

Bible Translations

I hear the pastor say, "Let us open our Bible this morning. I'll be reading from the New American Standard Bible."

Another pastor says, "I'm reading from the New International Version of the Bible. Please turn to..."

Then, a real hip preacher says, "I'm reading from a Bible we can all understand; the Good News Bible. We want to hear God's word in our language, not the language of some archaic translation of thee's and thou's."

Is anyone sick yet from hearing such sentiments? Does anyone have any idea from where all the modern translations of the Bible have come? Well, if you care, then read on and maybe you'll understand why there is still only one authentic, Protestant Bible for us to read today.

I can see, sitting in the pew, members all opening up their Bible and everyone has a different translation. Take for instance John 3:16. One Bible says, "Because He loved the world so much, God sent..." Another says, "God's love for the world is so great that He sent." Another says, "For God so loved the world that He gave..." You know what that spells--- Confusion, everyone saying something else. This is the Tower of Babel all over again!

The only real safety is to find out the origins of the Bible translations. Bible translations didn't pop up in a corner somewhere. They all came at specific times, from specific sources so that there is really no cause for confusion. After this study, it will be very clear and simple as to which Bible translation should be used by every individual and by every Christian Church. History eliminates all confusion, all second guessing, and if we are willing, can eliminate all confusion in churches over Bible translations!

Two streams of Bible translations have flowed since the early Christian church began. One stream flowed from where the believers were first called Christians. "And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." Acts 11:26 This is Antioch in Syria. The Biblical stream of translation that flowed from here was sound Biblical scholarship.

- "There are actually only two types of Bibles, those based on the majority of the Greek manuscripts, and those based on texts from Egypt and Rome. The early Syrian Church had the Bible translated into Syrian about A.D. 150. This version is known as the Peshitto (meaning "correct," or "simple"). Even today, it generally follows the Received Text. Early Latin translations of the Bible were used in the British Isles, northern Italy, and southern France, long before these primitive Christians came into contact with the Church of Rome. Called the "Italic" or Old Latin version, the Waldenses in particular

resisted the Vulgate as being spurious. Until at least the late thirteenth century, the Waldensian version held out strongly against the Vulgate. The fourth century scholar Helvidius, of northern Italy, accused Jerome of using corrupt Greek manuscripts. Waldensians in the Alps claimed their church began about A.D. 120, and their Italic Bible was said to be translated directly from the Greek no later than A.D. 157.”

www.biblestudy.org/basicart/does-it-matter-which-bible-is-used-for-bible-study.html

- “Anyone who is interested enough to read the vast volume of literature on this subject, will agree that down through the centuries there were only two streams of manuscripts. The first stream which carried the Received Text in Hebrew and Greek, began with the apostolic churches, and reappearing at intervals down the Christian Era among enlightened believers, was protected by the wisdom and scholarship of the pure church in her different phases; by such as the church at Pella in Palestine where Christians fled, when in 70 A. D. the Romans destroyed Jerusalem; by the Syrian Church of Antioch which produced eminent scholarship; by the Italic Church in northern Italy; and also at the same time by the Gallic Church in southern France and by the Celtic Church in Great Britain; by the pre-Waldensian, the Waldensian, and the churches of the Reformation. This first stream appears, with very little change, in the Protestant Bibles of many languages, and in English, in that Bible known as the King James Version, the one which has been in use for three hundred years in the English speaking world. These MSS. have in agreement with them, by far the vast majority of numbers. So vast is this majority that the enemies of the received Text admit that nineteen-twentieths and some ninety-nine one-hundredths of all Greek MSS. are of this class; while one hundred per cent of the Hebrew MSS. are for the Received Text.” OUR AUTHORIZED BIBLE VINDICATED, BENJAMIN G. WILKINSON, PH.D., DEAN OF THEOLOGY, WASHINGTON MISSIONARY COLLEGE TAKOMA PARK, D.C. WASHINGTON D.C, JUNE, 1930

The First Stream of Bible translations came to us from the earliest Greek and Hebrew manuscripts. These are known as the Received Text. These were used by the early Christians in Syria, France, England, and the Waldensians of the Alps. It was from this stream that came the King James Version of the Bible.

