

KJV's 400th Anniversary



Evening 2:

Controversies & Comparisons

Evening Breakdown:

6:30 – 7:25 Canons and Bible Versions

7:25 – 7:35 Break

7:35 – 8:30 Scripture in Christianity & Islam

ARE YOU COMING TO BED?

I CAN'T. THIS
IS IMPORTANT.

WHAT?

SOMEONE IS WRONG
ON THE INTERNET.



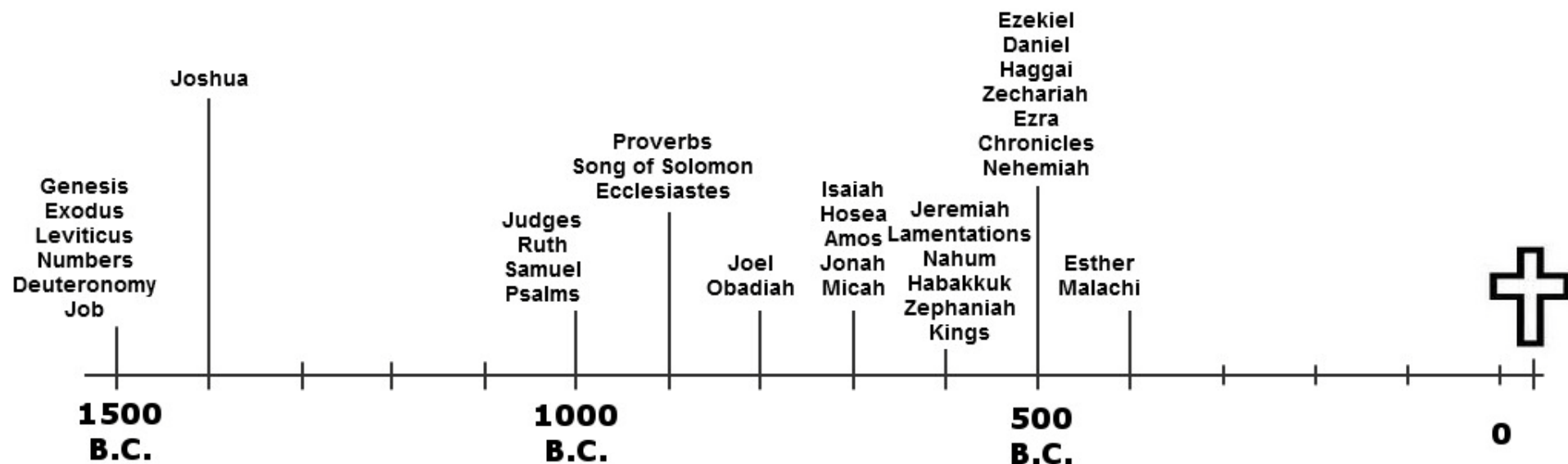
Canon of the Bible

Why the Bible has the Books it does

- **“Canon” means standard or measuring rod**
- **“Canon of scripture” refers to the standard of which books make up the Bible**
- **Many different Jewish and Christian groups agree that “scripture” is “the word of God”, but disagree on what writings are scripture.**

Canon of the Old Testament

Timeline of Old Testament books



Apocryphal Books

- **“Apocrypha” means “hidden”**
- **Protestants do not consider them “the inspired word of God”, but many still see value in them**
- **Catholics use the term “deuterocanon” (meaning “secondary canon”) instead of apocrypha**
- **Most Protestant Bibles, including the KJV, contained the Apocrypha up until the 1800s, but separated out of the rest of the OT**

Apocryphal Books

In early Protestant Bibles

- **1 & 2 Esdras** (called 3 & 4 Esdras in some Catholic Bibles, where 1 & 2 Esdras are other names for Ezra and Nehemiah. Other versions of the story of Ezra)
- **Tobit** (story of a righteous Jew named Tobit, and a woman named Sarah, helped by an angel)
- **Judith** (story of a Jewish widow Judith, who kills the leader of the Assyrians when her fellow Jews fail to trust in God)

