Joshua Tablet versus Current Understanding of God: New Evidence for the Origin of Language

by Jack Cascione <u>reclaimnews@earthlink.net</u> July 20, 2022

The recently discovered Joshua Tablet is the oldest Hebrew text related to the Bible. It is dated as early as 1400 BC and is written in proto-Hebraic characters. It was found on Mount Ebal in Israel by an archeological team led by Dr. Scott Stripling.

The Tablet's 23 words with 40 Hebrew letters proves that the ancient Hebrews were present in Israel and that they worshipped YHW Elohim (the LORD God) 3,500 years ago. This discovery flies into the face of scholars and universities who have taught for the past 150 years that Yahweh (LORD) did not become an official God of Israel until the 6th Century BC which turns the Bible into a historical farce. (See: "*New Archaeological Discovery Challenges Bible Skeptics*" <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6TXn3t7Y88</u>)</u>

Martin Luther was the first to write that the Bible is the only Divine artifact or relic of God. Now with the discovery of the Joshua Tablet, Stripling has uncovered the oldest Hebrew relic related to the Bible and the only original eyewitness account of any event in the Bible.

Luther confessed that the Bible is the only Divine artifact and authentic relic of God; but that is not taught in any seminary; here's what the Reformer wrote in his *Large Catechism* in April 1529:

The Word of God is the true holy thing⁶ ("relic") above all holy things. Indeed, it is the only one we Christians acknowledge and have. Though we had the bones of all the saints, or all the holy and consecrated vestments gathered together in one heap, they could not help us in the slightest degree, for they are all dead things that can sanctify no one. But God's Word is the treasure that sanctifies all things. By it all the saints themselves have been sanctified. (Luther, Large Catechism 1.91, Book of Concord, Tappert, page 377)

As would be expected of a Divine relic, the Joshua Tablet has a unique literary genre unlike any ancient writing ever found in an Egyptian tomb or any other location. The Hebrews wrote with an alphabet, words, and literary style far beyond the capabilities of their slave masters.

No doubt that if the Tablet was written by the hand of Joshua himself, it belongs in the Bible. Further, because it was written by a man who walked with Moses, who saw God in the fiery pillar, and who ate manna in the desert, it is without question inspired by God.

The Tablet's message is so foreign to the mainline religious denominations' politically correct revision of God, they are simply not speaking about it.

A : Cursed, cursed, cursed, B : cursed by the God YHW. C : You will die cursed.

C': Cursed you will surely die. B': Cursed by YHW, A': cursed, cursed, cursed.

Notice the chiastic progression of A, B, C, C, B, A, a literary progression found in every book of the Hebrew Bible. Also, the word *curse* is repeated 10 times, typical of Hebraic Meter, which is written in multiples of 7s or 10s or 12s. The writing is arranged so perfectly, one might wonder if it is a forgery were it not that the words are sandwiched between two layers of lead traced to an ancient mine in Greece, which can only be viewed with X-Ray Computed Tomography.

Perhaps more than anything else, the Joshua Tablet tells us about man's relationship to God at the beginning of the Bible. The text of the Tablet is based on the accounts in Deuteronomy 27: 1-13 and Joshua 8:30-35. It is an oath in which the writer swears that anyone who does not keep God's commandments should be cursed by God.

This astounding discovery dispels any academic claims that the Hebrews did not have an alphabet at the time of the Exodus (*The Mishnah*, ed. <u>Herbert Danby</u>, <u>Oxford University Press</u> 1933, p. 202). Computer technology reveals that the literary genre of the Joshua Tablet copies the highly developed alphabetic/phonetic system present throughout the Bible and is more complex than any other writing today.

While the Hebrews were communicating writing with whole words and a 22-letter phonetic alphabet, the Egyptians were writing with more than 800 glyphs and pictographs called Hieroglyphics. At the time Jacob entered Egypt, the Egyptians like most of the world, did not have a phonetic alphabet, nor did they write with verb forms and accompanying grammar. Egyptian writing wasn't much better than that of the Native American Indians. Like all languages, they spoke with Universal Grammar (as demonstrated by Nom Chomsky) but they could not write it phonetically.

