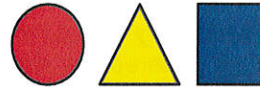


God's Word Preserved – the beloved English Bible

REVIEW



- Things that are **different** are **NOT** the **same**.
- God promised to **preserve** His **WORDS** – and God **cannot** lie. Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:17-18
- The Bible issue really comes down to a tale of two cities – **Antioch** vs. Alexandria, Egypt.
- The Bible testifies it is preserved as a **copy** – if God was not able to preserve His **actual words in English**, our faith would have to stand in the wisdom of men!

WEEK 8. The Men Behind the Authorized Version (KJV)

1 Samuel 2:30 – Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed [that] thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, **Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.**

“To that purpose there were many chosen, that were greater in other men's eyes than in their own, and that sought the truth rather than their own praise.”

- Miles Smith, *The Translators to the Reader*

1. The need for an AUTHORIZED Version

- The Jews (as God's chosen people to preach the gospel to the world) do ____ believe in Christ as the Messiah.
- **Hebrew** is **not** a universal language
- **Greek** is **no longer** a universal language (it has been replaced by English).
- The texts of scripture are still in Hebrew and Greek some 1500 years after the birth of Christ and are not yet organized into any one book that the common man can obtain.
- Attempts are made to translate the Bible into **English** (some good and some bad)
- Dr. John Reynolds recognizes the need for a correct, authorized version. A version authorized by a king!

“May your majesty be pleased...to direct that the Bible be now translated, such versions as are extant not answering to the original.”

- Reynolds knew (as did the other translators) that the Bibles to date were either corrupt (Egyptian line), not properly translated according to the thousands of manuscripts that were in existence, or were clouded by controversy.

2. The need for the RIGHT men

- God calls 54 men for the task though there are primarily ____ men who completed the task.
- These men are **ALL** nationally, and in most cases internationally, recognized scholars.

NOTE A lot of insight into the “attitude” of these men can be gained simply by reading their introduction to the KJV – *from The Translators to the Reader*

- The need to diligently **read** and **study** scripture:

But now what piety without truth? what truth (what saving truth) without the word of God? What word of God (whereof we may be sure) without the Scripture? The Scriptures we are commanded to search. John 5:39. Isa 8:20. They are commended that searched and studied them. Acts 8:28-29, 17:11. They are reproved that were unskillful in them, or slow to believe them. Matt 22:29. Luke 24:25. They can make us wise unto salvation. 2 Tim 3:15. If we be ignorant, they will instruct us; if out of the way, they will bring us home; if out of order, they will reform us; if in heaviness, comfort us; if dull, quicken us; if cold, inflame us. Tolle, lege; Tolle, lege; Take up and read, take up and read the Scriptures

- The scriptures were inspired by God (the Holy Spirit):

And what marvel? The original thereof being from heaven, not from earth; the author being God, not man; the inditer, the Holy Spirit, not the wit of the Apostles or Prophets; the Penmen such as were sanctified from the womb

- The absolute importance of an _____ translation of the scriptures:

But how shall men meditate in that, which they cannot understand? How shall they understand that which is kept close in an unknown tongue?
 Translation it is that openeth the window, to let in the light; that breaketh the shell, that we may eat the kernel; that putteth aside the curtain, that we may look into the most Holy place; that removeth the cover of the well, that we may come by the water, even as Jacob rolled away the stone from the mouth of the well, by which means the flocks of Laban were watered. Indeed without translation into the vulgar tongue, the unlearned are but like children at Jacob's well (which is deep) without a bucket or something to draw with;

- A look at some of the translators

John Reynolds

- Began college at age 13.
- At 23, he obtained a position as a Greek lecturer.
- Solid reputation as a Greek and Hebrew scholar.
- Later became President of his University.
- Known for his incredible memory: **he memorized entire manuscripts** and books and could easily find the page, column and paragraph of a particular text.
- Reynolds made the official request to King James that an accurate translation of the scriptures be made.

