

Chapter 24

When we read and interpret the Holy Bible

Just like more than 4000 Christian communities existing in this world, there are so many versions and editions of holy Bible in publicity. So it is not possible to identify the perfect one.

Let us first consider the Bible published by the Catholic church. The Catholic church has been respecting St. Mary, the mother of Christ. But in some Catholic Bible, St. Mary is described not in a dignified manner. “The maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son”. (Isaiah 7:14). The word ‘virgin’ was used in almost all the original versions.

But the word ‘virgin’ is replaced by the usage ‘young woman’ in Catholic Bible Editions. There is nothing wonderful that a young woman gets conceived. But being conceived or pregnant without losing virginity is a miracle. Also nobody tells St. Mary as ‘young woman Mariam’. Only says ‘Virgin Mary’. The correct usage ‘Virgin Mary’ used in Bibles published by International Bible Society.

‘Daughter of God’s people’ :- The usage ‘daughter of God’s people’ or ‘daughter of My people’ seen in chapters 8 and 9 in the book of prophet Jeremiah indicates the Christian religion. Because we see in Jeremiah 30:3 that ‘My people’ means the union of Israel and Judah. “When I will bring my people, Israel and Judah, back from captivity and restore them to the land I gave to their forefathers to possess, says the Lord”. (Jeremiah 30:3) In Jeremiah 3:8, it is clear that Judah is the sister of Israel.

“I thought that after she had done all this, she would return to me but she did not, and her unfaithful sister Judah saw it. I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah, had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery”. (Jeremiah 3:7-9).

From the above extracts, it is clear that Judah is the sister of Israel. But in Catholic Bibles, there is wrong interpretations that ‘Daughter of God’s people’ means the Judah.

The 14th chapter of the book of prophet Jeremiah fully contains descriptions of ‘Judah’. The word ‘my people’ seen in Jeremiah 14:17 in Catholic Bible is very correct. In Bibles published by Bible society of India (Malayalam Edition), the usage ‘daughter of my people’ in the above context is a serious mistake.

“They will fall in their vision time” (Jeremiah 8:11-12). The above sentence can not be seen in Catholic Bible with the same meaning. The meaning has entirely changed in Catholic Bible. In the original version of Bible, we can see Jeremiah 8:11-12 very correctly. In Bibles, published by Bible society of India (Malayalam Edition), we can see it correctly.

Bible records about the last sin of Israel like this. “ You despised the scepter of my son like any other sticks”.(Ezekiel 21:10). The idea behind this sentence is that the Israel people had denied Christ. This holy words were very correctly in earlier Catholic Bibles.

But, now a days, in the Catholic Bibles, the above sentence is given changed and the meaning also diverted.

In order to understand the meaning of some sentences in Bible properly, we have to read the entire chapter from the very beginning to the end. Otherwise, we get a meaning just opposite to it. Also, we should consider the circumstance causing the sentence under consideration.

Eg: Isaiah 47:13-14.

“ Let your astrologers come forward and save you- those people who study the stars, who map out the zones of the heavens and tell you from month to month, what is going to happen to you. They will be like bits of straw and a fire will burn them up! They will not even be able to save themselves- the flames will be too hot for them, and not a cosy fire to warm themselves by”.

If we interpret only the above words, we may feel that astrology is a wrong and perverted science. But if we read the 47th chapter from the very beginning, we come to know that God destroys the Babylon people, who had been worshipping the devils and also misused astrology for the same.

If we carefully read the 47th chapter, we can realize that astrology is a righteous science and the Babylon astrologers who misused it were destructed by God's anger upon them.

Eg 2.

If we read and interpret the sentences from 10-20 of the second chapter of the book of Wisdom, then we can say , we can do all the different types of bad things.

“As for the virtuous man who is poor, let us oppress him, let us not spare the widow, nor respect old age, white-haired with many years. Let our strength be yardstick of virtue, since weakness argues its own futility. Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. He claims to have knowledge of God, and calls himself a son of the Lord. Before us he stands, a reproof to our way of thinking, the very sight of him weighs our spirits down, his way of life is not like other men's, the paths he treads are unfamiliar. In his opinion, we are counterfeit, he holds aloof from our doings as though from filth, he proclaims the final end of the virtuous as happy and boasts of having God for his father. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn to a shameful death since he will be looked after- we have his word for it.” (Wisdom 2:10-20)

But only who considers the 21st sentence get the correct meaning of the above sentences.
“ This is the way they reason, but they are misled, their malice makes them blind”.
(Wisdom 2”21).

Eg 3:

We read like this in the 11th sentence of the 15th chapter of St. Mathew. “ Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man, but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.”
(Sty. Mathew 15:11)

If we interpret this holy Words without considering the circumstance under which Christ had said this, then it means that Christ says all impure food materials(like flesh of pig etc)
Which are forbidden by God for the Jew , Christian and Muslim people, can be eaten without any discrimination.

