

## WHY DO WE BELIEVE THE KING JAMES VERSION OF THE BIBLE IS INERRANT & INFALLIBLE?

The answer is simple—FAITH—faith based upon what the Bible teaches about itself:

- ❖ The Bible (Scripture) is the eternal Word of God written down by inspiration. It is God's revelation to us of himself. It is how we know him. God magnifies it above his own name (Psalm 138:2 KJV; Matt 22:29-31; Matt 4:4; 2 Tim 3:16).

*As perfect as God is, his word must be.*

- ❖ God promised to preserve his pure words forever, for all generations to read, study, and believe (Psalm 12:6-7 KJV, Matthew 24:35; 1 Peter 1:24-25; Psalm 33:11,119:160, Isaiah 40:6-8); therefore, it must exist somewhere that is accessible to us.

- ❖ While we may not understand *how* God preserves his words perfectly, we trust that he did so because he promised he would. Like the virgin birth and the many miracles, we may not be able to explain *how*, but we know “*with God all things are possible*” (Matt 19:26). *HE is the one who keeps his words pure, not us.*

- ❖ Uncorrupted copies and translations are considered by God to be the perfect Word of God. (Joshua 8:32+; Deuteronomy 17:18-19; Acts 12:24; Acts 8:27-28; Acts 2:11.) For example, when Jesus Christ, or any New Testament men, read the from the scriptures, they were not reading from the original writings; they were reading copies that had the authority of documents written hundreds of years prior. With respect to translations, there are many examples of words spoken in one language being recorded in the scriptures in another. In Acts 22, Paul speaks in Hebrew, but the words that become scripture are Greek. In Exodus, Joseph speaks in Egyptian, but his words are recorded in Hebrew. These, among many other passages, shows that it is possible to have a perfect translation.

- ❖ The veracity and authority of pure copies and translations is important because *no originals exist today*. If copies and translations cannot preserve the perfect word of God, it would be lost forever. This would be a huge problem since “faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Clearly God intends for us to have access to his pure word since he instructs us to “believe” it, “study” it, “preach” it, “hide it” in our hearts, use it as “the sword of the Spirit” against the adversary, and so much more. How can we do so if we do not have it?

- ❖ But, the many English versions of the Bible are **very different** in many places, sometimes even saying *opposite* things. This means one of two things:

1. **One is the infallible Word of God, and the others contain errors OR**

2. **None are the infallible Word of God, so all contain errors**

We choose to believe that God is able to keep his word pure and perfect, even in English.

## HOW CAN WE IDENTIFY THE TRUE WORD OF GOD IN ENGLISH?

To decide which version of scripture is the perfect Word of God *in English*, we must understand that the reason the King James Version and the modern versions differ from one another, particularly in the New Testament, is that *the modern versions are based on different underlying texts and produced by men with very different ideas about God's Word from those underlying the KJV*.

The KJV is based on the Received Text, used by believers who trusted it to be the inerrant Word of God for centuries because it aligns with more than 95% of all available ancient manuscripts.

In contrast, modern versions are based on modern critical texts, produced as a result of the critical Greek put together by two men, Wescott and Hort, in 1881. To create this text they primarily used two more recently discovered manuscripts (Vaticanus and Sinaiticus) to make thousands of changes to the Received Text. *But are these texts reliable?* They disagree among themselves substantively in more than 3000 places in the gospels alone and disagree with the vast, vast majority of available texts. Yet Wescott and Hort used these to put together a completely new Greek text.

Since Wescott and Hort, this text has been used to produce other Greek texts, such as that of the United Bible Society and the Nestle-Aland Critical Greek Text that continually go through revisions. The Nestle-Aland Text, for example, is on its 28<sup>th</sup> edition. The textual critics behind these texts do not believe that God has preserved his word; instead, they believe it is their job to try to reconstruct it. They are continually editing and revising it.