Lancelot Andrews

- Dean of Westminster and Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth.
- Nickname: "**Star of preachers**".
- **Fluent in 15 languages**. He would often take a one month vacation to study a new language under a master.
- His daily, written devotions were done in Greek.
- Such was his skill in languages that it is said "that had he been present at the confusion of the tongues at Babel, he might have served as interpreter-general

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John Bois

- At age **5** he could read Hebrew. At age **6** he could write Hebrew.
- Attended St. John's College where he gained a mastery of another language – Greek.
- Later became a Greek lecturer at the college.
- One of the most impressive personal libraries of Greek literature.
- Spent up to 16 hours per day in study.
- Member of 12 person committee who made the **final review** of the translation.

Richard Kilby (Killbye)

- So accurate in Hebrew he was appointed the King's Professor.
- Also skilled in Greek.
- An interesting story:

Dr. Kilby, an excellent Hebrew scholar and Professor of this language in the university, also expert in Greek and chosen as one of the translators, went on a visit with Sanderson and at Church on Sunday they heard a young preacher waste a great amount of the time allotted for his sermon in criticizing several words in the then recent translation. He carefully showed how one particular word should have been translated in a different way. Later that evening the preacher and the learned strangers were invited together to a meal and Dr. Kilby took the opportunity to tell the preacher that he could have used his time more profitably. The Doctor then explained that the translators had very carefully considered the "three reasons" given by the preacher, **but they had found another thirteen more weighty reasons for giving the rendering complained of by the young critic!**

("Which Bible" – David Otis Fuller)

KEY POINT: There has never been such an assembly of men to work on a translation of the Scriptures like this one since the Authorized Version.

THINK ABOUT IT: God does things right the **FIRST** time. Instead of worrying about the translation of the Greek and Hebrew, we ought to spend our time focused on studying and getting the **English** right!!

TIME TO THINK

Things that are *different* are **NOT** the *same*.

Mark 16:9-20

NKJV	<p>Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons.</p> <p>Footnote: * Verses 9-20 are bracketed in NU-Text as not original. They are lacking in Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus, although nearly all other manuscripts of Mark contain them.</p>
RSV	<p>Now when he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons.</p>
NASB	<p>[Now after He had risen early on the first day of the week, He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons.</p>
NIV	<p>When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.</p>
KJV	<p>Now when [Jesus] was risen early the first [day] of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.</p>

Why aren't churches preaching about the "blood" anymore?!

The word "blood"...

- ...occurs **447** times in **375** verses in the Authorized Version (KJV).
- ...occurs **406** times in **352** verses in the NIV – taken away **41** times!!
- ...occurs **408** times in **342** verses in the NASB – taken away **39** times!!
- ...occurs **422** times in **354** verses in the RSV – taken away **25** times!!
- ...occurs **424** times in **357** verses in the NKJV – taken away **23** times!!

Rev 22:19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

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List of Bible verses not included in modern translations

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Other English translations

[\[edit\]](#)

O = omitted in main text

B = bracketed in the main text – The translation team and most biblical scholars today believe were not part of the original text. However, these texts have been retained in brackets in the Holman CSB^[21]

F = omission noted in the footnote

Passage	Bible translation									
	NIV	NASB	NKJV	RSV	NRSV	ESV	NCV	TLB	REB	HCSB
Matthew 9:34									F	
Matthew 12:47				O	F	F				F
Matthew 17:21	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	F	F	B
Matthew 18:11	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	F	F	B
Matthew 21:44	F			O	F		F		F	B
Matthew 23:14	O	B	F	O	O	F	O		F	B
Mark 7:16	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	O	F	B
Mark 9:44	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	O	F	B
Mark 9:46	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	O	F	B
Mark 11:26	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	O	F	B
Mark 15:28	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	F	F	B
Mark 16:9–20	F	B	F	F	F	B	F	F		B
Luke 17:36	O	B	F	O	O	F			F	B
Luke 22:20									F	F
Luke 22:43	F	B	F	O	F					B
Luke 22:44	F	B	F	O	F					B
Luke 23:17	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	O	F	B
Luke 24:12				O					F	
Luke 24:40				F	F	F			F	
John 5:4	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	F	F	B
John 7:53–8:11	F	B	F	O	F	B	F	F		B
Acts 8:37	O	B	F	O	F	F	O	F	F	B
Acts 15:34	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	O	F	O
Acts 24:7	O	B	F	O	O	F	O		F	B
Acts 28:29	O	B	F	O	O	F	O	O	F	B
Romans 16:24	O	B	F	O	O	F	O		F	B

This was taken from Sam Gipp's, "The Answer Book" on question #14:

QUESTION: Did the translators of the Authorized Version claim to be inspired by God?