Genesis Chapter 10 records how God confused human language (including writing) at Babel into 70 language-groups/nations named in the chapter. It appears that the Egyptians drew the short straw on the written word. The Hebrews suffered the humiliation of being slaves to captors who didn't have an alphabet and worshipped ridiculous animal gods painted on walls or made of wood, and stone. When people reject God, He lets the world see them behave like buffoons.

As replicated in the Joshua Tablet, God writes about Himself in the Bible in multiples of ten.

The following is a brief sampling of the hundreds of examples of Hebraic Meter in the Torah and the entire Bible where God writes about Himself ten times. This is where contemporary scholars refuse to quote the Bible and seminaries refuse to publish the lists as found in the Joshua Tablet.

The religious denominations' current position is that all copies of the Bible are corrupted, only the original autographs were inspired, and we can't be certain that we have the original text as a "holy relic" or Divine artifact. They do not speak on the subject in Luther's terms. Their problem is that Hebraic Meter in the text proves that we have the original text written by Moses which binds them unalterable detail in the 3,500-year-old word of God. This will be further explained after the following examples.

And said God 10 times in Genesis Chapter 1

And said God	(1:3) וַיָּאמֶר אֱלהָים
And said God	(1:6) וַיָּאמֶר אֱלהִים
And said God	(1:9) ויָאמֶר אֱלהִים
And said God	(1:11) וַיָּאמֶר אֵלהִים
And said God	(1:14) ויאמר אלהים
And said God	
And said God	(1:24) ויִאמר אֵלהִים
And said God	
And said God	
And said God	
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As the Lord commanded Moses with 0 10 times in the Torah

(The Masoretes added the samek o as the end of the paragraph)	
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַאַשֶׁר צָוָה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 39:26)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַאַשֶׁר צָוָה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 39:29)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 39:31)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 40:19)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 40:21)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַאַשֶׁר צָוָה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 40:23)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 40:25)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַאַשֶׁר צָוָה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 40:29)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַאַשֶׁר צָוָה יֶהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Exo 40:32)
As the Lord Commanded Moses פַאַשֶׁר צַוָּה יְהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה ס	(Num 27:11)

Because I am the Lord your/their God 10 times

that I am the Lord your God בִי אֲנֶי יְהוָה אֱלְהֵםֹם (Exo 6:7)
that I am the Lord your God בֶּי אֲנֵי יְהוֶה אֱלהֵם (Exo 16:12)
that I am the Lord their God כָּי אֵנֶי יְהוָה אֱלְהֵיהֶם (Exo 29:46)
that I am the Lord your God בִי אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלְהֵםֵם (Lev 11:44)
that I am the Lord your God בֶּי אֲנֵי יְהוֶה אֱלהֵםֶם (Lev 20:7)
that I am the Lord your God בֶי אֲנֵי יְהָוָה אֱלהֵםֶם (Lev 24:22)
that I am the Lord your God בֶי אֲנֵי יְהֹוֶה אֱלהֵם (Lev 25:17)
that I am the Lord your God בֶּי אֲנֵי יְהָוָה אֱלהֵםֶם (Lev 26:1)
that I am the Lord their God כָּי אֲנֵי יְהוָה אֱלהֵיהֶם (Lev 26:44)
that I am the Lord your God כֶּי אֲנָי יְהוֶה אֱלהֵם (Deu 29:5)

And the Lord spoke unto Moses and Aaron saying 10 times in the Torah

And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Lev 11:1) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Lev 13:1) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Lev 14:33) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Lev 15:1) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Num 2:1) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Num 4:1) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Num 4:17) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Num 14:26) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Num 16:20) And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron saying (Num 19:1)

.....וִדְבֶּר יְהוָֹה אֶם־מֹשֶׁה וְאֵם־אַהָרָום אַמְר. ווִדַבֵּר יְהוָֹה אֶם־מֹשֶׁה וְאֵם־אַהָרָום אַמָר. (Lev 13:1) ויִדַבֵּר יְהוָֹה אֶם־מֹשֶׁה וְאֵ

