

“7 Deadly Myths in Christianity Episode 04 Alive While Dead Part 2” was published on the YouTube Scott Ritsema – Belt of Truth channel on 7/2/22. Since the Amazing Facts logo appears on the pulpit, I think it likely that this presentation occurred in concurrence with an Amazing Facts evangelistic series. Does Scott believe there is an infallible Bible anywhere in the world? Let’s see.

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Scott’s first Scripture quotation came at 1:42 when he quoted Roman 6:23. His quotation could have been from the King James Version (KJV) or the Modern English Version (MEV) since they read exactly the same.

At 2:05 Scott says, “The issue of hell is probably surrounded by more popular misconceptions than any teaching in the Bible.” Notice that “the Bible” is singular so means there is only one Bible. Does Scott use only one Bible? Does Scott have any misconceptions about hell?

At 4:17 Scott says, “So we’re going to study tonight what does the Bible teach about hell.” It doesn’t take Scott long to do what blowhards do which is to give a Greek and Hebrew lesson so as to establish himself as an expert. This is handy because it’s unlikely that any in his audience have even a rudimentary knowledge of either language so it’s impossible for them to know if he is wrong. It will also come in handy in editing the real Bible. It’s unlikely that Scott knows enough about either language to read a sentence in either one or enough to call for a taxi in Israel or Greece in the native language but he doesn’t tell you that.

At 4:29 Scott says, “But first we have to look at this Hebrew word that is often translated as hell in some English translations. Erroneously translated as hell; and it is called *Sheol*; *Sheol*. Now you can get out, and in the Greek version of in New Testament it is *Hades*. You can get out a concordance. I hope you study your Bible. Get out a concordance and look up every use of the word *Sheol* in the Hebrew Old Testament. And you will discover what *Sheol* is and what it is not.”

It didn’t take Scott long to start editing God’s Word. Notice that he said “some English translations” “erroneously” translate hell. I have a better idea. Instead of saying the Bible is wrong and pretending you know Hebrew and Greek, get out your English KJV Bible and an English dictionary and look up the occurrences of “hell” and “grave.” Some people might actually have an English dictionary, most in his audience speak and understand English and it’s doubtful that many have a concordance for any bible fake or otherwise.

Here is one of several definitions of hell found in Noah Webster’s 1828 American Dictionary of the English Language.

“The place of the dead, or of souls after death; the lower regions, or the grave; called in Hebrew, *sheol*, and by the Greeks, *hades*. Ps. xvi. Jon. ii.”

Notice that it says “place of the dead, or of souls after death.” That means it could mean either one so you would have to look at context to know what was meant. It also says “lower regions, or the grave” so once again hell could mean either one depending on the context.

Another option for learning what a word means is seeing how it can be used in the real Bible.

And they shall not lie with the mighty that are fallen of the uncircumcised, which are gone down to hell with their weapons of war: and they have laid their swords under their heads, but their iniquities shall be upon their bones, though they were the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.” Ezekiel 32:27 from the KJV.

In the above verse, “hell” is a grave where the bones of the deceased are.

“Now therefore hold him not guiltless: for thou art a wise man, and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; but his hoar head bring thou down to the grave with blood.” 1 Kings 2:9 from the KJV.

I make no pretense of knowing Greek or Hebrew but I do have a concordance for the KJV and for several fake bibles. According to *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*, the word “grave” in the above verse is translated from the Hebrew word “*sheh-ole*’.” Scotty said hell was erroneously translated because correctly translated bibles should say *sheol* instead. Well, if the allegedly translated correctly bibles were to be consistent, they should have *sheol* instead of grave in the above verse.

Here is that verse from a fake bible that uses *sheol* in places. See if you can find *sheol*. Look real hard.

“Now therefore, do not hold him guiltless, for you are a wise man and know what you ought to do to him; but bring his gray hair down to the grave with blood.” 1 Kings 2:9 from the New King James Version (NKJV).

And here is a verse where that fake bible uses *sheol* and the real Bible uses hell.

“Yet you shall be brought down to *Sheol*, to the lowest depths of the Pit.” Isaiah 14:15 from the NKJV.

“Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.” Isaiah 14:15 from the KJV.

If the KJV was wrong for using hell in Isaiah 14:15, then the NKJV was wrong for not using *Sheol* instead of grave in 1 Kings 2:9.

