# Bible

**Thy word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
(Psalm 119:105)**

**In the seventeenth century London printers Robert Barker and Martin Lucas were commissioned by God-fearing King Charles I to produce a new version of the Bible. Alas, the finished article contained a number of errors, the most outstanding being the omission of the word “not” from the Seventh Commandment. Thus all readers of the good book were encouraged by the Lord to commit adultery. The angry king immediately had all 1,000 recalled and fined the incompetent printers the princely sum of L3,000. *(Geoff Tibballs, in The Giant Bathroom Book of Dumbology, p. 229)***

**When my great-grandson Trevor was in first grade, he was studying the Ten Commandments with his mother. When they came to the Sixth Commandment – Thou shalt not commit adultery – Trevor said, “I know what that means. You can’t cut down an adult tree.” *(Beulah Ann Oskey, in Country magazine)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Aging Gracefully: Moses was 120 years old when he died. The only woman whose age is mentioned in the Bible is Sarah, who bore Abraham a child, Isaac, when she was ninety. She was said to die at the age of 127. Methuselah lived to be 969 years old, according to Genesis. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 170)***

**During Prohibition, temperance activists hired a scholar to delete all references to alcohol beverages from the Bible. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 3)***

**Two chapters in the Bible, 2 Kings 19 and Isaiah 37, are alike almost word for word. (David Louis, in Fascinating Facts, p. 21)**

**The Old Testament mentions almonds 73 times. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**The first Bible to be published in America was in the language of the Algonquian Indians. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 168)***

**The word “and” is used 46,277 times in the King James Bible. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**Artists, not writers, put wings on angels. The Bible has these spiritual creatures flying around, but it doesn't say anything about wings.
(L. M. Boyd)**

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The only domestic animal not mentioned in the Bible is the cat. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 170)***

**The five animals most often mentioned in the Bible are sheep, lambs, lions, oxen, and rams. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The Old Testament Apocrypha – 15 books, or parts of books, are included in the Catholic Bible but omitted in Protestant texts since the Reformation. Apocrypha comes from a word meaning “hidden,” and in antiquity it referred to writings thought too sacred to be seen by the public. But the term later came to mean “lacking authority,” and it was on this basis that the books were excluded by Protestants. The moral value of these books was never denied, however. Martin Luther observed that they were “profitable and good to be read.” And far from being hidden, the characters of the Apocrypha are celebrated in our literature, music and art. They are the subjects of some of the best-known paintings of artists from Michelangelo to Rembrandt. And many a familiar quote is called from these works. *(Ernest O. Hauser, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Saint John was the only one of the 12 apostles to die of natural causes. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**Linus: “Look, Charlie Brown, my application not to go to camp was accepted.” Charlie Brown: “You, too?” Linus: “Boy, what a relief! No summer camp. We have escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped! King David, Psalm 124.” Charlie Brown: “I never realized that King David worried about going to camp.” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

**The four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, selected for inclusion in the New Testament, are examples of books that did not carry the names of their actual authors. The present names were assigned long after those four books were written. In spite of what the Gospel authors say, biblical scholars are now almost unanimously agreed that none of the Gospel authors was either a disciple of Jesus or an eyewitness to his ministry. (Noel Botham, in The Amazing Book of Useless Information, p. 11)**

**The bagpipe is mentioned in the Bible (Daniel 3:5). (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**Dear God, I read the Bible. What does begat mean? Nobody will tell me. Alison. *(The Laffatorium Web site)***

**According to Guinness World Records, the Bible is the best-selling book of all time, with roughly 2.5 billion copies in distribution since 1815 in over 2,200 languages and dialects. (*Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in That’s A Fact, Jack!, p. 48)***

**Be sure of your biblical edition before you take the Word as Gospel. In 20 editions of the Christian Bible, published between 1535 and 1823, notable bloopers appeared, causing the bibles to be named for the typographical errors they contained. For example, there is the Adulteror’s Bible, in which the seventh commandment (Exodus 20:14) admonishes the reader: “Thou shalt commit adultery.” And there’s the Printer’s Bible, with a perhaps accidentally-on-purpose boner by some printer’s journeyman. Psalm 119:161 reads “Printers (Princes) have persecuted me without cause—“. *(James Meyer, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 214)***

**In 1557, a new English translation of the Bible was printed in Geneva, Switzerland. Though most often known as the Geneva Bible, the book contained one curious translation that earned it another name. Describing Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, the Bible tells us that the first man and woman “sewed fig tree leaves together, and made themselves breeches.” Thus the Bible came to be known as the “Breeches Bible.” *(James Meyer, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 160)***

**The Bible may be the truth, but it is not the whole truth and nothing but the truth. (Samuel Butler)**

**I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older; then it dawned on me – they’re cramming for their final exam. *(George Carlin, in the Guam Daily Post)***

 **Know what we learned in Bible class? The Lord is my chauffeur, I shall not walk. (Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)**

**The third-grade class had just finished the week’s Bible study on the Exodus and entry to Canaan. The teacher asked for students’ questions. “Mr. Morkert,” Billy called to the teacher, “there is one thing I didn’t understand.” “What’s that?” asked the teacher. “Well, according to our Bible history book, the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?” “Right,” Mr. Morkert confirmed. “And the children of Israel fought and won the battle at Jericho, right?” “That right.” “And the Children of Israel built the temple, right?” “That’s also correct,” agreed the teacher. “So what’s your question, Billy?” “What I’d like to know,” Billy continued, “is what were all the grown-ups doing?” *(The Lutheran Witness)***

