

Bibliology

Building Conviction and Confidence in the Bible

Lesson # 4 – November 02, 2025



Text: Psalms 12:6,7, 138:2; I Peter 1:23;

Introduction: Last week we look at the inspiration, the inerrancy and the infallibility of the Word of God and these are important doctrines that we believe and stand by! So is the doctrine of “Preservation of the Bible”. If God is able to Inspire His Word to be free from all errors, surely He can divinely preserve His same Word for us today. Let’s look at the preservation of the Word of God. Have you wondered or thought how did those parchment of paper or scrolls with the writings from the Lord get us today and how and who translated them.

- Some people have issues or problems because of the translation was done by men (ie, from Hebrew, Greek, or Arabic into a different language, then to our English language) and man make mistakes and sometimes they suggest their own ideas, thoughts or agendas. Like Albert Einstein said on January 03, 1954 (a year and three months before his death) he wrote a letter to philosopher Eric Gutkind saying – “The word of God is for me nothing, but the expression and product of human weaknesses.”
 - So why is this different???
 - 1st – They receive the Word from the Lord – throughout the entire Bible you found that it says or stated, “For thus saith the Lord or the Lord hath said unto me...Exodus 5:1; Psalm 2:7; Jeremiah 33:2; Isaiah 43:1, 44:6; even Jesus stated, “It is written” – Matthew 4:1-11
 - 2nd – They recorded the Word like it was – last week seen that “it wasn’t by the will of man – II Peter 1:20,21; Exodus 4:12-15; Jeremiah 1:9
 - 3rd – They reconciled the Word by faith – They had simple faith just to believe and accept God’s Word as it was. As these holy men of God spoke and wrote the Words of God as they were moved by the Holy Ghost – it took faith to accept it as it was – even Jesus spoke about in Matthew 4 – “As it is written....” You and I must accept it by faith as the True Word of God, if not then it is useless for you!!! Matthew 15:6; Mark 7:13;

Lesson: The transmission or translation of the Bible. There are some facts or truths about how the Lord allow His Word to be transmitted or translated to us today! So let’s look at these truths.

A. Historical truths of the Bible – Where did it start?

“Much of the Bible, in particular the historical books of the old testament, are as accurate historical documents as any that we have and are in fact more accurate than many of the Egyptian, Mesopotamian, or Greek histories.

These Biblical records can be and are used as are other ancient documents in archeological work. For the most part, historical events described took place and the peoples cited really existed.”

From the National Geographic - I referred your inquiries to our staff archeologist, Dr. George Stuart. He said that archaeologists do indeed find the Bible a valuable reference tool, and use it many times for geographical relationships, old names and relative chronologies. On the enclosed list, you will find many articles concerning discoveries verifying events discussed in the Bible. ~ National Geographic Society, Washington D.C.

The Bible we have today is the product of a long historical process, beginning with oral traditions that were eventually written down by many human authors, forming the books of the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament (Hebrew scriptures) was written over centuries in Hebrew, with its final books completed around 420 BC. The New Testament (written in Greek) developed from early Christian writings, and its canon (general laws, rules, etc..) of 27 books in the 4th century AD, with the final texts solidifying around the late 4th century.

-Hand-copied scrolls: For centuries, Jewish scribes meticulously copied the sacred texts onto scrolls. The scribal tradition, particularly the Masoretes from the 6th to 10th centuries A.D., was extremely strict. They counted letters and words to ensure perfect accuracy.

Example - The Dead Sea Scrolls: Found in 1947, these scrolls contain biblical manuscripts from around the 3rd century B.C. to the 1st century A.D. When compared with the Masoretic texts from over a thousand years later, they show remarkable consistency, confirming the accuracy of the scribal tradition such as the Books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Psalms, Isaiah and Daniel.

B. Heroic truths for the Bible – The Lord used holy men of God to pen the scriptures – II Peter 1:20,21

- a. **Authors** – there were over about 40 men covering over 1,500 years. They were from all walks of life before the Lord changed their lives – one was a stutter, a womanizer, a murderer, an adulterer, a curser, a persecutor, a fisherman, a selfish and racial person, a doctor, a fisherman, a tax collector, and even some with anger issues.
- b. **Authors** – Not only did the Lord raise up men in the Bible times, but He also used others:
 - i. John Wycliffe – In the late 1300’s, translated the Latin Bible into Middle English and nothing happened to him during his life, but after his death in 1384, he was condemned as a heretic in 1415 and since he was dead and could be excommunicated from the church, so in 1428, they exhumed his body, burned all the remains and the scattered his ashes in the River Swift because he translated the Latin Bible into Middle English and distributed them out by hand.
 - ii. Johannes Gutenberg – In 1455, in a town called Mainz, Germany was the first printing press created with ink and rollers by Johannes Gutenberg and he printed the very first book on it which was the “Gutenberg Bible” (about 180 copies in Latin Vulgate).
 1. Why is this important? This was the launching point for history in the making for future Bible to be printed.