You can use modern ENGLISH dictionaries to learn what *sheol* and *hades* (that Scotty thinks are superior words to use) mean in modern English bibles. Here are the definitions of those words from Webster’s Third New International Dictionary (unabridged). These are the entire definitions of those words and notice that “grave” is no option. Both words imply a conscious existence where the departed spirits of the dead aren’t having fun.

**she-ol** ; the subterranean world of darkness that in early Hebrew thought resembled the Greek Hades in being an underworld abode where all spirits of the dead were assumed to live a shadowy existence involving neither punishment nor joy, was later conceived of as the intermediate realm of departed spirits where the wicked were punished and the good awaited resurrection to a blessed reward, and was still later conceived of as a place where the wicked were tortured and tormented – COMPARE GEHENNA, HELL, NETHERWORLD

**ha-des** *Hades*, god of the underworld, abode of the dead in Greek mythology, fr Gk *Haīdes, Aidēs*] **1** : the abode or state of the dead : the place of departed spirits – compare NETHERWORLD, SHEOL **2** : HELL <go to ~> <hotter than ~ on the firing range> <what in ~ are you doing here>

At 5:12 Scotty posts a list of places where “Sheol / Hades” occurs and where the word is allegedly incorrectly translated in some bibles as “hell.” First of all, all of the verses quoted are from the Old Testament and unless you’re using the fake Septuagint, there will be no *Hades* in the Old Testament. His conclusion is that *Sheol* can mean the grave. So what. Hell, as we’ve seen above, can also mean the grave.

Scotty attempts to show that *Sheol* can mean a variety of things. The problem is he apparently is giving a list of the various places *Sheol* occurs in a bible written in Hebrew. Somehow he thinks this shows how hell is an incorrectly translated word in English bibles. All he has shown is that in Hebrew words can mean different things depending on the context just like in English. Dissing hell in the real English Bible and replacing it with a Hebrew word is, in a word, stupid.

Job 17:13 – There is no hell or *Sheol* in this verse in either the KJV or the NKJV.

Psalms 16:10 – There is hell in the KJV and *Sheol* in the NKJV.

Psalms 49:14 – There is no hell or *Sheol* in this verse in either the KJV or the NKJV.

Psalms 139:8 – Hell occurs in both the KJV and the NKJV.

Isaiah 14:11 – There is no hell in the KJV and *Sheol* occurs in the NKJV.

At 5:47 Scotty says, “Sheol is not th, the dark ages conception of hell. *Sheol* is simply the grave.” Really? Get a load of this.

“The pains of death surrounded me, And the pangs of *Sheol* laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow.” Psalms 116:3 from the NKJV.

It would appear that in the above verse *Sheol* could mean the hot place every bit as much as hell could mean that and especially for someone who looked up *Sheol* in an English dictionary.

At 6:10 a passage from a bible or bibles is posted as follows.

“The harvest is the end of the world. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. Matthew 13:39-40.”

No mention was made as to what bible the above quotation was from. Both “end of the world” and “end of the age” are underlined so Scotty must have thought that terminology was important.

In the NKJV, you will not find any verse that has “end of the world” except in a geographical sense. After looking in multiple bibles, I couldn’t find any that said “end of the world” in Matthew 13:39 and “end of the age” in Matthew 13:40 so I believe Scotty has done a bit of mixing and matching or you could say picking and choosing. Here are two bibles he may have used. I’ve put in bold the portions of those verses he may have used.

“The enemy who planted the weeds among the wheat is the devil. **The harvest is the end of the world**, and the harvesters are the angels.” Matthew 13:39 from the New Living Translation (NLT).

**“Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so will it be at the end of this age.”** Matthew 13:40 from the NKJV.

If Scotty can pick and choose, shouldn’t it be OK for everyone else to do the same? By the way, those subscribing to New Age doctrine don’t think there will be an end of the world when Christ comes. They believe there are very long ages like the Age of Pisces we are in or just leaving and the Age of Aquarius which we have entered or are entering. The “end of the world” is not the same as the “end of this age.”

At 6:22 Scotty says, “When does this parable say it will take place? Let’s bring it back upon the screen. The harvest is the end of the world. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be, when? Don’t you love how plain the Bible is? At the end of the age is when the tares will be burned up! It is the end of the world, the end of the age, stated two times there. The punishment of the wicked takes place then.”

