

A sermon titled “Where Are the Dead Right Now? A Biblical Answer” was streamed on the It Is Written YouTube channel on 10/15/25. G. Alexander Bryant, the Seventh-day Adventist North American Division President is the speaker. The YouTube link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/bLV26s4bj84?si=cJrZ3xqF2PzpO5K1>

At 3:34 part of Revelation 21:4 was quoted. I’m not sure what version it was because though I checked over ten different versions, none of them were exactly as quoted in the video.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 from the New King James Version (NKJV) was quoted at 4:33.

At 5:36 the story of Lazarus was discussed using the NKJV.

At 5:40 John 11:4 from the New American Standard Bible (NASB) with last copyright date of 1995 was quoted.

At 5:52 John 11:11-14 was quoted from the NKJV.

At 6:16 G. Alexander Bryant, to be hereafter referred to as Alex, says, “But I want you to get a pitcher of how Jesus sees death. He doesn’t see death as most of us see it. Jesus says, those who die in me they just sleeping.”

At 8:24 John 11:21-23 is quoted as follows. I have added no quotation marks except as appear in the video.

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “your brother will rise again.”

Verse 21 is from the New Living Translation (NLT). Verse 22 starts with “But” but the rest of the verse is as in the NASB. Verse 23 is from the NASB. How’s that for mixing and matching to get “the Bible” to say things like you want it to say. Be advised that there are hundreds of English translations of “the Bible” and some, like the NASB and NKJV are different depending on when they were printed and some of the changes are significant.

After that, John 11:24 was quoted as in the NKJV.

Genesis 2:16-17 was quoted from the NKJV at 10:47.

At 13:45, Genesis 2:7 was quoted from the King James Version (KJV) also known as the real Bible. Every one of the above quotations could have been taken from that Bible without any problem but ALL of the previous “the Bible” used have serious errors.

I posted the following in the comments section of the video on 10/18/25. At 4 hours, to my surprise, it was still there and was still there on 10/24/25.



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Get your free book, The Mystery of Death, here: <https://iiw.us/life2025>



[@martinlohne5128](#)

So, we use at least two different bibles and then refer to them as "the Bible."

"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 2:7 from the King James Version (KJV).

"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." Genesis 2:7 from the New King James Version (NKJV).

In this sermon the "the Bible" used for the above passage was the KJV because it said "soul" like the sermonizer wanted it to say. The NKJV says "living being" which is also correct since, as you can find out by consulting a good English dictionary, since the same word in English can mean different things depending on the context in which it's used.

Does a person, a living being, have a soul?

"And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Ben-oni: but his father called him Benjamin." Genesis 35:18 (KJV).

Apparently so. Does the soul die when the body dies?

"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Matthew 10:28 (KJV).

Apparently not unless you believe that both the body and the soul of the Christian martyr burned at the stake as already been destroyed in hell.

And how about this one? "Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death." John 8:51 (KJV).

Do you know what "never see death" means in English?

The advertisement for the free book wasn't part of my thread. The free book is given in PDF format so you can print it for yourself. If you like, you can read it for yourself and see that its author is confused like Alex.

According to Alex "when it came too man, God stooped over, and He formed man of the dust of the ground, with His own hands. And then He breathed into man's nostrils, the breath of life and man became a living soul." It's true that God formed man of dust but no "the Bible" I'm aware of says He stooped over or that He formed man "with His own hands." Alex at least specifies that it was the "breath of life" that made man a living soul and that shouldn't leave the impression that said breath is air. The "breath of life" is metaphorical for the life-giving element that God has and that in all likelihood only God understands. Remember that because in this video, at least once, and in others I've watched, it's frequently said that body plus breath equals a living soul, a person, without specifying that it's the God given breath of life that makes life and that breath is not air.

At 15:02 Alex says, "Some people believe that a soul is something that keeps living on when you die but the Bible says the soul is a combination of the dust of the ground and the breath of life." Read Genesis 35:18 that I posted in the comments section of the video. While it's true a person can be called a soul, said soul also has a soul, i.e., that soul's mental processes. Here's another passage that demonstrates that Alex either forgot, maybe never read (I hope not) or just neglected to mention.

"And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son? And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again. And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived." 1 Kings 17:20-22 (KJV).

