

“The New Heart Revival ‘The Thief On The Cross’ with Doug Batchelor” posted by Doug Batchelor on YouTube on 4/10/20.

Around 55:11 Doug discusses how in “the King James Version” the placement of a comma in Luke 23:43 is “a punctuation error.” Interestingly, though he consistently uses the New King James Version in preaching, when it comes to the alleged “punctuation error” he says it’s in “the King James Version.” In addition when he quoted the verse to illustrate the “error” he quoted it as in the New King James Version!

“And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:43 from the King James Version.

“And Jesus said to him, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.’” Luke 23:43 from the New King James Version.

Seventh-day Adventist ministers have been dancing around the comma in “the wrong place” in this verse for the 50 plus years that I’ve been a church member. First of all, you can all stop doing that. Secondly, be VERY CAREFUL NEVER to denigrate the Bible. When you say something is wrong with it, you are denigrating it.

“He who has a knowledge of God and his word through personal experience has a settled faith in the divinity of the Holy Scriptures. He has proved that God’s word is truth, and he knows that truth can never contradict itself.” *The Ministry of Healing* page 462.

“Man is fallible, but God’s Word is infallible.” *Selected Messages Book One* page 416.

To be perfectly clear, “infallible” means no error at all. I have looked up that word in a variety of English dictionaries including one from the 1700s and early 1800s. The meaning of “infallible” has not changed. It had the same meaning in Ellen White’s day as it does now. Ellen White, by the way, understood neither Greek nor Hebrew; she was talking about the ENGLISH Bible.

Brother Batchelor goes on to say that the Greek had no punctuation at all. What he neglects to say is that not only did ancient Greek manuscripts have no punctuation, there were no spaces between words and if it was a minuscule manuscript there were no capital letters. So Doug is complaining about an “error” in “the King James Version” when the New King James Version which he uses has the same punctuation. He thinks the Greek is OK with no punctuation, no spaces between words and manuscripts in all lower case letters and is oblivious to the history of ENGLISH punctuation!

There is no “error” in the placement of the comma in Luke 23:43 in the KJV; it was correct for the time in which it was written. In 1611 punctuation had not been standardized and was not used to change the meaning of a sentence. Punctuation was used for the convenience of speaking to others. The “error” is in the new bibles like the New King James Version that were written under new rules of punctuation. I have

looked that verse up in a bunch of different bibles and all have the comma placed that way except *The Gospels From Aramaic* by George M. Lamsa.

[SatanIsDead.com](http://SatanIsDead.com)

[InfallibleBible.com](http://InfallibleBible.com)

[AdventistsToday.com](http://AdventistsToday.com)

[SabbathSchoolGuide.com](http://SabbathSchoolGuide.com)