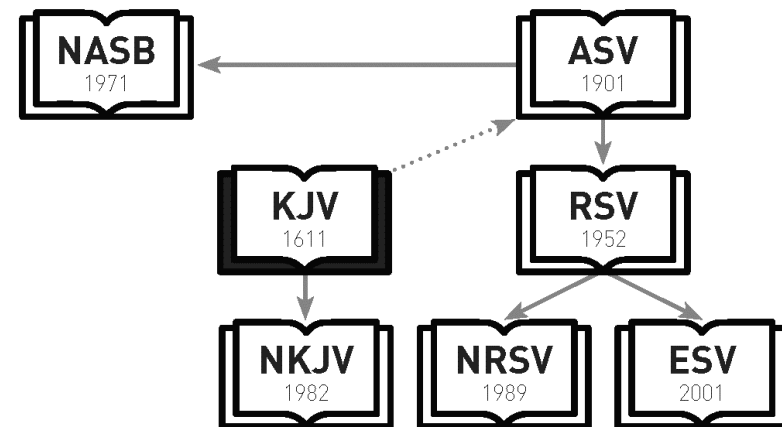


COMPARISON OF ENGLISH BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

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FORMAL EQUIVALENCE WORD FOR WORD

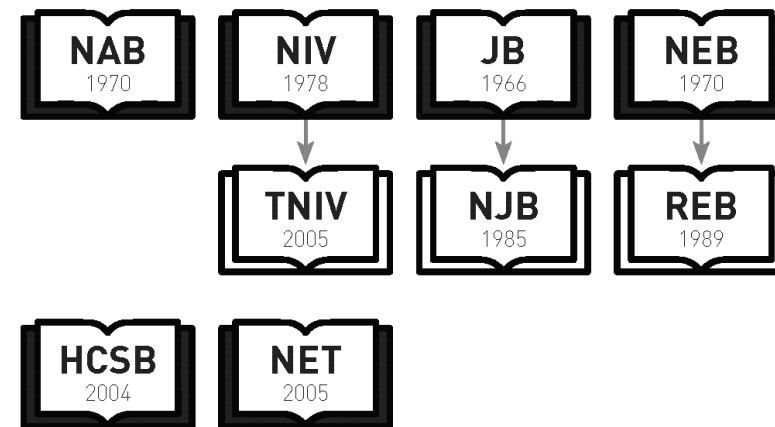
- **theory:** 'literal' or *word-for-word*
- **aim:** to retain the *form*, i.e. the words and structure, of the original text as much as possible
- **result:** an English translation that is primarily accurate, yet also comprehensible



- ASV = American Standard Version
- ESV = English Standard Version
- KJV = King James Version
- NASB = New American Standard Bible
- NKJV = New King James Version
- NRSV = New Revised Standard Version
- RSV = Revised Standard Version

INTERMEDIATE

- **theory:** mediating between 'literal' and 'idiomatic'
- **aim:** to retain the *form* of the original text where possible, without compromising its *function*, i.e. to convey meaning
- **result:** an English translation that is both accurate and clear.

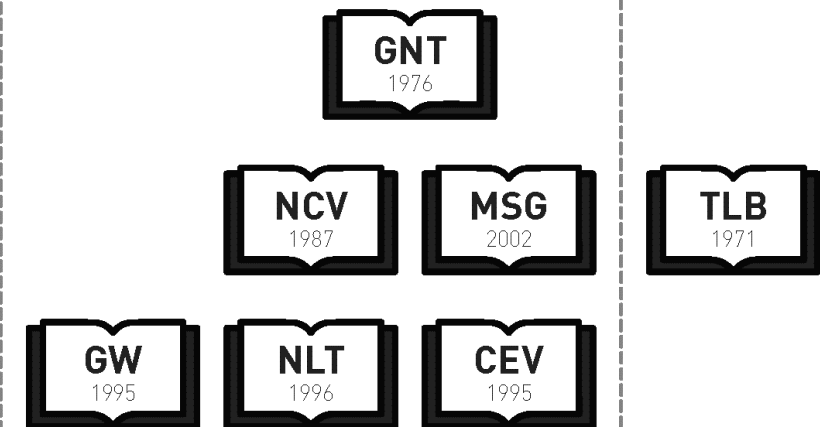


- HCSB = Holman Christian Standard Bible
- JB = Jerusalem Bible (Roman Catholic)
- NAB = New American Bible (Roman Catholic)
- NEB = New English Bible
- NET = New English Translation (online translation)
- NIV = New International Version
- NJB = New Jerusalem Bible (Roman Catholic)
- TNIV = Today's New International Version
- REB = Revised English Bible

FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENCE MEANING FOR MEANING

- **theory:** 'idiomatic' or *meaning-for-meaning*
- **aim:** to retain the *function* of the original text, i.e. to convey meaning, as much as possible
- **result:** to produce an English translation that is primarily natural and easy to understand

Paraphrase = re-wording a text in the *same* language, rather than translating it from one language to *another*.