There are several points to consider. “The Bible” is singular and Scotty has used at least two “the Bible” to make up his quotation. Scotty thinks “end of the world” is the same as “end of the age” and they’re not the same. Scotty’s “the Bible” does not say the punishment of the wicked takes places at either the “end of the world” or the “end of the age.” His “the Bible” says the punishment starts when they die.

“So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials, even while keeping the wicked under punishment until the day of final Judgement.” 2 Peter 2:9 from the NLT.

“then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment.” 2 Peter 2:9 from the NKJV.

Scotty's "the Bible" very plainly says the wicked are kept "under punishment" while waiting for the judgment. You can't be punished if you are asleep and know nothing so said punishment under which the wicked are being held has to be either hell, purgatory, *Hades* or *Sheol*.

Don't you love how plain Scotty's "the Bible" is?

Here is that verse from the real "the Bible."

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:" 2 Peter 2:9 from the KJV.

What a difference that little word "unto" makes.

And wouldn't you know it. Scotty understands it would be unjust to punish people before they are judged so at 7:04 he posts 2 Peter 2:9 FROM THE KING JAMES VERSION to prove his point when the two fake "the Bible" he has used say they are reserved "under punishment." I suspect there is no one in his congregation that has a clue as to what has just happened. Scotty thinks he has the authority to edit God's Word and that he can foist fake "the Bible" on the sheep without telling them he has done so. Scotty doesn't believe there is a single Bible anywhere on earth at this time without some error in it.

At 8:11 Scotty says that the Bible many times describes death as a sleep which is true. He goes on to say that "the Bible doesn't say that anybody is burning in hell right now" even though two of his "the Bible" say the dead are a being punished while they wait for the judgment.

At 9:24 Scotty says, "the saved are given immortality and taken to Heaven at the second coming of Jesus."

At 9:41 Scotty reads Revelation 6:14-17 from a Bible held in his hand and it's the KJV. This apparently is the Bible in which hell is allegedly mistranslated but Scotty has had to use it.

At 10:53 Scotty reads 2 Peter 3:10 from the NKJV. Remember that the NKJV is one of the fake bibles that Scotty couldn't use for 2 Peter 2:9.

At 11:54 Ezekiel 33:11 is posted and read (though not perfectly because he inserted "evil" when it wasn't there) from the NKJV. Remember that the NKJV is one of the fake bibles that Scotty couldn't use for 2 Peter 2:9.

At 12:33 Scotty posted and read part of 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 from the NKJV. Remember that the NKJV is one of the fake bibles he couldn't use for 2 Peter 2:9 (yes, I know I already said that twice). Here is the entirety of 1 Thessalonians 4:16 from the NKJV and from the real Bible.

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first."  
1 Thessalonians 4:16 from the NKJV.

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.”  
1 Thessalonians 4:16 from the KJV.

Once again it's just one little word that makes the difference between the fake and the genuine. To say “an” archangel means there is more than one archangel. Roman Catholics, for instance, believe there is more than one archangel such as Gabriel and Raphael. To say “the” archangel means there is only one archangel and that is Michael the archangel which is another name for Jesus Christ. The real Bible says “the Lord himself” gives “a shout, with the voice of the archangel” so He, Jesus Christ or Michael, is the One who is raising the dead.

At 13:07 John 5:28-29 is quoted from the NKJV. That's the one that demotes Jesus Christ to being one of several archangels.

At 14:11 Scotty holds and reads part of Revelation 20 from a Bible he holds in his hand. Some of the words he reads are those of the NKJV but most are as in the KJV so I believe the bible he holds is a KJV that he isn't reading quite correctly. He then speaks of “the Greek version of the book of Genesis,” which probably none in the congregation have ever seen, in an attempt to show what the bottomless pit is.

The Greek version of the Old Testament is called the Septuagint or the LXX and the myth believed by many scholars and ministers is that it was written long before Jesus and his apostles were born. In reality there is no provenance to show that is true. The fact is that there were at least three versions of the Septuagint and they were all written after Jesus and all of the apostles had died and none of them quoted from the Septuagint in the New Testament. The Septuagint is also the bible where you will find that Methuselah died fourteen years after the flood. Since the ark only carried eight people, if the Septuagint is correct, Methuselah would have to have been a fantastic swimmer.

Around 22:15 parts of 2 Peter 3:7 are quoted from the NKJV.

At 22:58 Scotty says, “We got some super clear awesome biblical reality.”

At 25:29 Scotty quotes from the NKJV. The NKJV is correct in this verse but Scotty doesn't understand what it means.

