

Apologetics and the Bible

(Part 4)

Presented by:

Wilfred Graves Jr., PhD

October 31, 2019

Four Reasons to Trust the Bible

1. The Bible is remarkably consistent in its story and message.
2. The Bible is historically accurate.
3. The Bible contains numerous fulfilled prophecies and miracles.
4. The Bible changes lives.

The Bible Changes Lives

Hundreds of millions of people around the world read the Bible for inspiration, guidance, and encouragement. The Bible's undeniable ability to motivate faith and produce radical life change is one strong indication of its divine origin.

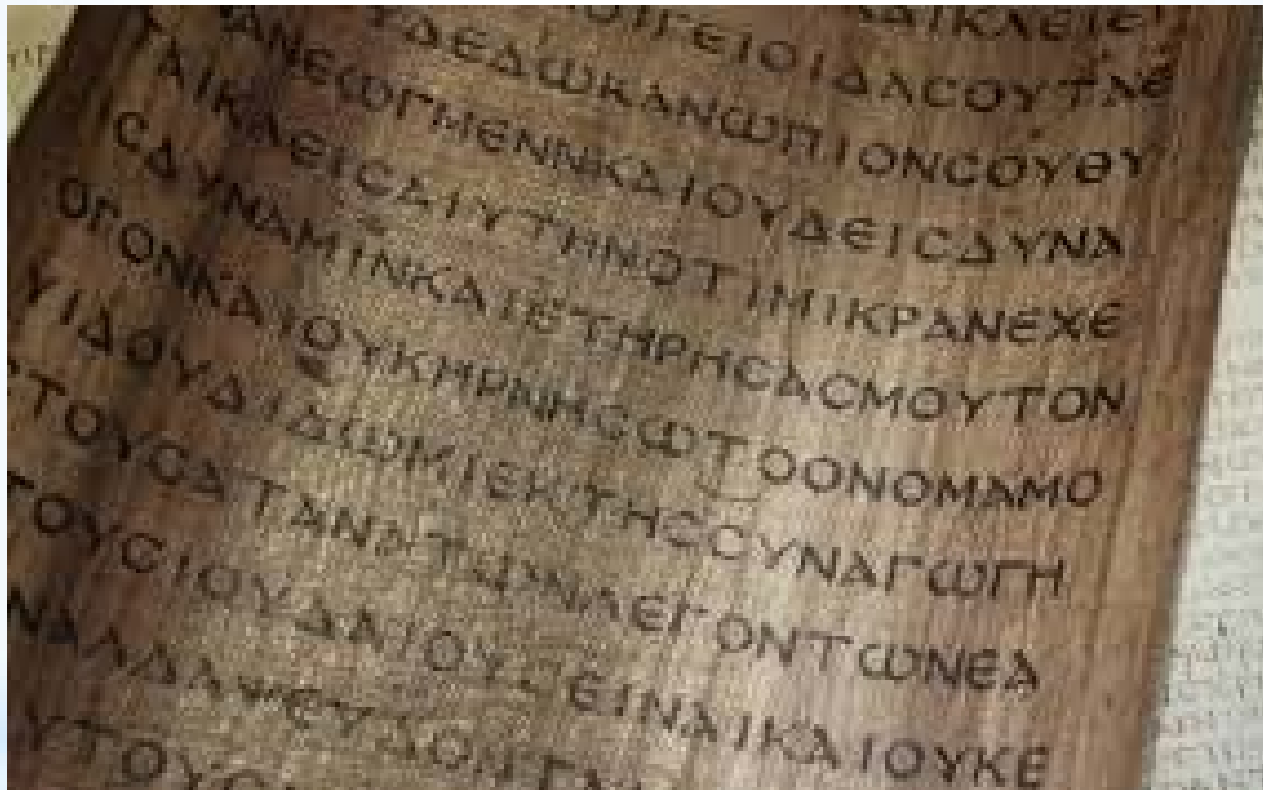
An Introduction to Bible Translation

Presented by:

Wilfred Graves Jr., PhD

October 31, 2019

The Septuagint

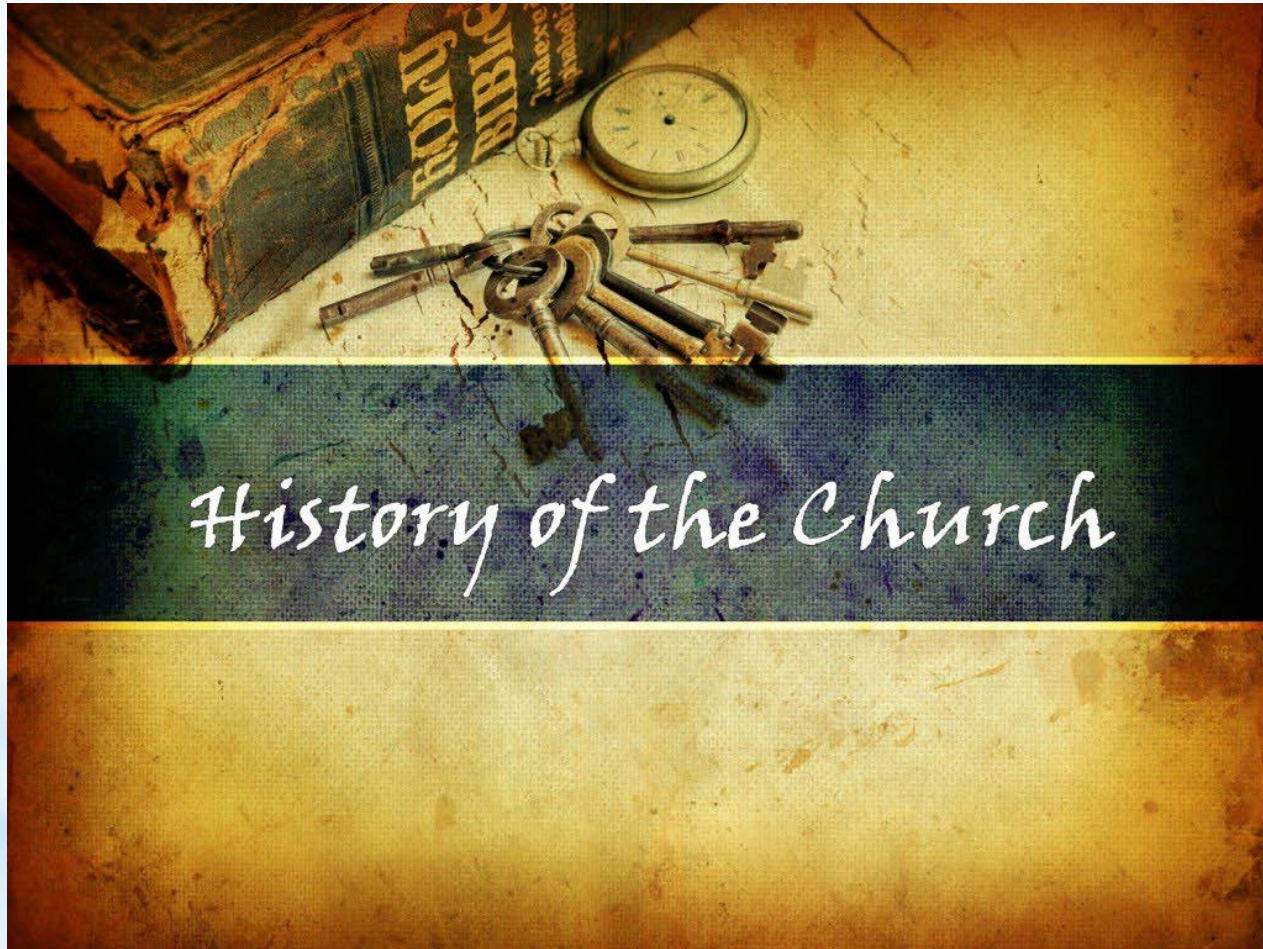


Latin Vulgate Bible



'Vulgar' = 'common'

History of English Bible Translation

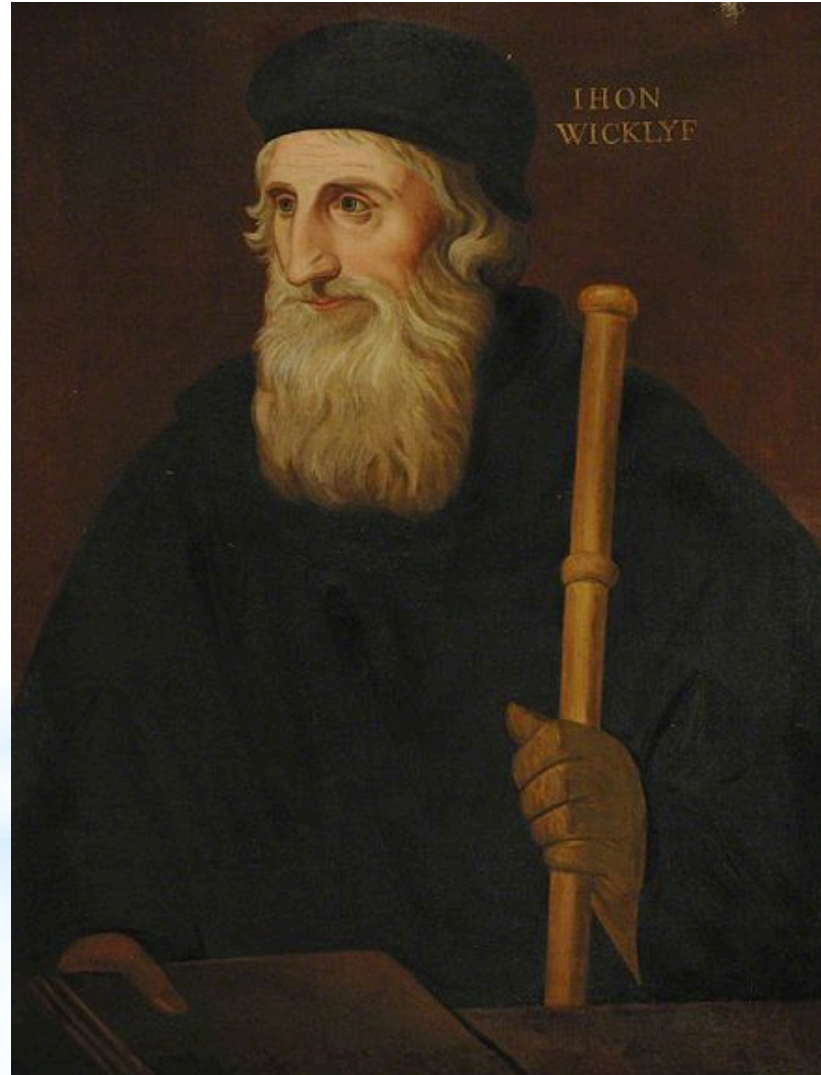


A pattern . . .