**The angel
Raphael leaving
after helping
Tobit. Painted
by Rembrandt**



Apocryphal Books

In early Protestant Bibles

- **Wisdom of Solomon** (similar to Proverbs)
- **Ecclesiasticus (also called Sirach)** (also similar to Proverbs)
- **Baruch** (Prayers and prose of Baruch, Jeremiah's secretary)
- **1 & 2 Maccabees** (accounts the Jewish revolt against Antiochus IV Epiphanes, in 175-134 BC, particularly the family of the priest Mattathias)

Apocryphal Books

In early Protestant Bibles

- **Additions to Esther** (Protestant Bibles end at 10:3, Catholic Bibles end at 16:24)
- **Additions to Daniel:**
 - **Song of the 3 Children** (Protestants end chapter 3 at verse 30, Catholics end at verse 90: prayer of Azariah and the song of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they were thrown in the furnace)

Apocryphal Books

In early Protestant Bibles

- **Additions to Daniel** (continued):
 - **Story of Susanna** (Protestants end Daniel at chapter 12. Chapter 13 in Catholic Bibles is the story of Susanna, who was seen sunbathing by two Elders, who then try to blackmail her into sleeping with them. She refuses, and Daniel sorts the matter out.)

Apocryphal Books

In early Protestant Bibles

- **Additions to Daniel** (continued):
 - **Bel and the Dragon** (Chapter 14 in Catholic Bibles is the story of how Daniel proved the Persian's idol Bel was a false god, and how he killed a dragon that was being worshiped by the Babylonians)
 - **Prayer of Manasseh** (The prayer of king Manasseh (2 Chronicles 33:1-19), after he is taken captive by Assyrians. Considered canonical by Greek Orthodox, but not Catholics)



Daniel feeding tar cakes to the Dragon

Canon of the Old Testament According to Christian Groups

- **Protestants: 39 books**
- **Catholics: 46 books, include Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, 1 & 2 Maccabees, plus additions to Daniel, Esther and Baruch/Jeremiah. (1 & 2 Esdras are other names for Ezra & Nehemiah.)**
- **Greek Orthodox: also include Prayer of Manasseh, Esdras A(3), 3 Maccabees, Psalm 151**
- **Georgian Orthodox: also include 3(4) Esdras, 4 Maccabees**

Canon of the Old Testament

According to Christian Groups

- **Oriental Orthodox (Armenian, Syriac, Coptic (Egyptian), Ethiopian): similar to other Orthodox with slight variations. Ethiopian Orthodox are unique in also including Book of Enoch, Jubilees, and 1, 2 & 3 Meqabyan, and 4 Baruch.**
- **Assyrian Eastern Church: similar to Greek Orthodox**

So why the disagreement???

Canon of the Old Testament

According to Jewish (and Samaritan) Groups

- **Pharisees: popular Jewish position: same 39 (counted as 24) books as Protestants**
- **Sadducees & Samaritans: only the Five Books of Moses**
- **Essenes: it is uncertain which books they considered “scripture”, but the Dead Sea Scrolls contained 39* + some disputed + other writings**
- **Greek-speaking Jews abroad: uncertain list, but LXX contained 39 + some disputed books**

Dead Sea Scrolls

- **Written in approx 200 B.C.**
- **Discovered from 1947 – 1956**
- **Contain parts or all of all OT books except Esther. Some books have multiple copies**
- **Contain some known and unique Apocryphal books**
- **Contain some commentaries, and regulations**
- **Over 800 scrolls found, many intact**
- **Many are nearly identical to Hebrew OT used today, although some have some variance**

Dead Sea Scrolls



Dead Sea Scrolls



Greek Septuagint (LXX)

- **The OT translated into Greek, by Jews in Egypt, in approx 250 B.C.**
- **Named for its 70 (or 72) translators**
- **some Apocryphal books were added to it later**
- **Different copies of the LXX have different books in them**

Greek Septuagint (LXX) (cont.)