But our job as Bible believers is not to reconstruct the Biblical text as though it had been lost. Our job as Bible believers is to trust that God has preserved His Word, as He promised to do, and **use the principles derived from God's word to identify the text God has preserved throughout history:**

- ***Multiplicity of Copies***— God's design was to preserve His word in a multiplicity of accurate, reliable copies (and translations) that were just as authoritative as the originals. (Josh 8:32+; Deuteronomy 17:18-19; Isaiah 30:8; Acts 12:24; Acts 8:27-28). Therefore, we ought to be able to observe in history a collection of manuscripts that are plentiful and in substantive agreement with one another. And we can.

- **Available/Accessible**—the preserved text would not only exist in a multiplicity of copies, but these copies would be available to God’s people to possess, study, copy, believe, translate, and preach from. They would not be hidden under a rock, buried in the sand, or in an inaccessible library or monastery. (Psalm 12:6-7; Matt 24:35; I Pet 1:24-25; Romans 4:3 & 10:17; Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 3:15-17)
- **In Use**— the preserved text would be in use by God’s people for generations. God’s word was preserved through the dynamic of people handling it, not in one copy sitting on a bookshelf for 500 or 1000 years far away from God’s people who were doing the work of the ministry. He preserves His word by it being in the hands of Bible-believing people, and those people are charged with the responsibility to execute God’s purpose. (I Timothy 3:15).

### **ONLY THE KING JAMES VERSION MEETS ALL THESE CRITERIA**

The King James Bible is an accurate translation of the Received Text. This text bears the scriptural marks of preservation:

- Its underlying text is witnessed by the vast majority (about 95%) of extant textual witnesses—a multiplicity of copies (Over 5000 as opposed to fewer than 10)
- It was available and accessible throughout the church age for the body of Christ to possess, study, copy, and translate. (It is also the text that gave rise to the Protestant Reformation.)

**In stark contrast, the Critical Text underlying the modern versions fails on all three counts to pass the tests of scripture:**

1. It has very few manuscript witnesses (only three were most heavily relied upon), and **even those substantively disagree with one another in thousands of places.**
2. The ancient texts underlying the Critical Text were not accessible nor available to believers in general until mid 1800s.
3. Given their lack of availability, they certainly were not copied and/or used by Bible believing people until the 1800s.

***The philosophy behind the creation of modern English versions is that God’s pure word has been lost, and it is up to man to now reconstruct it because they believe they have found older texts that are “more reliable.”***

However, older does not mean more reliable!! Even while the New Testament was first being written, there were “many, which corrupt the word of God” (II Corinthians 2:17 KJV). Corruptions can be found even in the earliest manuscripts and have carried into copies and translations that used those manuscripts as their basis. ***Corrupt manuscripts lead to corrupt translations.***

**An important note:** At least three times God has strong warnings for those who would add to or take away from his words. See Deuteronomy 4:2, Proverbs 30:5-6, and Revelation 22:18-19. Compared to the KJV, the NIV and ESV remove about 55,000 words; the NAS about 26,000. And every time a new edition or version is created and copyrighted, by law it must be different from current editions. Think about what that means if there are now hundreds of versions of the English Bible.

The following pages provide just a few of the differences between the KJV and the modern versions of the English Bible organized by the doctrine they impact. Note that modern versions consistently diminish or call into question important doctrines such as the deity of Christ, the inerrancy of the scriptures, and salvation by grace through faith alone in the shed blood of Christ alone.

## THE KJV -VS- THE MODERN VERSIONS

Because the underlying texts from which they are translated are different, there are thousands of differences between the KJV and the modern versions that have doctrinal implications. This chart represents just a few.

