



**Windmill church of Christ
Newsletter**

4839 Tin Top Rd.
Weatherford TX 76087
www.windmillcoc.org
www.housetohouse.com
TheGospelRadioNetwork.org
media.tullstar.org
August 16, 2020

*Search the
Scriptures Daily
Acts 17:11*

Sunday Morning Bible Class:
9:30 AM

Sunday AM Worship: 10:30

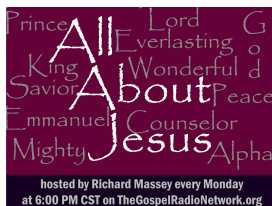
Sunday PM Worship:
6:00

Wednesday PM Bible Class:
7:00

4th Wednesday PM-Singing
7:00



*Bring your Bibles
to Bible class.*



Listen to "All About
Jesus" on
TheGospelRadioNet
work.org each
Monday at 5:30 pm.
And our Sunday
morning sermon at
8:30 am Sunday.

Bible Versions—Does It Really Matter?

Any person familiar with the Bible realizes that there are numerous versions of the Bible available and that not all of them are the same. Yet, God's Word does not contradict; Instead, God's Word is inspired (breathed of God) and is without error (2 Tim. 3:16-17). The problem with translation work is **never** with God's Word, but usually with the mindset or attitude behind the specific work. Men **have** and **are able** to translate the Word of God into their own vernacular from the original languages. Without question, God has given mankind His inspired, infallible, inerrant and understandable Word (Psa. 119:104-105). To believe or say otherwise is to indict God. Proper translation work is reliable. After all, even Jesus used a translation (i.e., the Septuagint), but He still referred to such as God's Word.

Yet, there is a problem that needs to be addressed—namely, "How does one choose a good version of the Bible from among so many different versions?" The following suggestions are given to help one answer this important question. Consider:

1. **No Version Is Perfect, But Truth Can Be Known** – Remember, the autographs were inspired of God and not any of the versions. This is critical to understand for it begs the question, "Which versions of the Bible 'most accurately reflect' the words used by the inspired penman of the autographs?" Stated another way, "Which Bible versions strive for an accurate or 'word for word' translation of the Bible?" Since even the best translations of Scripture have occasional non-critical minor issues (cf., the usage of Easter instead of Passover (Acts 12:4) in the KJV), would it not behoove the truth seeker to find and use the versions with the least problems? As an example, if Version 1 (cf., KJV) has only a few "minor" (non-doctrinal) problems whereas Version 2 (cf., NIV) teaches multiple doctrinal errors, would it not be important for the serious student of the Bible to know the difference and utilize Version 1 as his main study Bible? Obviously, it would matter (1 Tim. 1:3, 4:16; 2 Jn. 9-11). While no individual translation or Bible version is "inspired" in and of itself, it is nevertheless true that some versions represent accurate translation work, whereas others do not. Why would a serious Bible student—a truth seeker—intentionally choose an unreliable translation?
2. **Certain Versions Are Much Better** – When trying to evaluate a specific version of the Bible to use, every person should inquire into the background of the translators. In other words, what was the mindset of the translators? What was their view of the Word of God? Did they believe it to be the actual inspired Word of God (John 16:13, 2 Tim. 3:16-17)? Also, what were they striving for in their translation? Did they, as much as possible, work to obtain a "word for word" translation or was a simple "just get the general thought" more to their way of thinking? In the language of the scholars, were these translators of the Formal Equivalence school or more of the faulty Dynamic Equivalence arena? Answering this one question will help one immensely in knowing what version to use. For instance, *The American Standard 1901*, *The King James*, *et cetera* are from the "proper school of thought" along this line, whereas most of the modern versions and certainly the paraphrases are well off base with their scholarship. Versions like the *RSV* and *NIV* contain various mistakes and/or blatant doctrinal errors and clearly a far more accurate translation can be found in the versions listed above. Certainly, versions, or more accurately, paraphrases, like the *Cotton Patch*, *Today's English Version*, *The Living Bible* and a host of similar **propaganda versions** should not be used for serious Bible study by any person actually wanting to know God's Word.

(cont. on back)

NEWS, NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Visitors: If you are visiting, please know that you are an honored guest. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the collection plate or give it to one of our members so that we can have a record of your visit.

Remember in Prayer:

Remember In Prayer: **Brenda Blair, Jennifer Hardeman, Cathy Massey, Edith Proffitt, Samuel Gilbert, Tilmon Bonner** (all the shut-ins)

Friends and family: **Christian Acosta, Brady Adair, Amanda** (Jennifer's sister), **Mark Balke, Christi Craig, Pat Fulfer, Reta George, Forest Hanson** (is home from Rehab), **Francis McCluskey** (heart), **Kenneth & Mary McConnathy, Janiece Melcher, Rosco Davis** (from Morgan Mill), **Debra Bowser, Michael Klembus, Stephanie & Anthony Jr.** (children of Anthony & Becky; that they can become faithful Christians), **Sharon Petrosky** (weakened from chemo treatments), **Lela Spikes** (3 y/o receiving chemo), **Savanah Stockstill** (pregnancy complications), **Rae Lynne Swopes, Dalton Valores & daughter Brinlee, Robert Wallis, Darius Warren, Vicky White, Catherine Willbanks, Donna Nevel, All the lost in this world** (If you know of anyone who needs to be on the prayer list, please let us know.)

Mission work: **Banard Kagaga** (Kenya), **House-to-House/Heart-to-Heart, Correspondence Courses, World Video Bible School. Expedition Through The Bible (radio program), Josh White, TheGospelRadioNetwork.org**

Directory Update: Richard Massey's new phone number-682-288-5102

3. **Some Versions Are Full Of Error And Should Not Be Used** – It is not the intent of this brief article to address or document the various issues found within the numerous versions available. Resources by men like Robert Taylor, Wayne Jackson and others can be obtained that outline specifics (both good and bad) in regard to the sundry versions. Just as false teachers/religions teach some or even much truth, it is equally important to realize that even a little error is too much (1 John 4:1). Such is certainly true with faulty versions of the Bible. Before one gets upset about a sound eldership saying certain versions are not to be used in teaching, it would be wise to ask this question: “Would I want to study from someone (or in our case, something) that is **known** to promote soul-damning doctrinal error or that subtly/systemically endorses doctrinal inaccuracies?” If the answer is, “No Way,” then the attitude of “versions do not really matter” has been refuted.

In summary, clearly there are extremes that need to be understood. One extreme would say that only “this specific version” is of God, whereas the other extreme would say that “one version is as good as another.” The truth, however, is this: No version is totally flawless. However, (and this is a big HOWEVER) certain versions reflect the correct attitude of translation and the result of their product is an accurate and good translation of God’s inspired Word (2 Peter 1:3). Surely, the diligent Bible student will desire to use the reliable versions and will forever avoid those that promote error and sin (John 8:32, 12:48).

~Jason Rollo

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Wednesday Night Devo **July**

19 Devron Smith
26 Anthony Martinez

September

2 Mitchell Kingston
9 Zach Looper
16 Mickey Hukill
23 Marvin Blair