**Children’s take on the Bible: In the first book, Guiness, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off. Noah’s wife was Joan of Ark. Lot’s wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night. Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles. Moses died before he ever reached Canada. Then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol. *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**As if the Biblical tale of man's creation from “the dust of the ground" were haunting their unconscious minds, NASA chemists have presented evidence that life on earth may have gotten its start in clay. They have shown that clays attract the organic molecules that make up protein and DNA, the ingredients of life, possibly from the sea during high tides. The clays might then trigger chemical reactions that string the building blocks into proteins and DNA. The latest experiments show how. According to NASA's Lelia Coyne, clays scavenge energy released by such natural processes as radioactive decay. They store the energy in the form of trapped electrons and then release it when subjected to stress--an earthquake, for example, or from wetting and drying as the tides rise and recede. Says Coyne, the ability of clays to store energy, catalyze reactions and perhaps self-replicate--all attributes of living systems—“is forcing us to re-examine at a very fundamental level the definition of life." (Newsweek)**

**Ways the Bible would be different if written by college students: Last Supper would have been eaten the next morning, cold. Ten Commandments are actually only five, double-spaced and written in a large font. New edition every two years in order to limit reselling. Forbidden fruit would have been eaten because it wasn’t dorm food. Paul’s Letter to the Romans becomes Paul’s E-Mail To: abuse@romans,gov. Instead of God creating the world in six days and resting on the seventh, he would have put it off until the night before it was due and then pulled an all-nighter. *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**When my 9-year-old grandson left his homework at home one day, his dad picked it up and noticed it was the Ten Commandments. He had written Thou shalt not lie, Thou shalt not steal, and so on. But one really stood out: Thou shalt not date thy neighbor’s wife. *(Dorothy Henggelon, in Catholic Digest)***

**The Old Testament contains 39 books, 929 chapters, 23,214 verses, 592,439 words, and 2,738,100 letters. The New Testament has 27 books, 270 chapters, 7,967 verses, 132,253 words, and 933,380 letters. The Bible, the Old and the New Testament, collectively, has 66 books, 1,199 chapters, 31,181 verses, 724,692 words, and 3,471,480 letters. These facts were ascertained by the prince of Granada, heir to the Spanish throne, who was for 33 years a prisoner in the Palace of Skulls, Madrid, with no companion except his Bible, which he faithfully perused and dissected for the benefit of a more fortunate humanity. (James Meyers, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 340)**

**When ancient scribed copied earlier books, they wrote notes on the margins of the page (marginal glosses) to comment or correct their text – especially if a scribe accidentally omitted a word or line. When later scribes were copying the copy, they were sometimes uncertain if a note was intended to be included as part of the text. Over time, different regions evolved different versions, each with its own assemblage of omissions and additions. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 20)***

**Roger Babson always liked to weave religious paragraphs into his talks. At one meeting of business men he quoted the Ten Commandments verbatim. After the dinner one of the guests rushed up to the head table to tell him how helpful that quotation would be if it were only printed and distributed. “Wherever did you get it?" he asked. “Do you know if it is copyrighted?" (A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 54)**

**A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments and had reached the last one. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what it was. Susie raised her hand, stood tall and quoted, “Thou shall not take the covers off thy neighbor’s wife.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**The one commandment that threw me was “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife.” Now I was 7, and I always thought the priest was saying, “Thou do not cover your neighbor’s wife.” You can cover all the other wives in the neighborhood, and you’re home free. But the minute you cover your neighbor’s wife, you’d better get to Confession.” *(Bob Newhart, in Catholic Digest)***

**At six cubits and a span, Goliath’s height was somewhere between nine feet, three inches and eleven feet, nine inches. A cubit is the distance from the elbow to the end of the middle finger and can vary from seventeen to twenty-two inches. A span is the distance from the extended little fingertip to the end of the thumb and is approximately nine inches. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 169)***

**The teacher in our Bible class asked a woman to read from the Book of Numbers about the Israelites wandering in the desert. “The Lord heard you when you wailed, ‘If only we had meat to eat!’” she began. “Now the Lord will give you meat. You will not eat it for just one day, or two days, or five, or ten or twenty days, but for a month – until you loathe it.” When the woman finished, she paused, looked up and said, “Hey, isn’t that the Atkins diet?” *(David Martino, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The children of Israel wandered the desert for 40 years. Even in Biblical times, men wouldn’t ask for directions. *(Rumesa Khalid)***

**It is estimated that between 1815 and 1975, one and a half billion copies of the Bible were distributed by Bible Societies, making the Holy Scripture by far the best circulated book of all time. In the year 1979 alone, over 9 million copies were distributed. (Bruce D. Witherspoon, in Astounding Facts , p. 101)**

**What the Bible does not say: That three wise men came from Bethlehem, Jonah was swallowed by a whale, forbidden fruit was an apple, and Christ was born in December. (World Features Syndicate)**

**Billy says to his Dad about his drawing: “You drew this one of Adam and Eve wrong, Daddy. They didn’t have belly buttons.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**An irreverent wag has pointed out that two drinks are mentioned in the Bible – Wine: which gladdeneth the heart of man, and Water: which quencheth the thirst of the jackasses. *(James Meyer, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 368)***