“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” Matthew 10:28 from the NKJV.

Scotty explains that “So, according to Jesus, the soul of the wicked will be destroyed in hell. And you might remember, say, that makes perfect sense because I know what a soul is from last night's message. A soul is the sum of two component parts, body and breath. And so the body and the very living being that is the wicked person is going to be destroyed by that fire.”

Scotty doesn't know that "soul" can mean two things in the Bible depending on context. Read the passage again. It says God is the only one who can destroy both the body and soul in hell. It is well known that a body that is no longer breathing has died. Many have been killed and had their body and breath destroyed but the verse says only God can kill the soul. That means that "soul" in that verse is something other than breath. Unlike what Scotty and some, probably most, Seventh-day Adventist ministers think, a person or soul is composed of two parts; a body and the intelligence that resides in that body that is also called the soul. Saying a person is composed of a body and breath is no more logical than saying a person is composed of a body and food and water. The soul the above verse speaks of is the intelligence that resides in the body that only God can destroy in hell fire. God keeps a memory of a man's thought processes in a sleeping state and restores them in an awake state to a body at the resurrection.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death." John 8:51 from the KJV.

The memory of a righteous man's thought processes is preserved by God and in that sense never dies. The memory of a wicked man's thought processes is also preserved by God until the second resurrection and when hell fire consumes that man, the body is turned to ashes and God no longer preserves the memory of that man's thoughts so that man, both body and soul, is eternally dead never to awake again.

This, by the way, is not contrary to the Spirit of Prophecy.

"Satan rushes into the midst of his followers, and tries to stir up the multitude to action. But fire from God out of heaven is rained upon them, and the great men, and mighty men, the noble, the poor and miserable, are all consumed together. I saw that some were quickly destroyed, while others suffered longer. They were punished according to the deeds done in the body. Some were many days consuming, and just as long as there was a partition of them unconsumed, all the sense of suffering remained. Said the angel, 'The worm of life shall not die; their fire shall not be quenched as long as there is the least particle for it to prey upon.'" *Early Writings of Ellen G. White* (1938 edition) page 294.

If a soul, meaning a living and breathing person, has all been consumed except for a tiny particle of a fingernail and "all the sense of suffering" remains, there has to be a soul, meaning a conscious intelligence separate from the body, that isn't destroyed until the very end.

Understanding this simple concept makes understanding another verse that has caused Seventh-day Adventist ministers much consternation easily understood.

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Ecclesiastes 12:7 from the KJV.

In the above verse, "spirit" is man's intelligence, the memory of which is kept by God in a sleeping state until the resurrection.

Here is a verse where “spirit” is used in that sense.

“And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.”  
Genesis 41:8 from the KJV.

At 26:37 Scotty says, “A soul requires dust to exist; and breath.” LOL.

Scotty then mentions the part of John 3:16 where it says that whoever believes in Jesus will not perish but have everlasting life. That is correct; no one’s soul dies unless a person is wicked in which case that person’s soul is destroyed in hell after the tiniest particle of the body has been consumed.

At 28:18 Scotty make a very good point when he notes the Bible says “the wages of sin is death” and if the punishment for sin is eternal burning in hell, then Jesus didn’t pay the penalty for our sins because He isn’t still burning in hell.

At 29:12 Scotty reads Revelation 21:8 from the KJV.

At 30:06 Scotty quotes from a fake bible and demonstrates that he doesn’t know what it says in English even though he thinks *Sheol* and *Hades* are more correct words than hell. He quotes part of the following verse from the NKJV to show Satan will be destroyed in hell.

“Therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you.” Ezekiel 28:18 from the NKJV.

Scotty says, “This is a prophecy about the future.” Scotty doesn’t understand future and past tense. The verse says “devoured” which is past tense so it’s NOT a prophecy or it would be in future tense. Here is the whole verse from the real Bible.

“Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.” Ezekiel 28:18 from the KJV.

It is a prophecy in the real Bible because it’s in future tense.

Scotty said, “this is a prophecy about the future” when in his fake bible it wasn’t a prophecy at all. At 30:21 he says, “God says to Satan, he’s going to be turned to; what was the word there that started with the letter A? Turned to ashes!” This is in spite of the fact that his fake bible didn’t say “he’s going to be turned to” (future tense) but rather said “I turned you to” (past tense). Another LOL. Sometime Scotty ought to read carefully, from the real Bible, the entirety of Ezekiel 28 and he might understand the reason the NKJV and other fake bibles have changed Satan’s punishment to past tense.



