

The World's Most Incredible Sinner?

By William Schnoebelen

Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? – John 8:46

When you think of the incredible sinners down through history, who comes to mind? Judas Iscariot? Hitler? Herod the Great? All of those would certainly be in the running.

However, according to a *HIGHLY* respected authority, I am afraid that the answer is, the world's most incredible sinner is none other than the Lord Yah'shua (Jesus) the Messiah!

Now, before you all go ballistic on me, let me suggest that we might be fixating on just one of the applications of the world, "incredible".

The term "incredible sinner" could mean that the person's sins were astonishingly wicked – OR that the idea of the person even being a sinner was unbelievable. Of course, I find it incredible to think that Yah'shua was sinner. Hopefully, so do you!

But, what of our "*highly respected authority*"? Well, in the celebrated NIV Study bible, (© 1985, The Zondervan Corp.) in **Matt. 5:22**, we read Yah'shua saying: "But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment."

Going in the same bible to **Mark 3:5**, we find Yah'shua looking "gazed at them in anger..." Now this means that according to the NIV, Yah'shua just put himself in danger of judgment – He sinned!

The New American standard (© 1977, The Lockman Foundation) says this in Mt. 5:22 – "everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court"/In Mk. 3:5, Yah'shua looks "around at them with anger".

Now, it must be admitted that both bibles place a *marginal* note which says (e.g., NIV) "some manuscripts brother without cause." This reading is what is found in the Authorized Version (King James Bible). The AV has Yah'shua teaching that it is sinful to be angry with your brother **without cause**. Quite a BIG difference.

The footnote – which some might not even read – casts doubt on the authenticity of the Bible. Either the words "without cause" **are there or they aren't**. If they are, then the verse makes sense. If they aren't, then Yah'shua was a sinner! You will hear advocates of the NEW (**Acts 17:21**) bibles say, "no doctrines of any consequence are touched by these changes. "but wouldn't you say that the sinless nature of Yah'shua is an important doctrine?"

Busted!

Another response heard from the NIV crowd is: “So what? The NIV teaches in other places that Yah’shua is sinless.” That is like attending before a judge for speeding. You plead, “Your honor, I’m sorry about speeding; but please take into consideration all those times when I obeyed the speed limit.” What do you think the judge will say? Keeping the law is your DUTY. You do not get rewarded for it. Neither does all your “good behavior” count. You are BUSTED!

That’s just like salvation. Contrary to what some think, God does not weigh our good deeds against our sins on a scale. Even one tiny sin brings the whole law crashing down on our heads (**James 2:10**). Only absolutely perfect righteousness can save us. That is why we cannot do it, but Yah’shua can do it for us. He lived an absolutely perfect life, and – through the cross – made provision for us to appropriate His righteousness as our own. (**Rom. 3:22, 10:4; Phil. 1:11, 3:19**).

That is why it is such an abomination for the publishers of the NIV, NAS and most modern “bibles” to even hint that Yah’shua may have sinned in anger. It doesn’t matter if their versions say He is sinless somewhere else, they slander Him repeatedly.

A Delicate Theft of Words

Jeremiah 23:30 warns, “*Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbor*”. These modern translations literally steal thousands of words out of the Holy Bible! In 99 times out of 100, that theft ends up somehow taking glory from Yah’shua or His atonement. So what if they left some precious bible truths intact? That is like a thief who steals all your belongings and then wants congratulations because he left you your socks! *He is still a thief!*

Yah’shua IS sinless, yet the modern versions subtly (**Gen. 3:1, Prov. 7:10**) undermine His unblemished character! They cast doubt on His virgin birth (read the modern versions in **Luke 2:43** and compare to the Authorized version!). the NIV eliminates every SINGLE reference to Yah’shua as Abba Father’s only begotten Son (see **John 1:14, 18; 3:16,18; Acts 13:33; Hebr. 1:5; 5:5; 1 John 4:9** in both versions). They usually replace in with “One and Only Son.” Now WHY on earth would they do that? Whose theological agenda is being served? It is another lie to take away a little bit of the glory and uniqueness of Yah’shua!

Yah’shua is not the Almighty’s “one and only” son. All Born Again men are sons of God. The key difference is that we are not “**begotten**” sons of God in the same sense that Yah’shua is. We are adopted (**Rom. 8:15, Gal. 4:5, Eph. 1:5**). Everyone understands that distinction. An adopted child is not genetically related to his adoptive parents. Similarly, Yah’shua has a unique, begotten relationship to the Father which none of us can share. The NIV delicately steals that uniqueness away.

While the Bible does tell us that we are “begotten” (**James 1:18, 1Pet. 1:3**, etc.) of God, it is not the same kind of begetting. Our Born Again experience did not involve a woman. We are spiritually begotten, but Yah’shua had no human father. We DID have human fathers. This is what makes Yah’shua’ begetting unique. He IS the only begotten in the physical sense, unless you wish to believe in the weird theology of Mormonism!

