

# The Faith Watch

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Stan Gustafson, Pastor

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## WHAT IF ...

God Himself gave us a book ... What if He assured us that it was perfect ... What if it contained all the information we needed to live this life properly and to the fullest ... What if it told us exactly and in detail how we could have peace and favor with God here on earth and a sure home in Heaven ...

## WHAT IF SOMEONE HAD TAMPERED WITH THAT BOOK !?!

That is precisely the reason

### **FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH**

520 12th St.  
Moline, IL

is hosting a

### **KING JAMES BIBLE CONFERENCE**

with featured speaker

### **DOUG HAMMETT**

- \* Do we have an authoritative Bible?
- \* If so, where is it?
- \* What are the telltale signs of damaged English versions?

### SCHEDULE OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS:

Sunday, June 15th - 10:00am & 6:00pm  
Monday, June 16th - 7:00pm  
Tuesday, June 17th - 7:00pm  
Wednesday, June 18th - 7:00pm

Nursery provided for each session

For info call:755-7430

*Deuteronomy 4:2 - Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it ...*

## COMING UP SHORT

A case in favor of the King James Bible and against all other modern English translations lies in the Greek New Testament texts used for each. Telltale signs of tampering abound in what is known as the Critical Text. This family of manuscripts was rejected early on by Christians as being obviously deficient.

One evidence of tampering of the Critical Text is the fact that numerous words, phrases and verses have been eliminated. These often deal with the glory and deity of Christ. Orthodox doctrines are often affected. The Critical Greek Text therefore is clearly shorter than the Received Text. Beginning with Origen (185-253 AD) who admitted he altered scripture when he felt like it, portions of Bible have been snipped where it was offensive to such heretics.

Below we offer a comparison of the actual number of words in the Received Text (of Antioch and Company) on the left, and the number of words found in the Critical Greek Text (of Origen and Company) on the right. Note the shortages.

### MATTHEW

18,740 - 18,359 = 381 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### MARK

11,646 - 11,268 = 378 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### LUKE

19,935 - 19,473 = 462 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### JOHN

15,957 - 15,636 = 321 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### ACTS

18,794 - 18,448 = 346 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### ROMANS

7,204 - 7,108 = 96 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### I CORINTHIANS

6,933 - 6,830 = 103 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### II CORINTHIANS

4,509 - 4,476 = 33 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### GALATIANS

2,251 - 2,231 = 20 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### EPHESIANS

2,462 - 2,421 = 41 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### PHILIPPIANS

1,641 - 1,629 = 12 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### COLOSSIANS

1,621 - 1,581 = 40 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### I THESSALONIANS

1,495 - 1,481 = 14 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### II THESSALONIANS

834 - 819 = 15 fewer words in Critical  
Text

### I TIMOTHY

1,624 - 1,591 = 33 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### II TIMOTHY

1,254 - 1,238 = 16 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### TITUS

666 - 659 = 7 fewer words in Critical  
Text

### PHILEMON

339 - 334 = 5 fewer words in Critical  
Text

### HEBREWS

4,990 - 4,953 = 37 fewer words in  
Critical Text

### JAMES

1,763 - 1,742 = 21 fewer words in  
Critical Text

I PETER

1,742 - 1,684 = 40 fewer words in  
Critical Text

II PETER

1,104 - 1,099 = 5 fewer words in  
Critical Text

I JOHN

2,175 - 2,141 = 34 fewer words in  
Critical Text

II JOHN

249 - 245 = 4 fewer words in Critical  
Text

III JOHN

218 - 219 = 1 more word in Critical  
Text

JUDE

452 - 461 = 9 more words in Critical  
Text

REVELATION

9,941 - 9,851 = 90 fewer words in  
Critical Text

SUB-TOTAL = 140,521 - 137,977 =  
2,544 fewer words

The modern versions either omit,  
place in the footnotes question their  
authenticity, or place in brackets, Mark  
16: 9-20 and John 7:53 - 8:11.

After taking into account these two well-  
known passages the final tally is:

**140,521 - 137,602 = 2,886 fewer  
words in Critical Text!**

Thus the missing words in the altered  
Greek text is about the total number of  
words in I and II Peter combined!