### INERRANCY OF THE BIBLE

| VERSE           | KING JAMES VERSION   | MODERN VERSIONS (NAS, NIV, ESV, . . .)  | COMMENTS   |
|-----------------|--|---|--|
| Mk 1:2-3        | “As it is <u>written</u> in <i>the prophets</i> , Behold I send my messenger before thy face...The voice of one crying in the wilderness...” | As it is <u>written</u> in <i>Isaiah the prophet</i> , Behold I send my messenger before your face...The voice of one crying in the wilderness... | The KJV is correct as both Malachi & Isaiah are quoted.<br><br>The <b>modern versions are WRONG</b> . The first quote is nowhere in Isaiah. It is in Malachi.<br><br><i>Can the true Word of God contain errors?</i> |
| Hebrews 3:16    | “For <i>some</i> ...did provoke... <i>not all</i> that came out of Egypt by Moses...”  | For who provoked...? Indeed did not <i>all those</i> who came out of Egypt led by Moses...?   | Again, the KJV is correct as Joshua & Caleb did not provoke. The <b>modern versions are wrong</b> .<br><br>Also note that the versions say the <b>opposite</b> of each other.  |
| II Samuel 21:19 | “...Elhanan...slew <i>the brother of Goliath</i> ...”  | “...Elhanan...killed <i>Goliath</i> ...”  | David killed Goliath.<br>Modern versions are wrong again.  |

### SALVATION BECAUSE OF THE FAITH OF CHRIST

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| Romans 3:22<br><br>Galatians 2:16 and 20<br><br>Ephesians 3:12<br><br>Philippians 3:9 | Read each of these verses carefully. They teach that salvation/righteousness is available because of the faith <i>of Christ</i> and applied to those who have faith (believe) <i>in Christ</i> .<br><br>“...the righteousness of God which is by <i>faith of Jesus Christ</i> unto all and upon all them that <b>believe...</b> ” (Rom. 3:22) | In the new versions, <b>every</b> reference to the faith <i>of Christ</i> is changed to our faith <i>in Christ</i> | The modern versions remove every mention of the faith <b>OF Christ</b> .<br><br>HIS faith is far more important than our faith to pleasing God and saving our souls.<br><br>It was HIS faith that led him to the cross and that ensures our eternal security.<br><b>Without CHRIST’S faith, OUR faith is vain.</b> |
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## DIETY OF CHRIST

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|-----------------|---|--|---|
| John 1:18       | “...the only <b>begotten Son</b> , which is in the bosom of the Father...”  | NAS: the only <b>begotten God</b> , who is in the bosom of the Father  | Christ’s deity had no beginning—He is eternally God. The NAS, like the Jehovah’s Witnesses, says here that Christ, as God, had a beginning, implying that he is a created being.<br><b><i>How can we accept this translation?</i></b> |
| Acts 8:37       | <b>“And Philip said, “If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, <u>I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.</u>”</b> | NIV/ ESV: <b>The entire verse is missing</b><br>NAS: The entire verse is in brackets; a footnote implies it should not be there. | Note <i>what</i> is called into question.   |
| Lk 24:51-52     | “...And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he <i>was</i> parted from them, <b><i>and carried into heaven. And they worshipped him...</i></b> ”           | NAS: The bold words are omitted  | The ascension of Christ is left out of the gospels in the NAS. <i>Is the ascension important???</i><br>Also, the worship of Christ is left out here.  |
| Philippians 2:6 | “(Christ)...thought it <b><i>not robbery</i></b> to be equal with God...”   | (Christ)... <b><i>did not regard (consider) equality with God a thing (something) to be grasped...</i></b>                       | Here the modern versions say that Christ did not believe he could grasp equality with God!!!!   |
| I Cor 15:47     | “...the second man is <b><i>the Lord</i></b> from heaven...”  | Omit “ <b><i>the Lord</i></b> ”  | The title “Lord” is omitted with reference to Christ in well over 100 verses  |
| Ephesians 3:9   | “...God, who created all things <b><i>by Jesus Christ...</i></b> ”  | Omit “ <b><i>by Jesus Christ</i></b> ”   | Again, an attack on the deity of Christ   |
| Acts 3:13,26    | “...God ...hath glorified his <b><i>Son</i></b> Jesus...having raised up his <b><i>Son</i></b> Jesus  | <b><i>Son</i></b> is changed to <b><i>servant</i></b>  | Is there a difference between a son and a servant?  |
| Luke 23:42      | “And he said unto Jesus, <b><i>Lord</i></b> , remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.”   | Omit <b><i>Lord</i></b>  | Another of the MANY omissions of the title <b><i>Lord</i></b> in reference to Jesus   |