Here's another passage that demonstrates that in certain contexts, "spirit" can mean the same thing as "soul."

"And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat." Luke 8:52-55 (KJV).

Here's a question posted in the comments section I tried to answer. My answer never appeared for all to see so the *censor librorum* apparently didn't like it. Maybe it was the Ellen G. White quotations that got it deleted.



@Catsfancy

I have had friends from other denominations always quote the scripture “to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord” as their proof that a soul immediately ascends to heaven at death. Do you know where this is found in the Bible? And how would you respond to it?



@martinlohne5128

Here's the verse.

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." 2 Corinthians 5:8 from the King James Version (KJV).

It is easily explained if you understand what the Bible says in English. In English, "soul" can mean a person or a person's intellectual processes depending on the context in which that word is used. A good English dictionary will confirm this. When a person's body dies all that constituted that person's intellectual processes is kept safe in the memory of God in a sleeping state until the resurrection of the body. "Spirit" can also mean intellectual processes depending on the context in which it's used.

"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Matthew 10:28 (KJV).

"The rack, the stake, the many inventions of cruelty, may kill the body, but they cannot touch the life that is hid with Christ in God." Signs of the Times, June 3, 1897.

"Christ represents death as a sleep to His believing children. Their life is hid with Christ in God, and until the last trump shall sound those who die will sleep in Him." The Desire of Ages page 527.

Lo and behold, at 16:05 another verse is quoted from the real Bible that couldn't have been used from the fake ones already used in this video.

“His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.” Psalm 146:4 (KJV).

“His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish.” Psalm 146:4 (NKJV).

“When they breathe their last, they return to the earth, and all their plans die with them.” Psalm 146:4 (NLT).

“His spirit departs, he returns to the earth; On that very day his plans perish.” Psalm 146:4 (NASB).

NONE of those three fake “the Bible” say the thoughts perish so Alex couldn’t use them. They say the departed’s plans perish which can be taken to mean earthly plans. The departed soul’s soul would be expected to be having new plans in Paradise and the earthly plans would have perished.

At 16:33 a verse is quoted.

“Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it.”
Ecclesiastes 12:7 (NKJV).

If you’ve read everything this far, you should have no trouble with that verse. The “spirit” is the memory of a soul’s intellectual process that God keeps safe until the resurrection of that soul’s body.

At 16:50 Alex posts another verse from the real Bible because the fake “the Bible” he has used thus far don’t say what he wanted his “the Bible” to say.

“All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils;” Job 27:3 (KJV).

“As long as my breath is in me, And the breath of God in my nostrils,” Job 27:3 (NKJV).

“As long as I live, while I have breath from God,” Job 27:3 (NLT).

“For as long as life is in me, And the breath of God is in my nostrils,” Job 27:3 (NASB).

Alex needed the verse to say the “spirit of God” was in his nostrils in order to explain where the “spirit” in Ecclesiastes 12:7 went. If he understood what the real Bible said in English, he wouldn’t have had to make this maneuver. NONE of the three fake “the Bible” he has used thus far say anything about “spirit” so he couldn’t use them.

At 17:14 Alex says, “There’s no living soul after the disconnection of the breath from the body.”

Let’s review Matthew 10:28 again and I have a couple more verses for you.

“And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” Matthew 10:28 (KJV).

“Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?” John 11:24-26 (KJV).

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.” John 8:51 (KJV).

The soul of a righteous person whose body dies NEVER dies because God preserves that soul, i.e., that soul's intellectual processes, in His memory until the resurrection of that soul's body.

At 17:28 Alex quotes another passage frequently misunderstood by Seventh-day Adventist ministers who are educating the sheep about death using one of his fake "the Bible."

"He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen." 1 Timothy 6:15-16 (NKJV).

According to Alex, "The only Person that lives immortally, ah, on and on immortally is God." Alex needs to look up the definition of "immortal" in an English dictionary. Immortal means NEVER die and, as has been abundantly demonstrated from the real Bible, a righteous follower of Jesus Christ will never suffer the death of the soul and so is immortal. What 1 Timothy 6:15-16 is saying is that only God has life in Himself and unborrowed from anyone else. EVERY created being gets its life from God and it will ALWAYS be that way.