When the Bible is ignored or abandoned, the church declines.

When God's people return to the word of God, there is revival and reformation.

John Wycliffe (1320?—1384)



John Wycliffe

The chief cause, beyond doubt, of the existing state of things, is our lack of faith in the Holy Scripture
It is his pleasure that the books of the Old and New Law should be read and studied.

John Wycliffe

Christian men and women, old and young, should study well in the New Testament, for it is of full authority, and open to understanding by simple men, as to the points that are most needful to salvation.

John Wycliffe

Each part of Scripture, both open and dark, teaches meekness and charity; and therefore he that keeps meekness and charity has the true understanding and perfection of all Scripture.

John Wycliffe

Therefore, no simple man of wit should be afraid to study in the text of Scripture. And no cleric should be proud of the true understanding of Scripture, because understanding of Scripture without charity that keeps God's com mandments, makes a man deeper damned . . .

John Wycliffe

... and pride and covetousness of clerics is the cause of [the Church's] blindness and heresy, and deprives them of the true understanding of Scripture.

Latin Vulgate Bible



'Vulgar' = 'common'

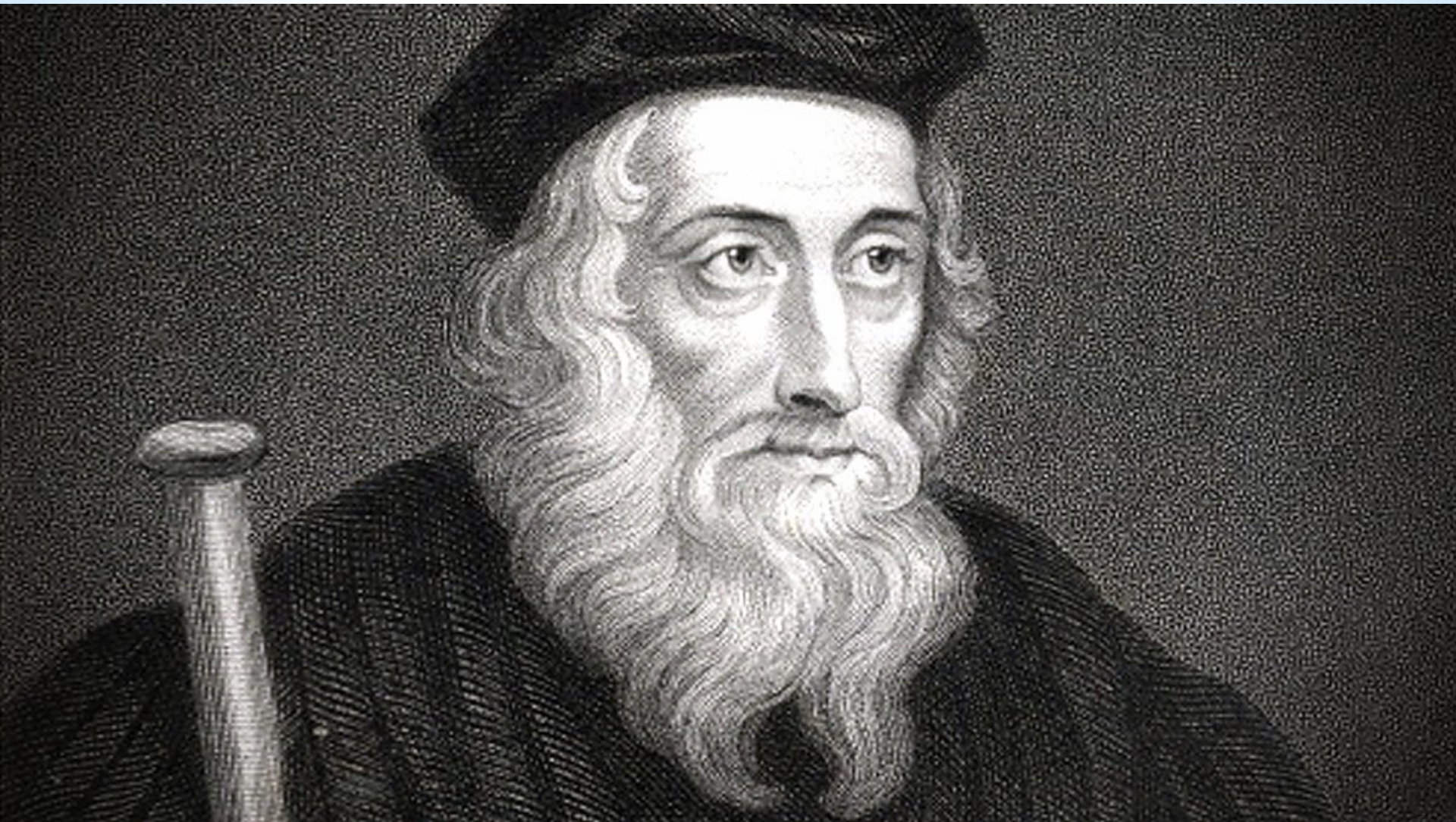
Caedmon (7th Century)