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| Romans 14:10    | “...we shall all stand before the judgment seat of <i>Christ</i> .”   | ...we shall all stand before the judgment seat of <i>God</i> |  |
| Galatians 6:17  | “...I bear in my body the marks of <i>the Lord</i> Jesus.”            | Omit <i>the Lord</i>   | Another of the MANY omissions of the title <i>Lord</i> in reference to Jesus |
| Revelation 1:11 | “... <i>I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last...</i> ” | Omitted  | See Rev 22:19: God’s warning about taking words away from this book!         |

#### SINLESSNESS OF CHRIST / VIRGIN BIRTH

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|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| II Samuel 7:14           | “I will be his father, and he shall be my son. <i>If</i> he commit inequity...”   | “I will be his father, and he will be my son. <i>When</i> he does wrong...”   | In the modern versions, this passage about the coming son of God implies that Jesus Christ will do wrong. |
| Matt 5:22<br>w/ Mark 3:5 | “But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother <i>without a cause</i> shall be in danger of the judgment...” | Omit <i>without a cause</i><br>Then,<br>Mark 3:5 says that Christ “...looked round about on them <i>with anger...</i> ” | In the modern versions <i>Christ condemns himself!</i>  |
| Luke 2: 33               | “And <b>Joseph</b> and his mother marveled...”  | And <i>His (the child’s) father</i> and mother were amazed (marveled)...  | <b>God</b> , not Joseph, is the father of Jesus Christ  |

#### SACRIFICE / BLOOD OF CHRIST

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| Colossians 1:14 | “In whom we have redemption <i>through his blood</i> , even the forgiveness of sins.” | In whom we have redemption, even the forgiveness of sins<br>( <i>Omit the blood of Christ!</i> ) | <b>The blood of Christ is gone from this verse</b> in the modern versions!!!   |
| Hebrews 1: 3    | “When he had <i>by himself</i> purged our sins...”                                    | When (After) he had made (provided) purification of sins...                                      | Priests made purification of sins with animal sacrifices. It was the sacrifice of <i>Christ himself</i> that purged sins completely and forever. |
| I Peter 4:1     | “Christ has suffered <i>for us</i> in the flesh...”                                   | Omit <i>for us</i>   | Anyone can suffer.   |

## SALVATION

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| John 3:36  | "...he that <b>believeth not</b> the Son shall not see life..."                              | NAS: "...he who does not <b>obey</b> the Son shall not see life..."   | Are we saved by faith or by works (obedience)?   |
| John 6:47  | "...He that believeth <b>on me</b> hath everlasting life."                                   | He who believes has eternal life ( <i>Omit on me</i> )                | It is important to know the object of our belief! Many people say they "believe in God" but don't believe on Jesus Christ. |
| Mark 10:23 | "...How hard it is <b>for them that trust in riches</b> to enter into the kingdom of God..." | "...How hard it is to enter the kingdom of God..."                    | Is it hard for all to be saved?  |
| 2 Cor 11:3 | "I fear...your minds should be corrupted from <b>the simplicity that is in Christ.</b> "     | simplicity <b>and purity of [sincere and pure] devotion to Christ</b> | The simplicity of being IN CHRIST, is changed to something WE must DO or have!! A dangerous corruption.                    |