Now the problem is that every modern  
English translation since 1881 is based  
upon some form of this shortened text.  
Therefore, only the King James Bible  
contains a complete New Testament.  
The average young disciple who enters  
a Christian bookstore seeking assistance  
in the purchase of a Bible is steered to a

supposedly easy-to-read version, likely  
the popular translation of the times (New  
International Version currently). If the  
young believer purchases anything other  
than a 1611 King James Bible, he or she  
did not get a complete Bible. They got  
an English version translated from  
Greek texts which are missing well over  
two thousand words. Good advice to the  
scripture seeker ... Get the whole Word  
**- Get a King James!**

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**Say “No” to the NIV and “Yes” to  
the KJV**

Anissa Stoedter

I was saved on November 11, 2001.  
Unfortunately I lost my uncle Robert  
Rettig (Bob) on November 1, 2001. He  
was a caring tender-hearted devoted  
husband, dad, uncle and friend. He is  
missed immensely. On November 7, I  
called my aunt Sue (Rettig, Bob’s wife)  
to inquire as to how she was holding up.  
She then proceeded to tell me about her  
church.

So before I know it I’m going to  
church with her Sunday evening. Pastor  
had me within the first five minutes.  
Hook, line and sinker. I didn’t have a  
Bible. I didn’t really have any spiritual  
experience. I thought at one time that  
Sodom and Gomorrah were brothers.  
(Ha Ha). Well, that evening I got saved.  
Approximately 15 years of me visiting  
and working in the “Dark Tombs” and  
walking with the living dead - all those  
years wasted! However there was a  
beautiful rainbow showing up in my life.  
Saved, Saved, Saved! Admit, realize,  
stop, understand, receive and overcome.  
My aunt Sue (the one with the big heart)  
bought me my first Bible. She even put  
tabs in it for me. “Cool”, it was a KJV.

One day Sue and Trish O. took me shopping with them. I found myself at the Christian store and it was explained to me the differences of the NIV compared to the KJV. Then I started looking around and realized that most of the store was stocked full of everything else apart from a small section that was KJV. Since then my dear sweet aunt has sent me a couple of cards and I noticed she had put a line through the Bible verse (you could still read it). She then wrote the verse from the KJV underneath the other. I thought to myself, "Is that so serious?" Apparently it was. She then gave me a journal and inside every couple of pages was a verse. Guess from what book? (You're smart, "Ding, Ding. You won the grand prize. Tell 'em what they won, Charles.") The verses were NIV. She told me when you get to those pages compare the verse to the KJV and then rewrite the verse in the book. Then it hit me like a handball in the back of the head! Bam!! They (you know who "they" are, don't you?) They are taking away from the Bible (KJV). I've only been studying the Bible for 17 1/2 months, however in the book of Revelation I believe it says, "No one is to add or take away from this book!" I don't know about you, however "whew", I have had enough to answer for without adding to my list. I'm very blessed to have a church family who cares enough about my spiritual growth and point me in the right direction.

In closing I ask that the next time you are at the Christian store or give anyone a gift with a verse on it for church, family or friend that you care enough to send the very best. (No, not Hallmark). Show them that this is that serious. Until the next Watch comes your way may God bless you and keep you safe always.

Through Jesus Christ Name,  
Amen  
Anissa L. Stoedter

*The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever. Psalm 12:6-7 KJV*

P.S. You knew I was an expert about the book of Psalms, didn't you?

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This verse is the first verse I actually memorized and remembered from the King James Bible:

*1 Corinthians 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

Amanda Oudekerk

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Since I was born again I have only attended an independent fundamental Baptist church. My very first Bible that was given to me when I was born again was a child size King James New Testament Bible (which I still have).

Somewhere in my junior high to senior high school years my family got a way from attending church. It wasn't until I was living in Lincoln, NE that I started attending church again. It just happened to be Pastor Stan's church. My sister Sue and I would go to all the thrift stores and she would always look at the

used books. She was always looking for Bibles. She would buy all kinds. I still didn't get it or even know why I used a King James. It wasn't until Pastor did a Wednesday night series on the King James Bible that I understood and knew the difference. I then understood why Sue was buying all those other Bibles as it was for Pastor's research. Sue then gave me a full size old and new testament King James Version Bible that she had found at one of the thrift stores. It had someone else's name stamped on it, but that didn't matter to me( I still have that one also). I used that Bible until the pages started to fall out. Then my good old sister Sue gave me a new one earlier this year. This time it was a brand new one and I plan on using it until those pages start to fall out.