**A small boy saw a Bible, not too recently dusted, lying on a shelf in his home. He asked his mother whose book it was. “It is God’s book,” she said. “Well,” the boy commented, “don’t you think we should return it? Nobody seems to read it here!” *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 54)***

**My brother-in-law has a great e-mail address. It starts PS81\_10b@, to represent the second half of the Bible verse Psalms 81:10, which states, “Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.” By the way, he’s a dentist. *(Jeanne Warsing, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The Tynesdale Bible translated by William Tyndale, was the first printed Bible in the English language and the New Testament was published in 1526. Before Tyndale completed the second edition, he was taken up and burned for heresy in Flanders. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 20)***

**The reader of the English Bible must remember that he is reading a translation of a translation of a translation of the Holy Bible into a totally alien and modern language--a language which did not even exist when the Bible was written. (George M. Lamsa, in Old Testament Light) *\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**
Unless we form the habit of going to the Bible in bright moments as well as in trouble, we cannot fully respond to its consolations because we lack equilibrium between light and darkness. (Helen Keller)
When it becomes generally understood by lay readers that Bible scholars are agreed there are upward of twenty thousand errors in the King James Version of the Bible, it will be readily acknowledged that mistaken ideas crept into the translation under the influence of dogmatic orthodoxy, enslaving mankind for ages. (Arthur E. Overbury)**

**Just in case you were wondering – the first Eskimo Bible was printed in Copenhagen in 1744. *(James Meyer, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 27)***

**“Are you a religious man?" asked the magistrate. “Yes, sir," replied the witness. “Familiar with the Bible?" “Rather," answered the witness.
”I bet I've kissed it fifty times in court.” (London Winner)**

**Two seven-year-olds were fighting in their Sunday-school class. One boy told their teacher, “He hit me first. And it says in the Bible it’s all right to hit back.” “Where,” the Sunday-school teacher demanded, “did it say that in Scripture?” “You told us,” said the boy. “You said the Bible said you should ‘do one to others as others do one to you.’” *(James Dent)***

**The final word in the Bible: “amen.” (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**A fourth-grader approached me at Epiphany School Library where I am librarian. “Sister, do you have any books about the first woman?” “Would you like a Bible book? One about Eve?” I asked, as I tried to think of the fourth-grade reading level. “Oh no, Sister,” she replied. “I want a book about Hillary Clinton.” *(Sister M. Thomas Magee, in Catholic Digest)***

**A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read: “The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.” The boy looked puzzled. “What is it?” asked his father. “I was just wondering,” said the boy, “what happened to the flea?” *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Scholars say at least 200 cultures worldwide have passed down stories about a great flood in antiquity. (L. M. Boyd)
The truth is that the Bible is far more fluid than most people realize. When the King James Version of the Bible was given out to the public, it was a longer book, or set of books, than is usually seen today. The sections that were removed, which began as early as 1629, are usually referred to as the Apocrypha. This series of twelve to fourteen separate works can still be acquired in a bound Bible by purchasing The Jerusalem Bible, a Catholic study Bible which can be found at your local Christian bookstore. Of course, in the same bookstore one can find all the other Bibles without the Apocrypha included among their pages. How many pages have been removed from the average Bible? Would you believe me if I told you the Apocrypha, bound in paperback form with average print size is almost five hundred pages of material? Well, so much for never having had anything taken away. (David Wilkinson, in Unity magazine)**

**There are 49 different foods mentioned in the Bible. Salt is mentioned more than 30 times. Almonds and pistachios are the only nuts mentioned in the Bible. (Noel Botham, in The Amazing Book of Useless Information, p. 11)**

**Some biblical scholars believe that Aramaic did not contain a way of saying “many” and used a term that has come down to us as forty. This means that when the Bible refers to forty days it actually means “many days.” *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 170)***

**Dad: “What does that story of Adam and Eve teach us?” Billy: “Not to eat fruit.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**In our parish a three-year-old was listening to her grandmother reading aloud from Genesis. After she had finished, the girl seemed lost in thought. “Well, dear,” asked her grandmother, “what do you think of it?” “Oh, I love it,” the girl replied. “You never know what God is going to do next.” *(Gladys Kent, in Catholic Digest)***

**A Sunday-school class was concerned about one member’s mother, who was in the hospital. The teacher suggested that each child sign a get-well card to send the mother and write a Bible verse after his name. One little boy opened his Bible and made his selection, Matthew 5:26. He wrote: “Truly, I say to you, you will never get out till you have paid the last penny.” *(Rev. A. J. Tavenner, in Reader’s Digest)***

**In addition to providing their well-known Bibles in hotel rooms, the Gideons also distribute Bibles to members of the military of various countries, to hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 20)***

**A little boy, after having many weeks of Sunday School lessons devoted to the Old Testament, and then coming to the first lesson in the New Testament, remarked to one of his classmates after Sunday school: “Boy, God sure got better as He got older, didn’t He?” *(Eric Butterworth, in Discover The Power Within You, p. 31)***

**A nun was telling some children about John the Baptist and said that at one time he had lived in the wilderness, and eaten wild honey and locusts. When a child asked what locusts were, the nun replied, “They’re like grasshoppers.” “He ate grasshoppers?” one girl said, aghast. “What’s wrong with that?” demanded a boy. “My grandmother drinks them.” *(James Dent, in Charleston, W. Va. Gazette)***

**While reading New Testament stories to my 3-year-old granddaughter, I came to the passage about Herod. As I read about King Herod wanting to find the Baby King and kill Him, she looked up at me sternly. “He ought to be in jail with that attitude,” she said. *(Hedy Rackers, in Catholic Digest)***