σε δε κίαν ὄντα ἐτῶ
 εἰκοςίην ὄσβασιλέυ
 εἰδεῖ θένδε κκκαί
 ἐποίησεν το πονηρ-
 ἐν ὠπιον κὺ και ὀκ-
 νη τραπεηὰ πότων η
 θέντων λογων ὑπ-
 ἱερεμίου τοῦ προφῆ
 του ἐκ στόματος κὺ
 κὺ και ὀρκισθεῖς ἀπ-
 του βασιλεως συναρ-
 χοδονος ορτῶ ὄνομα
 τί τοῦ κὺ ἐφ' ὀρκησ-
 ἀπεστη και σκηνῶνα
 αὐτοῦ τὸν τράχηλ
 και τὴν καρδιαν αὐ-
 παρεβήτη ὄμιμα κὺ
 ὄυσαν καὶ ὀιηγοῦ
 μένοι δε τοῦ λαοῦ και
 τῶν ἱερῶν πολλὰ ἡ
 σεβησαν και ἡ νόμη
 σαν ὑπὲρ πᾶσα τὰς
 κλαθῆσας παντων
 τῶν ἔθνων και ἐμια
 ναν τοῖ ἱεροῦ τοῦ κὺ
 τοῦ λογισμοῦ ἐν
 ἱεροῦ σαλήμ και ἀπε-
 στεῖλεν ὄκασιας κὺ
 τῶν πατέρων αὐτῶ
 δια τοῦ ἀγγελοῦ αὐ-
 μετα κλεσαίχου τοῦ
 κλαθῆσας αὐτῶ
 και τοῦ σκηνώματ-
 αὐτοῦ αὐτοῖς ἐέμυ
 κτηρῖσαν ἐν τοῖς ἀγ-
 γέλοις αὐτοῦ και ἡ
 μερ ἐβλάησεν κὸν
 σαν ἐκπλίζοντες
 τοῦς προφῆτας αὐ-
 ῶσ ὄυ ὄυ μὴ ὠντα αὐ-
 τὸν ἐπιτῶ ἔθνεϊ αὐ-
 τοῦ ἀχάδου σεβημα

τὰ προσταξία ἀναβίβα
 σαί ἐπαυτοῦ στοῦς
 βασιλεῖς τῶν χαλδαί
 ὠν ὄυ τοῖ ἀλέκτειν ἡ
 τοῦς νεανίσκοῦς αὐ-
 τῶν ἐν ῥομφαία περι-
 κύκλω τὸν ἁγίου ἱερ-

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ΤΑ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑ ΑΝΑΒΙΒΑ
 ΣΑΙ ΕΠΑΥΤΟΥΣ ΤΟΥΣ
 ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΣ ΤΩΝ ΧΑΛΔΑΙ
 ΩΝ ΟΥΤΟΙ ΑΛΕΚΤΕΙΝΑ
 ΤΟΥΣ ΝΕΑΝΙΣΚΟΥΣ ΑΥ
 ΤΩΝ ΕΝ ΡΟΜΦΑΙΑ ΠΕΡΙ
 ΚΥΚΛΩ ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΙΕΡ-

ἡ ἀπλήρωσιν τοῦ ἱ-
 ματος τοῦ κὺ ἐν στο-
 ματι ἱερεμίου ἔωσ ἱ-
 εὐδοκησα τὴν ἡγῆ-
 τας ἐββατα αὐτῆς πᾶ-
 τας ἐν χρόνον τῆς ἐ-
 ρημῶσεως αὐτῆς ἐλε-
 βατι εἰς σὺν πληρῶ

Canon of the Old Testament

Early NT times:

- **Early church: used both Hebrew and Greek (LXX) Old Testaments, and Greek New Testament books - but without specifying canonicity**

Canon of the Old Testament

Early NT times (continued):

- In 66 A.D., the Jews went to war against the Romans. In 70 A.D., Jerusalem was besieged by the Romans, the Jews were killed or dispersed, and the Temple was destroyed.**
- Of the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Essenes, only the Pharisees existed after 70 A.D.**
- In approx 90 A.D., a Pharisee council at Jamnia (modern-day Yevne, Israel) to close the Jewish canon. The existence of this council is disputed.**

Canon of the Old Testament

Early NT times (continued): Jamnia

The Pharisees at Jamnia established 4 rules for canonicity:

- 1. A book must conform to the Five Books of Moses**
- 2. A book must have been written prior to the time of Ezra (about 450 B.C.)**
- 3. A book must have been written in Hebrew**
- 4. A book must have been written in Palestine**

Canon of the Old Testament

Early NT times (continued): Jamnia

The result of those rules is:

- Jewish rejection of the Greek OT (LXX)**
- Jewish rejection of all Apocryphal books (which were written in Greek, after Ezra, and/or outside of Palestine)**
- The Pharisees' canon of 39 (24) books is the result**

