

BELOW IS PART OF A STUDY THAT WILL EXPLAIN MY FAITH IN "**OUR CREED**", which is the whole purpose of the web page "www.foust.info.

Despite all the bad news, the negative attitudes of the world, our nation, our families, and neighbors, there's a positive solution to all mankind's problems IF, and it's a big IF; IF we get and stay close to God. First we have to get to know Him. He promises to protect us, supply our needs, love us and give us eternal life. However, there is a catch - He demands our love in return. How can we love Him if we don't know Him? Many do not know HOW to get to know him. Many people who think of themselves as Christians know little about God and even less about His plan. Most Americans say they believe in God, but to believe in God means you believe what He says, accepting the Bible as His word. We have to believe Jn. 1:1-5. Do you believe Jn. 1:1-5? After finding it read it out loud to yourself, then tell yourself, in your own words what you just read. Do you believe the Bible is a road map to God? Some people refuse to accept the Bible as God's word because they say it has too many contradictions and mistakes. There are ways to prove that the Bible is the very word or message from God. When God communicated His word to man there were no mistakes made. God does not make mistakes. However, any time humans become involved they are prone to make errors. The O.T. was originally recorded in Hebrew and later translated into other languages. The N.T. was recorded in Greek, later translated into other languages. Last of all the Bibles we have were translated into English. This has been done by imperfect men. God has miraculously preserved the Bible in spite of men's efforts to destroy it. Man has lost some of it, but there is still enough preserved for us to find our way to God through its pages.

Some believe the Bible is a combination of many different talented authors who wrote about events and experiences of their time, based on their own view points. Some minor mistakes have been made in translations; they can and have been corrected by reputable sources. One popular source is Strong's Complete Concordance which is a complete dictionary of the Hebrew and Greek words found in the King James Bible. If one simply reads the Bible without understanding that some words may be mistranslated it can cause confusion. For example the word "world" can also be correctly translated from the same word as "time, age, and generation". In 2Thes. 2:7 Paul used a word translators gave as "leteth and let" which sounds as if something is being allowed. But actually when we check Strong's Conc. we find the original Greek word means to "restrain" or "prevent".

The word "hell", in the original Greek simply means "sheol, grave, pit, no return" The word "Easter" in Acts 12:4 was translated incorrectly. Again look up the word in Strong's Concordance. You will find the original word is "Passover".

It is good for a first time student to read the whole bible from front to back once or twice to get introduced to it before beginning serious studies, even if it does not make a lot of sense to the reader. It will become more interesting as the reader progresses.

A student who simply begins studying the Bible for personal knowledge only, without a desire to know God and to follow His instructions, will never achieve the knowledge that will develop into a close relationship with Him. Many brilliant minds have studied the scriptures (1Cor.2:8-11) without understanding God's word because their purpose wasn't to have a relationship with, or to please, Him. 2Cor.4: 3-4 This writer assumes that the reader has already accepted that the Bible is the preserved word of God and that Jesus is the son of God