- The Second Stream of Bibles came in around the 3rd century of the Christian era. “Around A.D. 200, Clement of Alexandria (a Church Father, c. 150-215) taught that just as God gave the Law to the Jews, so he gave philosophy to the Greeks--as an instrument to lead them to Christ. God’s eternal Word (Logos) was the source of both. Clement believed the truth was to be found in Scripture, but sometimes it was hidden, and could only be discovered through allegorical interpretation...His teaching and theological work was given to the young scholar Origen (185-254), who presided over the Alexandrian school for the next thirty years. Origen’s father was martyred under Severus, and his mother hid the youth’s clothes to keep him from joining the martyrs. Origen’s writings

were some of the most influential in the early church. He developed more fully [Clement's](#) ideas of allegorical interpretation, understanding three levels of interpretation within a text that corresponded to three aspects of the human being. Literal, moral, and spiritual meanings corresponded to the body, soul, and spirit, in ascending order of importance. The literal meaning of the historical events was the least important for the Christian, just as the body was less important than the soul or spirit (two different things, *psyche* and *pneuma*, in Greek). More important were the underlying meanings which could only be perceived allegorically. Even Jesus was less important as a historical figure than as the mystery of Christ present to believers in the church and the sacraments. To get the most accurate translation of the Old Testament, he consulted extensively with Jewish scholars. In the process, he produced the *Hexapla*, an estimated 6,500-page parallel version of the Old Testament with two Hebrew versions and four Greek translations in columns side-by-side, including the Septuagint (SEP-too-a-jint)..."

*An excerpt from [The Bible the Book the Bridges the Millennia](#) by Maxine Clarke Beach Copyright © 1998 Maxine Clarke Beach.

"When we come to Origen, we speak the name of him who did the most of all to create and give direction to the forces of apostasy down through the centuries. It was he who mightily influenced Jerome, the editor of the Latin Bible known as the Vulgate. Eusebius worshiped at the altar of Origen's teachings. He claims to have collected eight hundred of Origen's letters, to have used Origen's six-column Bible, the Hexapla, in his Biblical labors. Assisted by Pamphilus, he restored and preserved Origen's library. Origen's corrupted MSS. of the Scriptures were well arranged and balanced with subtlety. The last one hundred years have seen much of the so-called scholarship of European and English Christianity dominated by the subtle and powerful influence of Origen. Origen had so surrendered himself to the furor of turning all Bible events into allegories that he, himself, says, "The Scriptures are of little use to those who understand them as they are written." Ben Wilkinson, pg.12

- "It is evident that the so-called Christian Emperor gave to the Papacy his endorsement of the Eusebio-Origen Bible. It was from this type of manuscript that Jerome translated the Latin Vulgate which became the authorized Catholic Bible for all time. The Latin Vulgate, the Sinaiticus, the Vaticanus, the Hexapla, Jerome, Eusebius, and Origen, are terms for ideas that are inseparable in the minds of those who know. The type of Bible selected by Constantine has held the dominating influence at all times in the history of the Catholic Church. This Bible was different from the Bible of the Waldenses, and, as a result of this difference, the Waldenses were the object of hatred and cruel persecution, as we shall now show." Wilkinson, pg. 22

Two noteworthy influences in this stream of translation would be the restoration of the Received Text in the translation into Greek of the New Testament by Erasmus of Rotterdam in 1516. His work paved the way for the English Bible of William Tyndale in the 1530's and then

the King James Bible of 1611. The King James Version came from the pure stream of translation that was from the original Greek and Hebrew text.

The two great families of Greek Bibles are well illustrated in the work of that outstanding scholar, Erasmus. Before he gave to the Reformation the New Testament in Greek, he divided all Greek MSS. into two classes: those which agreed with the Received Text and those which agreed with the Vaticanus MS.f55

• THE TWO PARALLEL STREAMS OF BIBLES

- Apostles (Original).
- Received Text (Greek).
- Waldensian Bible (Italic).
- Erasmus (Received Text Restored).
- Luther's Bible, Dutch, French, Spanish,
- Italian, French, Italian, etc.,
- Tyndale, (English) 1535 Rheims (English)
- King James Bible, 1611
- Let the corrupt stream begin!! From Received Text
Apostates (Corrupted Originals). (Clement, Origen,)
- Sinaiticus and Vaticanus Bible (Greek).
- Vulgate (Latin). Church of Rome's Bible. , (Jerome)
- Vaticanus (Greek).
- Westcott and Hort (B and Aleph). English
- All modern translations have their origins in the faulty, filthy work of these men!!
- The King James from the Received Text has been the Bible of the English speaking world for 300 years. It comes from the unpolluted manuscripts. The modern translations come from the corrupted manuscripts of Origen, Clement, and Jerome. So which one will you choose? What will it be? The pure juice from the King James or the intoxicating wine of modern translations? The choice is an easy one!!!