ויִדַבֵּר יְהוָֹה אֶ⊐מֹשֶׁה וְאֱ־אַהָרָום אַמִר (Lev 14:33)
נִיִדַבֵּר יְהוְה אָ⊒־מֹשֶׁה וְאָ⊒־אַהָלוִם אַמׂר (Lev 15:1)
וִיִדַבְּר יְהוְה אָ⊐־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶ⊒־אַהָלוִם אמֽר (Num 2:1)
נִיִדַבָּר יְהוֶה אָ⊐־מֹשֶׁה וְאָ ּ ⊐ אָהָרָן Ωאמָר
ויִדַבָּר יְהוֶה אָ⊒־מֹשֶׁה וְאָ ֵ אָהָרָן ⊈אמָר (Num 4:17)
ויִדבָּר יְהוָה אָ ־מֹשֶׁה וְאֵ־אַהָרָוִם (Num 14:26) ויִדבָּר יְהוָה אָ
וִיְדַבְּר יְהוֹה אָם־מֹשֶׁה וְאֵם־אָהָרוְם אַמָר (Num 16:20)
(Num 19:1) וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אָ"־מֹעֶׁה וְאָ"־אַהָלָן⊒אמֽר

Thus saith the LORD 10 times in the Torah

Thus saith the LORDנה אָמֵר יְהוָה (Exo 4:22)
Thus saith the LORD בָה־אָמֶר יְהוָה (Exo 5:1)
Thus saith the LORD לָה אָמֵר יְהוָה (Exo 7:17)
Thus saith the LORD לָה אָמֵר יְהוָה (Exo 7:26)
Thus saith the LORD לָה אָמֵר יְהוָה (Exo 8:16)
(Exo 9:1) כְּה־אָמֵר יְהוָה (Exo 9:1)
(Exo 9:13) כְּה־אָמֵר יְהוָה (Exo 9:13)
(Exo 10:3) כְּה־אָמֵר יְהוָה (Exo 10:3)
(Exo 11:4) לָה אָמֵר יְהוֶה (Exo 11:4)
Thus saith the LORD לָה־אָמֶר יְהוָה (Exo 32:27)

For the LORD your God (singular) 10 times in the Torah

For the LORD your God כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 2:7)
For the LORD your God כָּי יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 4:24)
For the LORD your God בִּי־יְהָוָה אֱלֹדֶיך (Deu 7:9)
For the LORD your God בִּי־יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶׁידְ (Deu 7:21)
For the LORD your God כָּי יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 8:7)
For the LORD your God כִּי יְהוָה אֱלהֻיך (Deu 9:3)
For the LORD your God בִּי־יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶידָ (Deu 15:6)
For the LORD your God בִּי־יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶידָ (Deu 20:1)
For the LORD your God כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶׁיך (Deu 23:15)
For the LORD your God כִּי יְהוֶה אֱלֹהֶׁיך (Deu 31:6)

Because the Lord your God 10 times in the Torah

Because the Lord your God כִּי־יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 2:7)
Because the Lord your God כִּי יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 4:24)
Because the Lord your God בִּי־יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 7:9)
Because the Lord your God בִּי־יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 7:21)
Because the Lord your God כִּי יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 8:7)
Because the Lord your God כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 9:3)
Because the Lord your God בִּי־יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶי (Deu 15:6)
Because the Lord your God בִּי־יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶי (Deu 20:1)
Because the Lord your God כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 23:15)
Because the Lord your God בִי יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 31:6)

Love the Lord your God **10 times in the Torah** *To Love the Lord your God* **7 times**

And thou shalt love the LORD your God(Deu 6:5)
and to love him, and to serve the LORD your God (Deu 10:12)
thou shalt love the LORD your God (Deu 11:1)
to love the LORD your God (Deu 11:13)

to love the LORD your God (Deu 11:22)
love the LORD your God (Deu 13:3)
to love the LORD your God (Deu 19:9)
to love the LORD your God (Deu 30:6)
to love the LORD your God (Deu 30:16)
to love the LORD your God (Deu 30:20)

