

Messenger Of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16).

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Common Bible Misunderstandings 2

Among the misconceptions is the belief that Moses held his staff up and the waters of the Red Sea parted quickly. Despite Hollywood's rendition, it is not Scriptural. Moses never extended a staff to part the waters, but his hand (Exod. 14:21). And the waters did not part quickly. God caused there to be a "strong east wind all that night."

"Moses threw the tablets which contained the Ten Commandments and it struck the calf causing it to burn and melt." Once again, another Hollywood rendition that is not truthful. Moses was indeed upset at the sin of the people, but the text states, "and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain" (Exod. 32:19).

"Delilah was sorry for the fate which fell upon Samson. She got the secret of his strength, but later was sorry that she did it." Once again, Hollywood got it wrong. There is no indication in the sacred text that she felt any remorse for her betrayal and deceit (Judg. 16:23-31).

There is a trend among some folks to say that the Bible frowns upon us putting up an evergreen tree in December. The claim is Scripture speaks against it. They refer to the Book of Jeremiah: "For the customs of the peoples are futile; For one cuts a tree from the forest, The work of the hands of the workman, with the ax. They decorate it with silver and gold; They fasten it with nails and hammers so that it will not topple" (Jer. 10:3-4). Actually, the prophet was referring to idols that were constructed by the hands of men. Obviously Christmas Trees were unknown at that time.

"The Holy Spirit was not only given to the apostles, but the 120 disciples as well (Acts 1:15)." As one opens the second chapter of Acts, in which the Holy Spirit was poured out, we read: "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place." It is vital that we determine who the pronoun they refers to? There is a simple rule to remember, that the pronoun refers to its nearest antecedent. To find out who the pronoun refers to, one must look at the last verse of chapter one. "And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles" (Acts 1:26). The nearest noun in this case is the apostles. It would be a huge stretch to say that the pronoun refers all the way back to verse 15.