The Venerable Bede (672-735)



John Wycliffe (1320?—1384)



John Wycliffe



John Wycliffe



John Wycliffe



"Lollards"



Mhe byggⁱⁿ **cap**
 ynge of ye gol
 pel of ihu crist
 ye sone of god;
 as it is witen
 in þis booke þe
 te. 100 I leud my

anngel bifore þi face: þ^t schal make
 þi weye redy bifore yee. The voyce
 of a ouerynge in deserte make zee
 redy þe weye of ye lord: make zee
 his papis ryztful. 1000 Was in de
 sertt baptizinge & piechinge þe lay
 tyme of penance in to remission
 of synes. And alle men of ierusa
 lem wenten out to hym & alle þe
 countre of iude & weren baptized of

is fulfuld: The kyngdom of god
 schal come nyz. For ymke zee qz
 to zee penance: & bilcney to þe
 gospel. **A**nd þassunge bytydes
 þe se of galilee: seer; symon and
 andrew his broþur: sendinge net
 tis in to þe see. Soþeli þei weren
 fischerys. And ielus seide to hem
 Come zee aftur me: I schal make
 zou to be made fischerys of men.
 And anon þe nettis forlaken:
 þei sueden hym. And he gon to þe
 penys a litil; seer; jaunys of zebe
 dee & ionn his broþur: & heu in þe
 wort makinge nettis. And anon
 he clepide hem. And zebede her fa
 dir lett þei sueden hym. **A**nd þe
 mente forye in to cafarnuim. And

Alle we erriden as scheep, ech man bowide in to his
owne weie, and the Lord puttide in hym the wickidnesse
of vs alle.

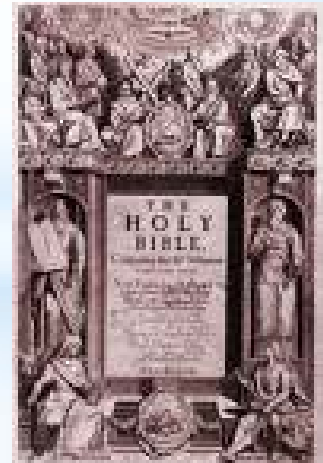
Isaiah 53.6

Alle we erriden as schein, ech man bowide in to his owne weie, and the Lord puttide in hym the wickidnesse of vs alle.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Three things to keep in mind:

- Translated from Latin (Vulgate)
- Hand-copied manuscripts
- The first English translation of Bible



John Wycliffe



John Wycliffe

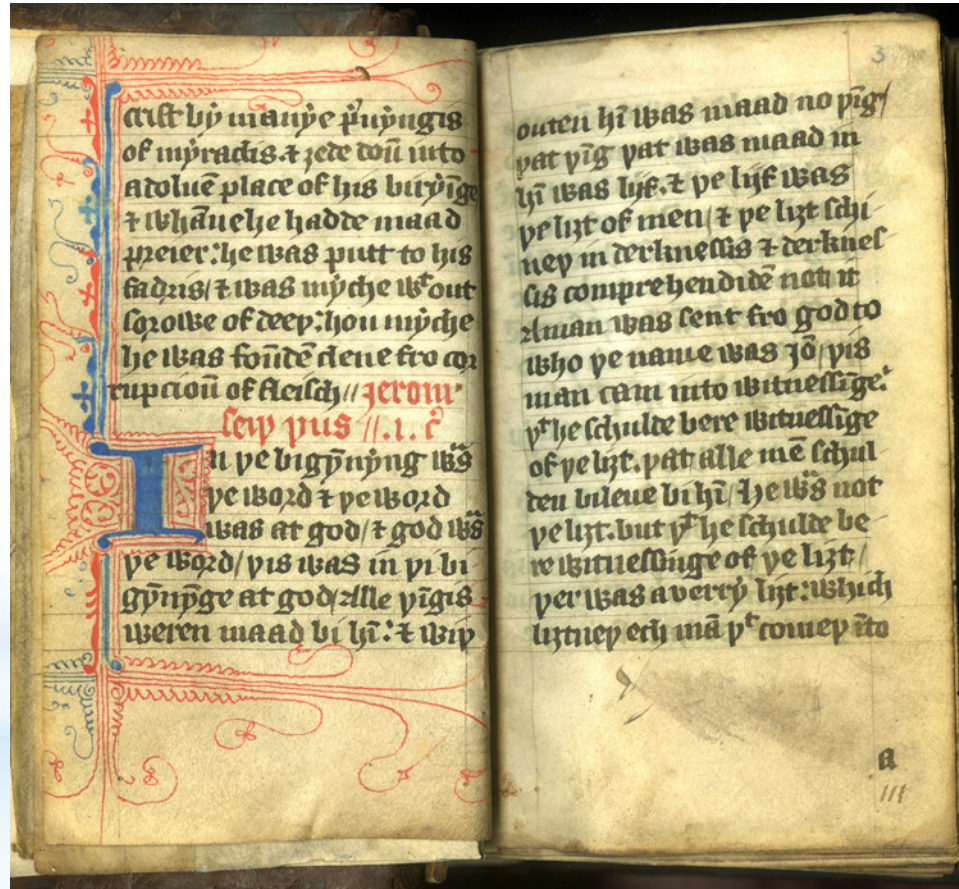
Crist by manys þynnis
 of myradis. ⁊ zete toū into
 adolue place of his buryng
 ⁊ whāne he hadde maad
 þreier: he was putt to his
 fadris ⁊ was myche wout
 sorowe of deop: hou myche
 he was foude dene fro cor-
 ruptiō of fleisch. ⁊ zeron
 ley þus // .i. c.
 In þe bigynnyng was
 þe word ⁊ þe word
 was at god ⁊ god was
 þe word / þis was in þe bi-
 gynnge at god: alle þingis
 weren maad bi hi: ⁊ wis