נְאָתֹ]תָּ אָר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיך(Deu 6:5) .
(Deu 10:12) 🗋 אַתָּןָה אֹתוֹ רְוַעֲוֹד אֶת־יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֶידְ
(Deu 11:1)וְאָתֹןתָׂ אֵת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיך
(Deu 11:13)םאַתַּ≓ָה אֶת־יְהָוָה אֱלְהֵנוֶם
(Deu 11:22)םֲאַתָּ≓ֶה אֶת־יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֵנֶ,ם
(Deu 13:4) אָׂתָ⊡ִים אֶת־יִהָוָה אֱלהֵנוֹם
םְאַתְּןָה אֶת־יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֶיףםְאַתְּןָה אֱלֹהֶיף
םִאַתְּדָָׂה אֶת־יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֶיףDeu 30:6)
םִאַתְּ⊒ָה אֶת־יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֶׂיף(Deu 30:16)
(Deu 30:20)םְאָתָּןָהֹ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶׁידָ

An offering/offerings to the LORD 10 times in the Torah

an offering to the LORDקרְבָּום יהוֶה	(Lev 1:2)
offering to the LORDקרְבָּגִוֹםְיהוֶה	(Lev 1:14)
offering to the LORDאֶת־קֶרְבָּנָוֹםֵיהוָה	(Lev 7:29)
אֶת־קֶרְבְּנֵיהֶם⊡ִיהוָהofferings to the LORD	(Lev 7:38)
an offering to the LORD קַרְבָּוֹםִיהוָה	(Lev 17:4)
an offering to the LORDקרְבָּוםִיהוֶה.	(Lev 27:9)
an offering to the LORDקרְבָּום יהוֶה	(Lev 27:11)
offering to the LORDאֶת־קֶרְבָּנִוֹםֵיהוָה	(Num 6:14)
offering to the LORDקרְבָּגָוֹםְיהוָה	(Num 6:21)
his offering to the LORDקרָבָּגָוֹםְיהוֶה	(Num 15:4)

Word which the Lord commanded 10 times in the Torah

this is the word which the Lord commanded זָה הַדְּוֹר אֲשֶׁר צְוָה יְהוֹה (Exo 16:16)
this is the word which the Lord commanded זָה הַדְּוֶר אֲשֶׁר צָוָה יְהוָה (Exo 16:32)
the words which the Lord commandedדָּדְ וֹים אֲשֶׁר־צְנָה יְהָוָההָדָּ בָּאָשֶׁר־צַנָה יְהָוָההָדָ
this is the word which the Lord commanded אָשֶׁר־צְנָה יְהוָה (Exo 35:4)
this is the word which the Lord commanded אָשֶׁר־צְנָה יְהוָה (Lev. 8:5)
all the words which the Lord commanded 🗊 - דַקּדָ רִים אֲשֶׁר־צְנָה יְהָוָה (Lev. 8:36)
this is the word which the Lord commanded אָשֶׁר־צְנָה יְהוָה (Lev. 9:6)
this is the word which the Lord commanded ָזָה הַדְּוֶֹר אֲשֶׁר־צְנָה יְהוָה (Lev. 17:2)
this is the word which the Lord commanded זָה הַדְּוֹר אֲשֶׁר צְוָה יְהוֶה (Num. 30:2)
this is the word which the Lord commanded זָה הַבָּוֹר אַשֶּׁר־צוָה יְהוָה (Num. 36:6)

Which the Lord gives 10 times in the Torah

which the Lord will give אֲשֶׁר יָהַן יְהוֶה (Exo 12:25)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר נָתָן יְהוֶה (Exo 16:15)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר נָתַן יְהוָה (Exo 36:1)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר נָתָן יְהוֶה (Exo 36:2)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר נָתַן יְהוָה (Lev 26:46)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר־נָתַן יְהוָה (Deu 2:12)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר נָתַן יְהוָה (Deu 12:1)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר נָתָן יְהוָה (Deu 12:21)
which the Lord has given אֲשֶׁר נָתָן יְהוָה(Deu 20:14)

Which the LORD your God will choose 10 times singular

which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְחַתוֹר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶידָ (Deu 12:18 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְחֵתָר אֶלֶהֶיך (Deu 12:21 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְןְחֵר יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 14:24 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְןחֵר יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֵיך (Deu 14:25 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר-יִןְחָר יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶידָ (Deu 16:6 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְןחֵר יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֵיך (Deu 16:7 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְןְחֵר יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 16:11 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְןחֵר יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 17:8 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר וְןחֵר יְהָוֶה אֱלֹהֶיך (Deu 17:15 WTT
which the LORD your God will choose אֲשֶׁר בִּןחֵר יְהָנָה אֱלֹהֶידְ (Deu 26:2 WTT