## GOD'S WORD

|               |  |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|--|
| Luke 4:4      | "...Man shall not live by bread alone, <b>but by every word of God.</b> "  | Omit <b>but by every word of God</b>   |  |
| Psalms 12:6-7 | "The words of the Lord are pure words...thou shalt keep <b>them</b> , O Lord, thou shalt preserve <b>them</b> from this generation forever." | NAS: "The words of the Lord are pure words...Thou, O Lord wilt keep them; Thou wilt preserve <b>him</b> ..."<br>NIV: "The words of the Lord are flawless...O Lord, you will keep <b>us</b> safe and protect <b>us</b> from such people forever." | It is interesting that this verse about God preserving his Word is changed |
| Psalms 138:2  | "...thou hast magnified thy word <b>above all thy name.</b> "  | NAS: "...thou hast magnified thy word <b>according to thy name.</b> "<br>NIV/ESV: "...you have exalted above all things your name and your word."  | These verses do not say the same thing.                                    |

## MISCELLANEOUS DIFFERENT READINGS

|             |  |   |  |
|-------------|--|---|--|
| II Tim 2:15 | " <b>Study</b> to shew thyself approved..."                                  | NAS: " <b>Be diligent</b> to present yourselves..."<br>NIV/ESV: " <b>Do your best</b> to present yourselves..." | "Be diligent" and "Do your best" do not mean "Study" |
| Col. 2:18   | "...things which he hath <b>not seen</b> ..."                                | "...he <b>has seen</b> ...". <b>ESV:</b> visions  | Did he see them or not?                              |
| Luke 9:31   | "...he spake of his <b>decease</b> which he should accomplish at Jerusalem." | "...his <b>departure</b> ..."   | One can depart without dying.                        |
| 2 Cor 2:17  | "...many, which <b>corrupt</b> the word of God..."                           | All change <b>corrupt</b> to some form of <i>peddle</i>   | "Corrupt" and "peddle" do not mean the same thing.   |



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC:

**A MUST-WATCH video message:** *The KJV and the Logic of Faith* by David Reid (From Columbusbiblechurch.org)

<https://www.columbusbiblechurch.org/conferences?sapurl=Lyt2NzRwL2xiL21pLytrcHhuanE0P2VtYmVkPXRydWUmcmVjZW50Um9ldGU9YXBwLndIYi1hcHAubGlicmFyeS5saXN0JnJIY2VudFJvdXRIU2x1Zz0lMkNmNDc2eHJo>

**Where Is God's Word Today?** by Stephen Reid (Short but powerful booklet)

Available from [Columbusbiblechurch.org](https://columbusbiblechurch.org) (free PDF) or a printed copy from

<https://dispensationalpublishing.com/product/where-is-gods-word-today/>

**“The Corrupt Manuscripts of the Modern Bible Versions::**

<https://jesusismysavior.medium.com/the-corrupt-manuscripts-of-the-modern-bible-versions-4d2029e0517b>

**More info about texts underlying modern versions:**

<https://www.preservedword.com/content/the-unreliability-of-the-alexandrian-manuscripts/>

Here is an excerpt:

“Vaticanus is the sole property of the Vatican; it has been a part of the Vatican library since at least 1475. It's history previous is unknown. It was written by three scribes, and has been corrected by at least two more. Vaticanus adds to the Old Testament the apocryphal books of Baruch, Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus, Judith, Tobit, and the Epistle of Jeremiah. Dean Burgon describes the poor workmanship of Vaticanus:

Codex B [Vaticanus] comes to us without a history: without recommendation of any kind, except that of its antiquity. It bears traces of careless transcription in every page. The mistakes which the original transcriber made are of perpetual recurrence.

The New Westminster Dictionary of the Bible concurs, “It should be noted, however, that there is no prominent Biblical MS in which there occur such gross cases of misspelling, faulty grammar, and omission, as in B [Vaticanus].” Vaticanus omits Mark 16:9-20, yet there is a significant blank space here for these verses. Sinaiticus also lacks these verses, but has a blank space for them. These two manuscripts are the only Greek manuscripts that omit these verses!

**For a much deeper study:**

<https://gracelifebiblechurch.com/sermon-category/the-word-for-all-ages/> or <https://gracelifebiblechurch.com/why-use-the-kjv/>