

2 Peter 1:20-21

knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

Let's have a little fun today and play make believe.

So, right now, I want you to make believe that you are Moses who wrote the first five books of the Old Testament.

Now, as you are Moses, you have God speaking to you and you are writing down what He says just like Moses did when He wrote the first five books of the Old Testament.

† **Ex 34:27** *Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel."*

But wait, are you really writing down what He says, or would you be saying to God as He speaks to you?

*"Well God, you said **"You shall not commit adultery. Ex 20:14"** But what if my husband or wife cheats on me, is it ok for me to cheat on her? Shouldn't we write that into it?"*

*Or how about, "Ok God you are so right with the **"You shall not steal. Ex 20:15"** thing because those who steal cars, and rob banks, and break into peoples houses should go to jail. You are right on, on that one God. But let's say for instance that I need some paper and paper clips for home and I just take a few from work, now that's not really stealing right God, because the company I work for makes so much money and they up the prices on things because they know that employees will steal, uh, I mean, will take things, so that's not really stealing, so we should add that clause into the **You shall not steal** thing to."*

I know it all sounds kind of crazy, or does it? Do we pray and ask the Lord to speak to us in His word, but when He does we question it?

You are having trouble in your marriage and you search God's word because you are thinking of divorcing your spouse. So as you pray and search the scriptures, you run across:

† **Malachi 2:16** *"For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment with violence," Says the LORD of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously."*

But then you will question and even twist God's word to make it say what you want it to.

"Well, my husband is a bum and doesn't do anything except stare at a TV all night and doesn't show me any affection unless we are in bed. He can't hold down a job, and never looks for one. He doesn't go to church with me and never reads his bible, and I don't even think he really is a Christian. So God doesn't want me in a relationship like that, so this is not talking about my situation."

Or

"My wife dresses like a slob, and she doesn't know how to cook and sits around all day. I know because the house is always a mess and she blames it on the kids. Plus at night she always has a headache or some type of excuse. She's always nagging me to do bible studies with the family and spends less money. God wouldn't want me stuck in a situation like that so this isn't talking about my marriage."

Really, you read that **For the LORD God of Israel says that He hates divorce** and you twisted it into that? I don't read any stipulation or rules for when God doesn't hate divorce. Some will even ask several people until they get someone to say that what you are doing is all right, even though it's against God's word, but they allowed your twisted interpretation to be ok.

Today, for us all, I believe the Lord is telling us to stop trying to interpret scripture and just start following what it says. That means to stop adding clauses to twist His word into what we want it to say, instead of what God says.

† **Psalms 56:5** *All day they twist my words; All their thoughts are against me for evil.*