



## — “Worship ‘The Word?’” —

Someone unknown to me wrote, "One of greatest diversions on one's walk to Christian maturity is the worship of the Bible than that of the living Christ." The scriptures characterize Jesus as THE WORD made flesh. Those same scriptures in their original form are THE WORD in writing. But there's a caveat—Inevitably, something will be lost in any translation. One might rationally conclude, then, that worshiping either of the multiple TRANSLATIONS of THE WORD would not be a good thing. That same rationale should alert us to the importance of researching linguistic, historical, archaeological and geographical records in any diligent (as opposed to passive) search for Original Truth. See Hebrews 11:6, regarding the word, "diligent."

Who has time for that? I didn't perceive time for it during the pursuit of my secular career. Since then, though, I can fathom no excuse! Yes, I know...many are neither inclined nor equipped for such a **DILIGENT** pursuit. I think God knows that, too, and maybe that's why Paul gave us that critical heads-up at Hebrews 10:25.

Many in secular careers learn to associate with others who have gotten a lot better at what they do than they currently are. They typically learn that those others likely got really good at it by doing that, too! And isn't that true in sports, the performing arts and everything that's intellectually challenging?

I find it rewarding to seek out other non-career-professional scholars who're more advanced than I in their studying. But I learn *immeasurable* volumes from less-knowledgeable folk with whom I regularly associate. I learn most from those who are bold enough to challenge either of my conclusions when it just doesn't make sense to them...confident that I would never regard them as "a doubting Thomas." A smart guy once wrote, "Iron sharpens iron."

Worship someone? Then you want to know everything! TC

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