1401 - HENRY IV STATUTE: *DE HERETICO COMBURENDO*

1. Law Forbidding the Production & Owning of English Bibles
2. Law Transferred Heretics from the Church to Secular Power
3. Law Condemned Heretics to be Burned Alive at the Stake



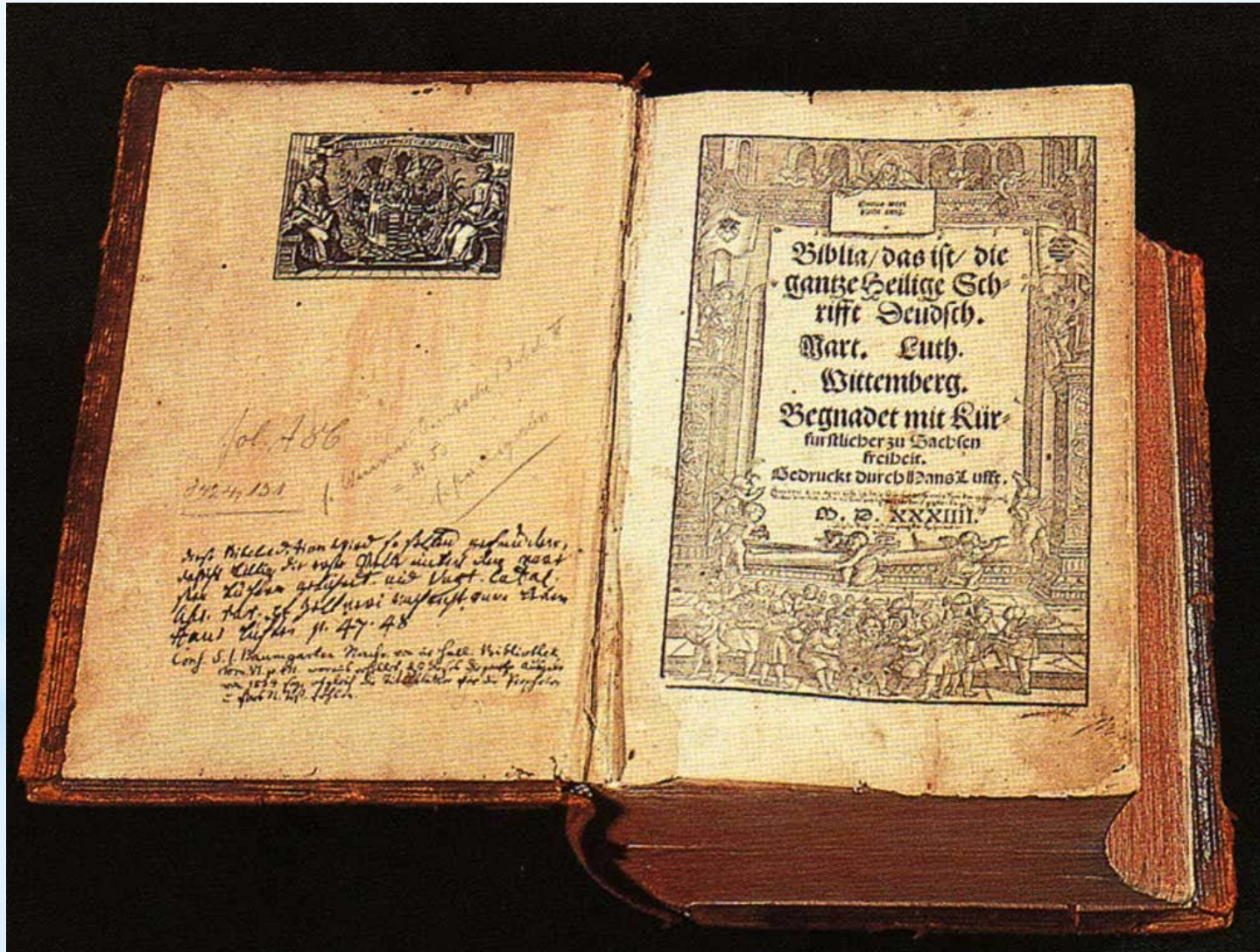
John Wycliffe



Martin Luther (1483—1546)



Martin Luther



Desiderius Erasmus (1466—1536)



