

Not Quite Right News From Mark Lee Golden

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God Turns Down Royalties From Bible

All of the facts and math concerning the Bible was quoted accurately!

True to His word, “Tis better to give than receive,” with a wave of His hand, God has turned down one hefty royalty check. The world’s richest author, J. K. Rowling, of the Harry Potter series, snickered when she heard this news, commenting “Just like God isn’t He? Always has to one-up the competition—just like a man.” Rowling’s net worth is a steady one-billion dollars from royalties. The seven Harry Potter books are the best-selling book series in history, translated into 77 languages, and made into eight movies.

Her critical view may be groused-up when you consider the Bible translation into 531 languages, and 2,883 additional languages have at least some portion of the Bible. More are on the way. Also, (though usually not of good quality) several hundred movies based on Bible stories have been produced—again, more are on the way. Each film has some profit, and where does God’s inspired and original authorship come into the pay scale? *Nowhere!*

Disciples of various sorts of Biblical roots recently passed the plate around the world in order to write God a check with an impressive number of zeros. They visited all seven continents and many island nations. Kept under tight security—after much bickering, those who said “It’s His money, He’ll protect it!” lost out to cooler heads. Paramilitary were hired. Certain clergy pointed out how much embarrassment and trouble “God’s people” have caused Him over the centuries. After all, deceit does have a starring role in that book. These representatives chose to cash in all collected monetary currencies into one simple commodity: gold. Religion and gold just happen to go together. You see religion—you see gold.

An unnamed bank on the Grand Cayman Island won out for the divine deposit to its vault, the total amount remains unknown.

In contrast, during the 1990s, Irish rock star, Bono, of the popular band U2, shouted at sold-out concerts “The God I believe in isn’t short on cash, Mister!” He was on a rant, criticizing hyped-up TV evangelists and their ever-roving appetite to aid supposed causes or market some gimmick. Bono’s preachy remark always received a strong supportive response from the audience. Personally, I like his gruff attitude, too.

Consider these facts about the Almighty’s book, and you’ll see why the clergy felt guilty and then compelled to create a royalty collection. There are 66 books written by 40 authors, who wrote a total of 783,137 words, amounting to 3,116,480 individual letters. The King James Bible can be read in 70 hours or so. Uniquely talented, God was also the producer, director, editor, and main character—besides overseeing hundreds of godly, yet fussy, publishers. Try to beat

this fact: According to statistics from Wycliffe International, the Society of Gideons, and the International Bible Society, the number of new Bibles that are sold, given away, or otherwise distributed in the United States is about 168,000 per day. Over 100 million Bibles are sold or given away every year in the world, according to The Economist. Rowling has only sold 400 million books. But, the Bible is the most widely distributed and best-selling book in the world—and *God doesn't make a cent off of it!*

J. K. Rowling's angst can be better understood. There are 93 women who speak in the Bible, 49 of whom are named. These women speak a total of 14,056 words collectively—roughly 1.1 percent of the Bible. Jesus' mother, Mary, utters just 191 words. Mary Magdalene says 61 words, while Sarah, the wife of Abraham, says 141. God speaks or is referred to 10,875 times. J. K. Rowling's name only appears on her seven books—spine and title page—fourteen in all. Her response, "Just like a man?" But, remember The Bible has been around for over 2,000 years, while her books—less than two decades. Witchcraft can't undo those numbers.

Presidential contender Donald Trump weighed in on the "flubbed Divine payoff," calling it "An outlandish appeasement on a universal scale!" emphasizing that he "wouldn't give God a single U.S. penny, due to untold centuries of global mismanagement since day one." Pointing upward he glanced at the sky and spoke with mock sincerity. "Take one look at the Moon. Can anyone tell me on whose watch all of those meteors smashed into that rock? Once a terrific stellar property—now zero real estate value. Once classy—now bankrupted. *Zip, zip, zippo!* The Almighty would be deposed on His first episode of *The Apprentice*, and you can take that to the bank—because I said so!" Responding to a news reporter he clarified, "No. I did not label the Supreme Being a 'lightweight.' Just outta fashion."

The Bible, the "Book of Books" is the most widely read book in the world. The Bible Society concluded that between 1815 and 1975, around 2.5 billion copies were printed—unclaimed mega royalties indeed. Such a quantity an author can only dream about.

After the Grand Cayman deposit, a communication delivered by a top angel stunned the religious reps turned humbled couriers. Apparently, the royalty gesture "impressed God, was appreciated, and touched His heart," and that "the Almighty is having second thoughts about Noah's flood by which He drowned the entire human race (minus 8), that maybe they could've turned out not so bad after all." The angel emphasized that "He's made a note concerning the royalty offer and noted the date."

The angel left a stern, divine warning: "If anyone gives into the temptation to go visit the Caymans to check on the account balance, they'll get smacked on the head with a 35-pound, hard-cover, family-sized, giant print, gilded-edged Bible—and then meet the Author."