

Christian to die from a snake bite. Except for this one statement our present ending of Mark contains only a summary of what is contained in Luke. Whether Mark wrote it or not, we can say that it is true and free from error.

The Bible is not a set of magical sounds that have virtue in themselves, but a presentation of divine thoughts in human words. Human words constantly change their meaning and are subject to various interpretations. God so inspired the Bible that it was kept from error. No erroneous thought is included in any considerable number of Greek manuscripts, early or late. Yet when we are making a new translation it seems reasonable to use earlier manuscripts rather than late ones.

God could have caused His Word to be written on tables of stone and preserved in a room kept at an even temperature so that no slightest change could take place, and so that manuscripts could be constantly compared with the original, but He did not do so. There are a few places in the Bible where it is absolutely certain that very early copying mistakes were made, and we do not know exactly what was in the original. I believe that God permitted these changes to occur in order that we should not put our faith in individual words, but in the teachings that we find stressed and repeated in His Holy Word.

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G. M. LAMSA'S TRANSLATION

On several occasions I have been asked to review George M. Lamsa's so-called translations. When his alleged renderings "from the original Aramaic" have been carefully checked they have usually proved to be quite erroneous.