Desiderius Erasmus

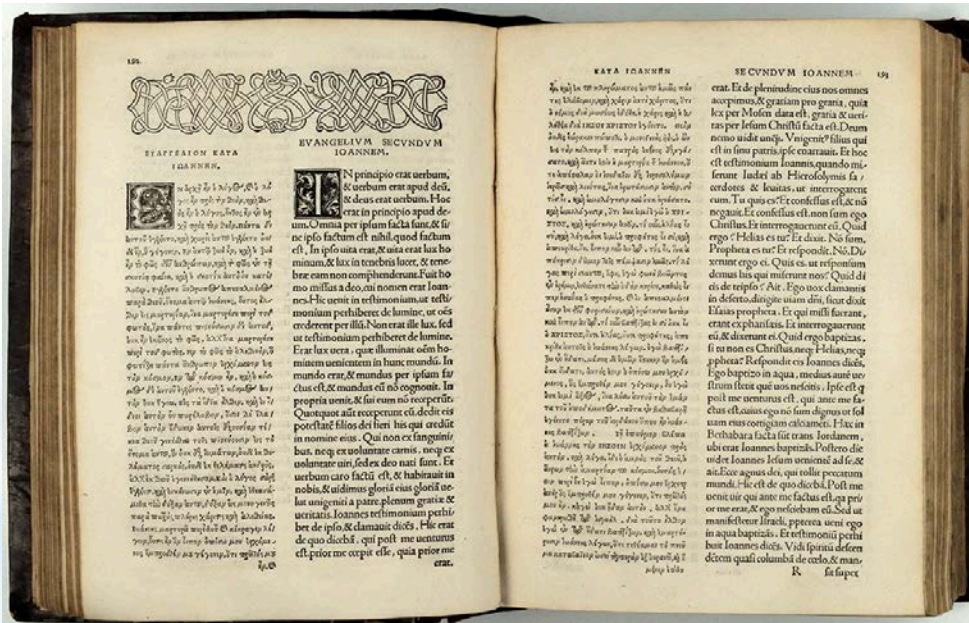
I vehemently dissent from those who would not have private persons read the Holy Scriptures, nor have them translated into the vulgar (common) tongues. I would wish that all women—girls even—would read the Gospels and the letters of Paul. I wish that they were translated into all languages of all people. To make them understood is surely the first step.

Desiderius Erasmus

It may be that they might be ridiculed by many, but some would take them to heart. I long that the husbandman (farmer) should sing portions of them to himself as he follows the plough, that the weaver should hum them to the tune of his shuttle, that the traveller should beguile with their stories the tedium of his journey.

Desiderius Erasmus

The Greek New Testament (1516)



HISTORY OF THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

Numerous individual manuscripts (1st century A.D. through 1500)

Erasmus (1516)

- based on 6 manuscripts dating from AD 1000 and later
- 5 editions

Complutensian Polyglot (1517)

Cardinal Francisco Ximenes de Cisneros

- Done in Complutum (Alcala), Spain
- Based on a few Byzantine manuscripts

Stephanus (1546) *Robert Estienne*

- based on 5th edition of Erasmus and Complutensian Polyglot
- 15 manuscripts (including D and L)

Beza (1565)

- essentially the text of Stephanus (5th ed. of Erasmus)
- Made some use of 10 additional manuscripts (including D and Syriac)

Elzevir (1624)

- essentially the text of Beza (based on Stephanus and Erasmus)
- "Here is a text received by all"

United Bible Societies (1993)

- takes into account 5000+ Greek manuscripts, all the recently discovered papyri, 10,000+ Latin manuscripts, all versions, and quotations in Church Fathers

TRANSLATIONS

Luther (1521)
(German Bible)

TRANSLATIONS

King James Version (1611)
(German Bible)