I'm excited about Brother Hammett coming to speak. I think it would be great for someone who is as naive as I was to finally "get it!"

Laura O'Melia

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## Faith Baptist Institute

Faith Baptist Institute recently completed its first section of classes one of which was Bibliology. As part of the curriculum students were required to write a short paper on a subject relating to the study of the Bible. Excerpts from some of the student's work follows.

Why the King James Bible Is the True  
Word of God  
By Barb Rundall

As far back as the beginning of creation Satan has attempted to discredit God's word. In the Garden of Eden Satan

tempted Eve to eat from the forbidden tree, and in that way caused the end of a perfect and sinless world. Through the years, in the same way, people tempted of the devil, have tried to alter the pure word of God. By either adding or subtracting words people have changed the original meaning of what God intended. This adding, subtraction, and changing of God's word is called Dynamic Equivalency.

This is the form of translation that other Bibles have adopted. The King James Bible does not use Dynamic Equivalence, it uses Verbal Equivalence. God wanted us to have His word so we would know exactly what we were supposed to do. He did not want us to change His word, or the meaning of His word in any way. The King James Bible translates His word from Greek and Hebrew into English as closely as it can be translated. The other Bibles do not. They added to, subtracted from, and changed God's word as they saw fit: The Bible says in Matthew 5:18

*"For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."*

People have changed the meaning of God's words to mean what they want them to. To change even one letter of God's word is playing with the devil. The King James Bible is the only Bible that has not tampered with God's word. When the other Bibles such as The New International Version, New American Standard Version, and so forth translated the Bible, they did not seem to care, if they altered the word of God for their convenience. I do not see how people can expect to know how God wants them to live their life, or how they can even be sure of finding a way to eternal

life if the Bible they have, does not have the pure word of God in it.

There are seventy five adjectives which describes Dynamic Equivalence. I will list seven of them and give a brief explanation. 1. Diabolicae - this goes back to the Garden of Eden where the serpent tempted Eve by changing God's word. People just need to look at what happened when the true word of God was changed. That is why when other Bibles alter God's word it changes the very meaning and how are we to know how to live and what to practice unless we can be sure the Bible we have is the right one? 2. Deceptive - Dynamic Equivalence is deceptive because it deceives people, people don't know which one to believe. They think just because the other Bibles are newer they are better, and that is not so. Just because something is new doesn't mean it's better. 3. Determined - Dynamic Equivalence is determined because people are determined to make a lot of money on other Bibles. People are always looking for something to buy and if the only Bible used was the King James people would soon get tired of buying it and Bible sales would go way down. 4. Dishonest - Dynamic Equivalence is dishonest because it says it is the true words of God but it isn't. 5. Deifying of Man - It gives man authority to change God's word, no one can change God's word certainly not mortal man. We know nothing compared to God. 6. Disobedient - Dynamic Equivalence is disobedient because God said not to add to or subtract from his word. 7. Disapproved by God - Dynamic Equivalence is disapproved by God, because we cannot understand something that also has man's word in it. The seven reasons that I have listed

above seem like a pretty good defense for the King James Bible.

\* \* \*

Satan's Corrupt Text  
By Matt Fox

There are essentially two lines of text that our modern English versions are translated from. They are often called the Received text and the Critical text. Both of these lines of text are guided by two distinct philosophies. The Received text can be categorized by the fact that it is based on Providential Preservation, which is God preserving his words so that we can have the complete word of God in our hands today. It is also categorized by the fact that it is guided by the usage of believing churches. The Critical Text can be categorized by saying that it is based on scientific fact and it is guided by the philosophy of rationalism. I think that just by these simple statements we can see which text that we are going to have a problem with.

The Critical text is widely used by liberal and neo-evangelical groups. It is curious to note that almost all fundamentalists use the King James Version, which is translated from the Received text, exclusively, and that almost all neo-evangelical groups use anything but the King James Version. How does this neo-evangelical group tie into Satan's corrupt text? We will examine what they believe and what they stand for in order to answer that question. First and foremost this group is characterized by its extreme openness to accepting all doctrine. This not only compromises the words of the Bible, but the essence of it, which they claim to adhere to. These groups also do not

accept the verbal inspiration of the Bible. They often believe that the Bible's subjects or ideas could be inspired but not the words themselves. This is a direct contradiction to Psalm 12:6, which states, "The words of the Lord are pure words..." Notice how much like Satan this mindset makes them appear, of course this is probably because it is Satan's mindset.

