

Beware of the false pen!

By Willie Alvarenga

Jeremiah the prophet once penned the following words, *"How do ye say, we are wise, and the law of Jehovah is with us? But, behold, the false pen of the scribes hath wrought falsely"* (Jeremiah 8:8, ASV 1901). Notice the phrase, "the false pen of the scribes." These words were written about 600 years before the coming of the Lord to this earth. About 2,600 years have transpired since the writing of these words, and nothing has changed. Today, as it was the case in the Old Testament, many pens or keyboards are being used to write things that go contrary to what the Word of the Lord teaches. We have many false teachers writing and teaching people that baptism is not essential to salvation, when the Bible teaches that it is (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21); others are saying that one church is as good as another; when God says that salvation is only found in the church of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:47; Ephesians 5:23); others are saying that the church does not need elders, but God says it does (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5); others are saying that you may worship God any way you want to; but God says you must worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24). Some people are using the pen to pervert God's Word instead of teaching what the Lord commands. We, as God's children, must use the pen to write only that which is in harmony with the Holy Scriptures. The Bible says that there will be serious consequences when we pervert the Word of God. Notice what the apostle Peter wrote, *"As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; wherein are some things hard to be understood, which the ignorant and unsteadfast wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, knowing these things beforehand, beware lest, being carried away with the error of the wicked, ye fall from your own steadfastness"* (2 Peter 3:16-17). We must be very careful of those things we read through articles, books, etc. We must prove all things and hold fast only to that which is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21). We must, as John the apostle instructed, "... believe not every spirit, but prove the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1). The false pen of the false teachers is doing much harm to the cause of Christ. Let us not be guilty of this!

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