In order to get the correct meaning of the above words, we should read the 15th chapter of St. Mathew from the beginning itself. ‘ The disciples of Christ didn` t wash hands before having food’. This was the accusation of the Pharisees. The idea we get from the 15th chapter of St. Mathew is that if somebody eats legal food without washing hands, that won` t make his/her impure.

Remember that the above words were spoken by Christ to Jews while he was censuring them. Christ won` t say to disobey the laws of God and allow to eat anything who had already said
And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one title of the law to fail”. (St. Luke 16:17).

Pointing out the holy words of Christ, “ Not that which goeth into the mouth of a man defileth a man, but that which cometh out the mouth, this defileth a man”, some Christian priests argue that sorcery and sordid poison are not reality but only myths. They speak such a blunder as they don` t know under which circumstance Christ had said this and hence they don` t know the exact meaning of the above holy words. Because in the ‘Book of Hymn’ presented to King Solomon by God for the Christian-Jew-Muslim communities, there seen the hymns and methods for removing sordid poison and evil spirits from human being.

Some sentences in Bible are applicable only to Christians or Jews.

“Neither is there salvation in any other” for there is none other name under heaven given among men, where by we must be saved”. (Acts 4:12)

The above sentence in Bible is only confined to Christians or Jews. Any other religious believer is no way connected with this sentence. Because St. Peter stated like this while he was arguing with the Jew people.

But many Christian communities misinterpret the above sentence by giving meaning to the word ‘we’ as ‘ all the people in all religions’. St. Peter states like this in Acts 10:34-35.

“ Then Peter opened his mouth and said, Of a truth, I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted with him”.

Therefore it is clear that the sentence quoted in the example is only applicable to Jews or Christians and it doesn't mean that ' the neighbouring religious believers should receive Christian religion' .

But the Pentecostal church misuse this sentence (Acts 4:12) to frighten the Hindus and convert them to Pentecostal believers. If the Hindus are aware of the above two sentences, then they can escape from the traps of religious converters.

Some biblical sentences are exclusively for Christians

Eg 1: We read in Isaiah 66:17 like this. “ As for those who sanctify themselves and purify themselves to enter the gardens, following the one in the centre, who eat the flesh of pig, reptiles, rats: their deeds and their thoughts shall end all at once- it is Yahwey who speaks”.

It is clear that this holy Words are only meant for Christians. Garden indicates the heavenly world-paradise, the one in the centre indicates Christ , and following the one in the centre indicates Christians. In the concept Father-Son-Holy Spirit, Christ comes in the middle and also in the middle of the history of the World comes Christ Himself. Prophet Isaiah clearly prophecise about the conception of flesh of pig by Christians an also the procedure called 'self deliverance' or confession to priests among Christians. It is proved from the prophecy that God hates these things

Eg 2:

“O, Daughter of God`s people, you will fall in your vision time”. (Jeremiah 8:12)

This sentence is also applicable to Christians only. “ The Daughter of God`s people” indicates Christian religion. “vision time” indicates a period in which miracles and signs done through visions. “ will fall” indicates that the said miracles are not from God[from righteous power].

Eg 3:

(Jeremiah 8:19) “ Listen, the cry of the daughter of my people sounds through out the land, ‘Yahwey no longer in Zion? Her King no longer in her? (Why have they provoked me with their carved images, with these Nothings from foreign countries?)”.

This prophecy is also meant for Christians. Here, “ The daughter of God`s people” indicates the Christian religion. “carved images” means the statues and picture installed by Christians for worshipping with incense and fire. Method of submitting incense and light before statues and pictures is called idolatry. Enshrining statues and pictures of heavenly bodies without having the facility of submitting light or incense is not idolatry.

It is just a sign.

The term 'Nothings' in Jeremiah 8:19 is highly noticeable. They mean the devils. [Idols in some versions of Bible]. It indicates the witchcraft seen among Christians. Using the misunderstanding of the Christian priests, that there is no devil and witchcraft, as a shield, many Christians used to torture each other using witchcraft and sorcery.

An important thing while interpreting holy Bible:- Bible used in the period of Christ (Old Testament), four Gospels, Revelation – all the matters in these books should be complementary to each other while interpreting the Bible. I have used this method for writing this small book.

The days of vengeance

“ When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, you must realise that she will soon be laid desolate. Then those in Judah must escape to the mountains, those inside the city must leave it, and those in country districts must not take refuge to it. For these are the days of vengeance when all the scripture says must be fulfilled. Alas. For”.

(St. Luke 21:21:22)

The reference here is of the revenge of God upon the Israel.(Jew people). Ezekiel 39:17 describes this punishment of God upon the Israel like this: “ A great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel to every kind of bird and all wild beasts by God”. As a fulfillment of this prophecy, in AD 70, Roman Forces conquered Jerusalem. During the period of the cruel dictator Adolf Hitler, this prophecy fully fulfilled.