**History according to sixth-grade students from Chicago Catholic schools: “Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants have to live elsewhere. The Bible is full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible, Guiness is, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Can, asked, “Am I my brother’s son?” Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread without any ingredients. Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments. He died before he reached Canada.” *(Denver Rocky Mountain News)***

**Among the many activities that kept the prolific Thomas Jefferson busy, was the compilation of a unique Bible. About 1804, during his first term as president, Jefferson put together a 46-page New Testament, consisting of excerpts from the four gospels, arranged according to a scheme of Jefferson’s own invention. The Jefferson Bible, composed primarily of Jesus’ actual words, was originally intended to teach Christianity to the Indians. But Jefferson was so pleased with the work that he used the book for his own bedtime reading. (James Meyers, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 355)**

**Jesus said and did a lot of things the Gospel writers didn't record. The Apostle John makes this patiently clear in the conclusion to his Gospel: “There are still many other things that Jesus did, yet if they were written about in detail, I doubt there would be room enough in the entire world to hold the books to record them." (St. John 21:25) The Gospels therefore are an incomplete record of the life of Jesus. (Cal Samra, in The Joyful Christ)**

**“Can any little girl or boy tell me who Job was?” asked the Sunday School teacher. After a moment’s pause one small boy replied: “A doctor.” “A doctor! Oh, dear no, wherever did you get that idea?” “Please, Miss, did you never hear of the patients of Job?” *(Arkansas Baptist)***

**In 2006, the Gospel of Judas surfaced after 1,700 years. In it, Jesus asks Judas as his closest friend to give him over to authorities, telling Judas he will “exceed” the other disciples by doing so. (*Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in That’s A Fact, Jack!, p. 46)***

**“You see,” she said, “had the lamb been obedient and stayed in the flock, it would not have been eaten by the wolf, would it?” “No, ma’am,” answered one small boy, “it would have been eaten by people.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Dolly: “This leaf was in the Bible. Maybe it’s the one Adam wore!”**

***(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Had the Bible been in clear straightforward language, had the ambiguities and contradictions been edited out, and had the language been constantly modernized to accord with contemporary taste it would almost certainly have been, or become, a work of lesser influence. (John Kenneth Galbraith, Economics, Peace & Laughter)**

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**The Bible, when seen past its “letter,” when understood metaphysically, takes on a special meaning--one which we can use directly in our daily lives. As we trod the unfamiliar path ahead of us, we will be able to reach into the Bible for sustenance, much as we would reach into our knapsack for food. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 72)***

**There are 773,692 words in the King James Bible (excluding Apocrypha), and 3,566,480 letters. For proof, any Doubting Thomas may simply count the letters for himself. *(James Meyer, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 381)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The Bible can be read on three levels with all three making some sense. On the physical level we seem to have a historical account of persons and places; on the mental level we have great rules for right living; but, on the spiritual level, a whole new depth of meaning opens up for those who are ready for it. I call it the spiritual meaning which opens up for us as spiritual growth. (Cornelia Addington)

The fundamentalists of Christianity hold as one of their basic doctrines, “The infallibility of the Bible." They are literalists who insist that every word or statement of the Bible is to be considered literally. There never seems to be any explanation by the literalists however, for conveniently overlooking such things as 1 Corinthians 14:34 – “Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn anything, let them ask their husbands at home; for it is a shame for women to speak in the church." (A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity)**

**Bible: Take all of this book upon reason that you can, and the balance on faith, and you will live and die a happier and better man. *(The Wit & Wisdom of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Alex Ayres, p. 25)***

**The Sunday School teacher explained to a Bible class how Lot’s wife looked back and suddenly turned into a pillar of salt. A young boy raised his hand, and said, “My mother looked back when she was driving and turned into a fire hydrant.” *(Sam Ewing)***

**I have spent a lot of time searching through the Bible for loopholes.
(W. C. Fields)**

**“Do you know the story of Adam and Eve?” I said to one six-year-old girl. “Everyone knows that story,” she replied. “Well, who made Adam?” “God.” “And who made Eve?” “Eve was made out of a rib, “Yes, but it was a special kind of rib.” “A chicken rib.” *(Bill Cosby, in Kids Say the Darndest Things, p. 20)***

**The Bible does not say there were three wise men, or magi, it only says there were three gifts. Some scholars believe there were anywhere between two and nine magi. (Noel Botham, in The Amazing Book of Useless Information, p. 11)**

**When you read God's word, you must constantly be saying to yourself, “It is talking to me, and about me." (Soren Kierkegaard, in For Self Examination)**

**The Bible is, in its inner or spiritual meaning, a record of the experiences and the development of the human soul and of the whole being of man; also it is a treatise on man’s relation to God, the creator and Father. *(Charles Fillmore)***

**An example of how a single mistranslation may affect detrimentally the whole Christian world, by imposing an entirely false premise: 2 Timothy 3:16 -- The Orthodox version reads: “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." In the original Greek manuscript there was no “is" -- the word was added and italicized to so indicate -- the translators simply thought it should be there. The original verse read, and it is now corrected in this way in the new Revised Standard Version: “All scripture inspired of God is profitable for teaching, for reproof, etc.” (A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 55)Chasing money-changers from the temple: But the account in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke of Jesus doing this after his final entry into Jerusalem -- just days before his arrest -- conflicts with John's Gospel, which seems to have him performing the deed at the very beginning of his ministry. (Jeffery Sheler, in U.S. News & World Report)**

