Jesus Without A Stenographer

Polonius: What do you read, my lord?

Hamlet: Words, words, words.

From Shakespeare's Hamlet, Prince of Denmark.

A speculation as to how it could be that Jesus would not want to engage a stenographer. Mohammed and Joseph Smith both had stenographers to insure that their actual, spoken words would be recited correctly, namely by turning them into recorded words. Jesus did not. Why not? Here is a proposed answer.

For Jesus what was needed in this world was a spirit, a new spirit, a spirit that Immanuel Kant observed and recognized in Jesus as revolutionary, one destined to transform human thinking and put it on a new track.* And it was the conveyance of this new spirit that was the great task and difficulty for Jesus, namely to get his disciples to understand the meaning of love, of universal love, of all-giving love and then through them to get others also both to understand and to want to change. Due to the embedded pride of the disciples (constantly arguing about who would be the greatest among them [Luke 22:24-27]), Jesus could not get them to grasp what was meant by love as opposed to sheer obedience and external compliance with rules. And because of this sinful nature of the disciples (along with that of the Jews and indeed of all people**), Jesus needed to act in order "to effect a public revolution (in the religion), even at the likely cost of his life, by toppling the ritual belief (threatening every moral disposition) and the esteem of the priest of that belief"*** **** in order for the disciples, and all people through them, finally to understand the meaning of love and the spirit of love, and to enable them (via the Resurrection) to anticipate and ask for such a loving spirit themselves. What was called for was this new spirit, a Holy Spirit, something which possesses one's soul and conveys a different moral makeup, a sincere desire to wish and do good to all others, even to one's enemies.****

* See Kant's <u>Religion</u>, Part III, Pars. 5 & 6, on or near page 109.

**According to Kant (<u>Religion</u>, Part III, Par. 2 on or near page 77) there is a natural tendency among *all* human to compete and seek a higher rank than others, and a natural need for cooperation in thwarting this evil.

*** See Kant's <u>Religion</u>, on or near page 70, Par. 1.4 of the last annotation to Part II, Par. 2.14.

**** It is not insignificant that his gruesome death enabled him to die in the place of a murderer, Barabbas, and while comforting a thief).

***** See <u>The Golden Rule - A Proxy For Scripture</u> and also <u>An epidemic of moral</u> injury.

The recorded words of Jesus are very important as signals of his character and intention, but it is his spirit that must fill those words and give them life. For example it is the recorded words of

Paul in scripture which has kept many Christians from accepting the marriage of homosexuals, while the spirit of Jesus* accepts the homosexuals and their mutual love.**

* This spirit now, along with a more updated science, would also bring Paul along today. For just as he would no longer believe the sky was a metallic dome with lights (the science of his day), he would also not believe that homosexuals were any more rebellious or unnatural or sick than left-handers. (See <u>Paul and Homosexuals</u>.)

** See God's Left-hand Joke.

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