Canon of the Old Testament

Early NT times (continued):

- Early church continued to use used both Hebrew and Greek (LXX) Old Testaments, containing extra books**
- NT books were added to the LXX**
- Some variance of opinion between early Christians on the canonicity of OT and NT books**
- In the late-4th/early-5th century, some regional Councils affirmed the books LXX as canonical, but no universal agreement**

Canon of the Old Testament

Use of the LXX by the early church

- **Traditional names of OT books Greek vs. Hebrew: e.g. Genesis/Bereshit, Exodus/Shemot, Levitikon/Vayikra, Ariqmoi/Bamidbar, Deuteronomion/Devarim**
- **NT sometimes quotes out of the Greek OT rather than the Hebrew OT**
- **Earliest Christian Bibles contain some of the additional books**

Canon of the Old Testament

Protestant and Catholic

- **Catholic OT was generally accepted until the 1500s, but occasional disagreement occurred prior**
- **Martin Luther, after separating from the Catholic Church, and when translating the Bible into German, rejected the disputed OT books, and followed the established Jewish OT**
- **At the Council of Trent, the Catholic Council in response to the Reformation, the Catholic Church took an official stand on the list of canon of the Bible**

Canon of the Old Testament

Reasons for the Protestant OT Canon

- **It matches the Jews' canon, and “...unto them were committed the oracles of God” (Rom 3:2)**
- **No direct quotes in the NT. A few allusions, but no “it is written,...”**
- **Matt 23:35 & Luke 11:51, Jesus refers to the first and last OT martyrs in the Jewish order of the OT books**

Canon of the Old Testament

Reasons for the Protestant OT Canon

- **Historical errors: e.g. Judith 1:5 says Nebuchadnezzar was the king of the Assyrians, not the Babylonians**
- **Doctrinal:**
 - **Tobit 4:11, 12:9: alms-giving to purge sin**
 - **Tobit 6:5-7: smoke from burning fish kept demons away**
 - **2 Maccabees 12:42-45: prayers & money for the sins of the dead**

Canon of the New Testament

27 Books of the Church

- **Writings of the Apostles were copied and circulated from city to city by early Christians**
- **Before the end of the first century, some of the books were considered “scripture”.**
- **By 200 A.D., all the 27 books of the NT were generally accepted as scripture**

Canon of the New Testament

27 Books of the Church

- Some questioned Hebrews, James, 2 Peter, 2 & 3 John, Jude and Revelation**
- Some wanted other Christian writings: Shepherd of Hermas, Apocalypse of Peter, Epistle of Barnabas, and the Didache**
- Athanasius, in 367 A.D., wrote an explicit list of the 27 book NT, and used the word “canonized”**
- various other councils in the following years made similar statements**

Canon of the New Testament

27 Books of the Church

- these statements were not defining something new, but "were ratifying what had already become the mind of the Church"**
- other Christian writings existed, but were not considered for the canon (e.g. Epistle of Clement to Corinth, (Philippians 4:3, tradition says he was ordained by Peter and Paul to be one of the first bishops of Rome in the last few years of the first century)**

Canon of the New Testament

Rivals to the NT Books

- **Many rival “gospels” appeared in the 2nd-4th centuries, and were never considered or accepted by the church. (Gospel of Thomas, Gospel of Judas, Secret Book of James, Books of Jeu, etc.)**
- **Most of these were (re-)discovered in Nag Hammadi, Egypt, in 1945**
- **Eusebius, a Christian theologian and Bishop of Caesarea in the early 300’s, wrote such gospels were “the fiction of heretics”. Most written by the Gnostics.**

Canon of the New Testament

Rivals to the NT Books

- **Secret Book of James:** additional unusual and contradictory secrets Jesus gave to James for 550 days after the resurrection. Written late 3rd century.
- **Apocryphon of John:** additional secrets Jesus gave to John about the spiritual history of mankind. Written somewhere between late 2rd-4th centuries.
- **Gospel of Thomas:** secrets Jesus gave to “Didymos Judas Thomas” to attain salvation

Canon of the New Testament

Rivals to the NT Books

- **Gospel to the Egyptians:** story of how Jesus is the reincarnation of Seth, come to release people's souls from the prison of creation
- **Apocalypse of Adam:** story of how Adam learned he and Eve were more powerful than their creator, but that knowledge was lost when a demi-god separated Adam and Eve and tried to destroy all of mankind in the flood, and will try again with fire.
- **Paraphrase of Shem:** Shem, as the first man, went to heaven and returned to earth to bring judgement.