**As Dolly reads the book to her little brother she says: “And they knew the baby in the basket was Moses by checkin’ the name on his driver’s license.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**The most common name in the Bible is Zechariah. There are thirty-three of them. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 169)***

**Again I say to you, it is easier for a rope to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. *(St. Matthew 19:24)***

**The Aramaic word gamla means camel, a large rope and a beam. The meaning of the word is determined by its context. If the word riding or burden occurs then gamla means a camel, but when the eye of a needle is mentioned gamla more correctly means a rope. There is no connection anywhere in Aramaic speech or literature between camel and needle, but there is a definite connection between rope and needle. Eastern women when purchasing thread often say, “It is a rope, I cannot use it”, which means it is too thick. *(George M. Lamsa, in Gospel Light, p. 115)***

**There are different kinds of needles in use in the East: the tiny needle for fine embroidery, the common needle for sewing which is larger, and the big needle about five or seven inches long, which working men often carry fastened to their garments or attached to the rope. A good sized cord could easily be passed through this needle, which is used chiefly for sewing large bags, rugs and tents woven of goat’s hair. *(George M. Lamsa, in Gospel Light)***

**Biblical students have suggested that when Jesus referred to “needle eye” he meant the little gate in the wall. As there is no such gate in any oriental city called “needle eye” where camels could pass through, this interpretation is incorrect. Some of the ancient walled cities have several large entrances at various parts of the wall known as “gates.” Men, camels and all animals enter and leave through them. They are the only possible place a camel could enter. *(George M. Lamsa, in Gospel Light, p. 115)***

**Everybody in the Orient knows that a camel could never pass through a needle’s eye, but that a rope might at least be forced through the eye of a large needle. *(George M. Lamsa, in Gospel Light, p. 116)***

**The famed historical novel, “Ben Hur," was written by the one-time governor of New Mexico, Lew Wallace. But the striking fact is he did not start out to write a book complimentary to Christ. Mr. Wallace was riding a train one day with Robert Ingersoll, the agnostic. Turning to Wallace he said, “You are a clever writer. Why don't you write a book picturing Jesus Christ as a good man, but only a dreamer. Don't criticize -- just make him look like any other good man. It will make a best seller.” Lew Wallace accepted the challenge, went home to study the Bible for background material. He was so fascinated that he was converted. The result was the splendid novel “Ben Hur" depicting the heroic triumphs of first-century Christians. (Robert J. Hastings, in A Word Fitly Spoken)**

**The Bible is still open to change. As late as 1966 over twenty changes were made in The Book of Isaiah using the recently discovered Isaiah scroll from the Dead Sea Scrolls collection at Wadi Qumran. (David Wilkinson, in Unity magazine)**

**Oprah Winfrey’s first name should have been the biblical name Orpah, from the Book of Ruth, except the midwife made a mistake in spelling it when she filled out the birth certificate. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 5)***

**A student was asked to list the Ten Commandments, in any order. The answer? Three, six, one. . . .” *(Catholic Digest)***

**The Bible is not only ancient, but oriental. This adds to the difficulty of understanding its message. It is characteristic of oriental writings to be free in form, highly imaginative, very picturesque, strikingly dramatic, and quite often given to the gigantesque. The Bible reflects this tendency. Writers of the Bible used the boldest of imagery, as in Daniel where there are beasts with ten horns and iron teeth, and in Ezekiel where there are creatures each having the likeness of a man with four faces, and four wings -- highly symbolical language undoubtedly having meaning to the people of that day which they understood. (A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 55)

Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years. (Charles Haddon Spurgeon)**

**One day, I had my fourth-grade CCD class pantomime the story of the Good Samaritan. I had no trouble getting someone to play the part of the robbers. As the victim was lying on the floor, Jeff, the Good Samaritan, was standing in the corner and going through many maneuvers. “What,” I finally asked him, “are you doing?” “I’m making him a peanut butter sandwich,” he said. *(Helen Byrne, in Catholic Digest)***

**It was the Easter and Passover season. The children had been studying Old and New Testament accounts of both holidays and The Ten Commandments was playing on television for about the third time. In addition, we had just had a family Passover meal intertwining as much of the Jewish customs into our Christian version as we could. All of this ecumenical education was apparently overwhelming for one of our younger offspring. When we got up in the morning, there was a red streak of a thick sticky substance on all the bedroom doorframes. Upon investigation, we found that our son, deeply impressed by all he had seen and heard, had decided to protect us all. Not having lamb’s blood, he’d used ketchup. *(James L. Larabee, in Catholic Digest)***

**Billy draws a picture of an airplane carrying four passengers. The picture is supposed is depict Jesus, Mary, and Joseph’s flight into Egypt. The mother asks: “Who’s the 4th person you’ve added?” The child answers: “That’s Pontius the Pilate.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**One morning, a Sunday-school teacher asked her group if they knew who had defeated the Philistines. After a few moments one youngster asked, “They’re not in the NBA, are they?” *(James Dent, in Charleston, W.Va. Gazette)***

**Even though the King James Bible was published in 1611, the Pilgrim fathers carried the Geneva Bible with them to America in 1620. The King James Version had not become popular by then. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 168)***