The place which the LORD will choose 10 times in the Torah To the place which the LORD will choose 7 times in the Torah

to the place which the LORD	will choose	אֲשֶׁר־וִםְתֹר יְהָוָה) אָל־ה ַמָּקוֹם	Deu 12:5 WTT
the place which the LORD	will choose	אַשֶׁר־יִםְתוֹ יְהוֹה	הַמָּקוֹם	(Deu 12:11 WTT
the place which the LORD	will choose	אַשֶּׁר יִםְחָר יְהָוָה) הַמָּלָוֹם	(Deu 12:21 WTT
to the place which the LORD	will choose	אֲשֶׁר־בְּחָר יְהָוָה) אָל־ה ַמָּקוֹם	(Deu 12:26 WTT
the place which the LORD	will choose	אַשֶׁר 🏳 סר' יְהוָה) הַמָּלְוֹם	(Deu 14:24 WTT
to the place which the LORD				
to the place which the LORD				
to the place which the LORD	will choose	אֲשֶׁר 🖾 תֶר יְהוָה	אָל־ה ַמָּלְוֹם	(Deu 17:8 WTT
to the place which the LORD	will choose	אַשֶׁר־םְתָר יְהוָה	אָל־ה ַמָּקוֹם	(Deu 18:6 WTT
to the place which the LORD	will choose	אַשֶׁר 🖓 סר' יְהוָה	אֶל־ה ַמָּלְוֹם	(Deu 26:2 WTT

the anger of the LORD was kindled..10 times in the Torah

How many times does this repetition have to take place before we can say this is how the Bible is written? Readers may ask about examples from the rest of the Bible but there are just too many to print out here. One more example will be added to demonstrate that this genre begins in Genesis Chapter 1 and continues through the last chapter of the Book of Revelation.

Lord God 10 times in Revelation, 7 with almighty

Lord God Almightyκύριος ὁ θεόςἱ παντοκράτωρ	0 (Rev. 1:8 BNT)*
Lord God Almightyκύριος ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ	(Rev. 4:8 BNT)
Lord God Almightyκύριε ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ	(Rev. 11:17 BNT)
Lord God Almightyκύριε ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ	(Rev. 15:3 BNT)
Lord God Almightyκύριε ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ	(Rev. 16:7 BNT)
Lord God Almightyκύριος ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ	(Rev. 19:6 BNT)
Lord God Almightyκύριος ὁ θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ	(Rev. 21:22 BNT)
Lord Godκύριος ὁ θεὸς	(Rev. 18:8 BNT)
Lord Godκύριος ὁ θεὸς	(Rev. 22:5 BNT)
Lord Godό κύριος ὁ θεὸς	(Rev. 22:6 BNT)

*The longer reading in BNT, BYZ, GNT, GOC, TIS, VST, WHO is correct, and SCR, STE are missing God.

God does not change, though mainline religious denominations present God as if He has evolved over the millennia into a more tolerant, personalized, and culturally compatible God.

The Joshua Tablet will inevitably redirect contemporary Christianity to reluctantly identify their God with the entire Bible, and not only selected portions.

God has no language, nor is He bound to any language, at least not to anything we would recognize as a language. There are numerous locations in the Bible where God simply puts thoughts and desires in someone's heart without any recognizable form of communication (Exo. 4:21; 31:10; Kings 10:24; Ezra 7:27; Psa. 4:4; 105:25; Pro. 21:1; Jer.32:40; Rev. 17:17). God created language—"words"!--as a means of communication for human beings and as the conveyance for His power through His words.

Information exists without the necessity of material conveyance because thought is nonmaterial and spirit. For example, the concept of "*two*" does not require sound, language, objects, or a symbol. It exists eternally of its own in God. All matter down to the smallest atomic particle is based on information, including the longest known word: the human genome with 3.1 billion characters. God's creation of the alphabet made it possible to digitize communication/information.