TRANSLATIONS

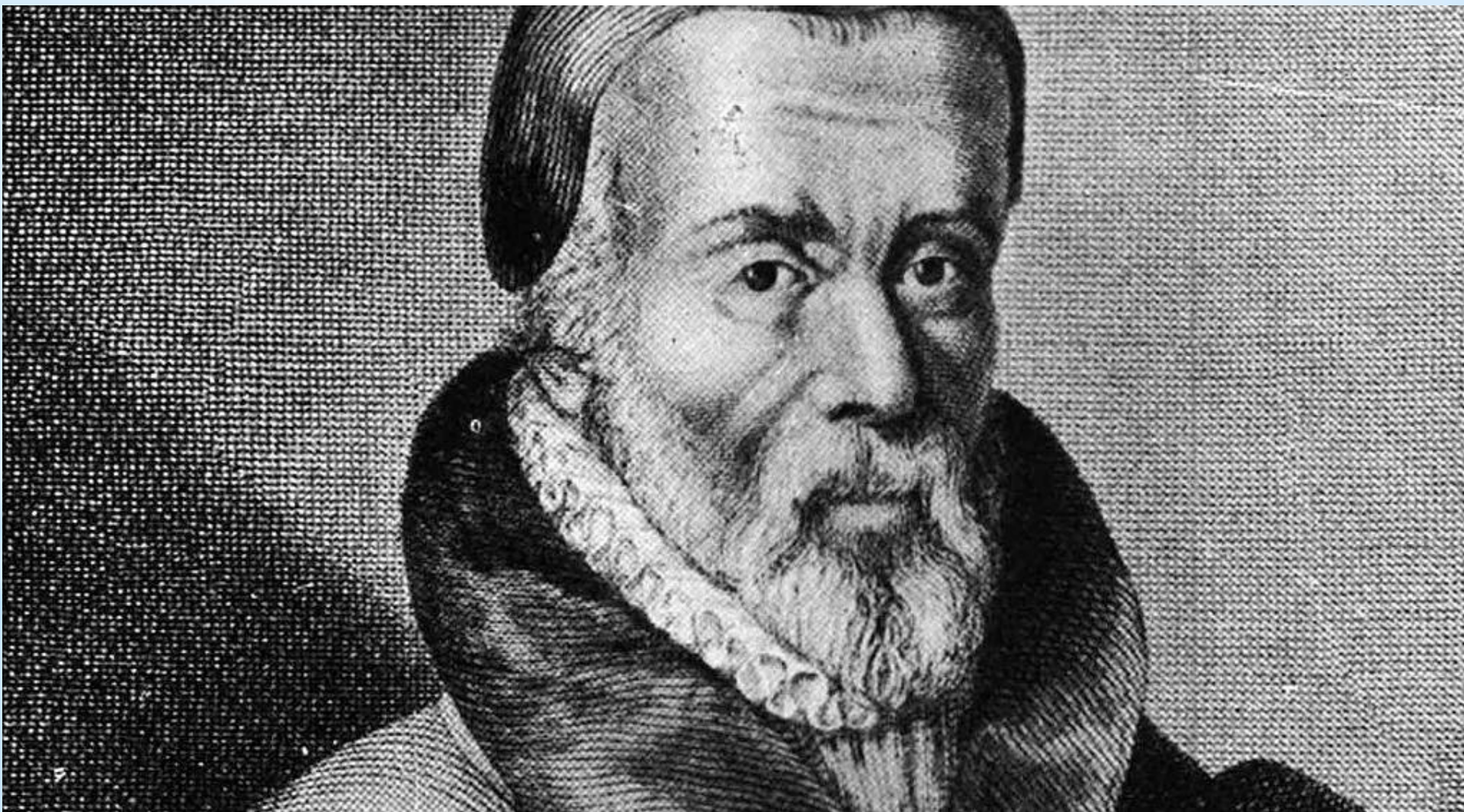
All Contemporary Versions
(except King James)

William Tyndale (1494—1535)





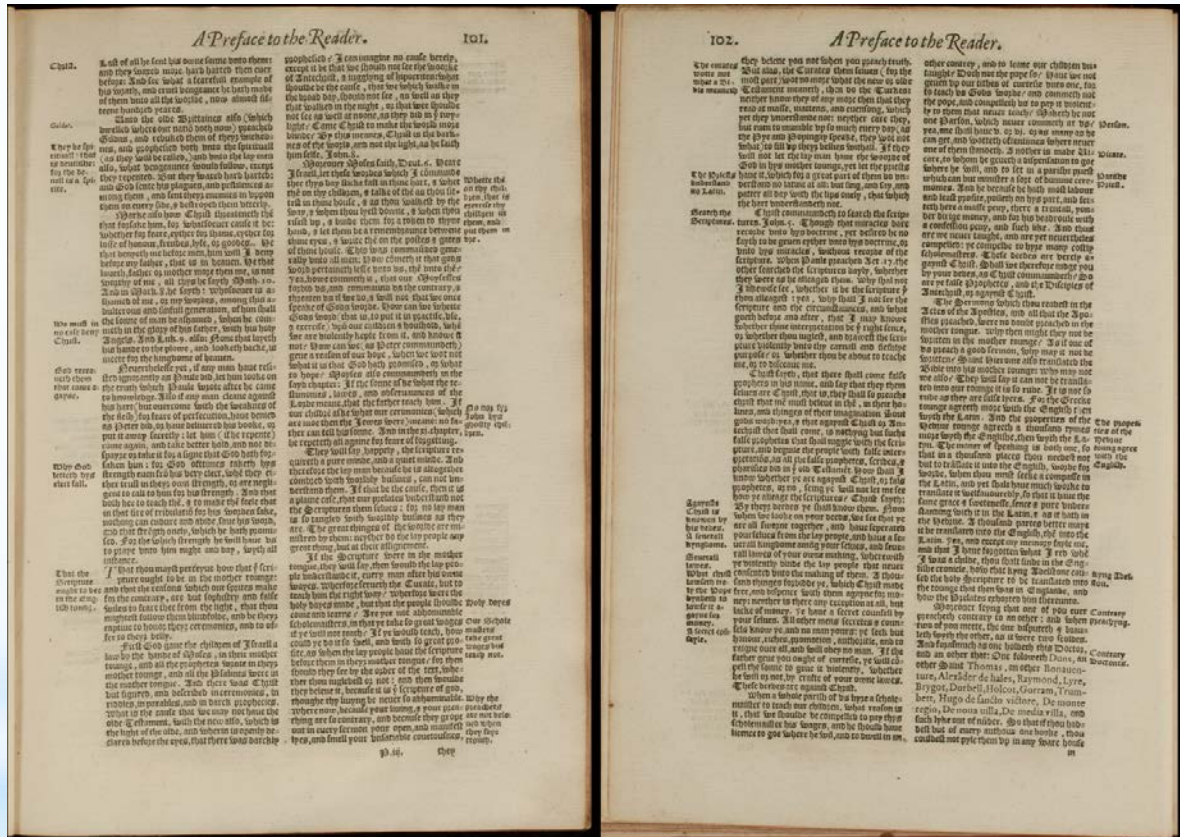
William Tyndale (1494—1535)



William Tyndale

I defy the pope and all his laws; if God spare my life, ere many years pass, I will cause a boy that driveth the plough shall know more of the Scriptures than thou dost.