**In the summer of 1794, on a very hot afternoon, in the village of Lalain, France, a rain fell which lasted for 30 minutes. What was unusual about this rainfall was that tiny toads in great numbers dropped from the sky.
The Bible student will remember this phenomenon as one of the plagues visited on Pharaoh's Egypt just before the Jewish exodus. (Bruce D. Witherspoon, in Astounding Facts , p. 152)**

**My family was preparing for the Denver trip with our church group to see Pope John Paul for World Youth Day this past August. I was overwhelmed by the immensity of the job the planners of this event had undertaken in order to make things go smoothly. “I just can’t imagine 200,000 people!” I said to my 16-year-old son, Sam. “Where will we go to the bathroom? And how are they going to feed all of us?” “Well, Mom,” Sam quickly replied, “they take these five loaves and these two fishes . . .” *(Ann Mauck, in Catholic Digest)***

**The spud is so rooted in Western cooking that it's sometimes hard to believe the vegetable was totally unknown in Europe just a few hundred years ago. In Scotland, some Presbyterian clergymen declared that since the potato was not mentioned in the Bible, it could not be fit for human consumption! (James Meyers, in Mammoth Book of Trivia , p. 205)**

**Bibliomancy, or divination by the Bible, entailed opening the Bible at random and taking the first passage the eye fell upon as a prediction of the future. This practice, also called Lots of the Saints, was so common by the fifty century that several Church councils expressly forbid it. In 793, Charlemagne condemned the practice in an edict. (James Meyers, in Mammoth Book of Trivia, p. 251)**

**Scientists have shown the Jewish priesthood has been passed down the male line for thousands of years, supporting biblical accounts dating it to the appointment of the first Israelite high priest 3,300 years ago. In a letter to Nature, the scientists said they carried out tests on 188 unrelated rabbis from Israel, North America, and Britain. The composition of their Y chromosomes was similar, suggesting a common origin. (Rocky Mountain News wire services, 1997)**

**At Sunday school, the topic was Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The teacher explained that Elijah built an altar, placed wood upon it, cut the sacrificial bullock in pieces and laid them on the wood. He then commanded that the people fill four jars with water and pour the water over the sacrifice. “Why do you think they did that?” asked the teacher. A little girl raised her hand and said, “To make gravy.” *(Bill Dana)***

**The proprietor of a country store, who professedly ran his business strictly on biblical principles, would always quote a Scripture verse whenever he rang up a sale on the cash register. For example, if a little boy bought some candy, the owner would say, “Mark 10:14: Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not." If he sold a customer an article of clothing, he would say, “Matthew 6:30: Shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?" One day a stranger came in, looking for a particular kind of hat. When the stranger asked if he had a more expensive hat, the owner produced a hat which, though really the same price, he said was twenty-five dollars more. When the owner rang up the sale, and the customer departed, bystanders in the store wondered how the owner would fit this shady deal with Scripture. Finally he said, “Matthew 25:35: He was a stranger, and I took him in." (Leslie B. & Bernice Flynn, in Humorous Incidents & Quips, p. 19)**

**On October 22, 1987 a Japanese buyer, Eiichi Kobayashi, purchased the Old Testament portion of a Gutenberg Bible for $5.4 million at a Christie’s auction. The last sale of a complete version took place nine years before, again at Christie’s, for $2.2 million. Today, single pages from first edition Bibles fetch $25,000 each. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 20)***

**The purpose of the Bible story is not to relate history but to tell a universal story about faith as risk--daring to set out for a Promised Land. Is the story true? Of course it is, whether literally or not.
*(Jeffery L. Sheler, U.S. in News & World Report)***

**Charlie Brown: “And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights. Unbelievable.” Snoopy: “Who went out in the back yard and got the dog dish?” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

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**The family assembled in church for the anniversary renewal of vows and Mass. With due ceremony, the large, faded family Bible was lifted from the podium. As the priest held it in front of the middle-aged couple, my 4-year-old looked over, sighed, and whispered, “Is he gonna read the whole book?” *(Jean Tyrell, in Catholic Digest)***

**“Did you ever read the Bible?” I asked another very young man. “A little,” he replied. “But I’ve heard your record about Noah.” “You have?” “Yeah, my dad made me hear it.” “And what did you think of it?” “It was okay.” “You liked it that much. Well, part of the record is based on that record.” “I didn’t know that.” “Most people don’t. It’s the part about Noah. Do you know what happenedto Noah?” “Yeah, he took all the animals and built an ark and then it rained a lot for a few years and then it cleared up.” “Must have been El Nino. So what happened to the animals?” “They put ‘em in a zoo.” “There were zoos in those days?” “Don’t you know that?” *(Bill Cosby)***

**A small boy saw a Bible, not too recently dusted, lying on a shelf in his home. He asked his mother whose book it was. “It is God's book," she said. “Well," the boy commented, “don't you think we should return it? Nobody seems to read it here!" (A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 54)**

**Long ago, when many people were unable to read the Bible, pictures were put in stained glass windows to remind them of the stories. (Noel Botham, in The Amazing Book of Useless Information, p. 10)**

**Shortly after our son, Christopher, received the sacrament of confirmation, his godfather sent him a beautiful, large Bible. Christopher’s thank-you note, written a couple of days later, was to the point: “Thank you for the Bible. It is very nice. I haven’t finished reading it yet.” *(Joseph M. Vastine, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**Dear God, I would like to know why all the things you said are in red.**