The Israel were scattered and made into exile all over the world. But in 1948, they were assembled in their home land and Israel was rebuilt. God will never punish them again.

The proclamation of Christ regarding the day of vengeance is memorable here. We read in Luke :17:34-37 “ I tell you on that night two people will be in one bed, one will be taken and the other left. two women will be grinding grain together, one will be taken and the other left. where Lord? they asked.

He replied, ‘Where there is a dead body. there the vultures will gather’ . ”

Reply of Jesus clearly indicates death. On that night, those who will be taken means - will be taken to death.

The usage ‘on that night’ is noticeable. It indicates the darkness of a single day.

The day of vengeance (The Great day of Wrath).

This is the day on which God performs his vengeance to every nation according to their wickedness but leaving the Israel free. This day is described in the holy Bible as God’s Great day of Wrath. In revelations 19:18, it is given as ‘ Supper of the great God’. We can see in St. Luke 21:25 that there shall be signs in the sun, moon and the stars indicating the Great day of Wrath. The very rare phenomenon of crossing of planet Mercury.

Across the sun in the recent past was an example of such sign. The planet Mars in 2003 came very close to the earth. The scientific world says, this happens only once in 60000 years.

Some years ago, the moon seemed larger and more shiny. The collision of a comet with the Jupiter domain was another such sign.

St. Luke 21:28 clearly says to the Jews what to do when such signs appearing.

“ When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.” (St. Luke 21:28). That is why I say the most important thing to happen in this world is the construction of the holy Temple of God at Jerusalem. Quoting from the prophecies of Prophets Jeremiah, Isaiah and Zechariah , we have learned from the chapter “ The Great day of Wrath” that majority of the Christians will be killed by the sword of God in the Great day of Wrath.

Isaiah 60: 2-3 tells us that the Jew people will be secure on that day. The warning given by Christ regarding the Great day of Wrath is very noticeable. “ That day will be sprung on you suddenly like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth”. (St. Luke 21:35). But most of the Christians call the last day of Judgement (which comes only after 1000 peaceful years from the Great day of Wrath.) as the second coming of Christ. Christians don` t have any idea about the Great day of Wrath.

The book of Revelations says, only the most gracious saints resurrect on the Great day of Wrath. This is called the first resurrection.

The Last day of Judgement.

The book of Revelations says that there will be peace for 1000 years after the Great day of Wrath. Only after that, the day of last Judgement (End of the age) comes. Christians Misinterprets the last day of Judgement as the second coming of Jesus Christ because most of the Christians are ignorant about the Great day of Wrath. St. Luke 17:30 describes about the Great day of Wrath which is the second coming of Christ.

St. Mathew 25:31 describes in detail about the last day of judgement or the end of the age. The book of Revelations says the resurrection on the Last day of Judgement as second resurrection.

The Transformation of Christians.

St. Paul teaches that the living Christians will be transformed and raised on the second coming of Christ. (See I Cor. 15:52).

Prophets or Christ Himself didn't specify anything about the transformation of the alive on The Great day of Wrath. ie, the second coming of Christ. In Revelations 19: 18 the second coming of Christ, that is The Great day of Wrath is referred to as the ' Supper of Great God'. Because 2/3 of the alive peoples (except Jews) will be killed by the sword of God on that day. We have already seen that on that day, majority of the Christians will be killed. (with ample evidences from the prophecies of prophets Jeremiah, Isaiah & Zachariah).

' No problem with the flesh of pig', 'Do not obey Sabbath', ' Circumcision is not necessary', if we think about on the basis of these ideologies of St. Paul, we can ask a question, Is the transformation said by St. Paul possible for a Christian ? Will they be raised to the heaven ?

Thousand Peaceful Years

We can see in the book of Revelation that there will be complete peace for thousand years after The Great Day of Wrath ie., the second coming of Christ. The statement of St. Paul that the alive Christians will be raised to the heaven after getting transformed on the second coming of Christ is contradictory to the holy words in the book of Revelations.

The Lion eat straw like the Ox

We can treat this as a description about the situation in the earth after the last day of judgement ie., the end of the age. The said period is described in bible as a period in which there will be no rivalry even among animals. During that time people will have a very long span of life. ' To die at the age of a hundred will be dying young'. (Isaiah 65:20). We read in Psalms 78:69 that the earth was made for ever. This holy word reminds us that this earth won't be perished. We may call it ' new earth ' when the prophecies of Isaiah become fulfilled.

The New Sky and the New Earth.

The book of Revelations tells us that after the last day of judgement, a new sky and a new earth will be formed and the existing earth and sky will be disappeared. We may think that this is contradictory with the descriptions given in the prophecies of prophet Isaiah.

The selected souls of the dead ones will be resurrected and taken away to a distant place quickly leaving this world for ever, on the last day of judgement, they may feel that the existing earth and sky disappear. The expression ' The earth and the sky will disappear' may be idiomatic.