Many theories and conclusions have actually come from the liberal churches using these texts. These would include, but are not limited to, the belief that only scholars are able to determine God's word. This is a tactic that was also used by the Catholic Church. It makes it so that the laymen cannot possibly understand the Bible, that you have to go to the scholar (priest) and have him show you what the scriptures mean. It makes it so difficult to know God that most people figure they shouldn't waste their time on it. It is one of Satan's most loved forms of subterfuge. Make the scriptures so confusing and cloudy that no one can possibly understand them.

It is evident throughout the ages that Satan has attempted to prevent the Word from reaching the people that it needs to reach. He has continuously attempted to cause more people to fall into sin by attempting to make God a liar. He is also the reason we have so many different versions of the Bible floating around. They are an attempt to confuse the people into not knowing where the word of God can be found. They are an attempt to bring down as much of the human race with him as he can.

The one translation in this day and age that can be relied on is the 1611 King James Version of the Bible. It is the only one that is a literal translation. It is the only one that is translated from a text

that has been used by the traditional churches throughout the centuries. It is the only Bible with which we can put our full faith and trust in during this day in which Satan's lackeys are running rampant throughout Christianity.

*"Every word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Proverbs 30:5*

\* \* \*

The King James Bible and Its History  
and Accuracy  
By Rubie Fox

Many people reacted with criticism to the King James Bible. Even though it contains alliteration, rhyme, reason to the text and even has a built in dictionary. The verses can actually be sung or chanted and a musical rhythm can be noted. It was declared hard to read by many. Unfortunately, the majority of that criticism still remains today. However, when tested by the Flesch Kincaid Index, The King James Version tested at a 5.8 grade level of readability. The average children's book rates a seventh grade level. Some magazines and popular business magazines tested at a higher-grade level than the KJV as well. In my opinion when the majority of people state that the KJV is hard to read they are not referring to the difficulty of the words, but that the truth that is found in this book is what is hard to accept. No other book out there with the word Bible on its title points explains God so completely and with such accuracy.

There are literally hundreds, even thousands of other translations in print today. In fact, there are currently over three thousand just in the English

language. More and more are being published all the time. No other Bible was translated with the same dedication and with such reverence to God as the King James Version.

God stated that He would keep His word intact and perfect and clearly that is done in no other version than the King James Bible. Every other Bible out there was done with the intent of making money, glorifying man, and most seriously, causing confusion amongst man. If these Bibles were not meant to be used to bring glory to God, then they were meant to bring glory to the other power out there, Satan. Satan used these other versions to confuse man and steer him away from the true God.

It is of grave importance that we get into our Bibles and study God's word. But, this study must be done with God's true word that He left for us. The only book out there that remains completely intact and has the exact words that God wants us to study is the King James Version. No other Bible can compare and no other will clearly give His message to us.

\* \* \*

The Masoretic Text  
By Ella Crawford

That preserved books of the Bible existed around 200 B.C. is demonstrated in the "Letter of Aristeas" which recognizes the distinction between carelessly copied scrolls of the Pentateuch and an authoritative Temple scroll in the hands of the high priests in Jerusalem. Josephus wrote around 70 A.D. Of the existence of a long standing fixed text of Jewish Scripture which had never been altered. However as early as the second century the common era scholars warned against incorrect

copies.

The Midrash scholars who kept Jewish interpretation or commentary on a Biblical text, and the Masorah were the two branches of Bible study which kept the knowledge of the Biblical language alive and preserved the text of the Bible. The Masoretes took on the responsibility of compiling the various manuscripts and whatever oral traditions were available and preserving the word of God for future generations. They supplied diacritical markings and vowel signs to enable correct pronunciation and eliminate confusion. They formed the writings into words and sentences, signs for stress and pause were added to facilitate public reading of the Scriptures in the synagogue.

These Jewish scholars were aware of the nature of their task. They were not dealing With Just any author but with the word of God. The Talmud, the collection of Jewish law and tradition, warned the scribe to be careful, "yours is sacred work-, by leaving out or adding a single letter you can destroy the whole world.". When the final copy was complete for each section the Masoretes counted the total number of verses, words and letters, indicating which verse, which word and which letter marked the center making it more difficult for further copiers to alter the text.

