

Our Bible - The Word of God

Bible Translations & Manuscript Differences

Jeremiah 15:16 “Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.”

Romans 7:22 “For I delight in the law of God after the inward man.”

Job 23:12 “... I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.”

Bible translations as opposed to style or presentation:

Translations:

King James Version New King James (Thomas Nelson) (Zondervan / Harper Collins / Murdock)	KJV NKJV	Literal Translation “
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New American Standard Bible (Lockman Foundation)	NASB	“
New International Version (Zondervan)	NIV	“
English Standard Version (Crossway Bibles)	ESV (Revision of the RSV)	“
Good News Bible (American Bible Society)		“
New Century Version (Word Publishing / Thomas Nelson)	NCV	“
American Standard Version (Catholic, JW)	ASV	“

Amplified Bible

Literal / Thesaurus

J.B. Phillips Bible (good)	Paraphrase (Translating thoughts & concepts)
New Living Translation (Tyndale House)	Paraphrase
The Message (bad)	Paraphrase
Contemporary English Version (American Bible Society)	Children’s paraphrase

Style / Presentation:

1. Plain Bible – Text + references (Center column or in text, Thompson Chain reference).
2. Large print / Red Letter edition.
3. Study Bible – Text + references + commentary. (Only as good as the commentator).

Bible Helps:

1. Introduction / narrative on how the bible was developed or translated.
 2. Table of contents.
 3. Instructions / definitions
 4. Pronunciations.
 5. Summary of each book.
 6. Concordance
 7. Dictionary.
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- From the beginning Satan has attacked the word of God, attacking the work of the Holy Spirit, and attacking the deity of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 3:1 "... yea, hath God said, (Questioning the word of God) ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

- Yes God said that.
- But that is not all that God said, Satan left part out, he deleted part of what God said.

Genesis 2:16-17 ¹⁶And the Lord god commanded the man, saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: ¹⁷But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

- A clever deletion changes the meaning of the word of God – and for this we must be careful.

Manuscripts:

- Old Testament: Massoretic Text – not in question.
 - New Testament: 5,556 NT manuscripts.
1. Alexandrian Text: Codex Sinaiticus, Codex Vaticanus. 256 copies.
 2. Textus Receptus, Majority Text, Syriac. 5,300+ copies.
- Oldest known copy is the Codex Sinaiticus discovered by Tischendorf in St. Catherine's Monastery in 1844, in a trash heap – dated to the 4th century.
 - The KJV translators had access to the Codex Vaticanus and similar copies – and set them aside in favor of the Received Text.
 1. Because the Sinaiticus is the oldest manuscript available, some, many think it is the best simply because of it's age and this is not true.
 2. The copies of the Received Text are newer, copies of copies – because the older copies had been worn out.
 3. The early church fathers quoted extensively from the Received Text and copies of their letters date back to the 2nd century.
 4. If they are quoting from the Received Text in their letters that must mean that the Received Text is older than the Sinaiticus.
 5. None of the early church leaders quote from the Alexandrian texts.

Bible Translators:

- KJV – Godly men who feared God, committed to the inerrancy of scriptures, men of prayer, men of incredible God gifted scholarship.
 - Westcott & Hort: Did not believe in the inerrancy of scripture, believed in Darwinian evolution, Mariology, involved in higher criticism.
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Deity of Christ:

1 Timothy 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

¹⁶Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

Philippians 2:5-6 “⁵Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ⁶Who , being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:”

⁵Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: ⁶Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,”

1 John 5:7-8 “⁷For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. ⁸And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.”

⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

Virgin Birth:

Luke 2:33 “And Joseph and his mother marveled at those things which were spoken of him.”

³³The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

Luke 1:28 “And the angel came in unto her, and said, hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed are thou among women.”

²⁸The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

Redemption:

Matthew 9:13 “But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

¹³But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Luke 9:56 “For the Son of man is not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.”

⁵⁶and they went to another village.

1 John 5:13 “These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Jesus the Son of God:

Ephesians 3:14 “For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

¹⁴For this reason I kneel before the Father,

John 9:35 “Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, dost thou believe on the Son of God?”

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

Jesus’ Teachings:

Matthew 5:44 “But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;”

⁴⁴But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Mark 11:26 “But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.”

NIV deletes this verse entirely.

Luke 4:4 “And Jesus answered him, saying, it is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”

⁴Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone.’”

Mark 16:9-20

A.W. Tozier, *The Crucified Life*, first published in 1957.

“I know all the arguments against the King James Version, but answer me this: if it is as bad as some scholars tell us, why has God blessed it so much? More people have come into the kingdom of God through this blessed translation than any other. It has been translated into more languages than any other version; perhaps more than all the rest put together.

Does it not seem strange that the generation with the most advanced technology and the easiest to read bible translations is the weakest generation of Christians in the history of our country? Church attendance has never been lower, and the Christian influence in our culture never weaker.

For so long we have heard the complaint that people do not read and study the bible because the language is antiquated. Yet the generation who had only the King James Version was the generation that sparked revivals and missionary movements around the world. It just may be that the bible translation was not the problem. It is my observation that the natural man does not understand spiritual principles. The problem has never been the translation. The problem has never been academic. The problem has always been spiritual.”

Psalm 138:2 “I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.”

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.