The Hebrew word הבקות (*towledot*, to-led-ot', with or without holems), appears twelve times in the Torah and is incorrectly translated as *generations* in the KJV (Gen. 2:4; 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10, 27; 25:12, 19; 36:1, 9; 37:2; Num. 3:1).

Hebrew scholar, Karl Randolph, and *The Theological Word Book of the Old Testament* on page 380, correctly state that *toledot* is a derivative of the Hebrew word *yalad* which means *to bring forth*. In other words, all twelve of these words in the Torah refer to documents written first by Adam, then by Noah, and then by Shem, Ham and Japheth, and so forth.

The New American Standard Bible correctly translates *toledot* ten times with the *records of the generations*. Genesis 5:1 even includes the Hebrew word for *book* with *toledoth*, because all the records are written on scrolls. The point is that according to the Bible, Adam spoke a complete language and was able to write a complete language. Therefore, based on the Bible's account it is no surprise that the Hebrews wrote with their own alphabet before they entered Egypt. Whether or not Hebrew is the original language remains an open question.

John writes:

but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name (Joh 20:31 NAS).

This verse must apply to the entire Bible, and not just the Gospel of John, because Christ says that the entire Bible is about Him. "...and it is these that bear witness of Me; (John 5:39 NAS)"

There is no path to God or heaven without the Bible. Christ says, His words "*are spirit, and they are life*" (John 6:63). Luther is right, the Bible is the only power, the only relic of God on earth.

By distancing themselves from the Old Testament, if not from the entire Bible, religious denominations are adopting desperate measures to halt their rapid decline. In so doing they are speeding up their decline.

For example, in 2017 the LCMS published a book titled "*Why Should I Trust the Bible*?" which proposes that "*Jesus would still exist even if the Bible ceased to exist*" (page 20). If the Bible ceased to exist there would no Means of Grace and no path to heaven for humanity. Rather heaven, salvation, and Jesus Himself will exist even if the LCMS, every other Lutheran denomination, and every mainline religious denomination cease to exist.

Again in 2022, CPH published "*Faith Misused*" by Dr. Alvin Schmidt, which argues in more than 40 locations that Christian faith is exclusive to the New Testament. Yet Jesus, Paul, and Hebrews teach that Abraham is the father of New Testament faith in John 8:56, Romans Chapters 3 and 4, Galatians Chapter 4, the Book of Hebrews Chapter 11, and many more locations. The Lutheran Confessions describe both the Old and New Testaments as the "*pure and clear fountain of Israel*" (Tappert, page 501). "*Faith Misused*" rejects the basis for the Doctrine of Justification in the Old Testament, but Paul uses Abraham's faith as the model for all Christian faith (Romans 4:9:16; Gal. 3:7-14).

American religious denominations including the WELS will now have great difficulty teaching their new doctrine that belief in Jesus precedes belief in the Bible. Believing in Jesus without the

necessity of believing what the Bible says about Him is experientialism. It is the words in the Bible, not Jesus, which are the Means of Grace.

Like tugging the ring in a bull's nose, the Joshua Tablet compels religious denominations to reemphasize the necessity of the Old Testament.

The mainline religious denominations have been blindsided by the information age and the digital revolution. Today's literary standard of mathematically precise data communication shames the credibility and certainty of the uncertain biblical text portrayed by the mainline religious denominations. They will not and cannot write a book boasting about the perfect, inerrant, and flawless word of God. Twenty first century technology does not tolerate 19th Century ambiguity. Those born after 2000 ask, "Is this what God said, or is it what you think God might of have said?"

On the other hand, the God of the Bible identifies Himself, with not just every word of the Bible, but with every letter of the alphabet. Three times Jesus Christ identifies Himself in linguistic terms in the Book of Revelation as the first and last letter of the alphabet "*the Alpha and the Omega*." He describes Himself as the author and source of all knowledge which can be written with an alphabet. Language is the gift God gave to the world without which there would be no technology. His message is eternal life for all who cling to the eternal words of God curses in the Joshua Tablet for those who don't.

"Is it not true that God's Word is greater and more important than faith? For God's Word is not based and built on faith, but faith is built on God's Word. Besides, faith may waver and change, but God's Word remains eternally." Vol. III, WHAT LUTHER SAYS, p. 1492, #4822