We can know that the Old Testament based on the masoretic text is the same Old Testament written under the inspiration of God by the prophets of the Bible. We can trace the text from the original inspiration, kept under the protection of the Tribe of Levi in the Arc of the Covenant, it was guarded by the Jewish leaders, studied and kept through the ages because it was the very Words

of God. When the time was right God again set his men to work on to make his words available to his people in a language they could understand. He used his chosen people the Jews to transcribe and illuminate his word. The Masoretic text was written by the right men using the right manuscripts. They were diligent to transcribe the words of God without interpretation and it would be wise for us to keep those words without adding to them or subtracting from them.

*Amen!*

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## LOW EXPECTATIONS

Pasor Stan Gustafson

In the upper years of grade school I experimented with highjumping. The gyrations we went through to clear the bar must have been hilarious. Some of us went over forward, some backward and many did not go over at all. The coach set the bar low at first. As the jumpers took their turns the bar would be moved higher and higher until only the best jumper could clear it. At that level the bar was above the expectations of all but that one individual.

With respect to the Bible, God has set the bar at such a lofty height that only one Book can measure up. All Scripture is divinely - inspired. The word in II Timothy 3:16 for this is "theopneustos" or God-breathed. Psalm 19: 7,8 tells us that the law of the LORD is perfect ... the testimony of the LORD is sure ... the statutes of the LORD are right ... the commandment of the LORD is pure. This means that the Book of God is inerrant and trustworthy in all its parts. How is it that we have come to the place

where we will accept such wide variations between so-called English bibles? We have lowered the bar so as to allow many books to qualify which differ wildly one from another. We are taught to think in broad terms concerning God's Word by looking at Christian bookstore shelves packed with numerous renditions of what is supposed to be the authoritative Word. In some churches the bibles supplied in the pews will differ from the one the pastor happens to be using that day. Some leaders actually recommend the study of one bible for accuracy and the casual reading of another for its beauty and rhythm. Where is the Book that God breathed? Where is the Bible reported to be perfect, sure, right and pure? Contemporary expectations have set the bar far lower than God has set it.

Let us consider the Lord's standard for His own revelation in Jeremiah 23. Prophets were being less than accurate in relaying God's Word. Verse 28 instructs the prophets to speak God's Word faithfully. Verse 25 tells us that anything less is considered a lie. Verse 30 reads as follows:

*Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that steal my words every one from his neighbor.*

The Lord's standard for His oracles extends to the very WORDS that are to be used. This is emphasized repeatedly in the Bible.

*Psalm 12:6,7 - The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them*

*from this generation for ever.*

*Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*

*Matthew 4:4 - Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.  
Psalm 119:130 - The entrance of thy words giveth light.*

I firmly believe that we have a right to expect a Bible today that is authoritative down to the very words. God said that His WORDS were pure WORDS and that He would keep them and preserve them. This would demand that we translate from Hebrew and Greek manuscripts that reflect fidelity to the Word forever settled in Heaven (Ps.119:89). This would also demand using verbal equivalency in translating rather than a thought - by-thought method. In reality, the expectations are much lower than this in the minds of the masses of professing Christians. We have listened to scholars who have told us that we only have a percentage of the Bible and the rest is lost or in question. They have printed so many English versions from so many varying Greek texts that read so many different ways that many have given up hope of ever settling upon the forever-settled Word (Ps.119:89). They have printed so many alternate readings in the margins and footnotes that Christians are persuaded that we really can not know what God really said. We are then reduced to choosing a bible for its readability, its modern language or because it's the popular translation of the day. So many translators have taken liberties with phrasing, having departed from verbal

equivalency, that we settle for what they perceive are the thoughts of a given passage rather than the words God meant for us to have. Let's look at a couple of examples.

Romans 1:16 in the King James Bible reads:

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

The New International Version omits the words "of Christ". Their Greek texts did not have them. Did God inspire and preserve those words or didn't He? I expect my translators to know.

