welcomes comments and constructive criticism. He has done his best to remain unbiased in this presentation of Biblical ideas. If anyone feels that he has been mistaken about anything, feel free to write to him at the address or the website listed on the last page.

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Introduction

When someone makes a statement beginning with the words "The Bible says...", how often do you check the Bible to see if it actually does say what they claim?

I have heard people making statements like this from pulpits, on radio and television, and in casual conversation. I have also read statements like this in newspapers, magazines and books.

I am very disturbed by the fact that quite a number of these statements are false; and I find it amazing that so many people accept the false statements without questioning them and without taking the time to check the Bible and see if they are accurate.

Even more disturbing is the fact that certain churches have used such false ideas as the basis for major doctrines.

For example: THE HOLY BIBLE DOES NOT SAY that you can have everlasting life by accepting Jesus Christ as your Saviour; and THE HOLY BIBLE DOES NOT SAY that you can have everlasting life by being baptized.

The preceding statements are just two examples. There are many more; and I will discuss what I believe to be the most important ones throughout this book.

This book is not an "interpretation" of what the Bible says. It is