

This page dealing with Paul: <https://www.jesuswordsonly.com/books/175-pauls-contradictions-of-jesus.html> ...Acts 16:16...has bothered me.

Saul of Tarsus disagreed with the Lord Jesus. Paul (a converted Saul [Ac 9:1–19]); however, did not. In fact, he was personally trained by him for three years—untainted by the teachings of men (Ga 1:11–12). Paul’s history remains curious for Jews still today. Many wonder how a Pharisee of Pharisees could change so dramatically (Ac 23:6; Phil 3:5, 6).

Paul was not a false prophet. He was a fine servant of the Lord. His response was the right one after having met the risen Lord (Ac 9:4–9). He asked, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Ac 9:6.

The scriptures are: inspired (2 Tim. 3:16), pure (Prov. 30:5), perfect (Ps 19:7) and true (Ps 119:160). One should study not just the words of Jesus;¹ rather, he should study the rest of the scriptures, as well (2 Ti 2:15). All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness (2 Ti 3:16). Scripture is to be compared to scripture (2 Pe 1:20, 21).

So-called contradictions in the bible are never found to be true.

Josh McDowell wrote:

It is very easy to accuse the Bible of inaccuracies, but it is quite another matter to prove it. Certain passages at first glance appear to be contradictory, but further investigation will show that this is not the case.²

The *Jesus’ Words Only* site claims that Jesus is the believer’s sole teacher. The bible; however, says that those capable of teaching are: parents (Deut 11:19), Levites (Lev 10:11), ancestors (Jer. 9:14), disciples (Mt 28:19, 20), older women (Tt 2:3) and nature (1 Co 11:14).³ Cults and ‘isms have perverted these sources; so, one must use discernment (1 Jn 4:1–6). Discernment is denied to the reprobate (1 Co 2:14); but it is available to (1 Kin 3:9–14) the Christian through prayer (Ps 119:18). The Holy Spirit guides the believer (Jn 16:13) into all truth (Jn 16:13). He illuminates one’s mind (1 Co 2:12, 13; Eph 1:16, 17), revealing the things of God to him (Is 40:13, 14; 1 Co 2:10, 13).

Acts 16:16-21 describes a slave girl who was demon possessed (vv. 16–17). She made money for her masters by telling others their fortune (v. 16). The demon proclaimed a message, pretending to be in agreement with Paul (v. 17). The girl was delivered from her demon (vv. 18–23). Paul commanded the demon to leave and she was set free (v. 18). Paul and Silas were then arrested, beaten and imprisoned (vv. 19–23).⁴

Many sites attempt to undermine Christianity (2 Pe 2:1). No cult or ‘ism; however, will ever get by Jn 1:1-3 which states:

¹ Referred to as a red-letter Christian.

² Isn’t the Bible Full of Contradictions? Answering Skeptics Questions. McDowell, Josh. 8 Dec 17: https://www.josh.org/resources/apologetics/answering-skeptics-detail/?id=864&mot=J79GNF&gclid=CjwKCAiAjanRBRByEiwAKGyjZSbsk1owJLPLVlC-TRnUm7ghj5nFUw3agr9OCWK-1SMcjXFPfnqhoCufIQAvD_BwE Answering Skeptics Questions

³ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson’s quick reference topical Bible index (p. 606). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

⁴ Willmington, H. L. (1999). The Outline Bible (Ac 16:15–23). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. Jn 1:1–3

Adrian Rogers said about the bible, “The cults try to twist it. The liberals water it down. The humanists ignore it. So-called Christians claim they love it but don't study it.”

On example of a so-called contradiction from the *Jesus' Words Only* site is the following:

Jesus Says Not To Eat Meat Sacrificed to Idols, But Paul Says It Is Ok. Three times Jesus in the Book of Revelation condemns eating meat sacrificed to idols, even saying this is the doctrine of a false prophet. (Rev. 2:6)...⁵

Regarding this passage⁶ J. Vernon McGee wrote:

Nicolaitans is a compound word. Nikao means “to conquer,” and laos means “the people.” We get our word laity from that. It is difficult to identify who the Nicolaitans were. Some scholars think that they were a priestly order which was beginning to take shape and attempt to rule over the people. Another theory is that there is no way to identify this group in any of the early or late churches. The third explanation is that there was a man by the name of Nicolaus of Antioch, who apostatized from the truth and formed an Antinomian Gnostic cult which taught (among other doctrines) that one must indulge in sin in order to understand it. They gave themselves over to sensuality with the explanation that such sins did not touch the spirit. That “Nicolaitans” refers to this cult is probably the best explanation. The church in Ephesus hated it.⁷

The rules for eating meat or not eating meat changed as men lived under different dispensations. The bible student must learn to rightly divide these truths (2 Ti 2:15).

For example:

Pre-flood Command (Vegetarian diet): "Of every tree... you may freely eat; but... of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat..." Gen. 1:29	Post-flood (Now meat permitted): "Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you... But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is its blood." Gen. 9:3-4
Pre-flood (Death penalty forbidden): "Whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." Gen. 4:15	Post-flood (Death penalty commanded): "Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed..." Gen. 9:6 ⁸

⁵ Paul's Contradictions of Jesus. *Jesus' Words Only*. 8 Dec 17: <https://www.jesuswordsonly.com/books/175-pauls-contradictions-of->

⁶ But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate [Rev. 2:6].

⁷ McGee, J. V. (1991). *Thru the Bible Commentary: The Prophecy (Revelation 1-5)* (electronic ed., Vol. 58, p. 71). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

⁸ Enyart, Bob. What Does the Bible Say About Polygamy? 8 Dec 17: <http://kgov.com/what-does-bible-say-about-polygamy>

God changed the plot and he's about to do it again.