William Tyndale



1526

Two things to keep in mind:

- First translation (1526) from Greek to English

Erasmus' Greek New Testament

- First New Testament printed in English

Printing press invented in 1440

(Johannes Gutenberg)

Preface to Tyndale's NT (1526)

Give diligence dear Reder (I exhorte the) that thou come with a pure mynde and as the Scripture sayth with a syngle eye unto the wordes of health and of eternal lyfe: by the which (if we repent and beleve them) we are borne a newe created a fresshe and enjoye the frutes off the bloud of Christ.

William Tyndale

"The mark of Cain"

"The salt of the earth"

"The powers that be"

80-90% into the King James Version

All "essentially literal" English translations today (ESV, NASB)...

William Tyndale



1536: "Lord, open the king of England's eyes"

HOSEA.

CHAP. I.

Hosea the prophet is commanded by the Lord to marry a woman named Gomer, who is unfaithful to him, as a metaphor for the unfaithfulness of the Jews to God.

Gomer is named the wife of Hosea, she is called Gomer, the name of love, as the Jews are called Gomer, because they are scattered like Gomer.

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CHAP. II.

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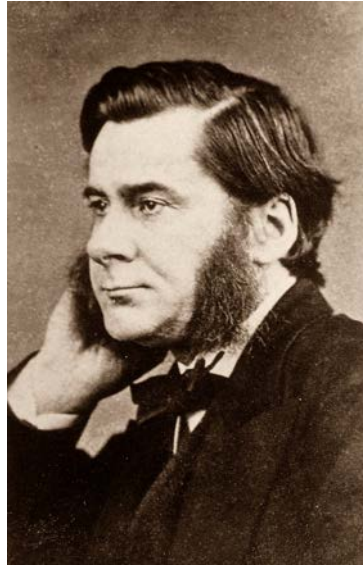
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6. The children of Gomer, she is called Gomer, the name of love, as the Jews are called Gomer, because they are scattered like Gomer.



Thomas Huxley (1825—1895)



The King James Bible is "the Magna Carta of the poor and oppressed . . . the most democratic book in the world."

after he had J Qu. after these things.

from Babel J etc., out of Babel.

of the King J etc. 7. 8.

And he said unto the people of the land, saying, I have heard
that ye have said, We will not hear the voice of the Lord, for we
will do our own way, as we have done ever since the day that
we came out of Egypt, saying, We will not hear the voice of the
Lord, for we will do our own way.

and he said unto the people of the land, saying, I have heard

1. And he said unto the people of the land, saying, I have heard
that ye have said, We will not hear the voice of the Lord, for we
will do our own way, as we have done ever since the day that
we came out of Egypt, saying, We will not hear the voice of the
Lord, for we will do our own way.

Cap. 8^o

1. After these things, I have heard that ye have said, We will not
hear the voice of the Lord, for we will do our own way, as we
have done ever since the day that we came out of Egypt, saying,
We will not hear the voice of the Lord, for we will do our own
way.

6. King Ahabaxer J etc. (King)
And he said unto the people of the land, saying, I have heard
that ye have said, We will not hear the voice of the Lord, for we
will do our own way, as we have done ever since the day that
we came out of Egypt, saying, We will not hear the voice of the
Lord, for we will do our own way.

12. Long he said J etc., as we have done.
And he said unto the people of the land, saying, I have heard
that ye have said, We will not hear the voice of the Lord, for we
will do our own way, as we have done ever since the day that
we came out of Egypt, saying, We will not hear the voice of the
Lord, for we will do our own way.

SOME ARCHAIC EXPRESSIONS FROM THE KING JAMES VERSION (OXFORD STANDARD EDITION)

The expressions illustrate how language changes and becomes difficult to understand for succeeding generations. One warrant for Bible translations is to update the language.

“sick of the palsy” (Mk 2:3)

“thou hast possessed my reins” (Ps 139:13)

“decayeth and waxeth old” (Heb 8:13)

“not in chambering and wantonness” (Rom 13:13)

“the instruments also of the churl are evil”
(Isa 32:7)

“sit at meat with thee” (Luke 14:10)

“Isaac was sporting with his wife” (Gen 26:8)

“by his neesings a light doth shine” (Job 41:18)

“ye have respect to him that weareth the gay
clothing” (James 2:3)

“but when divers were hardened, and believed
not” (Acts 19:9)

KJV: "But all these worketh that One and Selfsame Spirit, dividing to each man severally as he will."

ESV: "All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as He wills."



Wycliffe[®]



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- **2300** have as much as one book of the Bible translated and available.
- **4600** remaining.

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