The NIV also omits Him in many other places where He is found in the KJB (Ga.4:7 - through Christ is out; Ga.6:15 - in Christ Jesus is out; Ep.3:9 - by Jesus Christ is out; Ep.3:14 - of our Lord Jesus Christ is out; Co.1:2 - and the Lord Jesus Christ is out; etc. , etc. . We have a right to expect more from a Bible. Close is not good enough. Both the NIV and KJB can not be good Bibles. (There can be no such things as "Good Bibles". God wrote only one Bible; the rest are bad.) The last word of Ro.1:16 in the NIV is translated "Gentile". This is an interpretation rather than a translation. The Greek word is "Hellen" which means a Grecian. The thought of the passage is that the saving gospel is effective with Gentiles as well as Jews, but the task of the translators is to give me the words of God, not to interpret them. Commentaries are for commenting; the Bible is for translating. The King James Bible is correct in using the word "Greek". The Living Bible misses the mark entirely as follows:

*For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is God's powerful method of bringing all who believe it to heaven. This message was preached first to the Jews alone, but now everyone is invited to come to God in this same way.*

The words of God are totally lost. This is merely the rolling commentary of Kenneth Taylor on what he thinks God meant.

Romans 10:17 in the King James Bible reads:

*So then faith cometh by hearing,, and hearing by the word of God.*

The New International Version reads:

*Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.*

The Greek word "akoe", which appears twice in the verse, is defined by Strong's Concordance as: "the act, the sense or the thing heard, hearing". The NIV is guilty of double-translating it both times it appears by using the phrases "hearing the message" and "message is heard". According to Strong akoe can be either the hearing or the message, but I expect my Bible not to stutter when it translates. The NIV repeatedly fails to give me the WORDS of God. Of course the Living Bible is hopelessly afield on the verse:

*Yet faith comes from listening to this Good News - the Good News about Christ.*

Again, it is not a faithful verbal

rendering but a rambling discourse.

Such observations could continue through the newer versions indefinitely, but these will suffice to demonstrate the failure of the translators to deliver the WORDS of God to the English reader. They do not expect to give us the WORDS of God but an idiomatic rendering of the Hebrew and Greek which can at best present what they think God was thinking, and they are willing to alter the text to help you to see it!

*Jeremiah 23:28,30 - He that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that steal my words every one from his neighbor.*

God expected His holy and sacred Word to be transmitted intact, and we should expect the same.

The ramifications of such sloppy handling of the Bible extend naturally to its fruit. The Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit. Will the Spirit wield a sword that God didn't author? Hebrews 4:12 tells us that the Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, but can words which God did not intent pierce, divide and discern? What about the life and power said to be operating within the Word? They are certainly diminished in corrupting the biblical text.

When I attempt to lead someone to the Savior, I want the Book that God has promised to use. Sinners do not come to Christ by natural means but by the Holy Spirit working through God's supernatural, living Word (Ro.10:17 ; I Pe.1:23). The harvest of converts depends upon using the proper incorruptible seed (I Pe.1:23).

*Jeremiah 23:29 - Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?*

When a cold sinner's heart needs to be warmed in considering Jesus Christ it needs to be acted upon by holy fire. When a hard heart needs to be broken to the things of God it requires the divine hammer.

*Psalm 119:130 - The entrance of thy words giveth light.*

When those in darkness need to see the light, God's words are required. I fear the effect that the many errant English translations are having upon evangelism. To the extent the words of God are altered they cease to be the Bible. To the extent they are not the Bible they are not the Sword, the Fire, the Hammer, the Light and the Seed. While there are many good evangelistic verses in the non-King James bibles, many others have been perverted. The harvest will suffer.

Effects of the modern non-bibles will be seen in aberrant Christian growth. Believers are sanctified through God's Word (Jn. 17: 17) ; they are washed by it (Ep. 5: 26) ; they are changed into its image by contact with it (II Co.3:18); they are true disciples by continuing in it (in.8:31). I absolutely must have God's word in order to grow.

*I Peter 2:2 - As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.*

As I look around at contemporary Christianity I wonder at how such emotionalism can pass for spirituality;

how such doctrinal ignorance can pass for being grounded in the faith and how such moral looseness can pass for righteousness. Many of those currently professing Christ do not have a solid salvation testimony and may not be genuinely saved. I run across scores of such people. Many who actually possess Christ have a skewed view of spiritual topics in the extreme. This is not totally their fault. Somebody recommended to them a book that is less than a Bible, and they have been feeding on the husks of it. The milk they have found as newborn babes is curdled, and the Holy Spirit will not bear witness to much of it. They attend interfaith rallies and concerts, and there may not be a real Bible in the house. They go to their respective churches to find that the pastor does not preach from a faithful copy, and their Sunday School teacher doesn't know where the WORDS of God are to be found. They can not grow properly because they are being starved. The fruit of modern translations is showing.

