

IMPORTANT WORDS

Accurate: free from mistakes or error

Generation: time period between the birth of parents and the birth of their children

Illegal: not allowed by men's laws

Illuminate: To enlighten intellectually with knowledge or grace

Important: something that has great value

Original: the first of something, not a copy

Preserve: to protect from harm;
to keep safe; to guard

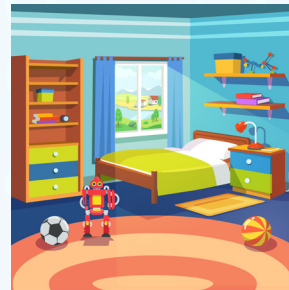
Responsible: can be trusted with duties
or tasks

Revelation: The act of disclosing or
discovering to others what was
before unknown to them

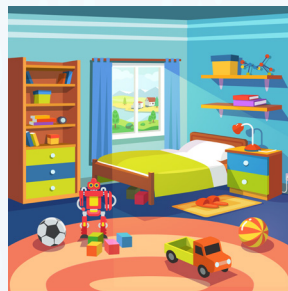


GOD'S WORD MUST STAY THE SAME!

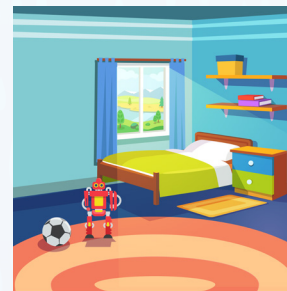
Can you spot the differences? The first picture is complete. The 2nd picture has added extra things (place an X over these items). The 3rd picture has taken things away (place an O where things should be, but aren't).



PICTURE 1 (COMPLETE)



PICTURE 2 (USE Xs)



PICTURE 3 (USE Os)



What would happen if the
original Scripture papers had
gotten wet or dirty?



PRESERVATION: **TRUTH IS PRESERVED**

We know now that God has revealed His Word, and that He supervised His Word being written down on paper so others could read It. But what if God had stopped there? What would happen if those first writings had gotten wet, dirty, crumpled, lost, or burned up in a fire? Surely, God had a plan in place to make sure that we could still read His Word today.

The answer is Preservation. Preservation means that God has been supervising the copying of His perfect Word for thousands of years. Psalm 12:6-7 tells us that God will preserve His Word forever so that each new generation of people can know about God. It has always been a very important job for someone to handle the Word of God. Some people have tried to change it to say something other than what God had said. God gives a strict warning about adding to or taking away from His

Word. Some people have tried to burn every copy that they could find just because they don't like what God had to say. Some countries have even made it illegal to have a copy of God's Word. However, today we can be thankful to God for using His faithful servants over the years to faithfully and accurately copy down each and every word (at first) by hand and (later) by automatic printing press!



In the book of Numbers, we see that in the Old Testament times a special group of God's chosen people were called priests. Those priests were given the responsibility to protect and copy God's Word. In 2 Timothy 3:15-17, we learn that the Apostle Paul referred to these copies as Scripture and declared that this copied Scripture was just as powerful as the original writings of God's Word. We are able to have accurate copies of God's Word today because the New Testament church was commanded by

God to carry on the preservation process which had begun by the Old Testament priests.

If God took so much effort to care for His Word, shouldn't we, as His children, make an extra effort to take good care of our copy of God's Word? What are some measures you could take to protect God's Word?

God's Word was originally preserved in its original languages, but neither of those languages were English. Next time, we will discover how God has allowed His Word to be translated into new languages so that people all around the world can learn about Him!

AN IMPORTANT VERSE!

"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever." Psalm 12:6-7

