

JESUS AND THE WORDING OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

It has been claimed that though Jesus said you must heed all the prophets wrote that he did change the wording quite a bit. In Matthew's Gospel Jesus quotes the Old Testament prophets about twenty times. In none of these times does the quote match the actual text as laid out by the prophet. He dropped words, added words or substituted different words when the original would have done. Was he correcting the text or using a different scripture? Usually it is argued that as he wrote the Old Testament through prophets he was just using an author's privilege. An author has the right to change his text. There is no evidence that he consulted the Jewish scribes who were in employment just to help keep the text pure and guard its interpretation. The evidence from his own take on the text is that he did not. He dismissed the scholars of his day as if he knew better. Nobody not even Jesus has the right to just do that. You need to respect the manuscripts. However it is clear that though Jesus taught the Old Testament has the final say he meant it has this authority for he inspired it. Thus it means Jesus as good as wrote, or inspired which is better than writing, the text banning say homosexual sexual acts.

Isaiah 6 goes, Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

He said, "Go and tell this people:

Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.

Make the heart of this people calloused; Make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

Then I said, "For how long, Lord?"

And he answered: "Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged.

With Jesus in Matthew 13 this becomes, I quote

In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'

Jesus changes the wording but not the meaning of the text and takes it out of context.

Commonsense shows Isaiah meant the people of his own day and the context says that but Jesus fundamentalist style takes it out of context and applies it to the Jews of his time.

It seems we are not meant to notice the problems. The message is that Jesus wrote the Old Testament and has the right to reword it.