Alex then quotes part of a verse from the real Bible which expresses the same sentiment as 1 Timothy 6:15-16.

"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God." 1 Timothy 1:17 (KJV).

Alex then says the angels God created are immortal. Afraid not. Satan and the fallen angels with him will be devoured in Hell fire and will be no more forever. Angels never were immortal in the sense that they had or have life unborrowed in themselves.

Alex tries again at 18:20.

"eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;" Romans 2:7 (NKJV).

Once again, as the Bible AND the Spirit of Prophecy say, if you are and remain a faithful follower of Christ you HAVE immortality. Your body may die but your soul will never be destroyed in Hell though when your body dies your soul will be sleeping the dreamless sleep of death.

At 18:31 part of Ezekiel 18:4 is posted as follows:

"The souls who sins shall die."

This could be from the NKJV, the English Standard Version (ESV) and perhaps from other translations. I believe "souls" is a typo; it should probably be "soul" and "soul" is the way Alex said it.

At 21:11 another verse is posted from the KJV. Alex seems unaware of what it really says in English.

“And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.” 1 Corinthians 15:17-18 (KJV).

“Perished” means dead and Paul is saying that if Christ wasn’t resurrected then those whose bodies died also have a dead soul. In other words, there is a part of them that isn’t dead and that would be their soul which is sleeping.

At 22:53 there is a discussion of another verse Alex doesn’t understand.

“Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.” Acts 2:29 (NKJV).

Alex doesn’t understand that though David’s body was in the tomb his soul wasn’t dead. There’s another passage that confirms this that Alex hasn’t mentioned.

“The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection, and asked him, Saying, Master, Moses said, If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having no issue, left his wife unto his brother: Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. And last of all the woman died also. Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her. Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his doctrine.” Matthew 22:23-33 (KJV).

The passage is about the resurrection which the Sadducees didn’t believe in. Jesus said God was “not the God of the dead, but of the living” AND that God was “the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob” who were just as dead body wise as was David. The bodies of all of those men were dead but their souls, a memory of their mental processes, were kept safe in the memory of God in a sleeping state.

Alex says David isn’t in heaven or “smoldering in Hell.” That’s true but his fake “the Bible” tells a different story.

“The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:” 2 Peter 2:9 (KJV).

“then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,” 2 Peter 2:9 (NKJV).

“So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final judgment.” 2 Peter 2:9 (NLT).

“then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from a trial, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment,” 2 Peter 2:9 (NASB).

The real Bible says the unjust are reserved “unto the day of judgment” to be punished. They won’t be punished until they have been judged. If you read the preceding verses, you will find those being spoken of include the wicked inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrha who, the three fake “the Bible” say, are being held “under punishment.” Their punishment would be in Hell or Purgatory which implies that the righteous are receiving their reward in Paradise.

“For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.” 1 Peter 3:18-20 (KJV).

“Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit. So he went and preached to the spirits in prison—those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood.” 1 Peter 3:18-20 (NLT).

“For Christ also suffered for sins once for all time, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; in which He also went and made proclamation to the spirits in prison, who once were disobedient when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.” 1 Peter 3:18-20 (NASB).

The two fake “the Bible” say Christ was raised to life “in the spirit” while the real Bible says they were “quickened” (brought to life) “by the Spirit.” The two fake “the Bible” are saying that Christ’s spirit, not his body, was resurrected and that Christ’s resurrected spirit spoke to the awake spirits of the wicked people who had died in the flood.

At 27:32 Alex starts to discuss Ecclesiastes 9:5 as in the NKJV.

“For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten.”

That’s true and all the fake bibles I’ve looked in haven’t done that verse damage.

Alex repeatedly asks his listeners to “say amen” and by this time it’s getting pretty old. I highly doubt that any of the sheep who obediently say amen know that some of the provided provender they’ve been fed is tainted with misinformation and that fact may not have dawned on Alex either.

At 29:06 Alex says, “And what I say unto you, God’s Word is true.” His fake “the Bible” aren’t entirely true.

Starting at 29:26 Revelation 16:13-14 is posted as follows. I have supplied no quotation marks.

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons, working miracles, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

Alex has done more “the Bible” editing. Revelation 16:13 is from the NKJV. In Revelation 16:14 Alex apparently preferred the KJV’s “working miracles” to the NKJV’s “performing signs.”