***(Stuart Hample & Eric Marshall, in Children’s Letters to God)***

**The story is told of the youngster who came home from Sunday School, having been taught the biblical story of the crossing of the Red Sea. His mother asked him what he had learned in class, and he told her: “The Israelites got out of Egypt, but Pharaoh and his army chased after them. They got to the Red Sea and they couldn’t cross it. The Egyptian army was getting closer. So Moses got on his walkie-talkie, the Israeli air force bombed the Egyptians, and the Israeli navy built a pontoon bridge so the people could cross.” The mother was shocked. “Is that the way they taught you the story?” “Well, no,” the boy admitted, “but if I told it to you the way they told it to us, you’d never believe it.” *(Harold S. Kushner, in When Bad Things Happen)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**There is hardly a book of either Old or New Testament that has not been questioned, either wholly or in part, by some reputable scholar. On the other hand, the Bible contains much that is relevant today, like Noah taking forty days to find a place to park. (Curtis D. MacDougall)The English language is constantly changing. When the Revised Standard Version of the Bible was retranslated in the late 1980s, it was necessary to change some verses in the Bible that had become embarrassingly out-of-date because of changes in the American vernacular. In the old version, the 50th psalm had a line, “I will accept no bull from your house." The New Revised Standard changes this line to "I will not accept a bull from your house." In the New Testament, Paul writes to the Corinthians, “Once I was stoned." but it now will read, “Once I received a stoning." (Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It's a Weird World , p. 28)**

**Among his many other accomplishments, the third president of the United States rewrote the Bible. That might seem a remarkably audacious thing for anyone to do, but it was quite natural for a man of Thomas Jefferson's complex nature. He was a true genius who often got into trouble for refusing to follow the crowd. The United States government bought the book in 1895; they had no doubt that it belonged to the nation. In 1904 Congress published it under the title “The Morals of Jesus" and gave copies to its members. And commercial printings eventually appeared in bookstores, including editions in 1923, 1940 and 1989. So the book Thomas Jefferson once kept carefully hidden was finally available for anyone to see. *(C. Bruce Hunter, in Bible Review)***

**I must remind you that the book of Revelation almost did not make it into the Bible at all. The Synod of Laodicea in the second half of the fourth century, refused to admit it into the Bible canon. In A.D. 412 the Synod of Carthage reversed the decision, but it remained a hot issue for at least one hundred years beyond that time. As late as Martin Luther the book of Revelation was still looked upon as suspect. Martin Luther actually removed the Apocalypse of St. John, our book of Revelation, completely from his 1534 German Bible. (David Wilkinson, in Unity magazine)**

**The two robbers crucified next to Jesus were Dismas and Gestas. Their names are not mentioned in the Gospels but can be found in the Gospel of Nicodemus (Acts of Pilate), one of the many books of Christian Apocrypha. (*Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in That’s A Fact, Jack!, p. 45)***

**In our parish Sister Colette was teaching a religion class when she came to the passage in St. Paul, “Five times I received 40 lashes save one.” Sister said, “That’s a very unusual way of saying 39. Perhaps St. Paul wanted to impress them just as much by the way he said it, as well as by what he said.” “Oh, no, Sister,” piped a young lad. “St. Paul was talking in Roman numerals. That’s the way they talked in those days.” *(Sister Mary Claude, in Catholic Digest)***

**I was teaching kindergarten in a temple school and had just finished talking about the Ten Commandments. Then I told the class to think about the rules they lived by at home. “Can any of you think of a rule you have that is not part of this list?” I asked. The room was quiet and one little girl raised her hand and exclaimed, “Thou shalt not touch the answering machine!” *(Michele Miller, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The Russian schoolteacher asked a pupil, “Who were the first human beings?” “Adam and Eve,” the young boy replied. “What nationality were they?” “Russian, of course.” “Fine, fine,” the teacher commented. “And how did you know they were Russians?” “Easy,” said the boy. “They had no roof over their heads, nothing to wear, only one apple for the two of them, and they called it ‘paradise.’” *(Thomas La Mance, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**If you believe what you like in the Gospel and reject what you do not like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself. (St. Augustine)**

**Salt is mentioned more than 30 times in the Bible. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**A homiletics professor said to his seminary class, “Students, when you want an illustration for a sermon, take it out of the Bible. Your people will not be familiar with it." (Leslie B. & Bernice Flynn, in Humorous Incidents & Quips)
Studies of the Dead Sea Scrolls indicate that the passage in the Bible known as the Sermon on the Mount is actually an ancient Essene prayer dating to hundreds of years before the birth of Christ. (David Louis, in Fascinating Facts , p. 21)**

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The Bible is the most shoplifted book in the world. (*Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in That’s A Fact, Jack!, p. 50)***

**Lucy: “Stop that stupid sighing, Linus.” Linus: “There’s nothing wrong with sighing.” Lucy: “There is if it bugs someone!” Linus: “It’s Scriptural!” “Lucy: “It’s what?!” Linus: “Likewise the spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. Romans, 8th Chapter.” Lucy: “I don’t know, I’m either going to have to slug him, or start going back to Sunday school!” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

**After church, my brothers and sisters and I could usually persuade our father to buy us sodas and ice cream. But one Sunday he protested: “Where does it say that you kids should always get something to eat and drink right after church?” “In the Bible,” my sister responded. “It says, ‘Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness.’” *(Bob Bonebrake, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Worldwide, about 50 Bibles are sold every minute. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**I was addressing and stamping envelopes at my daughter's home when I ran out of stamps. “I have some in here," my daughter said as she reached for her Bible. “Now that," I said, “just goes to show that if you need help, turn to the Bible." “I also keep my household money in here," she replied. “It's a good place to hide things. The ones who do open the Bible wouldn't steal from it, and the ones who would steal never open it." (Andrew Livingston, in Reader's Digest)