The current religious age has lowered the bar to allow a multitude of varying books to pass muster as bibles. We should expect more because God has promised more. He authored only one Bible. He said that Bible was God-breathed without error. He said that He would preserve those WORDS for all generations. I believe it is still here, still alive and still powerful. It is distressing to face the "wall of bibles" at a religious bookstore or to survey the myriad of footnotes giving multiple alternate readings for what is supposed to be the sure Word of God. The Author originally placed the bar so high that only one Book could make the grade. My expectations are still that high, and I

refuse to accept any other standard or any other book!

Pastor Stan Gustafson

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"Errors" in the King James Bible

By James L. Melton

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Critics of the KJV have a nasty habit of pointing out what they believe to be errors, contradictions, and mistranslations in the Authorized Version. The sad fact is that they usually point these things out to young men and women in Christian colleges who do not know any better. Many young Christians, including young preachers, are having their faith in God's word destroyed by the very people they look to for spiritual guidance!

These so-called "errors" that are presented by such infidels have been explained and written about so many times that it's a shame to even have to mention it again. There isn't enough space in a booklet of this size to embark upon a lengthy rebuttle of such claims. Besides, it has already been done quite well by others. Nevertheless, for the sake of showing the reader the nature of the so-called "errors" in the AV, we will take the time to briefly deal with just a few:

1. According to the critics, the word "Easter" in Acts 12:4 is a mistranslation, because the Greek word is "pascha," and it is translated "passover" twenty-eight times in the New Testament, and it should be translated likewise in Acts 12:4.

This is what happens when a man is so hung up on "the Greek" that he can't read plain English. It should NOT be translated "passover" because the

Passover had already passed. The "days of unleavened bread" had already begun (vs. 3), which means the Passover was over (Num. 28:16-18; Exo. 12:13-18). The Passover was always the fourteenth day of the first month, while the days of unleavened bread ran from the fifteenth through the twenty-first. Herod could not have been waiting for the Passover. Besides, why would a Gentile king like Herod be concerned about a Jewish feast day? "Easter" is from the pagan "Ishtar", the goddess that the pagans worshipped--Rome included. Herod wanted to wait until his pagan holiday was over before bringing Peter out to the people.

2. I John 5:7 is also the subject of much debate. It is argued that the verse lacks manuscript evidence and does not belong in the Bible. Being one of the greatest verses in the Bible on the Trinity, we should be suspicious of any oppositions to it.

The verse should NOT be omitted from the Bible. It is found in Greek manuscript 61, which probably forced Erasmus to include it in his third edition Greek text of 1522.

I John 5:7 is also found in Codex Ravianus, and in the margins of 88 and 629. It is also found in Old Latin manuscripts r and Speculum. It was quoted by Cyprian around A.D. 250, and two Spanish Bishops quoted it in the fourth century (Priscillkian and Idacius Clarus). Several African writers quote it in the fifth century, and Cassiodorus quotes it in the sixth century in Italy.

The fact that Siniaticus and Vaticanus do not include the verse means nothing to a true Bible believer. After all, Vaticanus omits the entire book of Revelation, while keeping the Apocrypha!

3. Many argue that the KJV is in error

with it's use of the word "devils" instead of "demons". Again, this is due to an over emphasis on "the Greek" as well as a lack of faith in God's ability to preserve His words in English. While protesting that "daimon" should be translated "demon", many have overlooked a great truth which the Holy Spirit has preserved in the King's English. There is one true "Son of God", but many "sons of God". There is one true "Church", the Bride of Christ, but many local "churches". Likewise, there is one "Devil", but many "devils" under his control.

The word "demon" itself does not necessarily imply an evil spirit. Even Webster's 1828 dictionary states that "the ancients believed that there were good and evil demons...", and New Agers of today believe likewise. Therefore, God led the KJV translators to translate "devils" instead of "demons" because every "daimon" in the Bible IS an evil spirit. The word "devil" makes that clear. Every "devil" in the Bible is under the authority of their father "the Devil".