ANSWER: No. But Biblically that does not mean that they could not have been inspired.

EXPLANATION:

The men on the translation committee of the King James Bible were, without dispute, the most learned men of their day and vastly qualified for the job which they undertook. They were overall both academically qualified by their cumulative knowledge and spiritually qualified by their exemplary lives.

Among their company were men who, academically, took a month's vacation and used the time to learn and master an entirely

foreign language; wrote a Persian dictionary; invented a specialized mathematical ruler, one was an architect; mastered oriental

languages; publicly debated in Greek; tutored Queen Elizabeth in Greek and mathematics; and of one it was said, "Hebrew he had at his fingers end". Yet **head** knowledge can be a curse if not tempered by a fervent, pious heart.

In this, the spiritual realm, they were light years ahead of many today who flaunt their education yet fail in any attempt at a practical, personal witness.

This company was blessed with men known for their zeal and tact in debating and converting Romanists to Christ. They spent hours in private and family devotions. Many did the work of evangelism and even that of missionary representatives of later Queen Elizabeth. One, lived to the age of one hundred and three years. In the closing years of his life, after preaching for two full hours he said to his congregation, "I will no longer trespass on your patience" to which the entire congregation cried out with one consent, "For God's sake go on". He then continued his exposition of the Word of God at length.

Yet humanity was a universal trait shared among them as is so amply revealed in the Epistle Dedicatory: "So that if, on the one side, we shall be traduced by Popish Persons at home or abroad, who therefore will malign us, because we are poor instruments to make God's holy Truth to be yet more and more known unto the people, whom they desire still to keep in ignorance and darkness; or if, on the other side, we shall be malign'd by self conceited Brethren, who run their own ways, and give liking unto nothing, but what is framed by themselves, and hammered on their anvils;" Yet, in spite of their outstanding character, they never claimed divine inspiration. (A claim which, if they **had** made, would over joy their detractors as evidence of a prideful spirit.) They never even claimed perfection for their finished work.

Does this mean that, because they did not **claim** God's hand in translating the Scripture that He could not be or was not in control of their commission? For the answer we must look to the Bible, our final authority in all matters of **faith** and **practice**. When John the Baptist was accosted by the Levites in John chapter one and asked if he was Elijah (John 1:21) he answered that he was **not** Elijah. Yet in Matthew chapters 11:7-14 and 17:10-13 Jesus Christ plainly stated that John was Elijah. Did John the Baptist lie? No. Did Jesus Christ lie? Of course not. The answer is very simply that John was **was** Elijah **but he didn't know it!** Thus we see from our **Bible example** that a man can have God working through him and not know it. Likewise, God could easily have divinely directed the King James translators without their active knowledge.

This was taken from Sam Gipp's, "The Answer Book" on question #15:

QUESTION: Aren't today's scholars better equipped to translate the Bible than the King James translators were?

ANSWER: No.

EXPLANATION:

The answer to the question is "No" for two reasons:

First is that, the scholarship of the men who translated the King James Bible is literally unsurpassable by today's scholars. Two books available best illustrate this and should be read by anyone who wants to seriously study the subject. They are Translators Revised, by Alexander McClure, Maranatha Publications, and The Men Behind the King James Version, by Gustavus Paine, Baker Book House.

The men of the King James translation committee were scholars of unparalleled ability. A brief description of their several abilities is found under a previous section.

Secondly, it would be foolish and contradictory to believe that today's scholars **ever could** equal or surpass those of the Authorized Version.

Most Christians agree that the world, with time, degenerates. Morals have degenerated since 1611. Character has degenerated since 1611. Even our atmosphere has degenerated. Are we then to believe that education has gotten better? Only a worshiper of education could pretend to believe such a fairy tale. Education has degenerated along with the entire world system and could never produce a scholar equal to those of nearly four hundred years ago.