

Faithful Sardis Saints¹

“Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy” Revelation 3:4.

This overview reveals how much is owed to faithful Sardis saints 1000-1500 A.D. with respect to the preservation of **“the scripture of truth”** Daniel 10:21. You are unlikely to hear it preached on.

As Bro. Pete Dickens said back in March 2015 when we visited his church in Poole, Dorset “If you believe the King James Bible then you’re with us and those Waldensian believers are our scriptural kinfolk.”

If not of course then you are *de facto* with those who persecuted them, even though you are in **“...the body of Christ, and members in particular”** 1 Corinthians 12:27.

This writer’s explanatory remarks have been inserted, **in blue text in blue braces []** as appropriate.

Wilkinson cites Dr Frederick Nolan who spent twenty-eight years tracing the Received Text back to its apostolic origin. Nolan concluded that the Waldensian Church, with its pre-1611 Latin Bibles furnished *“unequivocal testimony of a truly apostolical branch of the primitive church, that the celebrated text of the heavenly witnesses* was adopted in the version which prevailed in the Latin Church, previously to the introduction of the modern Vulgate.”*



*1 John 5:7. [Waldensian believers died, murdered in their droves by Rome, to preserve that scripture for you and I². Fundamentalist modern versionists and ‘originals-onlyists’ have revealed that they don’t care whether 1 John 5:7 is scripture or not. *What do you think will happen when before the Lord Jesus Christ we are face-to-face with those Waldensian Sardis saints at “the judgment seat of Christ”* Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10?]

Of the transmission of the Received Text to the Waldensian Church and the preservation of the true scriptures during the Dark Ages, Wilkinson states, *In the silent watches of the night, along the lonely paths of Asia Minor where robbers and wild beasts lurked, might have been seen the noble missionaries carrying manuscripts, and verifying documents from the churches of Judea to encourage their struggling brethren under the iron heel of the Papacy...*

The Scriptures of the apostle John and his associates, the traditional text – the Textus Receptus, if you please – arose from the place of humiliation forced on it by Origen’s Bible in the hands of Constantine and became the Received Text of Greek Christianity. And when the Greek East for one thousand years was completely shut off from the Latin West, the noble Waldenses in northern Italy still possessed in Latin the Received Text.

To Christians such as these, preserving apostolic Christianity, the world owes gratitude for the true text of the Bible. It is not true, as the Roman Church claims, that she gave the Bible to the world. What she gave was an impure text, a text with thousands of verses so changed as to make way for her unscriptural doctrines. While upon those who possessed the veritable Word of God, she poured out through long centuries her stream of cruel persecution. Or in the words of [Nolan]:

“The Waldenses were among the first of the peoples of Europe to obtain a translation of the Holy Scriptures. Hundreds of years before the Reformation, they possessed the Bible in manuscript in their native tongue. They had the truth unadulterated, and this rendered them the special objects of hatred and persecution...Here for a thousand years, witnesses for the truth maintained the ancient faith...In a most wonderful manner it (the Word of Truth) was preserved uncorrupted through all the ages of darkness.”

Throughout the centuries, the Waldenses and other faithful evangelicals had sown the seed. The fog was rolling away from the plains and hills of Europe. The pure Bible which long had sustained the faith of the Vaudois, was soon to be adopted by others so mighty that they would shake Europe from the Alps to the North Sea. “The light had begun spreading unobserved, and the Reformation was on the point of being anticipated. The demon Innocent III was the first to descry the streaks of day on the crest of the Alps. Horror-stricken, he started up, and began to thunder for his pandemonium against a faith which...was threatening to dissolve the power of Rome” [Wylie, *The Papacy* p 92]...

For examples of key scriptures corrupted by Rome note the following:

Consider these examples of Rome’s “*impure text*,” from the beginning, middle and end of the New Testament - found in the RV, JB, NJB, 1984, 2013 NWTs, 1984, 2011 NIVs, ESV³. [The NKJV condones the following Catholic corruptions of scripture in its footnotes.]

Corrupted Texts

Matthew 1:25 “***firstborn***” omitted to make Mary a perpetual virgin.

Matthew 5:44 “***bless them that curse you***” omitted to allow for Papal anathemas, i.e. anyone who disobeys the pope effectively ‘curses’ him.

Matthew 6:13 “***For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen***” the doxology removed to strengthen the pope’s pretence to global temporal power.

Matthew 16:3 “***O ye hypocrites***” the Lord’s rebuke to religious hypocrites deleted.

Matthew 23:14 i.e. whole verse, “***Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows’ houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation***” the Lord’s rebuke to religious hypocrites deleted.

Acts 8:37 i.e. whole verse, “***And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God***” explicit reading on individual salvation deleted.

Acts 9:5, 6 “***the Lord***” and “***it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?***” explicit reading on individual salvation deleted.

These deletions enable Rome to say, as Halley⁴ shows, that obedience to the Pope is necessary for salvation. Rome’s influence during the Dark Ages was such that these readings from Acts 8:37, 9:5, 6 are missing from most extant Greek manuscripts. But the Waldenses preserved them, as does the AV1611.

Colossians 1:14 “***through his blood***” omitted to equate redemption with priestly absolution. This is a prime example of unbridled papal power.

James 5:16 “***faults***” changed to “***sins***” to encourage the abomination of the Confessional – even the ‘conservative’ NKJV has “*trespasses*.” Yet, while exhibiting serious omissions/alterations, Catholic bibles contain the Apocrypha. 2 Maccabees 12:43-46⁵ justifies purgatory.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” John 8:32.

References

¹ www.sdadefend.com/Living-Word/Wilkinson/AuthorizedBibleTOC.htm *Our Authorized Bible Vindicated* by Dr Benjamin Wilkinson, Chapters 2, 3

² www.practicaprophetica.com/media/gc/04-the-waldenses/ *Practica Prophetica 04 The Waldenses*

³ www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ ‘*O Biblios*’ - *The Book* pp 8-9, 41ff

www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/ *Poole 2015 3. The KJB Hated* pp 3-4 – March 29th

⁴ www.amazon.com/Halleys-Bible-Handbook-Abbreviated-Commentary/dp/B001TIEQC0 *Halley’s Bible Handbook* by Henry H. Halley, p 783

⁵ www.chick.com/ *Are Roman Catholics Christians?*