4. Then we have "contradictions" like Exodus 24:10 and John 1:18. Exodus says the Israelites SAW God, while Jesus said in John that "no man hath seen God at any time". Contradiction, right? No, it's only a matter of rightly dividing the word of truth (which you may not be practicing if II Tim. 2:15 has been altered in your "bible"). God is a Trinity, just like you and I. We're a body, a soul, and a spirit (I Ths. 5:23). The Israelites saw a physical manifestation of God, but not the SOUL of God, just as no one has ever seen your soul.

5. Numbers 25:9 says that 24,000 people died in a plague, but I Corinthians 10:8 says that only 23,000 died. Read I

Corinthians 10:8 again and notice that 23,000 fell "in one day". The 24,000 died altogether in a few days.

You see, these are the kind of "errors" in the King James Bible. These are the reasons given for you to throw away your Bible and buy a new one. Don't fall for it. I have learned to always give God the benefit of a doubt, and to count the critics guilty until proven innocent. So far I've been right. Anytime I see an "error" in the KJV I just assume that I'm not learned enough in the Scriptures to explain it, but that it is NOT an error. I just pray about it and trust God. I NEVER correct the Book that God has honored for so long. Thank God, I'm not that stupid.

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## A SERMON FROM THE FUTURE

December 8th, 2047

The following is a copy of the sermon from the pastor at the New International Church of Anytown, USA.

"Take your NIV and turn to John 1:14. "The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Let us chant. (Followed by a brief catholic-style prayer which never mentions Jesus by name)

"Church, I'm here to tell you how wonderful the One and Only is. Our church has been very blessed. We have grown very quickly. We are seeing hundreds saved every week. That's because we preach the good news of the One and Only. In the days of old, preachers would try to scare folks with

horror stories about a place they called 'hell'. I tell you, that's why church membership in the late 20th century fell to an all-time low. People didn't want to hear about that kind of stuff. Church, those poor folks back then didn't know what they were talking about. I did a computer search of my NIV, and I couldn't find the word 'hell' anywhere. Church, the term they used as hell, really meant eternal death, not a physical place. R. Laird Harris, editor of the first NIV Bible, is quoted as saying "Hell may stand for eternal death. It refers to death, not to any punishment." When they created the NIV translation, people were so scared of hell, they had to replace it with different words.

"Back in what I like to call the 'Dark ages' of the One and Only's church, there were many different denominations, that spent more time engaged in arguments about their religious beliefs, than actually worshiping the One and Only. "Thankfully, the NIV and other modern translations came along and gradually changed the wording of the Bible to conform to all religions. Now, we no longer have Catholics, Baptists, Methodists, Seventh-day Adventists, Episcopalians, Mormons, etc. We just have the New International Church. Now you still have a few cults that refuse to join our one world church.

"You have a group that calls themselves 'Baptist' who only read out of the archaic King James Bible. That Bible is the single most damaging threat to the One and Only. That Bible is responsible for many of the misconceptions that our older generation has today. That Bible taught about hell being a real and physical place of torment, (the congregation laughs) it taught that Mary was a virgin when she

conceived, (more laughter) it taught that once you are saved, you stayed saved, even if you later sinned. (the congregation shakes their heads side-to-side) Also, if you read the King James carefully, you would find that it condemns homosexuality as a sin. (more head shaking) My NIV clearly says I Corinthians 6:9 'homosexual OFFENDERS'. Simply being a homosexual isn't a sin. Church, if we still followed the archaic King James Bible, a homosexual like myself could never preach the word of the One and Only.

"The most damaging thing taught in the King James Bible was that they made it real hard to be saved. They had some crazy idea that you had to actually believe with all your heart that Jesus was the son of the One and Only, which they called 'God'. As I close, take your NIV and turn to Acts 8:36. "As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot, then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him." My NIV says nothing about believing. It simply says you must be baptized. Please stand.

"When the music plays, please come up to the alter. We will sprinkle you with the saving water of the One and Only, and you will be saved." (At this service, hundreds were "saved" because this new generation had the teachings of the NIV and other modern translations, and weren't "held back" by the archaic teachings of the King James Bible. This generation is far too smart to use the Bible their grand-fathers used. Grandpa didn't know what he was talking about, and they could use their Bible to prove it.) (Found on the Internet)

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