Canon of the New Testament

Rivals to the NT Books

- **Apocalypse of Paul:** a vision given to Paul about heaven and hell. Paul convinces God to give everyone in hell a day off every Sunday.
- **Coptic Apocalypse of Paul:** story of Paul ascending through heaven, and God trying to stop him. Those with enough knowledge (gnosis) can defeat God and stay in heaven, and those who can't get sent back for reincarnation.
- **Gospel of Philip:** Mary Magdalene is the lover of Jesus, who took different forms and came to crucify the world. Denies the physical resurrection.

Canon of the New Testament

27 Books of the Church

- **Armenian Orthodox NT used to include 3 Corinthians**
- **Some editions of the Latin Vulgate (and Wycliffe's English translation in 1380s) included Epistle to the Laodiceans (see Colossians 4:16)**
- **Martin Luther originally wanted to remove Hebrews, James, Jude and Revelation, some Catholics agreed**
- **Today: Protestants, Catholics and Orthodox – all agree on the NT!**

Bible Versions and Comparison

So many English Bible translations!

- **Prior to 1900, only a few dozen**
- **After 1900, several hundred**
- **Can multiple translations be trusted?**
- **Can multiple translations be “the word of God”?**
- **How do they differ?**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Top Translations in 2011 (based on units sold):

- 1. New International Version**
- 2. King James Version**
- 3. New King James Version**
- 4. New Living Translation**
- 5. English Standard Version**

(source: Christian Booksellers Association)

Bible Versions and Comparison

The KJV translators said:

**“we do not deny, nay we affirm and avow,
that the very meanest translation of the
Bible in English...containeth the word of
God, nay, is the word of God.”**

Bible Versions and Comparison

The KJV translators said:

“For is the kingdom of God to become words or syllables? Why should we be in bondage to them if we may be free, use one precisely when we may use another no less fit, as commodiously?”

Bible Versions and Comparison

The KJV translators said:

“Therefore as St. Augustine saith, that variety of Translations is profitable for the finding out of the sense of the Scriptures”

Bible Versions and Comparison

The KJV translators said:

“As the King's speech, which he uttereth in Parliament, being translated into French, Dutch, Italian, and Latin, is still the King's speech, though it be not interpreted by every Translator with the like grace, nor peradventure so fitly for phrase, nor so expressly for sense, everywhere.”

Bible Versions and Comparison

Even Scripture says:

“Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.” (2 Cor 3:6, KJV)

