"Diminish not a word." Jer. 26:2.

"Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you. Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, NEITHER SHALL YE DIMINISH OUGHT from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you." Deut. 4:2, and, 12:28-32. NOTE: We do not have the option of editing the Word of God, so as thereby to please these dumb, Hell-bound brute beasts with mushy lies.

The above citation is a General Rule, applicable at all times in all circumstances. Like Prov. 30:6, and Rev. 22:18,19. In addition, God's Elect continuously face specific instances of unique circumstances requiring discernment and diligent application of God's written Word – rightly portioned out. 2 Tim. 2:15. E.g., God Hates Fags, Thank God for IEDs. Here's an example of the Specific Rule:

"Thus saith the Lord; Stand in the court of the Lord's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the Lord's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; DIMINISH NOT A WORD." Jer. 26:2.

Accordingly, Jeremiah cut loose with some fierce preaching, telling those people that their sins had brought them to imminent destruction, that their only hope was to immediately hearken to the words of God's prophet, and that otherwise, God Almighty "will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth." Jer. 26:6. The results of Jeremiah faithfully speaking God's Words — ala "DIMINISH NOT A WORD"—were startling. And, Beloved, we may expect the same; which is powerful objective evidence that we are preaching Truth; to wit:

"Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the Lord had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, Thou shalt surely die. And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the Lord." Jer. 26:8,9.

A documentary in England, has a line about our firm commitment to this True Golden Rule – (i.e., "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it." Dt. 4:2); to-wit: "This book still stands. And all manners of woes are promised to those who would mess with it."

"Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." Prov. 30:6.

Here is a most remarkable thing: These are not the words of Solomon – but, they are, "The words of Agur the son of Jakeh." Prov. 30:1. Indeed, the last two chapters of the Book of Proverbs are an appendix to the Proverbs of Solomon. Nothing certain is known of the writers, except that they were among the "holy men of God who spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Pet. 1:21.

Who was Agur? This holy man of God?

Charles Bridges: "Agur was doubtless one of the wise men found in many ages of the Old TestamentChurch. His words were a prophecy; — that is — divine instruction given unto Ithiel and Ucal, probably two of his scholars, whose names are equally unknown to us. Perhaps they came to him for instruction, and he was led to express himself in the most humbling sense of his own ignorance. 'You come to me for instruction. But surely I am more brutish than any man; not having the advantages of learning wisdom (Amos 7:14,15), or the knowledge of the holy God (Dan. 4:18), and of the holy revelation of his name."

Before beginning his prophecy (Prov. 30), Agur tenders his qualifications; to wit:

"Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man. I neither learned wisdom (no seminary graduate), nor have the (innate) knowledge of the holy (God)." Prov. 30:2,3.

John Gill: "(As to who this amazing man Agur was); but it seems better, with Aben Ezra, to understand this of some very good, knowing, and worthy man, who lived in those times, either before the times of Solomon, or in the same, whose pithy sayings and sentences he had a great regard for, and joined them to his own...(Agur's) prophecy designs something received from the Lord, taken up and carried to others..so preaching in the New Testament is called prophesying often, 1 Cor. 14:1,3,4. This is a part of the Word of God." NOTE: This humble, self-deprecating man is here speaking from the mouth of God.

When the holy Agur prefaced his message from God, by introducing himself as the most brutish man alive, without the understanding of a man, and without either wisdom or knowledge of, or from, God – Bridges says this about that:

"He (Agur) was now speaking from the mouth of God. He spake the truth as it really is, as consciousness could not but speak; as self-knowledge under divine teaching dictated. For let a man take 'the candle of the Lord;' given him to 'search all the inward parts of the belly' (Prov. 20:27); and what a mass of vanity will he find there! He can but cry out in shame — Surely I am more brutish than any man! Whoever knows his own heart, knows that of himself, that he can hardly conceive of any one else being so degraded as himself."

Such a man was Job: "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." Job. 42:5,6.

Such a man was Isaiah: "Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." Isa. 6:5.

Only such holy men are competent and trustworthy to declare truth as to God's Words; to wit:

"Every word of God is pure; he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." Prov. 30:5,6.

<u>John Owen</u>: "Every word of God is pure. To reject therefore one particle of Scripture is to reject it all. Even 'one jot or tittle' (i.e., the tiniest part of a single letter). Upon whatsoever this inscription is found – 'The Word of Jehovah' – there must we stoop, and bow down our souls before it, and captivate our understandings unto the obedience of faith.

Yes! If the word of God be pure, it must be a sure ground of trust – a shield of special favor over His trembling child: "(B) ut to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word." Isa. 66:2. "Thou art my shield." Psa. 119:114. In all circumstances from within and from without – when I quake under the terrors of the law, in the hour of death, in the Day of Judgment. Nothing so honors God, like this turning to Him in every time of need. Every word is pure – therefore trustworthy. Thou art my shield. Amen.

Adding to those pure words of God – by tradition, wresting, perverting, placing a false gloss over their plain meaning – destroys that bond of trust.

"Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men...Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered; and many such like things do ye." Mk. 7:7,13.

Generally speaking: Catholics add to and take from God's Word (the Bible) mostly by plainly admitting that their goofy Traditions are equal to the Bible. Whereas, Protestants add to and take from the Bible by wresting, perverting and placing false glosses upon plain Words, malinterpreting them into heresies.

<u>CATHOLICS</u>: "Obviously therefore, while the inspiration of Scripture may be admitted, Tradition claims our equal reverence to its authority." (See, *An Exposition of Proverbs*, footnote, page 595). By their lying Traditions, Catholics added these damnable false doctrines: Baptismal Regeneration and Infant Baptism in the 3rd Century; Popery and Mariolotry in the 5th Century; Purgatory in the 7th Century; Saint and Image Worship in the 8th Century; Transubstantiation (the bread and wine becomes the actual, literal flesh and blood of Jesus Christ) in the 11th Century; Celibacy of Priests in the 12th Century; Bible Forbidden to Laymen in the 13th Century; Immaculate Conception (Mary was conceived and born without sin) in the 18th Century; Etc.

PROTESTANTS: While hypocritically blasting Catholics openly admitting they are deliberately adding selected oral Traditions to the Bible, Protestants do—if anything—worse, by wresting countless Bible verses into more lies than Catholic Traditions: "(W) hich they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." 2 Pet. 3:16. EXAMPLE: They malinterpret John 3:16 to mean that God loves every individual of mankind, thereby teaching the heresy of Universal Redemption—that God will save every individual of mankind, willy nilly. Whereas they know—or ought to know—that the world "world" (as in, For God so loved the world) NEVER means every individual of mankind. E.g., "Love not the world... I pray not for the world." Etc.

"If any man shall add unto these things...And if any man shall take away from the words of the book..." Rev. 22:18,19. He will go to Hell.