Following this a multitude of bible passages are referred to and at 37:59 Scotty gets to the verse in Jude 7 that supposedly teaches that “eternal fire” doesn’t last forever. It’s quoted as follows.

“...as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” Jude 1:7 from the NKJV.

He then says, “Sodom and Gomorrah, are set forth as an example, of what eternal fire looks like. Do you know the Sodom and Gomorrah story? It was horrific, right? I mean, these terrible things were going on there and God said we need to, we need to torch this, this, this, this, oppression, this horrible wickedness. And Sodom and Gomorrah were completely destroyed, weren’t they? Completely destroyed! Eternal fire came and did anybody survive it? Did anybody stay alive in it? No! Eternal fire is totally destructive, isn’t it?”

Scotty at least understands the verse is speaking of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah and not about the buildings and other infrastructure. What he doesn’t understand is that a person (that can also be called a soul) is composed of a body and intelligence (also called a soul in some contexts). The verse doesn’t prove that the soul, the intelligent part of a person, isn’t still suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Besides that, the fake “the Bible” he has been using says in 2 Peter 2:9 that the wicked dead are being kept “under punishment.”

At 40:38 Scotty says, “The Bible never contradicts itself. It cannot. It’s the inspired word of God.” It is true that the real Bible never contradicts itself but the fake “the Bible” he has been using aplenty, does contradict itself.

“And God spoke to Moses and said to him: ‘I am the LORD. I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name LORD I was not known to them.’ Exodus 6:2-3 from the NKJV.

“Then Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and there called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.” Genesis 21:33 from the NKJV.

“Then Abimelech came to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath, one of his friends, and Phichol the commander of his army. And Isaac said to them, ‘Why have you come to me, since you hate me and have sent me away from you?’ But they said, ‘We have certainly seen that the LORD is with you. So we said, ‘Let there now be an oath between us, between you and us; and let us make a covenant with you,’ Genesis 26:26-28 from the NKJV.

“Then Jacob said, ‘O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your family, and I will deal well with you’.” Genesis 32:9 from the NKJV.

Contrary to what Exodus 6:2-3 says in the NKJV, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and even Abimelech, Ahuzzath and Phichol knew who the LORD was. There is no problem in the real Bible.

“And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them.” Genesis 6:3 from the NKJV.

At 41:39 Scotty, in discussing the word “forever,” says, “This is so simple. Uh. Many, many, many times in the Bible, look up the use of the word forever. Tons of times. Fifty-six times to be exactly.”

Not only is Scotty unaware that when a verse is describing something in past tense that it isn't a prophecy but he also has no idea how many times forever appears in the Bible. Alternatively he may be using a bible that's much more fake than I thought. In the KJV, “for ever” occurs 390 times and “forever” doesn't occur at all. In the NKJV I counted 391 times “forever” was used and “for ever” wasn't used at all. Whether he was referring to “for ever” or “forever,” fifty-six times isn't even close to 391 or even to 390. He is right, however, that “forever” or “for ever” doesn't always mean something that never ends; the meaning, as in the case of soul and spirit, depends on the context.

Scotty does manage to get in what the Hebrew word for forever is. This serves no function other than to make people think he should be believed. You can learn without difficulty what forever means using the real Bible. Scotty should work on English until he starts preaching in Israel.

Scotty then says, “The original text of the Bible was not English and there's just no good English word for the Hebrew and Greek words used here.” If what Scotty says is true, you can't know what God said unless you know Hebrew and Greek or believe some blowhard who pretends he knows Hebrew and Greek. All Scotty would have to do is get out a good ENGLISH dictionary and he would find out that forever doesn't always mean eternity.

At 44:18 Scotty starts to discuss the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. Scotty says if this isn't a parable then all of us would have a Bible that contradicts itself. That is true and as we have seen, Scotty's NKJV contradicts itself. He thinks being “alive while dead” is the problem when actually, the problem is that he doesn't understand that our soul or spirit, also known as our intelligent thought process, are kept in the memory of God in a sleeping state until the resurrection. In that sense, one doesn't really die unless one suffers the second death. Do you remember this?

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.” John 8:51 from the KJV.

Scotty mentions what we learned in English class. He needs to review some things covered in English class such as future and past tense.