“God Said it, I Believe It, That Settles It”

YHWH’s Word must be 100% perfect because that is how it is defined repeatedly in the Bible. (**Ps. 18:30, 19:7, 119:140, 12:6; Prov. 30:5, James 1:25**). It cannot be like Ivory soap, “99.44% pure”. If there is the tiniest error or lie in it; then it obviously cannot be of God because god “doesn’t make junk.” (**Mark 7:37, 2Sam. 22:31**)

We also have his promise that it would be preserved perfectly. (**Ps. 12:6-7, Isa. 40:8, matt. 5:18, 24:35, Luke 16:17, 21:33; 1Pet. 1:24**). Obviously, it would make little sense to preserve it imperfectly.

Would a parent give their teen a driving manual, telling him it was perfect, but actually knowing all along that dangerous errors were in it? Only a stupid or evil parent would do such a thing, and obviously YHWH is neither of these. He promised it would be preserved perfectly and it is. As the first pastor who discipled us used to say, “God said it, I believe it, that settles it.”

Thus, with these new “bibles” and the “Christian scholarship” behind them, we have two choices. We can either believe God, who promised us a perfect Bible right up to the end (**Mark 13:31**); or we can believe scholars who tell us we have no perfect Bible today. they tell us only the “original autographs” are perfect. The problem is, no one (no Christian scholar living today) has ever seen these celebrated originals. What good are they?

Paul writes, “*The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in the heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach:*” (**Rom. 10:8**). The Word must be near to us, even at our fingertips, for it to be able to transform our lives. These scholars are trying to steal His Word from the common people and put it back into the “original Greek” which (a) doesn’t exist anymore and (b) only a tiny fraction of the world’s population could read anyway. However, in virtually every nation on earth, most people are trained in English.

Attack of the Popelings

Charles Spurgeon, the great 19th century preacher, called these scholars “a horde of popelings [little popes] fresh from college”, who would try and set themselves up as the “final authority of what God said.”

Think about it, if you cannot open your bible and know for certain if the Creator really inspired **1John 5:7** (a verse the modern versions attack or omit), how do you know for certain He said

Romans 10:9-10 (a key salvation verse)? If you have to go to a Greek scholar than having to go to your priest, pope or LDS bishop to find out what God's Word really says?

True Confessions!

The retort might be, "Well, at least these Christian scholars are saved, and they are mighty men of God. You can trust them." Well. Maybe they are, and maybe they aren't. That is between them and the Savior. What kind of a saved man would steal YHWH's very own words out of someone's hand and try to substitute their own authority for it?

Let me be bold (in the Lord Yah'shua) to tell you what kind of saved man would do that. I know, because I used to be "such an one." (**1Cor. 5:5**) I got saved in 1984 and got involved in Christian apologetics and evangelizing those trapped in false religions. This was the ministry the Holy Spirit had called me to. All was well and good.

However, I began to follow some of the leading "cult busters" of the day and do as they did. That was only natural. I read dozens of books on apologetics. I had a Masters' Degree in theology and was working on a second one. I thought I was pretty hot stuff. I watched the "cult-busters" recommend the NASV or the NIV and continually correct the King James from the "original Greek." I started doing the same (Monkey see, monkey do). I forgot that next to the intelligence of the Author of that Book, I was a complete and utter idiot. Yet I dared to correct His words? Talk about pride! *Is that not a pretty "incredible" sin itself – to correct the words of the Almighty?*

I CONFESS that I did it because I grew proud of my learning and the fact that I could read some Greek and Hebrew. Big deal! Jews and Greeks can read those tongues and most of them wouldn't know Yah'shua the Messiah from a poached egg! Because I had all these degrees I thought – deep down inside – that I was "some great one." (**Acts 8:9**).

I CONFESS that I forgot about the One who had given me what little intelligence I have. I had begun to trust in men's wisdom (even Christian pastors and scholars) more than in YHWH's wisdom. *"Let God be true, but every man a liar" – Rom. 3:4.* I had forgotten that His promises to preserve His Word (which I knew well) were infinitely more powerful than the scholar's assertions. All of their training, degrees, and theories amount to the intelligence of a learning disabled amoeba next to His promises and (more vital). HIS POWER to keep them. Heaven help me, I had become *"the world's most incredible sinner" (1Tim. 1:15).*

It took several years of gentle persuasion from my beloved wife, and another dear brother, Aron Rush, to get me back on track. They succeeded in showing me *"...the way of God more perfectly." (Acts 18:26).* They pointed out that if the scholars and cult-busters were right, then what was the difference between the Mormon position that the Bible is the "Word of God insofar as it is translated correctly" and THEIR position that there were no perfect translations today? Answer: Very little!

To my horror, I discovered that I had become the very thing I was trying to fight. Why? Because I trusted men more than the Holy Spirit. Were these cult-busters and scholars wicked? Probably not. They just did what I did. They trusted THEIR professors more than the Holy Spirit, too. Hopefully they are sincere, but they are sincerely wrong, because what they teach does not agree with the absolute authority, The Word of YHWH, the Authorized Version.

If this is new to you, and it is speaking to your heart, please write to us! We have vast amounts of documentation and proof that the modern versions are built on the sandy foundations of human wisdom (**James 3:15**). Remember, you cannot trust the words of men if they contradict the Word of YHWH (**Rom. 3:4**)! Do not trust me. Check this out for yourself and see if it is not true. Contact us and we will send you a complimentary packet of materials. May YHWH bless you as you seek His precious truth!

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