Bible Versions and Comparison

Translation Factors

- **translation styles**
- **target audience**
- **textual base**

Bible Versions and Comparison

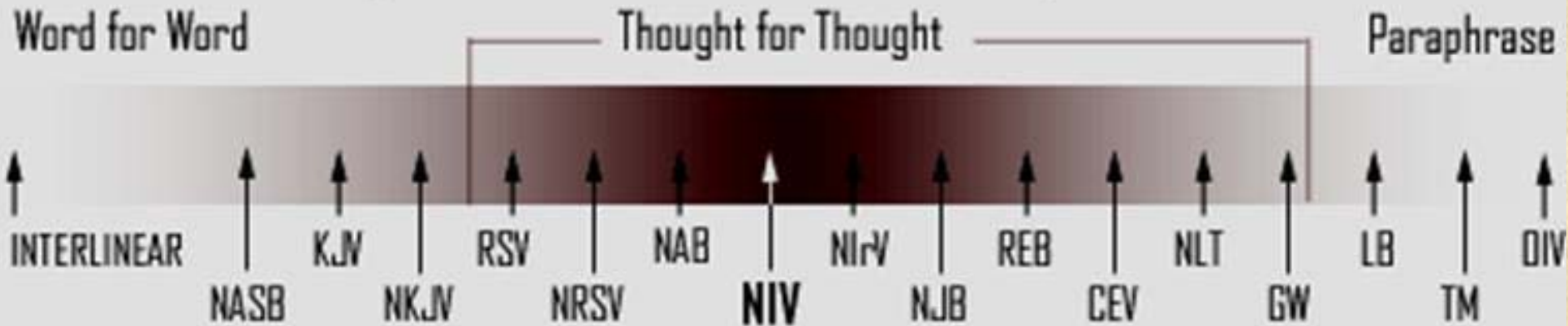
Translation Styles

- **“Formal equivalence” – word-for-word as much as possible**
- **“Dynamic equivalence” – thought-for-thought**
- **Paraphrase – loose interpretation**
- **Not either/or, but a spectrum**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Translation Styles

English Bible Translation Comparison



Bible Versions and Comparison

Target Audience

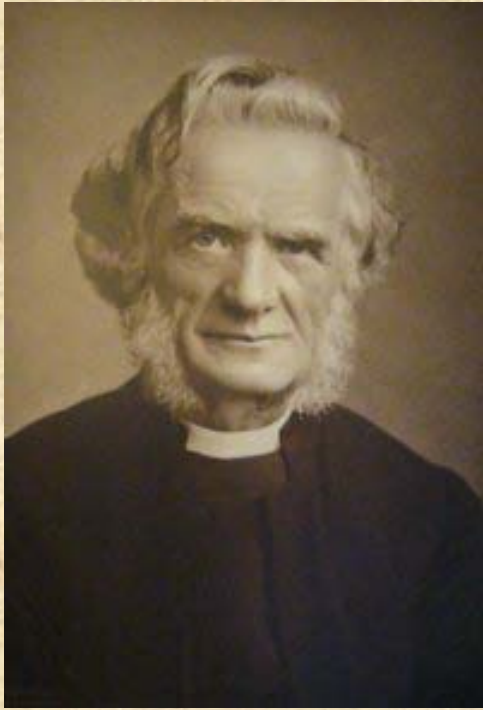
- **Reading level: NIV 7.8, NIV 2.9, NASB 11.0, NKJV 9.0, KJV 12.0** (source: Zondervan)
- **Religious views: Protestant or Catholic**
- **Political: Gender inclusiveness**
- **Novelty translations: Klingon, Pig-latin, slang, etc.**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Textual Base choices

- **Old Testament: Hebrew Masoretic, Greek LXX, or Latin Vulgate**
- **New Testament: Greek NT of the 1500-1600s ('Textus Receptus'), Greek NT of Westcott & Hort + revision, or Latin Vulgate**

Bible Versions and Comparison



Bishop B.F. Westcott



F.J.A. Hort

Bible Versions and Comparison

Time of Revision: Westcott and Hort

- **B.F. Westcott and F.J.A Hort were respected Anglican scholars in the mid-/late-1800s**
- **extensively studied Biblical manuscripts**
- **employed “textual criticism” to the available manuscripts, produced a revised Greek NT in 1881. Approx 5% different from previous Greek NTs**
- **their methods and conclusions are not accepted by some, but most modern versions today are largely based on their work**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Time of Revision: Westcott and Hort

- **The Western Church in the middle ages was not really concerned with Hebrew and Greek, only Latin**
- **1500s saw a renewed interest in Hebrew and Greek**
- **The first Greek NT published in the early 1500s was based on only 6 Greek manuscripts.**
- **Today, we have over 5,000 Greek manuscripts for the NT (almost 15,000 including other languages), dating back to approx 130 A.D. – compare with less than 10 each for Plato and Aristotle (from 350 B.C.), dating back to about 900 A.D.**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: 1 John 5:7-8

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

1 John 5:7-8 (NIV) “For there are three that testify: [8] the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.”

Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: 1 John 5:7-8

- First two editions of Erasmus's Greek NT in the 1500's did not have the verse, added under pressure for the 3rd edition (which was later used for the KJV). Luther's does not include it.**
- The verse appears in only a few, late (post 1000 A.D.) Greek manuscripts**
- The verse appears in Latin as far back as the 3rd century**
- The verse was not used in 3rd century debates with the Arians**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: Psa 145:13

Psalm 145:13 (KJV) “Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.”

Psalm 145:13 (NIV) “Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.”

Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: Psa 145:13

- Second sentence is not present in most copies of the the Hebrew OT. It is present in the Greek (LXX) OT.**
- The chapter is an acrostic in Hebrew, with each verse starting with the letters of the Hebrew alphabet in succession, but the letter 'Nun' is missing in the Hebrew version**
- The Hebrew version has a balance of 3 7-line stanzas**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: Isaiah 14:12

Isaiah 14:12 (KJV) “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!”

Psalm 145:13 (NIV) “How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!”

Jesus is “the bright and morning star” in Rev 22:16 and “the day star” in 2 Pet 1:19

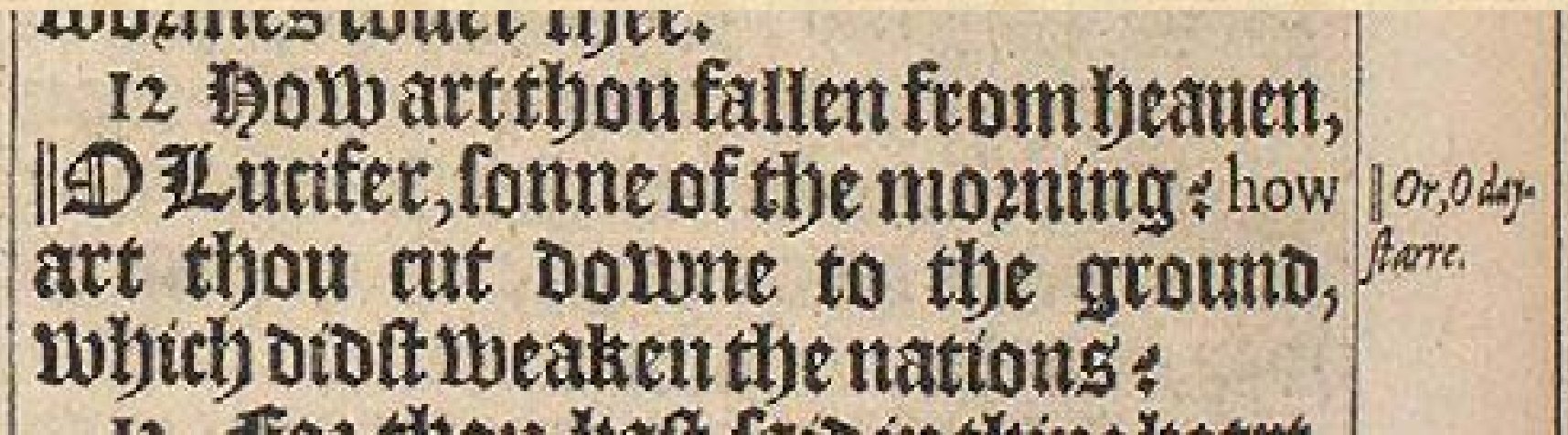
Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: Isaiah 14:12

- Angels are “morning stars” in Job 38:7**
- “Lucifer” comes from the Latin, and is the Latin word for “light-bearer”, and the name of Venus**
- Luther’s German (1534) has “Morgenstern” (“Morning star”)**
- Marginal notes in Matthew’s (1549), the Geneva (1560), and the Douay-Rheims (1609) say “Lucifer” means “morning star”, Venus when it appears as a star in the morning**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: Isaiah 14:12



1611 KJV marginal note: “Or, O daystarre”

Bible Versions and Comparison

Verse Comparisons: Isaiah 14:12

- **Lancelot Andrews (head KJV translator), Matthew Henry, Jonathan Edwards, John Wesley, Adam Clark, Noah Webster, Charles Spurgeon, Charles Finney, Arthur Pink all agreed the terms mean the same thing.**
- **Babylonian pantheon of gods:**
 - **goddess Asherah, mother of Baal (1 Kings 18)**
 - **Asherah also mother of Shahar and Shalim, twins, gods of dawn and dusk**
 - **Shahar was father of Helel (star of Venus)**
 - **Text says “Heylel ben Shahar”: Heylel son of Shahar**

Bible Versions and Comparison

Summary

- **Despite a few textual and translational issues, our faith in the authority of scripture remains secure**
- **Difficulties can be approached with faith, or with skepticism**
- **“Problems” are in our limited, fallible understanding - not in scripture itself**
- **Study and prayer!**