



Scripture Twisting: 20 Ways the Cults Misread the Bible

By James W. Sire

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How often have you encountered some bizarre doctrine only to be stunned to hear a Bible verse quoted to support it? With new religious cults springing up almost daily and old ones growing rapidly, this is more and more common. How are they seemingly able to twist Scripture to mean something orthodox Christians have never believed it to mean in two thousand years? James Sire, author of *The Universe Next Door* and *How to Read Slowly*, has isolated twenty separate kinds of reading errors which are characteristically made by cultists as they interpret the Bible. He covers the full range from simple misquotation to complex argumentation which links one slightly eccentric interpretation to another, mixes in a few orthodox readings and ends with a conclusion totally foreign to the biblical world view. Sire also handles twisted translation, overspecification, virtue by association, ignoring the context and other flawed interpretations. A book to help us all become better readers of the Scriptures.

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Editorial Review

Review

"In this relatively short book, Sire handily addresses the most common issues encountered when interpreting the Bible. While he specifically refers to examples relevant to cults and new religions, the application of Sire's insights extend far beyond those areas. *Scripture Twisting* remains a great book nearly 30 years after publication. If you're looking for an introduction to hermeneutics that doesn't read like a textbook, I highly recommend Sire's fine book." (Robert Velarde, robertvelarde.blogspot.com, December 12, 2008)

About the Author

James W. Sire (PhD, University of Missouri), formerly a senior editor at InterVarsity Press, is an active speaker and writer. He has taught English, philosophy, theology, and short courses at many universities and seminaries. He continues to be a frequent guest lecturer in the United States and Europe. His InterVarsity Press books and Bible studies include *The Universe Next Door* (a worldviews textbook), *Scripture Twisting*, *Discipleship of the Mind*, *Chris Chrisman Goes to College*, *Why Should Anyone Believe Anything at All?*, *Habits of the Mind*, *Naming the Elephant*, *Learning to Pray Through the Psalms*, *Why Good Arguments Often Fail* and *A Little Primer on Humble Apologetics*.

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