The horns protruding from the head of the famous statue of Moses by Michelangelo were a mistake. It is true that the Bible describes Moses as having horns coming from his head. This, however, was an error on the part of the translators. In Hebrew, the words for “horn" and “ray of light" are spelled identically. The translators misinterpreted “ray" for “horn" and thus Moses is often portrayed in western art as looking like a devil. (David Louis, in Fascinating Facts , p. 18)**

**The Bible is stolen more often than any other book in the world. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**Sonny and Cher, at the start of their careers, appeared in Bible advertisements produced for the American Bible Society. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 172)***

**Of the 200 or so “Gutenberg Bibles" printed, only 48 survive, and one of these recently fetched $2.5 million at auction--making it the most expensive book ever purchased! (Bruce D. Witherspoon, in Astounding Facts, p. 44)**

**There are two talking animals in the Old Testament: the serpent in the Garden of Eden (Genesis) and Balaam’s talking ass (Numbers). *(Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in Are You Kidding Me?, p. 19)***

**The term “Bible" in Western languages means a library. It is derived from Biblos, a small town in Syria where papyrus was manufactured. Thus the Bible as a library contains the inspired writings of the Hebrew prophets and those of the temple and court scribes. But in Semitic languages, Aramaic or Hebrew, the term Bible does not mean a library. The Hebrew name of the Holy Bible is Torah, which means “the law." The name of the Holy Book in the language of the Hebrew patriarchs, Aramaic, is Auretha, derived from ra, which means to see through the mind. (George M. Lamsa)**

**The first man to translate the entire Bible into English was Englishman Myles Coverdale, in 1535. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**Linus: “I sort of figured that you’d be here, Charlie Brown.” Charlie Brown: “I tried to go to camp. I really did. I went down to the bus station, but I just couldn’t get on the bus. That’s when I came back here to the pitcher’s mound. I’ve been sitting here for two days. Maybe I’ll sit here for the rest of my life.” Linus: “Even Job got up from among the ashes eventually.” Charlie Brown: “Job never had to worry about going to summer camp.” *(Charles M. Schulz, in Peanuts comic strip)***

**Most people are bothered by those passages of Scripture they do not understand, but the passages that bother me are those I do understand.
(Mark Twain)**

**The Sunday school class had reached the part in the lesson where “Abraham entertained the angel unaware.” “And what is the meaning of ‘unaware’?” the teacher wanted to know. There was a silence; then one young lady volunteered, “Unaware is what you take off before you put on your pajamas.” *(SoCaSan, in Quote)***

**At the time the King James Version was written, the translators only had access to some eight manuscripts, whereas there are now nearly seven hundred manuscripts in Greek alone to refer to, some of these being very ancient, and no two of them wholly alike in wording. It will be seen from this how utterly fallacious it is to hold that any particular version can be absolutely correct as a reproduction of the original writer's thought. (A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 54)**

**A 10-year-old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then one day she floored her grandmother by asking, “Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? The Virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?” *(Catholic Digest)***

**No one is immune from making foolish statements. One of France's greatest thinkers, Voltaire, once said that in 100 years the Bible would be a forgotten book, found only in museums. When the 100 years were up, Voltaire's home was occupied by the Geneva Bible Society. (Bits & Pieces)**

**A Bible published in England in 1632 left out the word not in the seventh commandment, making it “Thou shalt commit adultery.” It became known as “The Wicked Bible.” *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 168)***

**Nowhere in the Bible does it say that there were three wise men. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**The savage Salem witch trials in the seventeenth century were all based on a single line in Exodus: “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.” *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 173)***

**Ken Roberts, a fifth grade teacher, noted that without knowledge of the Bible, some of the most important achievements of Western culture--passages from the works of Longfellow, Twain, and Whittier, as well as the paintings of Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Da Vinci, Rubens and the music of Bach and Beethoven--would have little significance. (Reader's Digest)**

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**The word bible comes from the Greek biblos, meaning “book.” (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

**A monk his entire adult life, Brother Andrew was responsible for training new scribes in the art of copying by hand--word for word--the holy writs. One day an eager new scribe, Brother Jonathan, asked if anyone had ever made a mistake. “Oh, no," said Brother Andrew. “These words have always been correctly copied from generation to generation." Skeptical, Brother Jonathan asked Brother Andrew how he knew. “My son," said Brother Andrew as he shuffled off towardthe monastery's library, “let me get you the first volume ever written and you will see that it is just as correct today as it was then.” Many hours passed. Finally Brother Jonathan decided he had better check on the elderly monk. At the library, he spotted Brother Andrew sitting alone in a candlelit corner, tears running down his wrinkled cheeks. “What's the matter?" Brother Jonathan asked. “I can't believe it," Brother Andrew responded, his voice quivering with emotion.“The word is celebrate. Cel-e-BRATE! not celebate.”(Catherine E. Tiller, in Reader's Digest )**

**Number of words in the King James Bible: 783,137. (*Uncle John’s Bathroom Reader: Wise Up!, p. 150)***

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**Dolly asks her Mom: “Did God write the Bible Himself? Or did He have some Holy Ghost writers?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

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