- a. There are about 80 to 100 million Bibles being printed annually in the world today (China accounts for almost 79% of the Bibles being printed and America accounts for almost 20% of these Bibles being printed).
- iii. William Tyndale – In the 1500's, he translated the Bible into common English, which was very influential in the drafting of the King James Version Bible. But in 1535, he was arrested for violating a political and religious law by translating the Bible into English. He was executed by strangulation followed by burning at the stake in Vilvoorde, Belgium 1536 (note his dying words that were recorded that day was "Lord! Open the king of England's eyes"). It is amazing how God works – On April 21, 1509, King Henry VIII came on the scene and authorized an English Bible which is known as the "KING JAMES VERSION" to be printed in 1539.
- iv. John Rogers – Also in 1500's, he was the first to complete the English Bible known as the Matthew's Bible. Because of this Queen Mary 1, had him persecuted, arrested and ultimately burned at the stake in 1555.

-Gutenberg's invention: Before the printing press was invented around 1455, every copy of the Bible had to be made by hand, which was a slow and expensive process.

-Increased distribution: The printing press allowed the Bible to be mass-produced and distributed widely. The Protestant Reformation further fueled the demand for Bibles in common languages, leading to many new translations into other languages.

- C. **Hopeful truths for the Bible** – Because of these factors the Lord allowed these things to take place, it enabled us to hold in our possession the entire perfect Word of God!!! Here at Bible Baptist Church, we teach and preach strictly from the King James Version (KJV) Bible! **Why?**
 - a. The most popular English translation of the Bible during King James I's time was the Geneva Bible. It was filled with political bias from religious reformers exiled by Queen Mary I. For this reason, he intended to create a translation that would offer the entire Bible without scolding commentary or innuendos about the throne. King James's translation was meant to be a Bible that any English-speaking individual could read at home or in church—and it succeeded magnificently. Over half of Bible-toting Americans read from the King James Bible.
He requested the assistance of more than 40 Bible scholars and translators when he began his Authorized Bible project. He split the theologians into six separate committees that focused on significant portions of the Bible. The King James Bible is famous for using the Textus Receptus, which is the Greek New Testament published in Latin by the Dutch scholar Erasmus.

Note - Many modern translations use The New Testament in the Original Greek, which was created in 1881 by Westcott and Hort—two scholars who treated the Bible as any other book and prioritized older, heavily edited manuscripts over accurate manuscripts.

- b. The KJV was translated in 1611, many older and more complete biblical manuscripts have been discovered, such as the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Codex Sinaiticus. The translations are able to use this wider array of manuscripts, which scholars believe and provides an accurate representation of the original texts.

- c. Scholars have been trying to perfect the English translation of the Bible for centuries, but is it possible that the art of its translation peaked once King James I of England revealed his project of epic proportions—the King James Bible? Many others have attempted to put the Bible **into their own words by paraphrasing or making additions or subtractions**, but the King James Version offers the most exemplary literal English translation using the highest-quality Greek, Latin, and Hebrew scriptures. No one has yet matched King James's efforts to create the most faithful, accurate Bible meaning. There maybe plenty of reasons to distract you from the King James Bible over other translations, especially in today's world filled with unfaithfulness, removal of verses and chapters, and then paraphrasing translations. IF you do, then you will be reading will have a watered down version of the Bible. II Timothy 4:3

Conclusion:

The Bible remains relevant today because it offers timeless guidance for living, addresses the unchanging aspects of human nature and morality, provides a foundational narrative for Christian faith, and inspires people with hope, wisdom, and a vision for loving God and others. Its wisdom applies to daily life, relationships, and personal well-being, providing enduring principles for navigating life's challenges with faith and courage. Hebrews 13:8 --- Jesus is the "WORD" – John 1:1

So why did God give us His Word:

- To present Jesus Christ as the Savior and Redeemer of the world – John 4:14
- To provide for us the historical context in which Jesus came – John 5:39
- To plea with the unbelievers into faith in Jesus – Luke 19:10
- To pilot believers how God wants us to live – Psalms 119:10,11, 105

Praise the Lord that He preserved His Word for us today!!!

