

TAMPERING WITH THE EVIDENCE!

By Keith Greer

In our society it is a crime to tamper with evidence which could help in solving a crime. Such evidence must stay intact so it can be clearly examined. Some have even been charged with "obstruction of justice" by willfully tampering with such evidence.

God feels the very same way when it comes to His message to mankind. From the beginning, grave consequences have come upon those who change God's words or their meaning.

"...but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." {Genesis 2:17} What happened when the devil just changed one little word? Eve sinned, and man was cast from the presence of God!

"You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you." {Deuteronomy 4:2} God's instructions through Moses were very easy to understand. Yet, what did they do?

God said not to intermarry, in the land of promise, with the nations God sent them to destroy. What did they do?

"...from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods. Solomon clung to these in love." {1 Kings 11:2} From the king on down this pattern was followed. What was the final result?

"Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, you have transgressed and have taken pagan wives, adding to the guilt of Israel. Now therefore, make confession to the LORD God of your fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the pagan wives. " {Ezra 10:10,11} Truly, this was a difficult task. Yet, who made this action necessary? The nation by their "tampering" with God's command!

When the nation divided, God sent in His prophets to warn them and bring about their repentance. What did they do with the prophets' words?

"An astonishing and horrible thing has been committed in the land: The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own power; And My people love to have it so. But what will you do in the end?" (Jeremiah 5:30,31) The children of Israel were more interested in the words of "false prophets" than the ones which God sent unto them! Why? The message of the false prophets was more to their liking!

"For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things ...and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life ..." {Revelation 22:18,19}

In this final book of prophecy, God had a message for the suffering Christians. God cared. He was aware of their suffering and persecution, and He would bring His wrath on those who were troubling them. This is a powerful and comforting book for those in the first century and for us today. It is full of assurance and hope.

Yet, what have the Premillennialists done with this book? They changed its meaning, forever changing with the times, where it affords no comfort to those to which it was addressed! Can they escape the fate of those of old who tampered with the "evidence?"

Conclusion – **LEAVE GOD’S WORD ALONE!!!*****