- CEV = Contemporary English Version
- GNT = Good News Translation (Good News Bible)
- GW = God's Word
- MSG = The Message
- NCV = New Century Version
- NLT = New Living Translation
- TLB = The Living Bible

Things that make the Bible Unique

- Written over 1,500 years
- Written over 40 generations
- Written by 40 human authors
- Written in Three languages
 - Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
- Unprecedented distribution
 - “The Bible has been read by more people and published in more languages than any other book. There have been more copies produced of its entirety and more portions and selections than any other book in history.” ETDV 18
- Accurately Translated
 - “It seems strange that the text of Shakespeare which has been in existence less than two hundred and eight years, should be far more uncertain and corrupt than that of the New Testament, now over eighteen centuries old, during nearly fifteen of which it existed only as a manuscript... With perhaps a dozen or twenty exceptions, the text of **every verse in the New Testament** may be said to be far settled by general consent of scholars, that any dispute as to its readings must relate rather to the interpretation of the words than to any doubt respecting the words themselves. **But in every one of Shakespeare’s thirty-seven plays there are probably a hundred readings still in dispute**, a large portion of which materially affects the meaning of the passages in which they occur.” ETDV 20
- The Bible has survived persecution
 - In 303 AD Diocletian issued an edict to outlaw Christianity and order the destruction of their scripture.

How was the Bible put together?

- OT – Luke 11:49-51, Luke 24:44
- NT – 1 Corinthians 5:9-10, Colossians 4:15-16, 1 Timothy 5:18, 2 Peter 3:14-16

Necessity of the Word

- God had to reveal Himself – Genesis 1:26-31, 2:15-17, Deuteronomy 29:29
- Revelation is in two categories

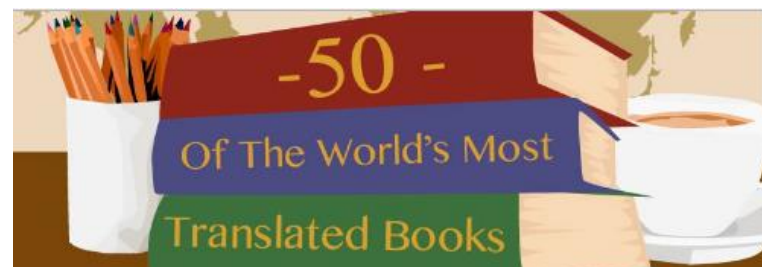
- Natural Revelation – Romans 1:19-23
- Special Revelation – John 1:1-14,

Characteristics about the Bible

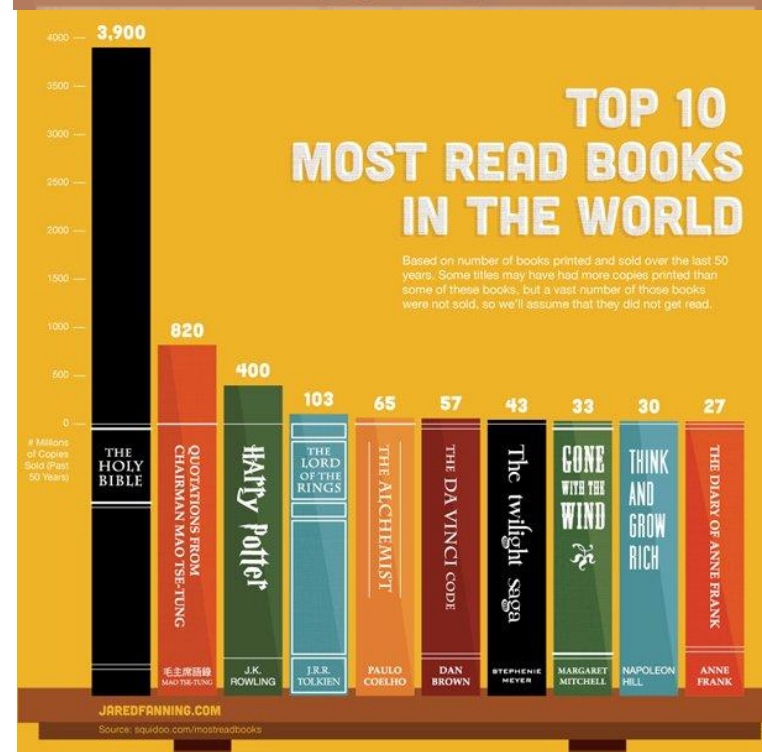
- Inspired – 2 Peter 1:16-21, 2 Timothy 3:14-17
- Dual Authorship – Matthew 15:4 compared to Mark 7:10
- Authoritative – Hebrews 4:12-13
- Inherent and Infallible – Numbers 23:19
- Sufficient – 2 Peter 1:2-4

Let the Word Dwell in us!

- Colossians 3:16-17, Romans 12:1-2, Psalms 1:1-3



The OT and NT have been translated into 670 languages as of 2017. The NT has been translated into 1,521 languages.



Books of the Bible

Old Testament – 39 Books

LAW (5)
Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

POETRY (5)
Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon (Songs)

MINOR PROPHETS (12)
Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

HISTORY (12)
Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings
2 Kings
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

MAJOR PROPHETS (5)
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

New Testament – 27 Books

History Life of Jesus (4)
Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

History The Church (1)
Acts

Paul's Letters to Churches (9)
Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians

Paul's Letters to Individuals (4)
1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

Letters by Others (9)
Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude
Revelation

THE TRANSMISSIONAL RELIABILITY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT COMPARED TO OTHER ANCIENT TEXTS

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