At 30:15, 2 Corinthians 11:14 is quoted from the NKJV. At this point it appears Alex’s favorite fake “the Bible” is the NKJV though he feels free to edit what he calls “God’s Word” whenever he likes.

Alex talks about being deceived when one is confronted with a demon pretending to be a departed loved one. At 31:11, whilst walking over to a table on which is a black book which he then picks up, Alex says, “And the only way you’ll know the difference is the word of God.”

I agree that thinking a demon masquerading as a departed loved one is an extremely dangerous deception. The reason it’s dangerous is not because you believe the demon is really a deceased loved one but because you then believe it when the demon claims such things as God really does want us to worship on Sunday instead of Saturday or that some departed infidel is enjoying heaven just like the Apostle Paul. Think about this carefully. How much more dangerous is that than believing all bibles and the Spirit of Prophecy have errors and you can’t know exactly what God said? Also, how dangerous is it when you have studied the real Bible so little that you don’t know the difference between the real one and a fake one?

Alex asked the logical question of why Jesus would need to come back if the righteous were already in heaven. Obviously because their soul is SLEEPING and they need a resurrected body into which their soul will be put in an awake state able to enjoy heaven.

At 35:02 Alex begins to discuss another favorite passage using what I believe is his favorite fake “the Bible.” It’s a good one to memorize but do yourself a favor and memorize it from the real Bible.

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17 (NKJV).

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord

himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.” 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17 (KJV).

The NKJV says “an archangel” and the KJV says “the archangel.” To say “an archangel” means there are several archangels like Gabriel and Raphael as Roman Catholics believe. To say “the archangel” means one archangel which is Michael who is also known as Jesus Christ. In fact, when Alex quoted this verse, he said “the archangel” even though what he had on the screen was from the NKJV and said “an archangel.”

Alex changes the subject from the state of the dead to salvation. I don’t think that’s a bad idea though I don’t think I’ve ever seen it done before.

At 36:53 Alex used the KJV again instead of his favorite “the Bible” apparently because he likes “profession” better than “confession.” I also like profession better but confession can mean the same thing so I don’t think it’s wrong.

“Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.” Hebrews 4:14 (KJV).

“Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.” Hebrews 4:14 (NKJV).

At 40:10 a guy comes out not dressed in church clothes. He comes attired in camo as if he were going hunting in some pretty worn and torn clothes. Except for the rips, I don’t think it looks that bad for a hunting getup. Then someone comes and covers him all up with a white sheet. Alex talks for a bit, briefly removes the white sheet and says even though we’re covered with Christ’s righteousness we still look the same underneath. Notice this.

“And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.” Zechariah 3:1-4 (KJV).

In this passage, “the angel of the LORD”.is Michael the archangel, a.k.a., Jesus Christ. Joshua’s filthy garments are TAKEN AWAY. He is NOT left with filthy garments under Christ’s white robe of righteousness. Maybe Alex didn’t mean it this way, but there are some ministers who teach that we’ll be sinning until Jesus comes which is a dangerous deception.

Here’s another problem with Alex’s favorite fake “the Bible.”

“Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'-and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked-I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.” Revelation 3:17-18 (NKJV).

“And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” Revelation 19:8 (NKJV).

The NKJV plainly teaches in Revelation that the white garments we're to be clothed with to cover our shameful nakedness are our righteous acts, i.e., salvation by works. The real Bible has no such problem.

“And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.” Revelation 19:8 (KJV).

Alex says God bases our salvation on “do you love Me.” I agree as long as it's understood that loving God means we're keeping His commandments and Alex agrees with that.

Alex discusses Luke 23:42-43 where in the NKJV it says, “Assuredly I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise. All ministers I've listened to prior to Alex yap about the comma in the wrong place. Alex says the Bible was written with no punctuation which is true. Congratulations Alex. That said, though punctuation hadn't been standardized when the KJV was written, it had been standardized when the allegedly improved NKJV was written and the comma would have been placed differently if the translators hadn't subscribed to the departed soul enjoying Paradise theory. Alex also noted that on the day of His resurrection He told Mary he hadn't yet gone to His Father which should have given the translators of modern bible versions a clue as to proper comma placement.

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