At 47:50 Scotty says, "The Bible says it, I believe it, that settles it." Scotty doesn't believe there is any infallible Bible, meaning no error at all, anywhere in the world. He said that "hell" is incorrectly translated. If hell is incorrectly translated how can I know that other things aren't incorrectly translated without asking a blowhard? I can defend the infallibility of the KJV. Scotty can not defend the infallibility of the NKJV.

At 51:01 Scotty mentions his sermons about "media on the brain." In those sermons he talks about how too much media like Facebook, etc. is bad for our brains. Well, children's brains are being crippled and many adult's brains have already been crippled because they have been taught that bibles like the NKJV are the way to go because they're easier to read. Try finding one Seventh-day Adventist minister who will say any Bible on earth is infallible with no error at all anywhere in it. Good luck.

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I had left a comment on this YouTube video but it didn't appear for the public to see at the time. Much to my surprise, eleven days later on 7/26/22, it not only appeared but Scott had responded to it.

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[Martin Lohne](#)

[11 days ago](#)

You say that Ezekiel 28:18 is a prophecy about Satan that shows he will be destroyed in hell.

"Therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you." Ezekiel 28:18 from the NKJV.

If this is about Satan, it says "I turned you to ashes" which is past tense. For it to be a prophecy, it would have to say something like "I will turn you to ashes." If you can believe the NKJV, the passage can't be about Satan or, alternatively, Satan has already been turned to ashes.



·2 REPLIES



[Scott Ritsema - Belt of Truth](#)

[3 hours ago](#)

Great question, Martin. Many times prophecies about the future are stated in the past tense since the vision the prophet saw is past tense.

M

[Martin Lohne](#)

[2 hours ago](#)

[@Scott Ritsema - Belt of Truth](#) Really? Are you serious? Do you then propose that when a prophet saw a vision in future tense it may have actually been a past tense vision? If what you say is true, then all the visions in the Bible are up for debate and question.

Highlighted reply



[Scott Ritsema - Belt of Truth](#)

[20 minutes ago](#)

Hi Martin, I appreciate the dialogue. To clarify, a prophet only sees the vision in the present moment he's in when he sees it. 'Tense' would be a term that refer to the verb form he subsequently uses to describe the vision after seeing the vision. For example, Revelation reads this way where future events described in Revelation 13 are stated in the past tense because these were things previously seen in vision. There has not yet been a death decree or a no-buy-no-sell edict, yet those events are described using past tense verbs because these were things John saw in vision then subsequently writes about. Same with Revelation 14 toward the end where John describes the second coming of Jesus; it sounds like an event in the past because he is using past tense verbs, but he is just describing things he saw previously in vision, so he uses past tense; we know Jesus hasn't harvested the earth yet. Same with Ezekiel 28; Satan hasn't been judged yet. It's a pattern throughout Bible prophecy. You'll see it in Daniel 7 and 8 also. Thanks for the interesting questions!

M

[Martin Lohne](#)

[1 second ago](#)

[@Scott Ritsema - Belt of Truth](#) If you wish to propose that what a prophet wrote in past tense may actually be future tense, then what a prophet wrote in future tense may actually have been something that already happened. Keep in mind:

"Let the Bible explain its own statements. Accept it just as it reads, without twisting the words to suit human ideas." Spalding and Magan's Unpublished Manuscript Testimonies of Ellen G. White page 140.

The whole story of what happened (past tense) to the covering cherub in Ezekiel 28 is in past tense in the NKJV. The covering cherub was "turned" to ashes. Taking the Bible "just as it reads" you can't claim that Ezekiel 28:18 in the NKJV doesn't really mean Satan hasn't been "turned" to ashes when that bible says he has been "turned" to ashes.

As for your example of Revelation 13, I have no problem understanding that future events are foretold when I take the book of Revelation as a whole book. Here are a few of the verses that should make it clear that John was speaking of future events.

"And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them and kill them." Revelation 11:7.

"Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." Revelation 12:12.

"And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." Revelation 13:8.

Notice the word "shall" in Revelation 11:7 and Revelation 13:8. That is future tense and should make it clear that what is contained in those chapters is about future events. Revelation 12:12 says "he knoweth that he hath but a short time" which also is speaking of a future event.

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I was pretty surprised that Scott took the time to discuss what I posted and even more surprised that the post was published for all to see. Whether he was right or wrong that was at least fair play and I have to complement him for that.

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